

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

IT'S RESOLUTION TIME...HAVE ONE!

NEW YORK CITY - Male and female, rich and poor, preacher, baker and candlestick maker - Happy New Year!!! Father Time has lowered the boom on all of our noggins, and the bewished gent has moved into oblivion marking the end of another annual run of the cloak. It was an era sparked by some great human and technological achievements plus the election of a Democrat for President through a surge of black-ballot-power. We hope that to end '76 Santa was kind to you and yours, and that ya'll moved into the new life afforded you by "Person Time" will give you pause to resolve to do better in a resolute manner to correct whatever were the mistakes made during the onslaught of the last 36 5er. It is in this spirit that the following batch of resolutions are suggested for a number of celebrities we have both honored and loved through the years. Some are the guide posts by which the generation are marked.

Joe Louis - The Champ of Champs, to stay in shape within the limits of Father Time, and enjoy the good-life set aside for such a beloved senior citizen... "The Greatest," Muhammad Ali (who else), to only come out of retirement if offered the opportunity to become an adagio dancer, and not to do battle with the likes of George Foreman or Joe Frazier. Though your spirit is bravely willing, your footwork is far from thrilling, and though it would make you a ballroom standout, there's not enough left to keep you floating like a butterfly though you just might well still be able to sting like a bee. An appropriate way to show your handsome face, as you write finis to a great pugilistic career, is to engage in all of your bouts in the make-believe city of H'wood... Frank Robinson, he made baseball history mgr'ing the Cleveland Indians, resolve to add a pennant to your feathered connet to become the first black major's mgr to reach that pinnacle.

O.J. Simpson, "The Juice," to ooze out of Buffalo and shuffle off to California in a move from the real hurt of the gridiron to the make believe violence of the world of film - dom/ That would make both the missus and the kids happy as the proverbial lark.

Roy Wilkins, "Mr. Civil Rights," buy enough fishing gear, if that's your line, and a new sports car as you hand the torch to a new keeper of Democracy at the NAACP where you did so much, for so little, for so long... U.N. Ambassador designee Congressman Andy Young, to watch your P's and Q's when you move into the catbird seat over there on First Avenue. Keep a sharp-mind-eye on all your perimeters and beware of the white-cross... For courageous Coretta King: remain calm and stoical, the traits you exhibit through the tragedy of the immortal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s years. Yes, be peaceful of mind, but never fail to give a piece of your mind when you detect that their interest is not analogous to the desires of the best interest of the people... Andy (South Africa) Hatcher, buy a warm-up suit for more sprinting in the Big Apple rather than printing the propaganda that's designed to explain away the hate-aching tactics of that apartheid land... FCCommish Benjamin Hooks, see to it that he is followed by a black person when he departs his FCC chair to take over the hot seat at the NAACP. Strive to get more black involvement in that watchdog organization for human dignity, and the promise of America to insure success in its drive against the bigots of Mississippi.

Berkeley G. Burrell, president Nat'l Business League, to keep after parity as the goal of black business persons both in and out of the NBL. At the same time, a nat'l drive to get every type of black business person to become a member of this all important org. that was founded by the im-

mortal Booker T. and is older than any other such service agency, white or black membered, in the land.. Roy Campanella, the 3-times most valuable player of the Brooklyn Dodgers, a resolve to go after the job of baseball commish since it seems that the days of Commish Bowie Kuhn are numbered. Though phys cally incapacitated Campy's mind is still razor sharp and his knowledge of baseball is undiminished... Great Lady Marian Anderson, a continued quiet retirement, but please say "yes" to our proposal to do more prose and poetry before the teevee audience with those great symphony orks as your backdrop... Gladys Knight & the Pips, to push your manager to get you more movie roles, and at least a 15 minute teevee show syndicated or network.

The networks: NBC/CBS/ABC, and the syndicated folks too, open up some behind the scenes involvement for blacks and minorities on all those talk/quiz shows taking up day and early afternoon tube time. Some of those pretty sexy pointers could be more the scenes involvement for blacks and minorities on all those talk/quiz shows taking up day and early afternoon tube time. Some of those pretty sexy pointers could be more naturally tanned to say nothing about the interrogators. That's a resolution that if kept could keep the new FCC and EEOC off your doorstep with citations for failure to address yourselves to Equal Opportunity... Gil Noble should resolve to leave ABC-TV if this isn't its year to give him the kind of exposure his long association and talent deserves Stevie Wonder (full) resolve not to take so long between albums. His long awaited one is strong and should hit the million mark before it gets any warmer... You can resolve to continue to read this space and STAY LOOSE.

**V*A FACTS

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following are representative questions answered daily by VA counselors. Full information is available at any VA office.

Q -- I am attending school full time and receiving VA educational benefits that include an additional amount for my spouse and three children under age 18. I have a daughter, 19, attending college. Am I entitled to additional benefits for this child?

A -- Additional educational benefits are payable for a child over age 18 while a veteran is in training half time or better, and the child remains in school and unmarried until age 23.

Q -- My husband is a World War II veteran who added the total disability income rider to his National Service Life Insurance policy. He has been totally disabled for about five years and has since received \$100 each month. How will that effect the face value of his basic policy?

A -- It will have no affect. Benefits received under the disability rider will not decrease the face value of the NSLI policy.

Q -- Does confinement awaiting trial affect pension payments from the Veterans Administration?

A -- No, neither does a conviction with a suspended sentence. Pension is only affected after the 61st day of imprisonment following conviction.

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RUBY SAYS

I hope that you all rang in the New Year with much joy and are looking forward to good things happening in 1977. I just know this year has to be a better one than last for all of us.

This is a whole new year, with a fresh, new president to lead our country - and isn't it great? Our with the old, on with the new. It is time for changes - changes particularly from the old, degrading, dehumanizing welfare system to jobs and training and better educations for us all. Welfare doesn't provide the solution - Food Stamps don't provide the solution - only keep the problem going. We need economic independence and the tools to make that independence available.

Let us all work toward that goal and hope that our state legislators will too, working hand in hand with the Federal government to bring it all together.

Economics is the name of the game. Economics means jobs, small businesses, independence, developing your potential, and the community you live in, preserving your future, your children's future, and a future for our old people.

For those of you who have heard the rumor that the WIC program was closed down, let me set that straight. The WIC program has never been shut down and is currently operating at full force - so just come in and get your cards for milk, cheese, eggs, etc.

Monday, January 3, 1977, with the help of Clark County Health District, Operation Life's clinic reopened its doors for the Early Periodic Screening. The new hours are from 12:30 to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. If you can, please call first before bringing in your children until we see how this system is going to work - call us at either 648-0012 or 648-2886 - and be sure you get your SAMI 25 forms first. And if you need a ride, let us know.

We are really looking forward to working with the Health Dept. to ensure the success of the new clinic. I cannot tell you enough how wonderful they are - coming in to make sure that the EPSDT program stayed over here after State Welfare tried to take it completely away.

I hope this new year paves the way to making all of our dreams a reality. Happy New Year to every precious one of you.



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