

BILLY ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

N'YORK CITY -- The U. S. Civil Right Com-mish is searching law books in hopes of coming up with a punishment to fit the age-old crime of reel bias in the city of make believe. Several of H'wood's major flick factories, Warner Bros., 20th Century Fox and Paramount are on the griddle for ignoring a "buddy-buddy" invite by the Commission to step forward and report on their hiring practices of minorities. Walt Disney, Universal and the Assn of Motion and TV Producers complied ..A major buildup is on to insure the success of "Pipedreams," the initial starring flick for Gladys Knight. The leader of the Pips has more than her talent in this one which includes the dreams of a cinema career. Barry L. Hankerson, who's introduced in this romantic saga along the route of the Alaska Pipeline, is also its exec-producer. With seven songs on track Buddah is all over the promotional field and has spent much loot entertaining supers and vip's during and after the world preem in Atlanta ... The Virgins are ready, the Islands that is, for their 9th Int'l Film Festival. Gov. Cyril King, and the members of his administration have pulled out all the goodies to insure a greater success than the initial event proved in '75. Nov. 12th thru the 21st are the dates set for the fun and festivities of 100 premieres, retrospects and screenings.

Bill Cosby's "Cos" has failed to make it thru the teevee season. It's a good show that's on at the wrong time...Norman Lear, producer of several millionaire-making sitcoms, has established TAT syndication so as to have some place to show his hit stuff, like "Sanford & Son," "Good Times" and "The Jeffersons" when the networks have had their fill of such shows... Flick versions of the commando raid on the Uganda airbase to rescue a batch of Isreali and other hostages are being shot on various locations. ABC-TV version is said to be well ahead of all other schedules and will be ready for b'cast early in Dec. Titled "Ordeal At Entebbe," it will hit the orbs months ahead of NBC-TV's version, "Raid on Entebbe." Another such flick has been dropped by Warner Bros., but not by Noah Films, a company in Tel Aviv, Isreal which will release "Operation Thunderbolt," starring the Israeli Commandos, the men, women and the planes that were actu-

ally involved in the raid. Think maybe they did it all just to make the film?...The boys overseas on the ready lines will be getting another version of the back-home scene from lovely Twanna Kilgore, "Miss Washington, D.C." who won the "Miss Black America," and Denise Brooks, the '76 "Miss Black Texas," who are winding up a 47-day tour of G.I. bases in Germany, Italy and Iceland.

A lot of Dems are happy about the designation of Judge Theodore R. Newman as Chief Judge of the D.C. Court of Appeals. However, he is a Repub. and all other party affiliates are pleased that Charles Z. Smith, Seattle, Wash., has been added to the Judiciary Comm. of the American Bar Assn. An associate dean of the U. of Washington Law School, Smith becomes the first black member of this group which has screened Federal Judicial appointees for 5-presidents...The local chapter of the American Red Cross will honor veteran politico Lloyd Dickens, prexy of the Uptown Chamber and Lillian Roberts at a Hotel Americana bash... Dorothy Orr, she nixed the political bag to become veep of Equitable Life Assurance Society, has taken on the social commitment chore of co-chairperson of the Nat'l ICBO along with Paul A. Johnston who heads the board of Johnston Ind. Inc. The org's day to day operation is handled by Malcolm Corrin, its prexy and chief exec. officer.

That ad showing Prexy Ford with Nat'l Urban League's Vernon Jordan, Rev. Jesse Jackson and Stan Scott, was withdrawn when Vernon protested its use without his permission. It had made its scheduled rounds, accept the Am'News, so publisher-prez John Procope just blacked-out, and that's no pun, the protesting bro. and used the hi-paying lineage...The 4th annual Conf. of Region #1, Nat'l Black Police Assn has been landmarked for the Stevensville Country Club, Swan Lake, NY. The NBPA is currently composed of 69 black police organizations thru'out the nation and is growing with N'York's James Hargrove as its ch'person.

Bill Easley, who heads Black Bull Presentations, one and the same which set "The Apollo" on the tube, and all concerned are happy about the outcome of the personal flick the co. shot on "Stevie Wonder Day" in Detroit. The fantastic super-singer was honored by the Lions

out there and Black Bull got it all on film for posterity...Leslie Uggams hopes to come into N'York with a successful revived edition of "Westside Story." The would-be film producers of "Purlie," are talking to Melba Moore again. Maybe Berry Gordy has changed his mind about putting some heavy loot into the flick and Diana Ross will not be given the role Melba played into a B'way prize winner.

In an emotional U.S. plea So. African's Miriam Mekeba opposed the recognition of Transkei by that body. A General Assembly delegate from Guinea, she called the independence granted this tribal land by So. Africa, "pseudo independence that's part of a grand design to perpetuate white domination in South Africa." Contrary to a N'York Times report, Andy Hatcher, veep of a P/R firm representing that apartheid, was unable to get a group of prominent blacks to make the trip for ceremonies. Reports are that only one took the junket for which So. Africa picked up the tab. Even Ken Drew, and several other "go-fors," nixed the offer... "From These Roots," an eye-level approach to the Harlem Renaissance, will finally get an "earing" via Nat'l Educational TV. Originally bumped by the Presidential debates, it will now be beamed your way so check your local PBS listing for date and time. This half-hour telecast is a winner of 19-awards. It has original music by Eubie Blake and is narrated by flick star Brock Peters...STAY LOOSE.

Join Ray Willis and Maria Donoso for a look at what minorities are doing in Southern Nevada.

Along with special local and nationally known guests, they make this an interesting and informative half-hour

Sat. 4:30 PM Sun. 7:00AM



minor key



DOROTHY HAMILL, 1976 Olympic figure skating gold medalist, will star in her own TV special on Wednesday, November 17, from 8 to 9 p.m. (EST) on the ABC Television Network. Special guest star on the show, which is being co-sponsored by Metropolitan Life, will be Gene Kelly.


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