

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Barbara Jordan Preaches Against PBS Censorship

N'ROCHELLE, N.Y.—Glad it was nothing more than a serious flu bug that caused your precious gem, "Isadorable," to end up in the arms of those pill pushers at this city's Medical Center. Now she's in the lovin' arms of her Billy who is doing yeoman's service as a nurse. However, I can't wait to tell her that you said that you will never accuse her of doin' nothing all day, since taking care of yourself was no picnic...Down in Austin, Texas, one of your favorite speakers, Prof. Barbara Jordan, gave the Corporation for Public B' Casting (CPB) down the county for their planned contest analysis of Pub. B' Casting Service (PBS) programming. The study, the idea of Richard Brookhiser chair. of the CPB's Mission & Goals Com-

mittee, was put off this summer when the Pub. B' Casting industry raised sand however, its been placed back on the front burner and 80 researchers have been contacted to submit proposals. The former Cong. person, who now teaches at the U. of Texas' Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, used her sermon like-style at the PBS Program Fair breakfast last week to accentuate their uneasy feelings about the study and put the CPB on notice. "Public television is supposed to be our pursuer of truth without the heavy hand of ideology and prejudice," she said.

The Broad of the CPB is considered conservative and

this study has B' Casters worried that it is the Bd's way of riding PBS programming for an alleged liberal bias. Jordan said that the CPB's duty was to protect public television from the onslaught "of those who claim to speak in the name of truth but, who in truth, simply wish to substitute their own biases for the ones they claim to rectifying." She warned that public television maybe the first step in censorship soon to be followed by book and printed news. Wondah if this sudden interest in programming has anything to do with the recent uproar over "The Africans" series which caused the Nat'l. Endowment for the Humanities to pull its name due to its supposed "anti-western" flavor?

PEOPLE TO WATCH:— Playwright/actor Samm Art William, who is membership chairman of the Afro-American Guild of Performing Artists, Inc., will miss the Dec. meeting since he is living in L.A. and doing chores as a staff writer on the "New Mike Hammer" series. While on this coast his play "Cork" will open at the Cortyard Theatre next month...Rosetta LeNore, artistic dir. of AMAS Reptertory Theatre, may also be a no-show since

producers of "Gimme a Break" are swamped with calls and letters saying they want to see more of "Nell's Mama."... "A Little Like Magic," which is casted by the Famous People Players a group of develop-mentally handicapped performers, is great family fun-a bit more fun for the kids than adults though. Although it does not belong on Broadway it should be seen by all those who enjoy special effects...First run syndication may be a new avenue for us to break into teevee producing. Since Fame's break-thru many shows have found happiness and profit via this route they include: "What's Happening Now," "9-to-5," "The Oprah Winfrey Show," and hopefully this fall, "Isabel Sanford's Honeymoon Hotel."...The Citadel is taking no stuff from five white guys who thought it was funny to dress in white sheets and pillowcases, mumble obscenities and leave a charred paper cross in a Black Cadets room. They have been restricted to campus and will be walking punishment tours for the next six months. Between now and graduation they will have do fifty munutes with rifles 195 times. When the weather is bad they serve that time in their rooms. Those that had a higher rank

than cadet have been busted to "cadet private" and if anyone of them commits another serious offense he gets the boot.

STAR-WATCHERS:—Tell me that Michael Jackson's newest video is being shoot on the street of Greenwich Villege and that many top dancers, and models are calling, writing and wishing for parts...This must be the year of Run-DMC, first a hit with waxwork "Walk This Way," and now song writing chores with Stevie Wonder and Michael Jackson, the latter wants to co-pen an anti-crack tune...The 50th. ann'y. of The Count Basie Band will be celebrated on its new LP "Long Live the Chief." By the way, new coducter Frank Foster is a W'Chester resident...Even though the NAACP has given thumbs down to the flick "Soul Man" box office biz has been pretty good. Since it has grossed over 3 mil...Billy Preston, whose night job is musical director for TV's "Nightlife," is giving concerts like they use to and commands that the audience get up and dance. He also has a soon to be released single, with the appropriate title, "Been A Long Time, on Motown...Don't throw any punches at your buddy Major Robinson, 'cause he just had a pace-maker put in to keep his ticker on schedule, guess he didn't want to worry you 'cause we sure didn't know anything about it until we read it.

Manhattan Boro. Prez David Dinkins stays involved in all areas. As prexy of The Afro-American Guild of Performing Artists it should please you that he has created "Awards for Excellence in The Arts. His press confab to announce same was a hot invitation item. H'cum? 'Cause attending were Arthur Mitchell, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Jeanne Moussay-Ashe, photo/author and spouse of the legendary history making tennis star Arthur Ashe and film, stage and TV luminary Tony Randall. As a starter and awards will cover six categories, Music, Dance, Film/Video, Visual Arts, Literature and Theatre...As this was being reported five finalists were being considered in slot. The winners are expected to be announced in time for the lucky ones to add an extra

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