

BILLY ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

WRITE ON 3 CITIES

NEW ORLEANS. -- This is the most exciting city in the south with more legends and superstitions than stars and stripes in the confederate flag. They tell me that life in New Orleans is a yr'round party with the merri-ment culminating during the Mardi Gras, which is dubbed the greatest free show on earth. It's a city that care forgot, a city for the young at heart, and the adventurous in spirit as its fun and flavor is as legendary as it is inexhaustible. Time of course has changed many things here so Basin Street, made famous by those great jazz musicians who came out of New Orleans, is no longer the jumpin' spot in town. For the late nite aficionados, the hottest action for jazz, pop and rock, is at Mason's Las Vegas Strip. This multi-million dollar block long fun conglomerate is Black owned and something to be proud of. A dream come true for Louis and Daisy Mason, Jr., is made up of five different types of entertainment complexes with a motel inbetween. However, there's no way it could be written about in one column and fit everything else in that needs to be set write this issue. You had better believe it's a gas guys and gals with more to come later.

You gotta also watch your diet in this town, that's hard by the Mississippi, because the food is delicious with a palate pleasing flavor that keeps the communication between hand and mouth wide open. Would you believe that there's a restaurant with a wild game room where you can order Elk's back, giraffe legs, gorilla back, baked cipmunk and B.B.Q. muskrat. If that's a big one blame it on Tex Stephens who dumped that bit of gastronomic intelligence into my pear-shapes. He also told me about some characters whose names would reincarnate Dan Burley. However, I bet the immortal scribe never heard of "Creeping Jesus," who will do anything for a price, or business woman and cool, "Joyce The Thriller," nor "Big Time Crip," who has no legs, but dances better than any of the customers in his bar and lounge. Crip lost both his legs in the big shootout over thar. He did have some more goodies, like the N'Orleans' rapist who only suck toes, but, I was laughing so loud I couldn't dig the call letters.

SOME PEOPLE --- Reggie Jackson's Mom is looking for a person with a way with words to collaborate on a book about her Baseball cloutin' son . . . Lovely Modeen Broughton Means and that good looking yr'old divorcee Lt. Gov. George Brown of Colorado have let the romance out of the bag . . . Blanche Calloway, sis of his Highness of Hi De Ho, is reported that ill and is back home in Baltimore . . . Damon Evans, the son of "The Jefferson's" teevee series, has severed his managerial ties with Helen Noga. She kept trying to groove him into another Johnny Mathis . . . "2-Steps Down" is the name of the latest eatry Yvette Mayo & Theresa Joy-nor opened in B'klyn. Our gal Lee Wade is the drum beater for the spot . . . Former Manhattan beep Percy Sutton is back from Africa glowing over the financial opportunities which came through his open door . . . The warrior has silenced his guns, trammed his jet and left the battle field. However the question is will full Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James sheath his voice? If his early retirement, five months shy of the mandatory 35-yrs, was a drumming out, it was with pomp and polished class. Commanded by the Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. David C. Jones, the ceremony highlighted the service to his country of its first and only 4-star General and was emotionally beautiful. It reached a new historic plateau as it closed out nearly a half-century of the life, as it opened the front door of another, of one of America's most heroic soldiers. The occasion at Andrews Air Base was well attended by long time friends of the General from far and near, including past, John Dean, and present, Martha "Bunny" Mitchell, White House aids and top brass by the ton. Old soldiers like Lee Archer, among the famed Tuskegee Airmen, wondered whose shoulders will support the next 4-stars;

Major Generals Lucius Theus, Commander, Air Force Accounting & Finance Center, Dir. Accounting & Fin. Comptroller, HQ USAF, or Thomas E. Clifford, Commander 26 Norad Rgn/Air Div. However the Army may beat the USAF to the pinning with one of such Generals as J.W. Becton, A.J. Gregg or H.W. Brooks.

A change you would not want to miss has come over Mollie Moon's NUL Beaux Arts Ball. Michael Jackson, who set back his junket to Europe for the event, and B'way "Wiz" Stephanie Mills will be honored . . . "Roots," still a growing saga, goes before the lens in April to film another 12-hrs of the second 100-yrs. ABC-TV will eye/ear level the continuing story of the Alex Haley family some date in '79 . . . Rueben L. Watt, Wendell James Franklin, John Merdyth Lucas and Gabriel Curtiz have come up with \$8-mil and plans to jazz update a black flick version of "The Merry Widow." . . . Gladys Knight and the Pips maybe sharing the same stage, but seems to be sounding off in different recording studios. The Pips got a chart headed thing going that's trangelly dubbed, "At Last --- The Pips." . . . "Paul Robeson," starring James Earl Jones, opened on B'way in chilled weather to warm critical approval . . . Sarah Vaughan also got the best of the critics in a show at the Music Hall headlined by Dizzy Gillespie and Mercer Ellington directing his pop band. The snow and stuff kept the fans away to add to the continuing woo of the great hall . . . N'York has been denied a place on the Ebony Feb. list of 10-best cities for blacks . . . South African journalists Percy Qoboza and Donald Woods have been selected to receive the Golden Pen of Freedom in recognition of their struggles for freedom of expression in their apartheid country . . . The Capital Press Club has picked up the bat against WJLA-TV's decision not to renew the contract of Dolores Handy . . . Beah Richards, the distinguished performer and inspiring woman is displaying the double facets of her personality on PBS national presentation; "Inner Visions -- Beah Richards." . . . They sent along an invite to the Jan. luncheon honoring Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, who for the 2nd-time has been printed out as Sport Mag's Performer of the Yr '77, but no jet ducet to the posh Beverly Hills Hotel. Kareem and Sandy Koufax are the only two sports supers to win the award twice in its 31-yr history. However L.A. is a far distance without a sponsor. STAY LOOSE or cook you goose which is my last order from across the border.

Prayer Poem

In 1836, Edward Osler wrote a Communion hymn which speaks of God's nearness to us.

God is near to us in every sacrament, in every sign of His hand and heart and life. Osler wrote:

*O God, unseen yet ever near,
Thy presence may we feel;
And thus inspired by holy
fear,
Before thine altar kneel.*

*Here may thy faithful people
know
The blessings of thy love,
The streams that through the
desert flow,
The manna from above.
We come, obedient to thy
word,
To feast on heavenly food;
Our meat the Body of the
Lord,
Our drink his precious blood.*

*Thus may we all thy word
obey,
For we, O God are thine;
And so rejoicing on our way,
Renewed with strength
divine. —Amen.*

Safety Rules For School Children

School time means stressing basic safety rules to children enroute to the classroom.

According to CNA Insurance safety experts, more than 50,000 children are injured each year between home and school. Parental instruction can help insure against these accidents.

It is particularly important to map out a route for a child who has not been to school before. Determine the safer side of the street, watching for dangerous construction sites, troublesome intersections and blind alleys.

Don't over estimate the ability of your children as pedestrians. Teach them to cross the street only at corners and to obey traffic patrol guards in crossing busy intersections.

Safety experts warn that children bicycling to schools must ride on the right-hand side of the road in single file, yielding the right of way to

motorists and pedestrians. Passengers should not be carried on a bike unless it is equipped by the manufacturer with more than one seat. Children also should be encouraged to use car-free bike trails whenever possible.

If you drive your children to school, make sure all are seat-belted properly to reduce horseplay which can lead to serious injury. Children under 4 feet 7 inches tall should not use the standard shoulder harness which can cause injury to a child's head and neck.

Before allowing children to get out of the vehicle, make certain they will not be stepping into the path of moving traffic by having them exit by the curbside doors.

If safety is taught by parents and teachers, the trip to and from school will be a much happier and safer one for your children.

A Public Service of CNA Insurance.

End
Wash Day Worries

we are **TOPS**



in
DRY CLEANING!!

ROXY
CLEANERS
AND
LAUNDRY


624 H. ST.
PH 648-3043

Things You Should Know

James McCune
SMITH...

... OF WHITE AND NEGRO PARENTAGE,

THIS PHYSICIAN, SCIENTIST, ORATOR, SCHOLAR AND ABOLITIONIST WRITER GAINED NATIONAL FAME AROUND 1840! A GRADUATE OF THE UNIV. OF GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, HE IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS WORK WITH CHAS. RAY HELPING GERRITT SMITH OF PETERSBURG, N.Y. (ORGANIZER OF THE LIBERTY PARTY), SET UP A PLAN TO COLONIZE FREE NEGROES ON N.Y. STATE FARM-LAND & TRAIN THEM IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY!



NEW YORK