

ROWE'S NOTE BOOK

WRITIN' FROM READIN' --- An affluent dinner committee is being formed to plan the 3rd-annual event of the Congressional Black Caucus. The nation's capitol will be the scene and the historically elected mayor of Los Angeles, The Hon. Thomas Bradley, will be honored. Nancy Wilson, Leonard Woodstock and Harvey Russell have been selected to chair the event. Senator Ed Brooke, who made political history out of Boston, will be the chief after dinner speaker. In his San Francisco Chronicle column, Milton Moskowitz pen-pointed that Black Capitalism is still just a trickle. "Imagine," wrote he, "What kind of economy we would have if the largest company in the country were a record producer and the second largest were a magazine." This pen-in-mouth article was inspired by Earl Graves' Black Enterprise selection of the 100-top Black owned companies doing a million-\$-plus in the nation pen of reasoning he drew a word picture with these facts; "How strong is the Black-owned part of the economy? Well, you can easily assess the strength by noting these salient features: The largest company, Motown, wouldn't even rank among the 1000 largest industrial corporations in the nation. The combined sales of the 100 largest Black-owned companies come to \$473 million, Universal Oil Products, a company that ranks 269th on the "Fortune" 500 list, does that much business by itself." A better title for Mr. Moskowitz's column would have been "Look what the system has wrought."

WRITE ON PEOPLE --- Screen Gems is talking to a number of folks in an attempt to get its contemplated special, for NBC-TV, on the life of the late baseball star, Roberto Clemente, off first base. Now that the writers' strike is over, John H. Mitchell, Gems' prexy, has a full time crew getting a fix on the life of the Pittsburgh Pirates star who lost his life in a plane crash enroute to Nicaragua to aid earthquake victims ... The exciting Ruth King Howard isn't at all worried about those FBI tapes, as some would have you believe, and is back from a "ball" in Mexico... Beulah Bryant, whose talent even exceeds her weight, and Larry "88" Keys are set for a 31-days USO tour of military bases in the South Pacific... The USO has upped Herbert Scott, the H'wood-N'York singer-guitarist, to talent coordinator. He's due in from a look see into what the boys want in Korea... Ruth Bowen, queen of the nation's theatrical booking agents, is finding it difficult to accept invitations because she does have a time finding a "dog-sitter." The exciting Eleanor Haynes was a bigger surprise to Modeen Brogden, Ruth "Pearly-whites" Innis, LaRue Manss, Joyce Thomas, Dorothy B. Vaughan, Jo Bridges and the others who collected to give her a surprise b'day party when she walked in like another guest.

The Yale School of Music is planning a Nov. commemorative program to honor the 100-ann'y of the late W.C. Handy. Billy Butler, and a special "Father of the Blues" committee, are trying to get Johnny Mann to do a teevee special to further draw attention to the immortal musician-composer... Hal Jackson's "Miss Black Teenage" pageant will emanate the B'way Theatre this time; thanks to the Shubert org... A country full of friends are mourning the passing of Roger "White-top" Simkins who failed to survive an operation in DeeCee... The bedimpled Virginia Brooker is back from her coast trip with datter Jennifer and son David with exciting stories about the time her "bonnies" gave them. There

JAZZMAN RAY NANCE BRINGS TRIPLE THREAT TO PBS SERIES



Ray Nance, a triple threat on trumpet, violin and vocals, will be featured on the final segment of "Just Jazz" Thursday, August 9, at 9:30 p.m. on Channel 10. The series aired originally on PBS in 1971.

Nance, a diminutive bundle of talent and energy, was one of the stars of the Duke Ellington Orchestra from 1940 to 1963. Born in Chicago in 1913, he began to study piano at 6,

were parties for days into nites from pool-side at George and Shirley Rhodes to the posh quarters of Bob and Tomi Cater, to say nothing about a day with Mayor Thomas Bradley, that was arranged by the Commish of City Works, Warren Hollier. Also all the friends she eyed, like Pam Jackson, who's that close to having her first born, with mother Leola Edwards at hand, who's in town doing the wardrobe mistress chores for "Gigi;" Also Ray and Millie Robinson, Vivian Johnson, J.J.'s spouse who's recrupin' from an auto accident which crushed her leg, Ralph and Hazel Sharper, Ethel Sissle, who's quite the biz lady with a pub, a gas station and a big fat pig in Riverside, and the lovely L' Tanya Martinique among others she swears she will never forget... Commish Ken Sherwood has won two major contracts, to carpet the new court house in White Plains, Westchester's seat of government and the same for the board of education in New York City.

Young Sanford Moore has filed a Restraint of Trade and an Anti-Trust suit against Young & Rubicans and Johnson & Johnson. It alleges that the major Madison Ave. ad agency prevented Moore's company, "Black Perspective," from winning a contract from the J & J's Baby Products Group... Academy Award Nominee Cicely Tyson is excited about being selected, by CBS to play the title role in an un-planned two hour drama, "The Autobiog of Miss Jane Pittman... The arrest of Sonny Carson, on a charge of murder, will not change Paramount's scheduled shooting date of his book, "The Education of Sonny Carson..." The major politicians are rallying around David Dinkins to keep him from nixing his post as prexy of the N'York City Bd. of Election. The first Black man to hold the position, David is said to feel that the upping of the bd. from four to ten members will impede its efficiency... The Country Club set is the new crowd about town, dig this space next time to read what it's all about... STAY LOOSE.

and three years later, took up violin at Chicago Music College and studied under Max Fishelf for seven years. He added trumpet in high school. Nance then attended Lane College in Tennessee, working and broadcasting with the college band.

In 1932 he formed his own band in Chicago, singing, dancing, and playing violin and trumpet. Eager to broaden his experience, he joined Earl Hines' big band in early 1937, and later he was hired by Horace Henderson. A year later, he was again leading his own group when he was discovered by Billy Strayhorn, who, along with Ellington, was scouting for a replacement for trumpet star Cootie Williams.

Nance joined Ellington in October, 1940, and shortly thereafter recorded his famous "Take the 'A' Train" trumpet solo with the band. He proceeded to become one of the essential ingredients in Ellington's music of the next two decades.

With his own band in New York, Nance appeared at the World's Fair, toured Europe as a single in 1966 and again in '67, and in the (see NANCE, page 9)

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