

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

NON-INTEGRATED ORK, KAYOED

N'YORK CITY: Panama Francis, the super great drummer-band-leader, was all but charged with reversed discrimination by a pub owner who could not find a better excuse. As a result, Panama and his famed all-black Savoy Saultans, with Julia Steels in the vocalist slot, were denied a summer job because the crew isn't integrated. We have kept the name of the hiring boss and the place out of it for now as nobody of authority involved could be contacted for the jern't's side of the story. In the meantime Panama and his crew are making with the earable foot pleasing sounds at the world famous Rainbow Room high atop the RCA bldg... In the



Ray Charles

same 20°-bag was a steaming set of ink lines from "Jack the Rapper" who used his space to cry "Shame on You Ray." It was all brought about through a 20-center to Jack from Preston Love. He was boiling because in his words he had the disgusting experience of watching Ray Charles and his troupe on cable teevee. What got his dander up was that out of 16 members

in "Mr. Soul's ork., nine were white. He went on to describe the fact that his brass section had only one black trumpet player among eight.

"But knowing Ray Charles," said he, "It is not surprising, it is predictable." Among other things Preston said for his 20—cents was, "In a day when there are so many fine black musicians unemployed, why should Ray hire a majority of white musicians to play music that blacks created and developed, much of which Ray Charles himself innovated.?"

"What is going to come of the black musicians of this country when all of our black singers and band leaders are now hiring mostly whites? As you (Jack the Rapper) said in your article, how many white singers and bandleaders do you see with all black musicians or any appreciable number of blacks? To imply that whites play our music any better, or as good as black musicians, is plain nonsense. This fad of blacks hiring all white musicians is the results of some mental abberation, I'm sure" Preston Love..

Preston is an alto sax player who held down chairs with Ray Charles and Count Basie and speaks with some expertise. What's your thoughts on this matter? Why

not share it with the readers of this space. A quick contact for us is 481 Main Street, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801, so get on the write hand.

PERSONALITIES: The Rev. Jesse Jackson's relentless thrust for a fair share of the economic pie from the profit kitchen of the corporate giants is con-



Rev. Jesse Jackson

tagious. The National Black Network has jumped into the fray with a blast of "racism" against Proctor & Gamble. George Edwards, NBN's prexy has termed the giant corp. "The most flagrant exploiter of black consumer loyalties." In part, Gene Jackson, chairperson of Unity B'cast, the flagship of NBN, said "The absence of P & G from the list of advertisers using black radio is

totally unacceptable. Over the past 10-yrs, we can document that Afro-Americans have spent \$20-billion on P&G products, and P&G has spent less than \$3 million in black media. This is a public policy decision on

P&G's part. It represents a major insensitivity to the black community." A production about the immortal heavyweight, Joe Louis, is being contemplated under the title, "Brown Bomber" ... Two aged goodies, you know like rare wine, Billy Eckstine and Eddie Heywood graced the Apple for sessions at Dangerfield's and The Cookery, in that order...

WRITE HEAR: Richard Pryor has had his flicker fill for awhile and has taken off for a month's sojourn through Africa. Said he will not do another picture until summer, including co-starring with



Richard Pryor

Burt Reynolds and Gene Wilder ... It should please you to know that Nipsey Russell will co-host a

few new game shows scheduled to debut in March, "Eye Guess," "Three on a Match" and "Chain ReAction." ... Over 400 business leaders biographies have been put together as the sum & substance of a new book, "Who's Who in Black Corporate America."

They think a lot of the tome and are asking \$65 per copy...

Dick Griffey, the bro. promoter announced that the next big push of his Solar Records firm will be in Africa. However he made it clear that the only way any of his performers would do their thing in South Africa is if they were invited by the people being oppressed...

ASCAP has listed young and lovely Irene Cara, new superstar Eddie Murphy and Deniece Williams among its new members. The organization of composers, authors and publishers also finally let us know that it presented its first Golden Note Award to Quincy Jones, calling him the "quintessential man of music." The award will be given to those ASCAP members who

demonstrate outstanding achievement in the field of music... I don't know who said it but it's a marvelous line. "The Small Business Administration: It's big on advice and short on cash."



Quincy Jones

Life's adventure has ended for the mother of Fred and Manson Melton and their sister Sara Brooks. At 94 Mrs. Julia F. Melton accomplished more than could ever be outlined in any one column. Her children attested to that in the friends they made through the teaching they received from her. Her obit has been written in Hopkinsville, Ky. where she mothered many great men and women through the segregated school system as its first Supervisor of black (Negro) education. Rest in peace, dear lady; life profited by your living...STAY LOOSE...Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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John Pitts

John brings to the real estate industry a background of mathematics, having been a mathematics teacher for over 20 years. At present John is a teacher with Clark County School District. He doubles as a residential sales person with Toler Realty. John, his wife and daughter arrived in Las Vegas from Gary, Indiana.



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