

BILLY ROWE'S



notebook

NEW YORK CITY---Jack Saunders, ed-pub, Philadelphia Trib., Moses J. Newsome, exec-ed Afro-American and William Rasberry, Washington Post, have been selected to add color to the '74 Pulitzer Prizes' selection committee. Created to immortalize the Hungarian-American journalist-publisher, Joseph Pulitzer, the awards are the most coveted in the world of Arts and Letters. The Blacks who have won such a prize can be counted on one hand with enough fingers left over to scratch your head...Commish Dorothy Orr, her brains matches her charm, has turned down a Presidential appointment to accept a position in private industry. It's said she will start as a veepee of a major insurance co...Ersa Poston, whose cadre of friends is coast-wide, will be happy to learn her recu'powers have prevailed. Prez of N'York State's Civil Service Commish, she was rushed to the knifing table for surgery to stem a massive peritonitis attack... Bobby Bennett, known by those in DeeCee who ear his wax spinning via the WOL Kilocycles as "The Mighty Burner," is a 2nd-yr repeat as the Billboard rated "Best R&B deejay in the nation. To the trade he's known as "Mr. Gold."...Pals of former Mayor Carl Stokes, feeling that the handsome politician isn't getting enough exposure on NBC-TV, are trying to get him to enter the N'York ballot arena. His name is prominent in circles where the talk is getting louder about a Black for Senator from the Empire State. Of course he isn't as hi on the list as Manhattan BeePee Percy comm vice chair. Talk is that Blacks will have a persuasive say in the selection since they were not heard above a whisper in the recent run for statewide office.

RAMBLING WRITE ALONG---All the discussion has subsided and Amb. John Reinhardt will be called from his post in Nigeria to become the first Black Ass't Secy of State. The career member of the U. S. Foreign Service, who reached the rank of Minister before his present appointment will head up Public Affairs for the State-Detp...Mayor Walter Washington, the historic chief exec of the nation's capitol, makes very few moves without Eleanor Howard looking over his shoulders. The former N'Yorker is a heavy (not in pds) member of his staff...Talk is that the selection process of the N'York Police Department is being revised to give more Black members a chance at the F. B. I Academy. Lt. Willian Perry a graduate of the final '74 class is only the third in the history of the NYPD. Retired Ass't Chief inspector Lloyd Sealy was number-1 to be followed by Lt. Joe Christian. The Guardians, Fun City's Black P. D. org., which logs such facts and battle them to better them, has finally been granted tax exemption for its Foundation by the IRS...Dave Bondu, the Miami promoter of happenings, who has invented the most practical golf tee for pros and duffers in the history of the green-game, is having problems getting bucks from Blacks. According to him, the Government too is slow to reach for its pocket-book and after the Nat'l Industrial Bank of Miami, passed a loan under a SBA package, that Small Biz Agency turned it down with "bull," and that's only a half-a-word...The erudite Daisy Hicks, who's on an executive level with the Bd. of Ed., and her Committee to Improve Education are making productive waves in a drive to wash bias out of the system.

Sullivan Productions, founded -by Ed Sullivan the late unbiased columnist-teevee giant, is preparing the first Black soap opera for the web. Titled "Change at 125th St.," the situation-comedy would be a daytimer over CBS tubes. Bob Precht, Sullivan's son-in-law, is prez of the co.. The past has finally returned to haunt Alabama, and Civil Rights leaders are listening to different drums. The FCC Commission has refused to renew the State's license to operate educational network of teevee stations, because of racial discrimination...The alleged promise of the hotel chain and the city fathers of Las Vegas to supply the big bucks if the Black Hall of Fame group held its

FRANKLIN & CHARLES TOGETHER



ARETHA FRANKLIN and RAY CHARLES make a rare television appearance together on "The Midnight Special" spectacular celebrating the show's second anniversary on NBC, Friday, January 31. Also performing together on the show, which follows Johnny Carson, are Gladys Knight with B.B.King. Hostess is Helen Reddy and other guests include Dave Bowie, Bachman-Turner Overdrive, Joan Baez, the Doobie Brothers, Bobbie Darin and the Byrds.

next dinner in the dice capitol, turned out to be just that. "How some-ever," Herb Douglas and his fellas will hold their happening in the desert oasis "anyhow."...Lovely Diahann Carroll and Rev. Jesse Jackson "wing kissed" and made up after they flipped, on camera, over opposite views about the Flip Wilson created characters for his teevee shows. The "Country Preacher" was making his presence felt as a regular commentator of the new "A.M. America" show, WA BC-TV, and the femme-star was brought on to oppose...Bonwit Teller has upped the bedimpled Virginia Brooker to mgr. of its gift dept. She has been with the posh store less than a yr..Dr. Carlton Goodlett will be the honoree during Rev. Leon Sullivan's OIC Feb. gathering in Atlanta, Ga. He will receive the "A Phillip Randolph Award" for his contributions as prez of the NNPA and publisher of 8-newspapers along the West coast.


Cab Calloway just nixed a major B'way musical star spot because the price wasn't right. His last shot within that man made canyon was for the revival of the "Pajama Game" opposite that lovely Barbara McNair...Billy Simpson, whom the gov. tried to do in not too long ago, gave the liveliest inaugural party for DeeCee's historic Home Rule government... "The Klansman" has surpassed the \$1-mil box office mark, but is many bucks away from the reputed \$4-mil Bill Alexander spent making it as the first Black producer of a major flick. It isn't bothering him though, and he's readying another cinema for the silver with even more cash on the production line...Course that'r loot for days on them thar films and by the last count "Blazing Saddles," in which Clevon Little starred, the take was \$9,234,062. However, all that glitters "ain't necessarily gold." Now take "Boss Nigger," that is if you can. It opened in two theatres and just did manage to raise 15G's. That's poor attractin' even for super-ego Fred Williamson who wrote, directed and starred in this nothing... That Special Black Perspective, hosted by NNPA veepee and publisher Howard Woods, has all of St. Loo's KSD-TV audience talking encore... The one thing critics noticed about Dick Gregory's smash N'York concert was the "softening" of his act. They wrote, "He now speaks of Black-White differences without offending any but those who ought to be offended anyway."...STAY LOOSE

Flip Wilson's Third Special

Flip Wilson's third special of the 1974-75 season, with guest star Cher, will be colorcast on the NBC Television Network, Thursday, March 13, 9-10 p. m. EST, was announced by Monte Kay, executive producer for Clerow Productions. Flip's first two specials were among the highest-rated variety specials of the season. The Oct. 18 program "Flip Wilson Of... Course" received a national Nielson rating of 26.4 and 43 share, according to the Nielson Television Index. His Dec. 11 show had a 25.3 rating and 44 share. Wilson has another special scheduled for later this season. After years of making people laugh for peanuts -- his staple diet during the lean years of one-night club dates -- Wilson made his television debut and became a sought-after comedy guest, then a star of his own popular series. "I learned very early that people who make me laugh are, above all, likeable. I can't laugh with someone I don't like," said Wilson, "so I've always tried to be a friend to my audience. Then..." al la Geraldine, "Watch Out!!"

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