PERSONALITIES IN MUSIC

ABRAM CHASINS, A.S.C.A.P.

Success In Youth

By Daniel I. McNamara

ABRAM CHASINS, brilliant young American musician . . . composer, pianist, musicologist . . . is a notable exponent of industry in art. He adheres strictly to long schedules in his busy New York studio overlooking Central Park. Luncheons are brief; often he works far into the night. Still in his early thirties, he enjoys world-wide prestige.

Chasins was born of Russian parents in New York City, August 17, 1903. Discovered as a child prodigy by the late Mrs. Thomas Tapper, musician-friend of juvenile genius, he began studying composition with Rubin Goldmark at twelve. Later teachers were Richard Epstein and Ernest Hutcheson. He studied at Curtis Institute in Philadelphia, remained as piano teacher until 1934. During 1931 and 1932 he made two successful concert tours of Europe.

Chasins' first compositional efforts were in his student days in Curtis. His "Three Chinese Pieces" found their way into the concert programs of many leading artists.

He made his own pianistic debut with Gabrilowitsch and the Philadelphia orchestra in 1929, playing his own First Piano Concerto. Toscanini honored him in the 1931 season of the Philharmonic by performing Chasins' "Parade" and "Flirtation in a Chinese Garden." Thrice in a single week in 1938 he appeared in Barbirolli's Philharmonic Symphony series, playing his own Second Piano Concerto.

His regularly scheduled lecture-recital radio broadcasts initiated in 1934 attained great popularity. These revealed facility of oral expression to complement his thorough musicianship.

Chasins is a staunch ally of fellow composers, a defender of the rights in intellectual property created by them. He is a leading spirit of the American Composers' Alliance, and an active member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. His favorite composers are Bach, Chopin, Brahms and Wagner. Rachmaninoff and Strauss are his most admired contemporaries.

Chasins finds time for recreation in the midst of constantly increasing activities in composition, concerts and radio broadcasting. He plays chess and bridge, enjoys outdoor sports. His favorite reading is biography and philosophy, occasionally a detective story. He converses fluently in three languages.

Singularly devoid of the temperamental instability traditionally attributed to composers, he insists that hard work is his best inspiration. He loves his work, bears his honors modestly. Success in youth has not spoiled him.

(Music Features & Photo Syndicate)

DEMURRER GRANTED BY JUDGE IN VIRGINIA TEACHERS SALARY CASE

CITY OF NORFOLK ADMITS INEQUALITY BUT CONTENDS TEACHER HAS NO LEGAL ACTION

NAACP Appeals At Once

Norfolk, Va., June8—Following a three and one half hour hearing in the Circuit Court here June 1, Presiding Judge Allan R. Hanckel denied a petition filed by Miss Aline E. Black, local high school teacher, which sought to compel the Norfolk school board to pay Miss Black and all other Negro teachers in Norfolk, the same salary as white teachers with similar qualifications and doing the same type of work.

Judge Hanckel sustained a demurrer filed to Miss Black's petition for a writ of mandamus by City Attorney Alfred Anderson and his assistant, W. Old, Jr., and ordered the case dismissed.

In sustaining the demurrer which means simply that while the City of Norfolk admits everything in Miss Black's complaint, it contends that she had no legal basis for the suit. Judge Hanckel commented that the case would go to the U. S. Supreme Court anyway. He was referring to a statement noted in the original petition filed last March 2 by attorneys for Miss Black, that they intedded to carry the case to the high court of the decision of the lower court went against them.

Within a few hours after Judge Hanckel's decision Miss Black's attorney's: Thurgood Marshall, assistant special counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Leon A. Ransom, of the association's national legal committee and completed their appeal for filing before the Virginia State Court of Appeals for a writ of error.

The City of Norfolk's attorney, in his argument for dismissal of the case set fourth the following main points:

The petition was insufficient in law; Miss Black was employed on a private contract basis and the defendants could either hire her or not and pay her whatever they wanted to; Miss Black could not complain if she accepted such a contract; the courts could not control by mandamus action a discretionary power that could be exercised by the Norfolk school board alone; Miss Black waived all constitutional rights when she accepted the contract.

The NAACP attorneys, denying that the petition was insufficient in law argued that the high school teacher's contract was not an issue in the case. They pointed out that the issue was the establishment of a salary basis for teachers in Norfolk that did not discriminate against Negro teachers.

Attorneys for the NAACP cited the salary schedule, which was filed with the petition. This schedule provides that white female high school teachers shall receive a minimum of $970 and a maximum of $1,900 a year, while a separate salary schedule for Negro high school teachers provides a minimum for female teachers of $699 and a maximum of $1,105.

Miss Black's petition alleged that the Norfolk School board was enforcing the discriminatory salary schedule, actually paying Negro teachers less than white teachers with identical qualification and experience and doing the same type of work, solely on the basis of color.

The NAACP attorneys argued that "there is no discretion to violate the United States Constitution," that the Board, although it had power to fix salaries, had it had power to fix salaries had no power to pay Negro teachers less than whites simply because of color. They argued further that when color was made the basis of discrimination the Board violated the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution. They cited numerous cases intended to show that Miss Black could not waive her Constitutional rights.

Most of their argument was based on the fourteenth Amendment as it applied to requiring equal treatment for all citizens in the distribution of public funds for schools.

Commenting on Judge Henckel's decision, officials of the NAACP said.

"We are not surprised to receive a reversal in the lower courts of Virginia in this case, just as we were not surprised to receive a reversal in the lower courts of Missouri in the University of Missouri case.

"We want an opportunity to get a decision from the United States supreme court because we believe that the high court's decision will affect the question of equalized salaries, in all the states, not only as it applies to white and colored teachers, but as it applies to white and colored workers in every field of public employment"

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"MIDNIGHT SHADOW GOES FROM LOT TO CUTTING ROOM WILL BE RELEASED SOON

"Midnight Shadow" has just left the lot as a completed product—is now in the cutting room and will soon be on its way to the many theatres which have been anxiously awaiting its release.

After viewing the rushes, men renowned for their knowledge of motion picture production are unanimous in their opinion that "Midnight Shadow" is the finest and greatest picture ever produced by an all colored cast.

This film, is sure to capture the good wishes of motion picture fans because of the brilliant artistic technique displayed, the poise and instinctive acting of the cast, and instead of the ugly, the rough and common, this picture will be distinguished by its loveliness of scenic sequence, smoothness, of execution and right elegant costumes, good taste, refinement and gay, mirthful comedy blazing through the entire facric.

Frances Redd who recently arrived in Hollywood by plane from Chicago to play the role of the leading lady in "Midnight Shadow" a George Randol Productions film, though new in motion picture work, was well received by everyone; and because of her grace, beauty and natural ability as an actress has proven herself to be a real modern Cinderella and an immediate star.

Watch your local theaters for early release.

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FILTERED AIR IS BETTER FOR LUNGS

Studies of the lungs of human beings, after death, have shown that the amount of dust of all kinds that is breathed in, which gets past all the protective devices in nose, throat, trachea and bronchial tubes, is much greater than is commonly realized, says a bulletin of the National Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning Association. It has long been known physicians that a coal miner can readily be identified by autopsy by the blackness of his lungs; and some students believe that the lungs of a resident of a soft coal burning city, and a resident of an anthracite burning city would show considerable difference in this respect. The theroy has also been advanced that the greater susceptibility of elder people to pneumonia is due, at least in part, to the cumulative effect of the dust which has been gathering from year to year, in their lungs.

The Association points out that one of the great advantages, from the health point of view, of modern warm heating systems, which are also being increasingly used for summer cool air conditioning, is that these systems, in which the air is forced up into the living rooms by a blower fan, make it possible to filter the air Purer air, as well as better control of warmth in winter and coolness in summer, is consequently one of the advanages of forced air heating.

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Driscoll Commencement Speaker at Boys Town

Boys Town, June 4 (Special)—Father Flanagan's Boys' Home today (Sunday June 4) held their third annual high school commencement exercises. Nine boys, who came to Father Flanagan's famed Boys Town a few years ago, received their high school diplomas from the Catholic priest (Father Flanagan) who gave them their first break in life, a break they might otherwise never had, for they came to Father Flanagan's Boys' Home from broken homes or were homeless, abandoned or neglected youths.

Today these nine boys step up a rung of life's ladder as normal and healthy American youths, trained in only one ISM—Americanism—all because of Father Flanagan's long interest in giving the homeless and abandoned boys a better chance in life.

Charles B Driscoll, New York columnist who writes, "New York Day by Day," which is published in over 300 daily newspapers, in the Boys Town comencement address begged the graduates "not to believe a word that there is no longer any opportunity," He said:

"You have heard a great deal I have no doubt, about what a dark and dismal place the world is getting to be, how hopeless it is, and how cruel; how the dictators and bolsheviks and the crack pots are taking it over. And, above all how there is no longer any opportunity, that he last frontier has been closed, the last great discovery made, the last no-man's land explored,"

"I beg of you, do not believe a word of it."

"It is true that this thing which we call civilization is sick—yes, sick abed and running a bit of temperature. But I assure you, young men, that this is no new condition. If you will read a little farther over in the book you will find that sickness is a chronic condition with civilization. In fact, the old fellow is a bit of hypochondriac. Civilization was sick when I graduated too, tossing on his bed and calling out in an alarming delirium. The trouble just now is that the bedside of the patient is haunted by an innumerable multitude of quacks . So many yarb doctors, medicine men, miracle men and sages are stewing up concoctions, beating their tom toms, and uttering incantations, that the poor patient, Civilization has no chance to get well.

"I suspect he is going to let a great cry out of him pretty soon, and call for the old family doctor. If old Doc Common Sense gets to work on the case opens the windows, and makes up a couple of old fashioned hot poultices, those quacks will dive out of the windows and the patient will sit up and ask for nournishment."

Continued the New York Columnist: "Now about the last great frontier. About this story that there is no more important work to be done, and that you young men will of necessity lead idle and useless lives for the simple reason that there is no more need for energetic, hard working original thinking, young men. It is all nonsense.

"Do you realize that three developments of the present generation combine to render obsolete practically every building in this

(continued on page 6)

PAIN IN BACK

MADE HER MISERABLE

Read How She Found Blessed Relief

Muscles were so sore she could hardly touch them. Used Hamlins Wizard Oil Liniment and found wonderful relief. Try it today if your muscles are stiff, sore, achy. Rub it on thoroughly. Feel its prompt warming action ease pain; bring soothing relief. Pleasant odor. Will not stain. Money-back guarantee at all drug stores.

HAMLINS WIZARD OIL LINIMENT

For MUSCULAR ACHES and PAINS RHEUMATIC PAIN—LUMBAGO

Dolgoff Hardware

PAINT, GLASS & VARNISH

We Do Glazing & Make Window Shades to Order

Screen Wire, Chicken Wire, and Fence Wire.

WE MAKE SCREEN FRAMES TO ORDER

Electrical Supplies Plumbing Supplies

Roofing Paper & Guttering

We Have a Full Line of KITCHEN UTENSILES

(Open Evenings)

—WE. 1607— 1822-24 N. 24th St.

DO YOU KNOW WHY --- Graduation Day Love Doesn't Last Very Long?

Drawn for this paper by Fisher

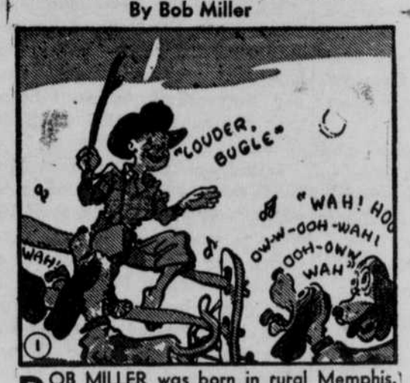
Mr. I. Knowitt — There was more noise than sense to the argument!

By Thornton Fisher

BIRTH OF A SONG

"Eleven Cent Cotton, Forty Cent Meat" By Bob Miller

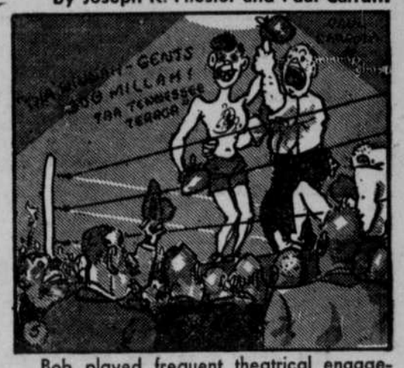
From ASCAP Files By Joseph R. Fliesler and Paul Carruth



BOB MILLER was born in rural Memphis, Tenn., in the heart of the hill billy country. It was not until he was ten that his talent for music was discovered.

Orphaned at an early age, he ran away at thirteen, large for his years, made his way as a piano player, did odd jobs — and went back to Memphis.

Relatives and friends furnished help for him to finish his education at the Southern Conservatory of Music in Memphis, and later at the Chicago Conservatory of Music.



Bob played frequent theatrical engagements, and even tried the prize ring to help finance himself. But the music of the hills kept coming to his mind.

He began to popularize the hill billy songs, and with the aid of a little orchestra he formed, made many recordings, including numbers of his own composition.

He is a prolific composer and arranger, and broadcasts frequently. His own favorite composer is Stephen Foster, whom, he says, the hill billies adore.

Bob Miller's hill billy music is generally topical, and bandits and heroes are celebrated alike, as their deeds are recorded.

Bob Miller is a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and his hill billy melodies are available to all licensed establishments.