

BILLY ROWE'S Note Book

WITH MALICE TOWARDS SOME

There is no set pattern for judging the right or wrong of human behavior, it's more a matter of how one feels. In fact, even the "good book" failed to draw a sharp demarcation between right and wrong. It just said, "thou shall not" do it. Though aware that politics spawns strange bedfellows, I think it was wrong that Black leaders throughout the country failed to throw their support behind the presidential candidacy of Congress-lady Shirley Chisholm. It seemed to me that their backing right up through the last ballot of the Democratic convention would have really given Black Americans bargaining points. Such a move would have thrown white America into a dilemma, and would have denied racist rats the opportunity of deserting the "Liberal ship" of the white candidate nominated to challenge President Richard Nixon.

It's a funny game these politicians play, and by now Black leaders should have become more aware of every twist and turn. The whites of leadership leaning have been playing in the big leagues for generations. Having stood on the side lines watching the passing parade for all these years there is no excuse for Blacks to still be messing around with the "farm team." Personally, I don't have anything against Senator George McGovern, and am still grateful for the many stands in favor of justice which Senator Hubert H. Humphrey took when it wasn't even popular. However, they both lack the Black experience, and when the chips are down Black needs have got to be secondary. The all but embracing of Gov. George Wallace, by both men of subject here, is a case in point.

It's difficult to believe that the Kennedys have given up all designs on the White House and are therefore sincere in their belief that a Democrat will win in '72. Such a phenomenon would undoubtedly knock Sen. Edward Kennedy out of the running in '76 a year in which, by law, President Nixon cannot run for re-election. With all these theories figured in it would have been easy for all our leaders to use the backing of Shirley Chisholm to enhance our position in the political arena.

Bernard Jackson, a young N'Yorker who's done it all, took his defeat for the State Assembly like a champion. He bucked the machine and was chewed up. The same can be said for Livingston Wingate who was resoundly outpolled by the incumbent Congressman Charles Rangel...Dr. Lucious Walker, exec. Dir. of IFCO, is stepping up the drive to establish local Black United Funds since many of the major foundations have curtailed their support of Black causes. IFCO is the largest Black-controlled foundation in the nation, funded by 13 religious denominations...The Alliance for a Safer New York has a drive on for more citizens awareness of the convict problem. According to figures just releases, over 100,000 ex-convicts hit the streets of N'York each year from city, state, or federal prisons. Existing programs and supported services for these ex-offenders can take care of no more than 35,000 persons per year. The New York City Manpower Area Planning Council accepts the situation as so serious it's on the verge of refusing to fund training programs unless they are tied directly to job commitments.

Racial rumblings can still be heard behind the N'York take over of George Wein's Newport Jazz Festival. Black promoters expressed amazement that "Fun City" gave up everything for the event, cancelling all out-door programs that would have clashed with NJF. The annual New York Musicians Jazz Festival, composed of Black stalwarts like Sam Rivers, Roland Kirk, Andy Hill, Suma Sutan, and Black Voices had its out-door places cancelled as its free concerts would have clashed with Wein's Commercial venture. The Urban League will reap benefits from one of the jazz festival events, and a lot of Black stars will pocket a lot of money.

With all the political noise beating down your hearing, don't forget that Sen. Ed Brooke is

running for re-election in Mass. Send money, if you can't vote for him. He's the only Black Senator you're likely to have for a time...That lovely Liz Campbell and her enormously talented husband, Gordon Parks, are heading for the divorce courts...Muhammad Ali is about the only American the Turks love and respect. Things are so tense between the Turks and the American GI's, you can cut it with a dull knife. It's the holdover madness caused by the killing of a Turkish General several months ago... Chuck Moore, creator and head of 3rd World Media News, invited Pres. Nixon to Harlem. Chuck and his spouse were among some 110 radio-news guys invited to the "Pale House" by the chief exec. There were six other Blacks with invitations...Max Roach, now with a "full professorship," Prof. of Music, U. of Mass., has been named "Man of the Year" by 3rd. World Media News...William Knowlton, the Hawaii composer, is trying out the mainland for size with a fune tune he just added the final period to "Boogie-Woogie on St. Spiro Blues (Agnew)"...The Mutual Black Network has contracted to broadcast 10 Black college football games this fall...Manhattan Boro Prexy Percy Sutton is one who told this scribe '72 isn't the year of the Liberals. Therefore, he will not attempt the run for Mayor of N. Y. this ballot time. He believes that Cong. Herman Badillo would also lose if he tried...Is the Black Caucus about to lose Howard Robinson its exec. dir? Also heard that a number of the group's former backers are backing away from the body. Seems there are too many ego trips going in individual directions...STAY LOOSE.

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DONNY HATHAWAY



Donny Hathaway, a new name rapidly growing among the many circles in the musical scene. A name that is becoming a reference and a by-word among many recording artists and musicians around the nation. Still in his very early twenties, Donny Hathaway has broken on the nation's music scene with great intensity. He is, without a doubt, destined to be major talent and one who will move up to the top of the musical ladder of success.

At 24 years of age, he has already been acclaimed as an accomplished pianist-composer-arranger-singer. With great velocity, Donny's name is to be heard in all music categories. He has become one of the most sought after musicians and arrangers in the record industry. Some of his credentials are: Jerry Butler (Mercury), Betty Everett (Uni), Carla Thomas (Stax), the Impressions and the Five Stairsteps (Curton), Patti Drew (Capital), Phil Upchurch and Sonji Clay (Aries). One of the nation's top recordings at present, "the Ghetto", his latest release, demonstrates the versatility of Donny as producer-arranger-composer and singer.

His academic and professional credentials are impeccable, and in his collaboration with Roberta Flack on James Taylor's much recorded song "You've Got a Friend" has a major hit.

Donny has the tremendous ability to take you 'home'...wherever home is. Be it rot gut or refined, Donny can play it. His roots are "ghetto", his music springing from the heart, his training down home Baptist modified by a sophisticated facility for transcending or ascending to any level. The truly great man can communicate and "move" people of all levels.

See Donny Hathaway "Summer of '72" in the Sahara Space Center, July 7th at 9 p.m.

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