

Theatricals Music Features

ON THE AIR



Jack Benny and Eddie Anderson known as "Rochester," as they appear in their side splitting radio program every Sunday night over NBC.

MEET EDDIE ANDERSON "ROCHESTER" TO JACK BENNY AND YOU

Hollywood, Nov. 10 (ANP)—Eddie Anderson owes his present position as Jack Benny's "air valet" to his inability to leave the dinner table. The bewildering Rochester, who exasperates his boss with his laziness and larceny each Sunday night over the NBC Red network, might have been a jockey rather than a radio and screen comedian with a string of his own thoroughbreds if he'd practiced a little more restraint at mealtimes as a boy.

Because Eddie decided that he preferred second helpings to spurs and saddle, he deserted the paddocks for the footlights at the age of 13. Born in Oakland, Eddie ferried across the bay with a dime he'd found and won an amateur contest in a San Francisco vaudeville house.

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But be sure and get GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules—safe and harmless—the original and genuine—right from Haarlem in Holland. Millions have kidney and bladder trouble and never suspect it—some symptoms besides visits to bathroom at night are headache, moist palms, puffy eyes and scanty passage that oftentimes smarts and burns.

Eddie would have had no trouble making his weight had he decided to return to the race track. He spent most of his time on an enforced diet. But finally, having established himself as a comedian with a versatile hoofing act to boot, he began to get better bookings.

It was during his vaudeville days in the East that Eddie first met Jack Benny. They just shook hands—nothing more. But Jack remembered Eddie's name as well as his act, a fact which was to pave the way to Anderson's eventual selection as "Rochester."

Like many another vaudevillian, Eddie drifted back home to California and in pictures when the four-day circuits folded. After a series of minor roles, Eddie first attracted attention of "Noah" in "Green Pastures," and was hailed by critics everywhere for his whimsical characterization.

A year later Jack Benny decided he needed a "valet." When he issued his audition call, Jack made sure that Eddie whose work he remembered was invited to try out. The following Sunday, "Rochester" was born. Today he's one of the most popular supporting characters in the Benny gang.

A born complement to the Benny type of comedy, Rochester never has to rehearse a line twice. He is one of the actors on whom Jack can depend for sure-fire laughs and is never caught off balance by one of the boss's "ad lib" cracks. Possessed of a remarkable memory, Eddie usually knows his lines by heart at broadcast time, and seldom refers to his script.

At rehearsals and scrip sessions Eddie is usually very quiet, pays rapt attention to Benny, whom he idolizes. If Jack smokes a cigar, Eddie lights one, too. If Jack looks perturbed, Eddie's brow wrinkles also. During the rest periods, he can usually be found in the vicinity of Phil Harris' orchestra "trucking" on down.

After his radio debut, Anderson was more and more in demand for picture part. He's appeared in an even dozen since the first of the year, but will be best remembered for his scene-stealing performance in "Jezebel" and as Donald



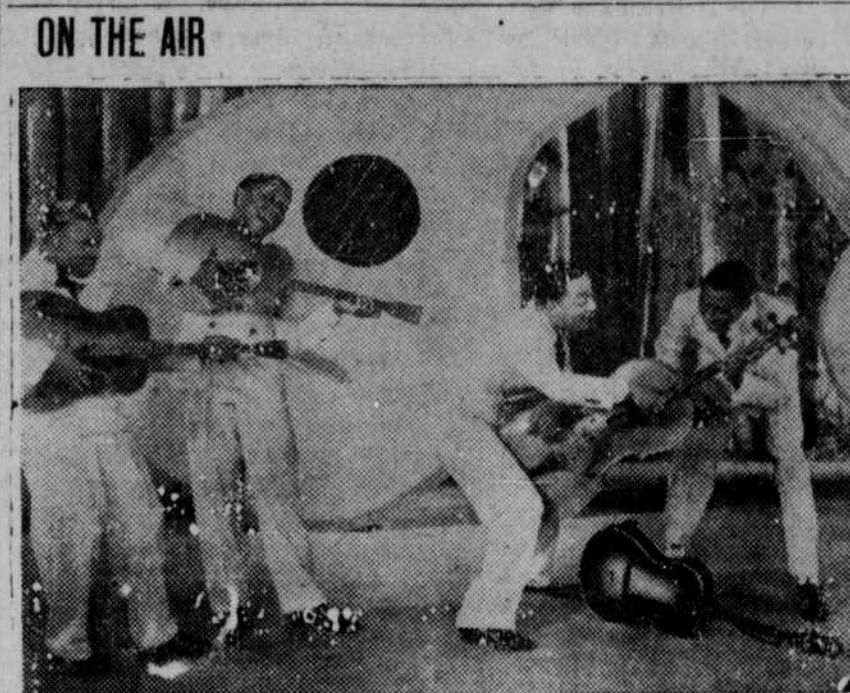
Portland, Oregon—Youngsters of the Negro Federal School of Music, part of the WPA recreation program. Bert Turner, pictured above, is leader of the boys and girls who play in the thirty-two piece band and the drum corps made up of sixteen youths. These musical enthusiasts meet regularly for instructions and practice. They give performances at schools and in parks. The instruction, practice and public appearance of these youthful musicians in Portland are a part of a total of 500,000 hours spent a week by thousands of persons taking part in choral, band and other musical training programs in WPA recreation centers throughout the country. (WPA Photos.)



ON THE AIR

Always true to his first love—horses—the first thing Eddie did when prosperity came his way to buy 3 thoroughbreds and help to train them himself. One little brown mare is expected to do great things during the Santa Anita season this year.

Unmarried, "Rochester" lives with his mother and sister, in Hollywood, where he spends his spare time taking them for cruises in his trim little yacht. That is, when he's not eating some of his mother's good home cooking.



INKSPOTS, NBC Blue, Thursday, 11:00 P. M.



OVER CBS. MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Cab Calloway and his Orchestra are broadcasting Mondays and Thursday, 11:30 P. M. from the Cotton Club in New York City.

WALLER, CALLOWAY TO HEAD HANDY CELEBRATION

Thomas "Fats" Waller, the gods gift to swing music, and Cab Calloway will headline the outstanding group of Negro stars of the jazz and classical field who will

take part in the William C. Handy birthday concert to be held at Carnegie Hall, November 21.

MUSICIAN HONORED

Hamilton, Bermuda, Nov. 10 (ANP)—Last Monday a reception promoted by several local musicians was given at the Albert Guest house in honor of Edgar Sampson, the composer and an arranger for Benny Goodman's orchestra. Sampson wrote Stomping at the Savoy.

The Vagabonds—Hot Harmonists



Vagabonds, Club matinee NBC Blue, Mon. thru Fri., 4 P. M. and the Jamboree Tues., 9:30 P. M. (Vocal Quartet.)

They are standing left to right, Robert O'Neal, John Jordan, and Norval Taborn and, with guitar, Ray Grant, Jr.

ROBINSON HEADS ACTOR GUILD BENEFIT COMMITTEE

New York.—With Bill Robinson as honorary chairman in charge plans for the mid-winter benefit of the Negro Actors Guild of America, Inc. was launched this week.

The benefit will take place December 11, at the 46th Street Theatre, scene of the current hit "Hellzapppin."

HATTIE McDANIELS IN NEW PICTURE

Hollywood, Calif., Nov. 10 (ANP)—Hattie McDaniels has recently completed work in the new Joan Crawford opus, "Shining Hour," at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios.

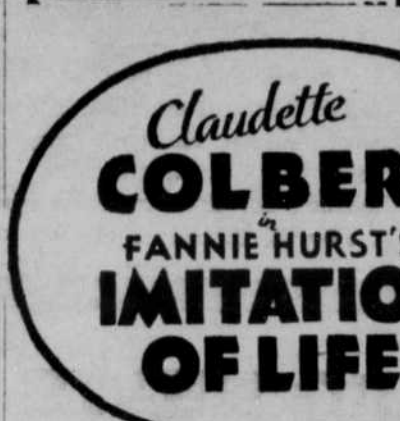
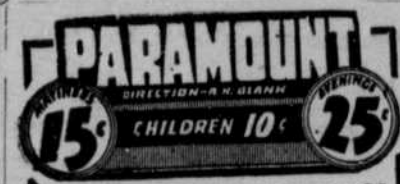
NOVEMBER PROCLAIMED INSURANCE "CONSERVATION MONTH"

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 10 (C)—President L. C. Blount of the National Negro Insurance Association in a proclamation issued here, has proclaimed the month of November as "National Negro Conservation Month," changing the original "Collection Month" first conducted in December last year.

J. G. Ish, Jr., chairman of the Conservation Month committee in a special statement from his office in Chicago said that last year only eight companies took part in the drive, but that "this year we are trying to institute a program in which all companies will be interested and will participate."

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