

BILLY ROWE'S Note Book

WORDS FROM THE WISE -- The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences honored Sammy Davis, Jr. in N'York. The citation was for his unique contribution to TV entertainment. As icing on the cake two days were declared his by official proclamation. One by Mayor Tom Bradley, for Los Angeles and the other for Manhattan by Boro-Prez Percy Sutton. It was Dr. Aaron Wells, however, who kept him performing almost the entire fling with "Walking Pneumonia." The lovely Freda Payne has discovered another "number one" fan, the Rev. Ike whose out o' sight Mercedes was stage-door parked several nites. . . The Nicholas Bros are happily back together again and plan to stay that way. . . The Ford Foundation has taken over "Save The Children" from Paramount pic. The documentary of the '73 P.U.S.H. Expo is chockful o' superstars and the Rev. Jesse Jackson too. . . Shirley Rhodes' stay in the "apple" was interrupted when her grandfather died in the South. A happier occasion, for the lady who mgrs Sammy Davis' personal affairs, and her musical talented hubby George, is contemplated with the mid-May sweet-sixteen celebration of daughter Eygie.

Winning the Tony Award as "Best Play" has created a demand for a return to B'way of "The River Niger." When it does star comic-actor Godfrey Cambridge will be top cast. . . Cleveon Little is in great H'wood demand as "Blazing Saddles," in which he stars, gallops towards new film box-office records. . . Tandem Production's \$10-million suit against "Sanford and Son," Red Foxx and Demond Wilson, caused the Westbury Music Fair a big pocket-ache. The Long Island, N.Y. theatre in the round had to refund much advance ticket loot in the face of a temporary restraining order which enjoined the use of the junkyard's comic services or voice by any other medium without Tandem's permission. . . Jim Cuffey who owns B'klyn property in excess of a million dollars, has an option to buy a couple of hotels in Atlantic City. The once famed playground of America has hopes of becoming the Las Vegas of the East. . . Bob Hooks and Sammy Davis, Jr. are talking about a new kind of B'way show that would star the total talented one. . . Clarence Williams III is back in N'York with his lovely spouse. The Mod Squad co-star is reading various scripts to figure out what his next move will be. . . Gloria Thomas, director of community relations for CBS-TV in New York, is planning an org. that will honor White folks who aid the Black cause. She is one of the beautiful people that's so aware of the needs of Americans. . . Movie record keepers are chalking up a new one for "Claudine." The Diahann Carroll-James Earl Jones starrer is attracting more white film goers than any other like flick. . . The latest version of "Lost in the Stars" has failed to create any excitement despite such heavy performers as Brock Peters, Melba Moore and Paula Kelly.

The scratchy situation at Polydor Records is creating some static for VP Buzz Willis who may melt away from that tallow factory and start his own thing. . . The Joe Grants are sitting on one of those announcements. . . Paramount has set back the shooting date of its version of the life and time of the legendary Leadbelly who put soul to the blues. . . All manner of political types are blowing their horns seeking the patronage road since Commish. Ben Ward stepped down as traffic boss. He got tired waiting for 'Mayor Abe' to give him the green light to continue and took a detour into private industry. . . Concern about the illness of Duke Ellington has been heightened since the hospital confinement of Evvie Ellington. The former Bea Ellis, she was one of the original Cotton Club show girls. . . Cissy Bowe Phillips, another lady of N'York's remembered glamor scene, is in town to be near her ailing sister, Mrs. Nannie Dickens. . . Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker's keynote wordage

Black Extravaganza Awards Scholarships



The Supremes, Cindy Birdsong, Mary Wilson and Sherri Payne, congratulate Scholarship Award winners, Gwen Amie and Elizabeth Ann Evans. Jake Jacobs, V. Pres., presented awards.

BLACK POWER is in the voting box

at the 72nd annual Hope Day Nursery luncheon got a standup cheer from the full audience. Hope Day is the oldest org. of its kind in N'York and has taken care of more kids, who are now productive adults, than any other nursery in the world.

Cicely Tyson and Roberta Flack will add color to the Capitol Press Club list of "Women of the Seventies." . . Talented teenager Irene Carra, who starred on B'way, in teevee commercials and had her own TV show, is out of it for a spell with measles. . . Don't invite Jan Martini, WNYC Radio, and Waldorf praise agent Ed Moll to the same talk show. He is alleged to have given her the second-thought treatment when she turned up Black and beautiful after her phone request for 'eye-space' to the Ray Charles opening left him with the impression she was otherwise. On the Graham-Bell he offered her space at his table with a Prince and some other dignitaries. However on sight he sought a cop-out after she had sat awhile. . . Bill Cosby's wax works are being used by a Canadian Hi School teacher to get his creative writing classes off on the "write thinking." . . Lucille Armstrong widow of the immortal "Satchmo," will hostess a garden party at her estate to bolster interest in Vassal Thomas' annual "Evening of Elegance." Only 75-bucks or more contributors will receive the engraved invites. Proceeds are to be used to send some neglected kids on summer vacations. . . Many oldtimers are saddened by the passing of Harold "Rat" Carter, one of the beautiful people of the streets. . . STAY LOOSE.

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