

# BILLY ROWE'S Note Book

"Sixty Years of Soul and Celluloid" is the theme of the upcoming San Francisco Bay area's Black Expo Film Festival. It's objective is to bring to the cinema going audience the lost obscured knowledge of Black cinematic participation. Part of the program will also deal with the contributions of Blacks in other countries to the wealth of the cinema. It will run from Sept. 7th through the 10th...The N' York Chapter of the Drifters., Inc. are expecting the participation of some 200 members at its national convention Aug. 10-13 at the Waldorf Astoria. The theme of this, their 16th confab, will be "The Now Black Woman"...The annual convention of the 369th Veterans Association has been set for Granit II Resort Hotel in Kerhonkson, N. Y. Oct. 6-9. The vets are expecting a hige crowd and have taken over the entire hotel...The Progressive B aptists will hold their eleventh annual session at the Sherman House in Chgo. Sept. 5-10. This time they will address themselves to the theme, "The Call of God and Our Response." This meeting is of historic significance to the Progressives as they will be returning to the city where tenure was voted by the National Baptist Convention, Inc. twenty years ago. Doctors Ralph Abernathy, B. L. Hooks, and Jesse Jackson are expected to attend. Dr. Benjamin E. Mays will be one of the featured speakers.

According to an announcement by Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst, Blacks will no longer have to gamble for jobs in Las Vegas. based on an action started last year 17 major Las Vegas hotels and casinos signed a consent decree requiring them to hire and train Blacks as casino dealers and other higher paying jobs in the dice capitol. Circus Circus, Inc., which just opened a 500 room hotel in the gambling paradise, was required to hire one Black employee for every three other employees hired in 22 job classifications until 12-1/2% of the workers in each category were Black. Now that Blacks are working and gambling in the white hotels most of the gambling joints in the Black communities have closed. You win some, you lose some, and some are rained out...The Honorary Committee for the Dance Theatre of Harlem, Inc. reads like a who's who of the political whirl. It's through Gov. & Ms. Rockefeller, the Hon. & Ms. Percy Sutton to Ms Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt. Actor Brock Peters is chairman of the board and the group is gala benefit Nov. 13th in Harlem. Lena Horne and Leontyne Price will co-hostess the affair called, "Come Back to Harlem in Ermine and Pearls -- or Jeans."

California Senator Alan Cranston has been successful in getting the General Accounting Office to launch a full scale investigation of the Calif. State Economic Opportunity Office. The action of G. A. O., the investigating arm of the Congress, has the backing of all twenty Democrats from Calif. including Ronald B. Dellums of the Black Caucus...Lovely Debra Bennett, Daughter of Sammy Davis, Jr's road manager, is an 8-handicap golfer and at her tender age that's great. She deserves a sponsor that would pave the way for her entrance into the ranks of the female pros. Althea Gibson has been the only Black lady to try recently, but could never get her tee to greens game coordinated...Leon Lewis, he helped WLIB win a Peabody Award, has inked a new 2-yr. contract with N'York's WMCA to continue his midnite talk show...It was a unique tribute Honi Coles and several other hoofers paid to Clarence "Buddy" Bradley. He headed a group of ex-dancers who tripped the light fantastic at his funeral. Buddy was one of the best known tap and jazz dance teachers in the land. He taught rhythm to such stage greats as Fred and Adele Astaire, Eleanor Powell, Paul Draper, Eddie Foye, and Ruby Keeler...The Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker and the Rev. Dr. Williams are in Africa working on their Doctorate...Zeke Hartsfield's invitations are out for his too time pro golf tournament at the River Vale Country Club, New Jersey, in mid-Sept...Babe Wallace is back on the theatrical scene with an act called the "Enjoyables," Gwen Mapp, Candee, Alex Simmons and Rufus

## 'Jermaine', 'Valerie Simpson,' Lesley Gore And Gotham Head Motown's August Releases

LOS ANGELES, --Motown Records and its affiliate labels, Tamla, MoWest and Natural Resources, began shipment this week on their August releases that includes new album product by Jermaine Jackson, Valerie Simpson, Lesley Gore and Gotham.

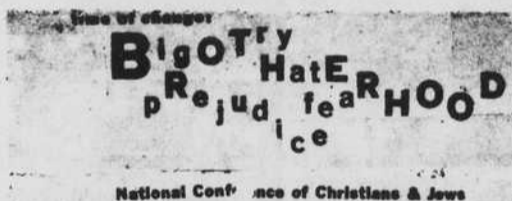
Jermaine Jackson, member of the Jackson 5, debut album as a single artist on the Motown label, titled "Jermaine," follows the successful single debut of his brother Michael's "Got To Be There" album, and the J-5's "Looking Through The Windows" album which hit the top ten on the nation's music trade charts in less than six weeks after being released. The Jackson 5 are currently on their annual summer tour.

"Valerie Simpson" marks Valerie Simpson's second solo album on the Tamla label, since making the move from writer-producer to writer-producer-arranger-performer. Valerie Simpson and Nick Ashford, he co-produced her album, are currently preparing for an appearance July 29 on "Soul At The Center," celebration of Black Theatre, Dance, Poetry and Music, at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. She has been scheduled to make her nightclub debut at the Troubador in Los Angeles beginning August 1.

Debuting on the MoWest label is Lesley Gore with "Someplace Else Now," a Joe Porter Production featuring a collection of 12 original songs written by Lesley in partnership with Ellen Weston.

The Motown August release scheduled will also introduce several new artists, prominent among them is Gotham with "Pass The Butter," for Natural Resources. Gotham is a soul-rock group comprised of Chris Qualles who played fender bass for Martha Reeves and the Vandellas; Alfred Ellis saxophone and flute formerly with James Brown Sam & Dave and others; John Gatchell trumpet and fluegel-horn formerly with Maynard Ferguson and Doc Severinson; James Strassburg drums formerly with The Hot Rock; Frank Vicari saxophones and flute formerly with Woody Herman's Herd; and Link Chamberlin formerly with the Young Rascals. Schuyler Ford does the vocals on the album produced by Tom Wilson.

Davis completes the group. The original songs by Wallace are given life sounds by Greg Coverdale at the piano...That lovely lady publisher, Ophelia DeVore, has taken over as prexy of the NAMD. She's using all her know how to make it an important org. She's planning to go into the supplement publishing biz...STAY LOOSE.



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