Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Anti Black-Jewish Crimes N'York's High

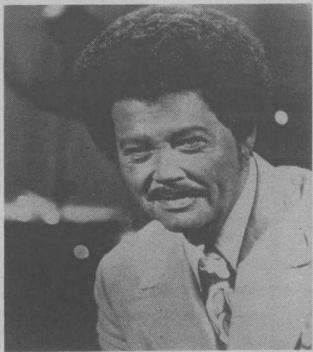
NEW YORK CITY - The National Institute Against Prejudice and Violence held a breakfast meeting here recently to acquaint its advisory board members and supporters with its progress and intentions in dealing with bias in the nation. The meeting was chaired by the Hon. Benjamin Ward commissioner of Police of the City of New York who is also a member of the board of N.I.A.P.V. He used his opening remarks to stress the difference between common acts of assault, vandalism, and those caused by racial or religious hatred. 'There is a world of difference between simple assault and one racially motivated upon a Black child who just moved into a "White" neighborhood. Neither can you acquaint the same meaning to a straight forward vandalism to that of the destruction of tombstones in a Jewish cemetery, said the commissioner. He told the wall-towall audience that "These are the types of crimes which spark violence, breed bitterness between cultures, religions, races and corrode communities.

the Police Department to defuse this sort of situation and educate its citizenry. Commissioner Ward's sought solution to this is his department's Bias Incident Investigation Unit (BIIU). The only one of its kind in N.Y. State, or the United States, it was created especially to enhance the response, recording, analysis, investigation and follow-up of bias incidents involving crimes motivated by prejudice based on race, religion or sexual orientation of the victim. In 1985 this unit uncovered 286 bias Fifty inspired crimes. percent were anti semitic, 27 percent were anti-Black and the remaining 23 percent combined were anti White, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islanders, Gay/Lesbian, Church, Cemetery and others. The unit made 113 arrests in these cases. It has successfully worked with hate fighting organizations like NAACP, the Anti

"It is the responsibility of

Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and others. In the words of the commissioner, 'After 5 p.m. the police dept, is city government for most people. Police officers can help a community recognize that hate crimes are more than isolated acts. They can be catalysts to activate and educate the community and transform the negative and potentially divisive affect of these crimes into an experience that unite a community against prejudice, he concluded.

exchange among experts, conduct training, analyze and draft model legislation The Institute's directors and advisory board members read like a who's who from the human and civil rights ranks. Senator Birch E. Bayh chairs the board of directors and its includes former U.S. Attorney Gen. Benjamin R Civilette, Juanita Jackson Mitchell and Minoru Yasui. Included on the advisory board are actor Ed Asner L.A. Mayor Tom Bradley former Mass Senator Edward Brooks, Miami's former Maurice Ferre. Mayor NAACP's Benjamin Hooks, Gov. Harry Hughes, Maryland, John Jacobs, pres. Nat'l Urban League, LeXaun Khoa, Rabbi Benia-



Billy Eckstine

The National Institute Against Prejudice and Violence was established in 1984 by the State of Maryland to seek a cure for the national illness of violence and intimidation against people because of their race, religion or ethnic background. It has four major areas of concentration: Clearinghouse; collect, analyze and disseminate data on hate incidents and information about programs of prevention and response. Research - study causes, perpetrators, victims, and communities to gain insight into the problem to enable agencies to establish effective programs of prevention and response. Response: Provide technical assistance to communities which are targets: Program and Policy: Educate citizens, provide a forum for information

min Kreitman, Eleanor Holmes Norton, R. Peter Struas, Percy Sutton and this scribe among others.

NEWS NOTES: Natalie

George Burns Brings a 'Dreamgirl' to Caesars Palace



Jennifer Holliday

Cole's new hairdo and facial make-up has even started the back row oohin' and ahin'! The King's daughter will top star ''The Legacy of Nat King Cole'' feature of the Fest at Avery Fisher Hall . . .

POT POURRI: "Color Purple" was an also ran in the "Oscar" race to "Out of Africa," but as of this writing it's box offices miles ahead. The Whoopi Goldberg starrer has coined close to \$30,000,000 to "Africa's" just over \$20,500,000 and is number 12 on the top grossing pics list while the Oscar winning "Out of

Africa'" is 18th. Well guess winning isn't everything... The new pictures being distributed announcing Billy Eckstine's teamup with Sarah Vaughn, the "Divine One," for a JVC Jazz Festival voice mating, appears as if he's attempting to re-introduce the Afro hairdo... World class superb comedian Bill

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The man who gave Ann-Margret her first big break in Las Vegas is bringing another ''Dreamgirl'' to the entertainment capital.

Timeless comedian George Burns returns to headline the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom May 14 through 22 in an engagement that spotlights the Las Vegas debut of Broadway star Jennifer Holliday.

Burns, who celebrated his 90th birthday at the Las Vegas resort last January, loves show business, and often reaches out to help young, talented performers on their way up. As early as 1923, he discovered a 17-year-old Irish-American actress named Gracie who later captured his heart and most of America's.

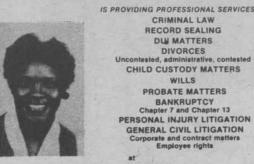
In Holliday, he has a Broadway Cinderella girl whose role as Effie in the 1981 hit musical "Dreamgirls" won for her Tony ("Best Actress") and Grammy ("Best R & B Female Vocalist") awards. Since then, she has released two albums and toured in the title role of the powerful stage musical "Sing, Mahalia, Sing."

Burns and Holliday will perform in nightly cocktail shows at 10 p.m. For reservations, phone the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom 702/731-7333 or 800/445-4544 (outside Nevada, within the U.S.).



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