

BILLY ROWE'S Note Book

MUCH ADO ABOUT SOME THINGS.

Once again the Black man has been cast in the role of the pawn in a most dangerous drama for the benefit of violent men. The manical gunning down of the questionable Joseph Colombo by the unheard of Jerome Johnson unleashed a turbulent vehement force in this town. For a devastating and dangerous period it was on the brink of a furious race war. Only thru the cool heads of those who are respected and listened to in the Italian-American Civil Rights League was a calamity averted. The decision of Sammy Davis, Jr., to visit the critically wounded League founder, the day after he was shot, did a lot to ease the building tension. Davis was here for his annual involvement on stage for the Italian group. Though he did not appear, because of the shooting, he elected to remain in town til he was certain there would be no acts of racial retaliation because of the attempt assassination which left one major question--Why?

At a recent meeting of the "One Hundred Black Men," N'York's top cop, Patirck Murphy, in answer to a question from this reporter, denied that there is growing racial polarization within the ranks of N'York's Finest. At the benefit opening of "Shaft" the other nite in Fun City, he must now have developed second thoughts. This was a grand gesture by members of the Black community to establish a Foundation to aid the families or beneficiaries of policemen killed in the line of duty. Spearheading it was the Amsterdam News, WLIB Radio and Metro Goldwyn Mayer in cooperation with the Guardians the Black police org., the Emerald Society, Irish and the Columbian Association, Italian. However, it was basic Black and too many white members of the force and their friends stayed away despite the fact that they did not have to come to Harlem as the opening was at the DeMille Theatre in the very heart of Times Square. None of the top reps of the various other Police Organizations were seen in the audience, including the PBA. This was the Black community extending it's hand of friendship, with it's heart in it, but too few whites accepted it. Under the circumstances it would be wise for the Police Commissioner to take another look at the growing racial hate which is polluting his department the same way it is the rest of the nation. The time is now for him to do something about it. Such a move would add to his growing stature as one of the finest and most understanding top cops this town has ever had.

Gordon Parks did a masterful directional job with "Shaft." It's a flick which captures the language of Blacks like few to hit the screen. It comes on with goose pimply excitement and will make a star out of Richard Roundtree and bring out the flicker worth of Moses Gunn. Your kids will love Isaac Hayes music, but get it for them on wax as "Shaft" isn't the kind of film-fare for their already out of hand imagination... Before departing for the 62nd annual convention of the NAACP, leaders of the New York contingent expressed little hope that the New Rochelle branch's proposal to change the name of the relentless civil rights organization, from "Colored People" to "Black People," will get to the drawing board...Comm. Jack Sable, new chairman of N'York State's Human Rights Comm., is seen at more Black events than any of the fellas who preceded him in that chair... The exciting Eleanore Haynes took the long weekend jet to St. Croix where a fella was waiting...Hal DeWindt, who came back to the big town to co-produce a Harry Belafonte flick, would like to try it on his own in full command. He would like to tailor a scrip to Sammy Davis, Jr.'s liking about the late great Bert Williams...Senator Ed Brooke is stepping up his pace again after being slowed down by an attack of pneumonia...The National Committee to elect Mayor Charles Evers Gov. of Miss. is seeking a \$300,000 "war chest." "Whatever you can give," they say, "will help." The committee hopes to field about 300 Black candidates under the slogan, "Don't Vote for a Black Man; Don't Vote for a White Man---Vote for



The Supremes opened at the Greek Theatre, in Los Angeles Friday night. The suprise was Eddie Kendricks debut as a single, sharing the program.

Eddie was already a winner as the lead singer with the Temptations. So it is only a natural that Motown would capitalize on Kendricks' popularity the same as they did with Diana Ross and launch him as a single.

The show Friday was billed as the Supremes show but listed Eddie as a special Guest Star, doing his own thing. And he did. The Supremes were great as usual.

No one seemed to express displeasure both Kendricks and the Supremes received standing ovations.

Somehow it would have been great to have at least two or three numbers as a joint effort.

the Best Man"...The Dept. of Transportation has given the Nat. Urban League an \$85,879 contract to develop and conduct a series of dept. wide human relations seminars. The program came into being as the result of a meeting between President Nixon and the late Whitney Young in '70...Sugar Ray Robinson is back in the theatrical spotlight laying iron to wood in Las Vegas...STAY LOOSE!

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SENIOR CITIZENS MEETING

TO: All Senior Citizens FROM: Clara Bailey, Volunteer Organizer. DATE: July 1, 1971, RE: Notice of Meeting.

There will be a meeting of the Senior Citizens: Time: Thursday, July 8, 1971, 10:00 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. Place: Marble Manor, 811 North "I" Street Las Vegas Nevada.

We are still expecting to be funded this month (July, 1971). In order to be ready for action, we need more cooperation from Senior Citizens.

Our bus trip to the Grand Canyon has been postponed until July 10, 1971. The bus will leave Marble Manor Saturday, July 10, 1971 at 7:00 a. m. and return Sunday evening, July 11, 1971.

Bus fare is \$15.00, Sleeping accommodations \$8.00. We still have space for ten (10) more people. We must have their names and money not later than July 6, 1971.

For further information call 648-0451 or 648-4224.

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