

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Black Caucus Event One For The Road

WASHINGTON, D.C.—I love a parade and none is more eye-exciting or enriching than the annual fall wk'end workshops and dinner of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. The trek of the hordes from rooms to workshops, from hospitality suites to restaurants and the bars was magnificent in dress and color contrasts. They filled this town and its places to

the brim. They came upon it by Greyhound, cars of all makes and models, through the friendly, and perhaps, some mildly turbulent, skies along the jetways to become engulfed in the annual electrical anticipation and excitement of the Caucus Foundation Inc.'s sixteenth annual fully packed wk'end. For the main event I had the good fortune to spend eye and chatter time, from a see-

it-all vantage point with Ruth Allen King. She is the "queen" who was the long ago ammunition the National Urban League discharged against corporate bias. In a large measure she hit bullseye opening the hole through which many of those we greeted entered to open the doors ever wider. Of all the parades, the trek to the closing Award Dinner was the most colorful with men and maids decked in some fantastic threads. The clothes wore were Essence and Ebony fashion fare delightful to eyeobserve. In the main every piece was in correct good taste. There

were enough bodies in sequins, bangles and beads, silk and wool, gold and silver, leather and lace to float a Carver bank loan. The body draperies were a tip off on the wealth or the credit status and the taste of the keeper of the frame which made the garments beautiful. The divine sex was really up to its best in carriage and visible character. In the words of Lionel Richie, "They were Three Times Ladies." Ruth, just a couple of days from greeting her 76th b'day, pulled my coat to how snazzy the "men folks" looked. Many were even eye-appealing in that "Miami Vice Look." It's too bad however that in showing off how far we have come, and blue-penciling how far we have yet to go, for lack of our own resources, continues to leave America's most potent ammunition (money) out of reach of our own community.

The human numbers the CBC Foundation attracts annually is visible proof that it has become an influential independent political force. It seems to me that it is wing spreading time. I am perplexed that CBC has stayed the DeeCee course so long since all, but one, of its 21-members represents fulfilled states. The Hon. William L. Clay represents the 1st. Dist., Missouri. The Hon. Cardiss Collins, 7th Dist. Illinois. Hon. John Conyers, Michigan's 1st. Dist. while The Hon. George W. Crockett, Jr. is the voice of Michigan's 13th California Hon. Gus Savage, is the Rep. Dellums from its 8th. District, Julian C. Dixon from its 28th. The Hon. Mervyn M. Dymally from its 31st. and long time Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins out of its 29th. Congressman Charles A. Hayes is the voice of Illinois' 1st. District. The Hon. George "Mickey" Leland is out of the 18th. Texas. Parren J. Mitchell, retiring, is out of the 7th Dist., Maryland. Former

newspaper publisher, The Hon. Gus Savage, is the Rep. of Illinois' 2nd. Dist. Congressman Louis Stokes is Ohio's 21st. District's law maker. The Hon. Alan Wheat is from Missouri's 5th. Dist. Tennessee's 9th District has Congressman Harold E. Ford on the hill. Congressman William H. Gray, 111, Pennsylvania's 2nd. District is one of the body's most powerful as chairman The House Comm. on The Budget. Long time Congressman Charles B. Rangel, a legislative powerhouse, is from N'York's 16th. The Hon. Major R. Owens is from the Apples's 12th. The Hon. Ed-Iphus "Ed" Towns is from the 11th. and The Hon. Alton R. Waldon, Jr. is having a short stay out of the 6th. To make it even finer in several of these states are cities with Afro-American "chief executives. Los Angeles, Detroit, Atlanta, New Orleans and Atlantic City just to name a few. With impunity the CBC Foundation could take its show on the road and embrace some of the other cities of America to rotate its message and distribute the wealth its attracts. The names of some who were on the "seen" next wk.

WRITE ANGLES:—Publishers of the nation's Afro-American newspapers are asking Congresslady Cardise Collins to include them in her legislative drive to curb advising discrimination... My best informer dropped a quarter-of-a-buck with a maybe that Diana'mite Ross is expecting... Mary Wilson, who used to share sound systems with her is reported backing away from her long awaited book. It's due out about now... Delilah Jackson is fit to be tied. Somebody gave Slow Kid Thomas the impression she peddled his pvt AT&T number to a book researcher. He needed that like a hole in the head... The Roy Eldridge/Buck Clayton co-host Jazz

jam session at St. Peters Church is said to have been illegally taped for commercial use. The all nite event, dubbed a "Soul Salute" to the late Teddy Wilson was an ear treat. Two-fisted pianist Exa Louis Brown arrived in time from Alaska to perform applaudable tricks on the ivories. Ruth Ellington Boatwright and classic delineator, hubby McHenry Boatwright, were in eye/ear range... Some mysteriously discovered unreleased recordings of the late Nat King Cole have been hitting the ear-waves. They just may find a top spot on the charts... Lovely Claudja Barry and Carl Anderson found themselves on common ground. A bash in their honor to celebrate her #1-dance hit, "Down and Counting" and his chart debut duet with Gloria Loring, "Friends and Lovers" Carl got a plus when the bonfire success of the wax works got him a shot on the hit soap, "Days of Our Lives" to perform the ditty with star Gloria Loring... Are you doing your "write" best in Jack the Rapper's campaign to dump DeeCee's "GreaseMan" for his derogating remarks on the immortal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s national Holiday Jan. '86? Well WWDC radio DeeCee still hasn't dumped him so Jack wants you to get on the write hand to a couple of sponsors, General Mills, Inc. complaint Dept. General Office, Minneapolis, Mn 55440 and William J. Wrigley, Jr. Co. Complaint Dept, 410 N. Michigan Ave Chicago, IL 60611... Ben Harney, who did "Tony" winning well on B'way in "Dreamgirls" wouldn't mind an encore winning for his emoting in the upscheduled musical, "Brownstone. The Roundabout Theatre production is on previews currently with an opening near the top of Nov. already set... SOME OF THE WHO WAS THERE AT THE CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS coming up next wk. Also THE EDGES SALUTE TO LENA HORNE AND WHY THE GOV OF N.Y. state was no show... STAY LOOSE... Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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