

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

UNION MEMBERS RATHER PICKET THAN RATIFY AGREEMENT

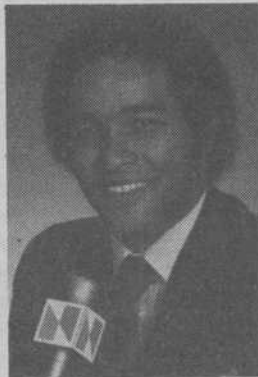
N'YORK CITY--It's good that the temperature hit the 90s., just hot enough to cook the egg on my face in view of my opening paragraph of last issue. The welcome back tirade was well intended, but somewhat premature. The Am'News, the Big Apple's biggest tabloid, is still being struck by its Newspaper Guild membership. The announced tentative agreement, between management and the strike committee, which prompted my write hand applause, was nullified when a majority of the membership voted against ratification. At press time the almost 5-month old dispute was still disabling the full potential of this needed community soapbox, this oasis in this city's desert of racial polarization and bias.



Sammy Davis

WRITE ON TARGET-- If the rumors turn true and Motown signs a distribution pact with MCA Records, talk is that it would doom independent record distribution. This again is proof positive how big the wax works which Berry Gordy founded in Detroit has become and the influence it wields...Sammy Davis, Jr. Had to set-back his 5-day session at the Coliseum Thea. in Latham, N.Y. because his pal Bert Reynolds begged him to fill a seat in his produced and

directed "Cannon Ball Run-2" flick. The total talented one will pickup on the already sold out theatre date directly after Labor Day...Butterfly McQueen, best remembered for her role as "Prissy" in "Gone With The Wind," will best be remembered hence forth by the International Security Corp. of Virginia as a lady not to mess with. The 72 yr. old actress took the firm to court and proved it was wrong in accusing her of being a vagrant and a pick pocket. The '79 incident caused a Superior Court jury to pick the Security Co.'s pockets for 60G's to compensate the lady for the insult...NBC-TV rating rakers didn't get any miracles out of the handsome and talented young Bryant Gumbel, so comes Aug. 1 he will be replaced on that early, 6:30-7 ayem (before) "Today Show" by Connie Chung. However, he will continue to co-anchor the bigger and more important "Today Show," and with perhaps a little more sleep under his eyes...A number of us turned off our sets when none of the beautiful non-white "Miss Universe" contestants made it to the dozen finalists. On the other hand what was "Miss South Africa" doing in a competition of so-called beauties of the free world?



**OFF THE WE
WRITE--**Dizzy Gillespie and Billy Eckstine will team their talents for a special salute "to the superlative jazz immortal," Earl "Fatha" Hines. The concert will be



Billy Eckstine

presented in Sept. as a Resident Associate Program of the Smithsonian and is co-sponsored by the office of the Mayor and the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities. A jazz pianist for 50-yrs. "Fatha" Hines, who was 79, died last April...Aretha Franklin's new face on her latest album is given eye worthy quality by some fancy Francesco Scavullo lenswork, Way Bandy



Aretha Franklin

make-up and Carlton B. Northern and Andre Douglas' hairstyling. All teamed to make her look like a born again beauty...Billy Conn, who twice challenged Joe Louis for the heavyweight crown, dipped his pen into his soul to write a piece about the late immortal champion in the July issue of Reader's Digest. "Thunder roared from his heavyweight hands, but his heavyweight heart knew only quiet humor, dignity and honor," wrote Billy who further stated that "In that canvas square Joe was unequalled. I guess you could say I'm a part of boxing history. Joe Louis? He was boxing history. I'm proud to have fought

him, but prouder to have been his friend."..Players, the ciggie in the eye catching black pack, is sending up smoke signals to the pals of Chris Bennett, new prexy of the NNPA, publisher/activist Dr. Carlton Goodlett and Percy Sutton, chr'person Inner City B'casting Corp., to make themselves available Aug. 4th for a gala celebration in their honor. Stan Scott, veep Public Affairs Phillip Morris USA, will host the event at the Water Club on the Big Apple's East River.

**SWING WRITE
ALONG--**The Gary Coleman cartoon Satdee ayem NBC-TeeVee cartoon show is being axed.



Gary Coleman

"Mr. T.", from "The A Team" is the selected replacement. That I've gotta see...John Lee Hooker was scheduled to officially accept his Nat'l Heritage



Mr. T

Fellowship Award as a "Master Traditional Artist" during the special ceremony Sunday. He should have no problems making the trip as a \$5000 cash award goes with the honor...If you haven't been called for a role in "Toy Soldier," starring Clevon Little, Jason Miller and Terri Garber, you can forget it. Robin Lippin, casting director has announced that chore is completed...My H'wood source gives the im-

CETA Workers Learn and Help

By H.P. "Fitz" Fitzgerald

The eleven youth assigned to the West Side Community Development Commission this summer are learning several building trades such as house painting, carpentry, roofing, cement work and job hunting techniques.

They are learning the trades by refurbishing and redecorating the homes of low-income and senior citizens in the Las Vegas area. When their training ends on August 19, these Pre Apprenticeship Trainees will have redecorated the exteriors of forty six homes, and saved the

homeowners \$65,770.00. Graduation for the trainees is scheduled for Friday, August 19, at 2:00 P.M. in the Commission Office located at 330 West Washington Avenue, Suite 11.

The Commission has trained more than 575-youth and saved the homeowners more than \$6,175,000.00 since the program was started in May, 1977.

The enrollees are being taught by H.P. Fitzgerald, Executive Director and Senior Training Officer, James Cunegin, Field Superintendent, and Jacqui Dotson, the CETA Generalist.

Commissioner Nolen To Speak At Luncheon

The NEVADA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE regular membership luncheon meeting will be held on Friday, August 5 at the Westside Story, 901 W. Owens Avenue.

Guest speaker for the luncheon will be Bob Nolen, newly elected Las Vegas City Commissioner. His topic will be "Involvement and Commitment To West

Las Vegas and Ward III. He will discuss Minority Businesses, the Creation of Employment and Appointments to Key Decision-Making Positions.

Commissioner Nolen is a member of Clark County's A-95 Clearing House Council, the Clark County Board of Health, the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark See CHAMBER Page 15

pression that J.D. Hall, the first black to seek the top office of the Screen Actors Guild doesn't have too much of a chance because of the dominance of white members...Ernest Johnson has finally made the move to San Diego and is in the Glory of his love which is why he gave up his insurance biz in the Apple...By the way his spouse's name is "Glory."...Johnny Hartmann is back in the Hosp. and his close friends are that concerned...Huland Jack, who was N'York's first black Boro prexy, is taking treatments in

Mexico...Wondah what has happened to the Negro Actors Guild?...Friends of Avon Long have started putting the pieces together for a gala tribute to him at the Shubert comes Sept..."Misery is when you start to help an old white lady across the street and she thinks you're out to mug her...from "Black Misery," copyright 1969 by Ama Bontemps and George Houston Bass as executors of the estate of Langston Hughes...STAY LOOSE--

Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.



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