

I'VE BEEN AROUND NEW YORK

By TED YATES

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IT WAS THE GI JIVE—MAN ALIVE!

There were any number of stories told by GI vets returning from overseas that would fill a column. But a very interesting one that should rate a handshake is a tale of prejudice in an Army camp right here at home that took place long before the Axis partners called it quits.

It happened near Columbia, South Carolina, at one of your Uncle Sammy's embarkation points. The ironic twist to this story is that Negro troops were not admitted to the barracks where whites were housed—on the very same soil which these Negro boys had spent all of their lives; where they played, worked, and, yes, many had helped to build on this very land. True, some of the colored boys were from the North—but they were all Negroes.

There was the time when one of the all-Negro name bands, on a USO tour of Army camps, and naval stations - - stopped off here to thrill "our boys."

A number of Negro troops mingled with the musicians after Mess. They hailed from various sections of the country—the boys in khaki making inquiries of their loved ones "back home" had looked upon this moment as a thrill outta this world!

In the group there was a white soldier, Private Lester Finver, of New York. Finver was "solid" with the Negro troops. He knew music and musicians and like his fellow-buddies this meeting up with some-of-the-boys was cosmic. But it was short-lived.

An MP sauntered up and shouted, "Break it up, you gus!" The Negro soldiers not knowing what was in store for them made a bee-line for auditorium where they knew the band was slated to give out with rhythm.

A commanding officer in company with several other brass hats called out to the MP (at this moment several other MPs—white, of course—appeared on the scene). The CO yelled out, "Get those Colored boys out of there and order them to their barracks. What the hell's going on here, anyhow?"

Just then a Negro sergeant walked up to the officer. He was accompanied by Private Finver.

"Sir," he said, "our boys want to know why they can't see the show tonight?"

"It is not right to deny them of entertainment, Officer . . . " Private Finver did not finish.

"Address me as Captain, you!" and he looked at Finver, "And for your information, Sarge, I'm not letting the boys see the show tonight. You also can inform your commanding officer to that effect. That's an order!"

The Negro non-commissioned officer and Finver were broken-hearted, disgusted. There was much grumbling among the Negro troops. Still they would not let this crackpot Cracker officer cause them to riot. It would just mean giving the Axis an opportunity to weld more severe attacks on our Allies by the delay of the departure of more American troops. Our boys knew this would happen so they chose to be orderly.

Finver protested vigorously the next day at GHQ. His reward was a threat to be placed in the "brig" if he was ever seen talking to a Negro soldier in camp.

"Do you realize that you could have started a Race riot?" said one officer.

"Never let it happen again, Private Finver," commanded another. There was nothing that Finver could do. Discrimination ruled in a U.S. Army camp. The just cause which brought about the drafting of men into the Service—to protect a citizen's rights, to abolish prejudice and do away with discrimination was all mockery, Finver thought to himself.

Irked he decided to do something about it. It was a deplorable situation and he wrote his other two brothers in the service. He told them about the incident and of other conditions that prevailed in a U.S. Army camp where men who were fighting for democracy were being denied their rights—their citizenry was being taken away from them. Out in the open they were being discriminated against. Southern officers were waging a revival of the Civil War and making "soldier slaves" of Negroes. Colored troops were serving in the capacity of servants for brass hats—and to top it off, Negroes were denied entertainment that for the most part, and at this particular camp, consisted of Negro talent.

He wrote to his two brothers,—"and at the end of the War, should God spare us, we have got to do something to make music available to Negroes in the South."

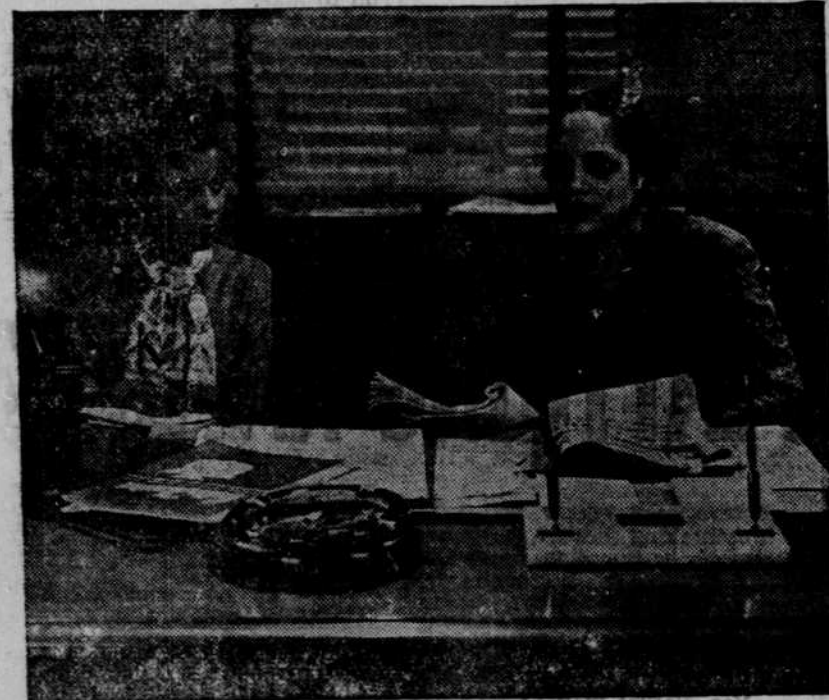
Master-Sgt. Lawrence Finver served at Fort Edwards, Mass., and his brother, Capt. Joseph Finver, was stationed at Governor's Island, N. Y.

The trio met at the end of the war and discussed the problem that involved the Negro Race as a whole. Lawrence and Joe decided to combat this evil the best way they knew how. They formed a partnership and established a mail order record company—dealing exclusively with Race records . . . and that dear readers was exactly how Carver-Hampton Company, 506-62nd Street, Brooklyn 20, N. Y., was formed.

A Handshake to all three of them—Lester, Lawrence and Joe. They are doing their part to make Democracy work in America.

The GI jive—man alive! You know that too!

Actress-Writer To Handle Herald Pictures Publicity



Lou Swartz, director of Negro Publicity for Herald Pictures Inc., and her secretary, Wanda Macy, start the publicity campaign on "BOY! WHAT A GIRL!"

ALL-NEGRO FILMS TO BE MADE AT NEW FEDERAL STUDIOS IN BROOKLYN

NEW YORK—All-Negro motion pictures will be produced in Brooklyn in 1947 at the new Federal Studios according to an announcement made by Jack Goldberg, president of Herald Pictures Inc., of which Federal Studios Inc. is a subsidiary company. Federal Studios Inc. has acquired the former home of the Brooklyn Elks, in the heart of downtown Brooklyn, and will start work immediately on the conversion of the property into an ultra-modern motion picture studio.

The building is an imposing five-story structure on a plot 100x135 and is adjacent to the Fulton stations of New York's IRT and 8th av. subways.

The new plant will contain three sound stages with the latest equipment and preparations are being made to utilize the entire top floor for television. The studio will be completely fireproof and equipped with film vaults, cutting rooms and facilities for casts and production crews. In addition to an up-to-date commissary and generous office space, it will also include a full-scale modern preview theater.

Celebrating Birthdays



Joint party for these polio victims who have the same birthday was given at the Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital where these children are assured treatment by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Sole support of the Foundation comes from the March of Dimes, January 15-30.

Entertainment

Opening at the AMVETS Club, Post No. 2 Tuesday January 21, was America's leading Blues Singer, Omaha's own Wynonie Harris, who made good on the coast several years ago, after heading some of Omaha's stellar attractions at the old Harlem club managed by Mr. Jim Bell, then went on to establish himself on Broadway and among America's leading singers of the Blues.

Among Wynonie's latest and most famous recordings are "Who Threw the Whiskey in the Well?" "Around the Clock," and "Cockle Do Doodle Do." . . . KIT and KAT the stellar dancing team, and Terry Gordon, and his Rhythm Rockers, supported by the lovely brown-skinned vocalist, Miss Betty Givens, packed 'em in. The AMVETS Club staff are giving Omahans the tops in entertainment . . . featuring the race's leading entertainers . . . Omahans, attracted to these star-studded shows, are responding to the extent that crowds are being turned away. The Guide's staff writer, hopes the citizens of Omaha will continue to support the high class type of entertainment that is now being featured and that has been badly needed so long in Omaha. The presence of our readers at the beautiful AMVETS Club rooms, means the continuance of top attractions at the local club.

Count Basie, and his orchestra will appear Tuesday night January 27th at the Dreamland Ballroom. Basie features the popular solid

senders Jo-J Jones and Jimmy (Mr. Five by Five) Rushing. . . . Nat Towles, Omaha's own Lot-tsa Poppa, and fast rising top-flight orchestra leader, and recording artist, completed his engagement at the AMVET Club, where the nightly crowds zoomed higher and higher, with many folks being turned away. The Towles unit will open February 7th at the famed Apollo Theatre with the King Cole Trio, for a (1) week engagement, followed by an Eastern tour. Esquire's 1947 Book of Jazz, awarded the iKing Cole Trio Three, the gold medals on the King Cole Trio Time hour, heard over NBC Saturday January 18th.

When the "Wings Over Jordan" program opened its 10th year of broadcasting, over CBS. A series of monthly "scholarship awards" were announced, in which high school students in principle cities will compete by writing essays on the subject, "Why the Negro Spirituals Should be Preserved."

Pearl Primus, young sensational dancer, was awarded the Newspaper Guild's Page One Award, for her interpretation of Negro culture through the dance. Miss Primus is well known for her primitive and modern dances.

The World Famous "Ink Spots" quartette recently received the double barreled award of having been polled the outstanding quartet of the year and for having recorded the largest money-making disc of 1946. The awards were presented on the stage of the Apollo Theatre, where 9 years ago, Bill Kenney, the tall famed, "Ink Spot" tenor, fresh from Howard university, made his initial entrance into show business, by singing on an amateur contest.

Why does the freezing milk always push the cap off the milk bottle? Water freezes from the top down, Science Illustrated explains. If the bottle was filled with water it would break the glass. But with cream the freezing particles can escape upward, forcing the cap upwards—and presto—some ice cream for the cat snower.

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Group Readies For Gay Paree



NEW YORK CITY—Mona and her Afro-Cuban Rhythm Boys let you in on one of their hot numbers which has set the folks at-king, and such pleases both Mona and her personal Manager—M. Cassvan who has already sealed the contract to send the Group to the Folies Bergere in Paris, France in March. However, before going to Paris the Group will fill a few of the many "Request" engagements here in the States. Those who

have vied the Act at the Apollo gave praise to Mona for her interpretative, artistic Dances, the unique original and spectacular Choreography which was under the supervision of Cassvan . . . and also for her perfect figure, her charm and personality. This Act is just one of the few which Cassvan is sending to Paris, and according to a recent conversation with him, he will also send over a Comic Band which is now in Canada.

News of The RECORDS and Reviews

An outstanding contribution to the library of recorded jazz, RCA Victor's "New 52nd Street Jazz" album present two of the outstanding stars of the Manhattan famous sector, Dizzy Gillespie and Coleman Hawkins and their orchestras in exciting showcases for the individual techniques and those of their sidemen. Both these brilliant musicians have won wide acclaim for their exceptional playing, and they have brought to the "Swing Street" much of the fame which has made the famous New York mid-town night club block such a celebrated mecca for jazz fans. The two bands share eight selections, four apiece, in this album, with Dizzy and his band displaying their virtuosity on "52nd Street Theme," "Night in Tunisia," "Of Man Rebob" and "Antropology." The mellow sax of Coleman Hawkins with his orchestra is heard on "Say It Isn't So," "Spolite," "Low Flame" and "Allen's Alley."

SPECIAL GROUPS

features a sensational group of side men, including some of the "all-time greats" of the swing world, among them Benny Carter, "Slim" Moore, Gene Porter, Irving Ashby, "Slam" Stewart and "Zutty" Singleton. "Ain't Misbehavin'" recorded for the film "Stormy Weather," was deleted in the final version. Now, on 12-inch disc, the memorable combo is re-issued as a fitting "Fats" Waller memorial.

The reverse side, "Moppin' and Boppin'" is an all-instrumental which spotlights the group's individual solos. The superb cohesion and musicianship of the performances on both these sides provides a thrilling musical experience.



GEORGE A. KEEFFE, of 19 Dodge street, has been named chairman of the Special Group committee of the Douglas County 1947 Red Cross drive, by E. C. Schmidt, general chairman.

"I Ain't Mad at You"



Hollywood—This is the personable performer whose Capitol record of "I Ain't Mad at You" is blowing up a breeze in the nation's juke-boxes. Jesse Price, above, sings and drums in what he calls "solid Kansas City style." He leads his own band in Hollywood and has just been given a new Capitol recording contract by Capitol's Dave Dexter, who is well known as author of the new book, "Jazz Cavalcade." Price has been singing "I Ain't Mad" for many years, but his record wasn't released until Jan. 1.

GREAT LOVE STORY ENRICHED BY MUSIC IN REPUBLIC'S TECHNICOLOR "I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU"



Lovely Catherine McLeod and dynamic Philip Dorn in a dramatic moment from Frank Borzage's Technicolor picture, "I've Always Loved You," which co-stars Miss McLeod, Dorn and William Carter, Artur Rubinstein, one of our greatest contemporary pianists, recorded the entire musical score for the Republic production.

Freezing Milk



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103 CANDLES FOR AUNT CINDY

Hickory North Carolina—It took a lot of candles and a big cake when "Aunt Cindy" Carpenter, ex-slave, celebrated her birthday. The cake bore 103 candles.

Bedecked With Beauty



KANSAS CITY, MO.—Candidates for queen of the American Royal Exposition here are shown on the unusual floral float in the picture above. This float, a Fruehauf trailer, led the parade which was one of the highlights of the annual livestock event that drew thousands of spectators from all over the U. S.

NEBRASKANS INVEST \$108,490,250 IN BONDS YEAR OF 1946

Eleven Nebraska counties sold more than 100 thousand dollars in series E Bonds during December. These counties and the amount of "E" Bond sales in each were: Adams \$143,006; Saline \$124,525; Scotts Bluff, \$122,200; Hall, \$114,350; Platte, \$111,112; and Gage, \$102,375. "The 1946 sales figures indicate that Nebraskans have continued to buy government bonds at a rate almost equal to monthly sales in the periods between War Loan Drives," Hall continued. "Nebraska ranked third in the nation for the first eleven months of 1946 with Bond sales exceeding redemptions by 127 per cent. Only South Dakota and North Dakota exceeded Nebraska's record. These bond sales figures indicate that Nebraskans are investing a substantial part of their income in bonds, because they consider U. S. Savings Bonds a sound investment. "Much credit must be given the bankers of Nebraska for encouraging their customers to invest their surplus funds in government. During 1947, I hope that Nebraskans