

# BILLY ROWE'S Note Book

**WRITE ON PEOPLE** - Smoked-filled room rumors are that a group of big Blacks, riding herd on the political range, lassoed the planned appointment of Wilbert A. Tatum as the first Black Deputy Mayor of "Fun Ranch." Though the now asst Boro-prez was cut off at the pass on this occasion, he's still in line for a major post with the incoming administration of Mayor Abe Beame. The boys who shot down the designation between fancy and fact said they didn't have anything against Wilbert, it was just that Atty. David Dinkins deserved it more . . . The National Education Association is financing the lawsuit of Nicholas Mescia against the school wheels of Dillon County down there in Charleston, S.C. The white educator expects to prove in Federal Court that he was fired because of his association with Blacks . . . Sam Jones, ex-Boston Celtic star and current head basketball coach, North Carolina College, used the platform of the Interreligious Foundation the other day to outline the problems Black colleges are facing in the competition for athletic talent in urban areas.

Michael Graham, blue-penciller of the DeeCee Observer, is dividing his chores between that tab, hit vocalist Lee Richardson and the Peggy Davis Gospel Trio. He's setting them together for a national tour . . . Teevee-radio producer Emile Jones has taken a political hand in Boston where he's mgr'ing the drive of Royal Bolling, Sr. for votes. A 10-year veteran of the State Legislature, Royal would like to flush out a seat for himself in the Mass. State Senate. He would be the first Black . . . Ernestine Jackson, currently passing out entertainment in the musical version of "Raisin," was served a unique honor by her former colleagues of the Chock Full O'Nuts chain. She is one of the philanthropist William Black's former waitress, so he invited all his employees to see the show.

Senator Sidney A. VonLuther, N'York State, has a Bill in the hopper that would rename Knickerbocker Hospital to honor the memory of Dr. Arthur C. Logan . . . Manhattan Beepee Percy Sutton is developing major plans for his trip to Africa comes Jan. Rev. Wyatt Tee Walker would like to replace Dr. Logan who was originally scheduled for the safari . . . Paul Robeson, Jr. is spearheading a drive to raise an additional 50G's to maintain the Paul Robeson Archives . . . Maxine Sullivan and Walter Richardson, 85 years young, were the hits of the W.C. Handy Tribute in N'York. Dinner speakers made quite a thing out of the Proclamation issued by Gov George Wallace to set aside a "W.C. Handy Week" in Alabama . . . Anita Brooks, the first Black actress to appear in movies; Pops Foster, and Strawberry Russell would be delighted by get-well cards to them at Harlem Hospital.

Dave and Mayme Bondu have set Feb for a repeat of their "Bon-Adventure Golf Tournament" in the Bahamas. Dave has invented a new tee he plans to unveil, and hopes to get Black and lovely Renee Powell to tee along. She is regarded as a golf marvel, and is making her bid on the professional women's circuit as one of two Black femmes . . . The note about the death of Howard Johnson, Sr., Winnie's papa, got to many of his pals late . . . If you bring some dry goods or toys you can turn it on with Barbara Harris and Ruth "Pearlie Whites" Inniss at a children Xmas party in mid-Dec . . . Preston Lambert, who runs BLEDCO, the B'klyn org to help Black entrepreneurs, is leaving and will try his luck with his own entrepreneurship . . . Bill Graves's production of the Ali-Frazier champ-fite is being structured for re-release. What struck Bill is that by count, Ali hit Frazier 680 times to 330 to lose the fite . . . STAY LOOSE.

The NAACP Banquet Committee meets each Thursday Evening at 7:30 p.m. in the E.O.B. multi-purpose room. All members are invited to come out to these meeting to help make this the 46th anniversary of the local chapter the most successful banquet ever.



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## Diana Ross Named Mistress of Ceremonies

Diana Ross will serve as a mistress of ceremonies for the 46th Annual Awards Presentation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, it was announced by Jack Haley, J., producer of the program.

She joins Burt Reynolds, previously announced, on the program, which will be divided into several segments with a different host for each segment. Selection of the other master or mistresses of ceremonies will be announced soon.

This will be Miss Ross' second appearance on the Awards Show. She and James Coburn presented the supporting actor award at last year's ceremony.

One of America's most popular vocalists, Miss Ross made an impressive acting debut last year in "Lady Sings the Blues," receiving an Oscar nomination as best actress for her performance of the late Billie Holiday.

The 46th Awards Presentation will be held Tuesday, April 2, at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Los Angeles Music Center. It will be telecast live and in color by the NBC Television Network.

## NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet March 8th

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