

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Great! — BRITAIN ADDS COLOR TO PARLIAMENT.

N'YORK CITY: — The number one priority on Diane Abbott's agenda, as one of three historic nonwhites elected to England's Parliament, is a conference with Sir Peter Newsman in search of the "how come" college educated minorities have such a hard time finding decent paying jobs. He heads the United Kingdom's Commission for Racial Equality which has just concluded a survey on the high unemployment rate among the nation's ethnic minorities. "It conclusively disproved claims that Black college graduates had more trouble finding jobs than Whites because they were less qualified. Asians fare worse with a 16% unemployment rate compared to an 8% on the White side... The English born, Cambridge educated Diane Abbott is one of three Blacks who made history by adding elective color to the British Parliament. The current press officer for a local council, she made it clear, during an interview, that her politics was influenced by civil rights activists bred in the USA

during the turbulent sixties. "People like me, in their 30s had our ideals shaped by Angela Davis and the Black-power movement." The two others expecting to be seated in British new Commons are Barrister Paul Boateng, born in Ghana and local council leader Bernie Grant whose roots are in Guyana. They are the first to add color to this British lawmaking body in 58-years.

MEANWHILE: — 25-yrs ago the NAACP and its Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) came to a parting of the ways on a road map designed by the IRS. Nevertheless the LDF has remained committed to the cause of civil right. However, a legal hassle with the parent organization and disinformation about some of the cases it has come to grips with has mentally tainted LDF in some quarters. It's too bad that those negative critics were not at the recent annual Civil Rights Institute this legal body held. The day long symposium was a minute examination of how the U.S. Constitution affects the legal status and civil rights of Black Americans and how it relates to current

and future problems of poverty and justice. The panelists were out of the "brain banks" of the nation. Participants for its co-sponsored forum, "Race and the U.S. Constitution" included Judges Leon Higginbotham, Nathaniel Jones, Louis H. Pollak and John Minor Wisdom. Jack Greenberg, Columbia U.'s prof. of law, moderated. He headed LDF for 23-yrs.

ON THE OTHER LINE one of your best coin droppers used the ATT to check if you had heard that super builder Donald Trump is bidding to buy Lenox Terrace... Not half as mysterious, Penama Frances' call was to inform you that a letter is enroute to you that will rock the jazz world. Said it will expose racism within and out. I can hardly wait. It's like you said, Mr. R, "too many of the programs designed to help the poor end up enriching the rich." N'York's Wedtech is a glaring example... Lucille Lortell has become the Afro American Guild of Performing Artists' largest single contributor. It may make her happy to know that the growing organization has just been awarded its 501C3 which allows her a tax exemption. Okay, you philanthropists out there, how about holding back a few legal dollars from Uncle to help the Guild help others who are more in need than the IRS... Put on your Sunday best and go visit Jackie Andre in the converted YWCA Nursing Home on West 137 St. While you're out, continue the hike for a look in on Claudia McNeil in the Inglemoor Home in Englewood, N.J... In case some of those young folks have a short memory, Claudia was one of B'way's earlier super performers. Those lucky enough to have seen it will long remember her moving performance in the original presentation of "A Raisin In The Sun." The Lorraine Hansberry's critically acclaimed Langston Hughes inspired drama was also a major break for Sidney Poitier. Rumors are rampant that the extremely talented Debbie Allen is shortening her hi'kicks in anticipation of an '88 tax exemption... Vinie Burrows, Kim Staunton and Hattie Winston beat out a full range of emotions in "Her Talking Drum" at the American Place Thea... Martha Glaser dropped a coin to ear chat about Polygram's release of a digitally mastered collection of Erroll Garner's Mercury wax works as part of its Walkman

cassette series. ASCAP has again dubbed "Misty" one of the most performed standards of the past decade. All this happening within days of what would have been the keyboard stylist's 65th b'day... Dr. Frederick Patterson's "Presidential Medal of Freedom" is an example of what can be accomplished when one embraces promise, encourages potential and is gifted with an inexhaustible amount of patience.

CRAZY AND FORGET IT is what Parisian promoters have allegedly said about Prince's demand for 50Gs per day "pocket money." That's in addition to his 217Gs for two concert performances in the city of lights... Not sitting on his laurels, the 'triple crown' for "Fences," playwright August Wilson's "The Piano Lesson" is set for a Nov. opening at the Yale Rep. He says that he would love to do a screenplay for "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," another one of his B'way shows which was nominated for a Tony... Ron Richardson will have something to add to the Guinness book of records. Aside from being the only member of the "Big River" cast to play his part when the show goes to Japan, he will act in Japanese and sing in English... It may please you to hear that "Rambling Rose" may be hitting the boards of B'way. Natch, it's about your buddy and favorite delineator Nat King Cole. Ron Richardson, who caught a Tony for his emoting in "Big River," is cast to star... Diahann Carroll and Vic Damone (Mr. & Mrs.) will spend the summer sharring "An Evening of Love and Romance" with couples along the Eastern Seaboard and midwest... Our advice about looking in on DeeDee Bridgewater doing her thing in England in "Lady Day," is now a no no. The show has closed... However, since James Earl Jones is such a rave in "Fences," they have recycled "The Great White Hope" at the Mermaid Theatre... CBSTV is putting the big promo behind Tim Reid. He will top cast "Frank's Place" this fall. He was scheduled to meet the publishers during the NN-PA's confab in Detroit... Maybe 20 yrs ago, or more, Tom Hayden, now a member of the Calif. Assembly, was an outspoken critic of the Vietnam war. He was co-founder of Students for a Democratic Society which created many campus disturbances. He was scheduled to give the com-

Joan Rivers/Nell Carter Return to Caesars Palace July 1-7

Just in time for Independence Day visitors, Joan Rivers and feisty singing star/actress Nell Carter add sparkle to the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom, in cocktail shows July 1-7.

Rivers, a regular Caesars headliner for more than four years, has been described as a one-woman show business conglomerate. Best known for two decades of appearances on network TV talk shows, she is also an established motion picture producer, playwright, actress and author.

nation's popular "Audience With" show — all very highly rated.

"Gimme a Break" star Nell Carter is back for her third engagement at the Palace. A Tony award-winner for her starring role in "Ain't Misbehavin,'" Carter also performed in several other successful Broadway productions and was seen in feature films "Hair," "Back Roads" (with Sally Fields) and "Quartet" (with Alan Bates). Before joining the cast of "Gimme a Break," Carter starred as Sgt. Hildy



Nell Carter

Her autobiography, "Enter Talking," made the New York Times best-seller list only two weeks after its release last year, and continues to be very popular. "Having a Baby Can Be a Scream," Joan's first book, also enjoys consistently good sales since its release in 1974, and was updated for re-release in 1984. Also in 1984, Rivers released her second book, "The Life and Hard Times of Heidi Abromowitz," which inspired her cable TV special, "Joan Rivers and Friends Salute Heidi Abromowitz." Rivers' comedy album, "What Becomes a Semi-Legend Most," was nominated for a Grammy, and was popular with fans in the U.S. and Great Britain. Its success helped set the stage for appearances on the

Jones in the television series "Lobo." Her other TV credits include an appearance on the Emmy Award-winning "Baryshnikov on Broadway," three outings on "The Big Show" and a number of guest spots on Johnny Carson's "Tonight Show."

Onstage, Carter is a high-energy performer, belting out selections that range from Gospel to Broadway. She thrives on a live audience. "I enjoy having the immediate reaction to what I do," she says. "I like building a rapport with people."

Joan Rivers and Nell Carter will perform at Caesars Palace in nightly cocktail shows at 8:30 and 11:30 p.m. For reservations, phone the Circus Maximus Showroom 702/731-7333 or 800/445-4544.

mencement address at San Jose College, but had to cancel. You're correct, students and community residents threatened to stage a noisy demonstration. Vietnamese students were 40% of the graduating class. What goes around comes around... It's been the Hite

of Nancy's day typesetting for Billy Rowe, syndicated columnist.

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Schedule of Events

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Friday, July 3

• Live Music Stages •
KFM Country & KNPR Jazz
5:30 pm - 1:30 am
Jerry Jeff Walker
Local Jazz Talent

• Competition •
Grand Prix Rides

• Food Festival •

• The MONKEES •
in concert
with
Weird Al Yankovic
8:30 pm
Sam Boyd Silver Bowl
Amphitheater

Saturday, July 4

• Live Music Stages •
KOMP Rock & KENO Oldies
5:30 pm - 1:30 am
Spirit
Otis Day & the Knights

• Competition •
Grand Prix Rides

• Food Festival •

• Motocross (Noon - 5 pm) •
• Fireworks Pre-Show •
7:30 pm
• Laser Sky Concert •
9 pm
Simulcast Live on
KLUC 98.5 FM

Ticket Information

★ July Jubilee Festival: \$3 ★

★ MONKEES: \$11.50 Advance (\$9.50 kids*) ★
\$15 door (\$13 kids*)

★ Motocross: \$5 ★

★ Laser Sky Concert: \$7.50 (\$5 kids*) ★

Admission for the festival is free with advance purchase of Monkees, Motocross or Sky Concert tickets.

TICKETS: Thomas & Mack Center Box Office, Nellis AFB, all Ticketron outlets and Silver Bowl day of show. More information 739-3900. Sky Concert tickets also available at all Las Vegas Fire Stations.

* 14 and under