



WALTER BURRELL

## Hollywood Happenings

Even Hollywood, usually wrapped in a cobweb of make believe and preposterous ego, was shocked into reality by the sudden and brutal death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Quincey Jones, talented young black composer-arranger up for two Academy Awards (Best Song--"The Eyes of Love" from "Banning"; Best Musical Score--"In Cold Blood"), was admittedly left with "a sense of overwhelming loss and emptiness. Since I was 15," he added, "the one thing I've dreamed of is getting an Oscar, but now my heart just isn't in it any more."

Don Mitchell, star of the "Ironside" TV series, visited students of the new Aline Locke Senior High School in southeast Los Angeles on Friday, day after the murder of Dr. King, and is credited with helping maintain calm there.

All classes were suspended at 12:30 p.m. that day, but during the morning hours young Mitchell visited several of the school's classes calling for "rational thinking and cool heads" in the wake of Dr. King's death.

Mitchell will head a three-man team of young Negroes from Universal, including screenwriter Jimmie Sherman and this writer, in visiting predominately Negro schools in the Los Angeles area in coming weeks.

Also on Friday, following the assassination, at a luncheon given by the Publicists Guild, the Hollywood group's brilliant black president, Vincent Tubbs, recalled that he and Dr. King had attended the same college, Moorehouse. He offered that the school's motto, "when you wake up, get up; when you get up, do something," would be a good course of action for all Americans to follow these days.

IT WAS also at that luncheon that Tubbs announced that he, actor Marlon Brando and Life photographer-writer Gordon Parks would spearhead a committee to hold a motion picture industry memorial in memory of Dr. King on the day of the civil rights leader's burial.

However, Tubbs later announced that "the action of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in postponing its Oscar ceremonies and cancelling its Grand Ball is a tribute of such magnitude as to render any efforts on our parts superfluous." He also thanked the Directors Guild, which had offered its facilities as the site of the projected service.

The actual decision to delay the Academy Awards was, to say the least, an historic event. It was the very first time this had happened during the Academy's 40-year history.

The decision to delay the show for two days occurred following the announcement by Sidney Poitier, Diahann Carroll, Sammy Davis, Louis Armstrong and Quincey Jones that they would not participate if it were held prior to Dr. King's funeral.

On the Saturday following the assassination, an hour-long special meeting was held and Academy president Gregory Peck made it clear that "there was a great deal of reasonable opinion gone into before the decision was made."

TELEGRAMS TO more than 1,000 recipients of tickets were sent out advising of postponement of the show and cancellation of the dinner which was to follow. The delay also added to overall costs paid by the Academy since there were two extra days expenses for nominees up for Best Foreign Film who had come from overseas.

Some Hollywood people are speculating that athlete-turned-actor, Jim Brown, could well be one of the heirs-apparent to the tragically vacated leadership of Dr. King. Their reasoning is that Brown's Negro Industrial & Econom-

# "Charity" A Sweet Rhythm Of Life



TIME OUT -- Shirley MacLaine and Sammy Davis, Jr., take time from their starring roles in Universal's "Sweet Charity" to share a joke. Sammy sings and dances one of the movie's biggest numbers titled "The Rhythm of Life."

## Patronage Job For Local

Andrew Jackson Arrington, a Las Vegas police officer for six years is the recipient of a patronage job in Washington, D.C. sponsored by Nevada Congressman Walter S. Baring.

The Executive Board of the Democratic County Central Committee was notified by Congressman Baring that the position would be open and requested a recommendation. At the E.B. meeting when the subject was discussed, Rev. Prentiss S. Walker submitted Arrington's name for consideration. At the following Executive Board meeting, Rev. Walker's suggestion was unanimously accepted.

Arrington and his family have already moved to the nation's capitol where he will report to work June 1. He will also attend College there, majoring in political science.

## Recording Group Hit By Tragedy Has Best Seller

"Soulfinger", a Volt recording by the Bar-Kays, has become the number one best selling record in Spain, according to the international charts published in the March 30th issue of Cashbox magazine, the music trade journal.

The record was first released in the United States in May of 1967, and was listed among the top ten best selling records on the national charts the following month.

The Bar-Kays number was decimated by the crash of Otis Redding's private airplane into Lake Monona, Wisconsin on December 10, 1967. Four members of the Bar-Kays who are heard on "Soulfinger", their first recording, perished with Redding in the tragedy. The two surviving members of the group, Ben Cauley and James Alexander, have reformed the Bar-Kays retaining the original name. The new group is comprised of, in addition to Cauley on trumpet and Alexander on bass; Ronnie Gordon on organ, Harvey Henderson on tenor sax, Michael Toles on guitar, and Roy Cunningham; the brother of the original group's drummer Carl; on drums.

The new Bar-Kays made their debut in Memphis last month at a gala benefit show for the Goodwill Boys Club, at which many popular recording artists, including Booker T. And The M.G.'s, Carla Thomas, Eddie Floyd, William Bell, Sam the Sham, and the Gentrys donated their talents.

The benefit was also the occasion for the presentation by Stax/Volt President Jim Stewart of Otis Redding's posthumous Gold Record for "Sitting On The Dock Of The Bay" to his widow, Mrs. Zelma Redding. The record topped all of the national charts last month, and an album titled after the single is listed among Cashbox's current best sellers.

The Bar-Kays are presently represented on the music charts by their Volt recording of "A Hard Days Night", a tune first popularized by the Beatles, and written by Beatle members John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

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ic Union, supported by both militant and moderate Black people, believes that economics is the answer to the Black man's dilemma.

Other Hollywood personalities have been overheard opinionating that new leadership will strongly resemble the remarkable Los Angeles group called The Black Operational Unity Committee, a central group composed of representatives of all factions of Black thinking.

But the future has yet to unfold. What has been revealed by the recent past and present in Hollywood, however, is that underneath the glitter-covered and pretend world of show business lie the same human reactions to Dr. King's death shared by human beings throughout the world: stunned shock and sincere remorse.

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