

## Blanche Thompson Felicitated On Her Birthday By Members of Stage Revue



A birthday is something to pause for. This was demonstrated last Friday back stage at the Booker-T Theatre, Norfolk, when members of the "Hot From Harlem" revue took a few spare moments to wish their blessings and compliments on their "big sister," Blanche Thompson, original Brown Skin Model, and often referred to as the bronze venus of the show world.

Joining in the hilarity, and posing for a Journal and Guide cameraman, are, left to right, front row (sitting). Neverlee Grant, Billie Hayes, Ollie Woods, Lillian Hutchinson, Adelle Sealey, and Frances Reeves. Kneeling, left to right, Bootsie Brown and Lillian Lovett. Standing, left to right, Ernest (Baby) Seals, Kahloah, Slam, Miss Thompson, Slim, and Edith King.

# "Hot from Harlem" Gets Big Hand as Booker-T Attraction

## "Slim and Slam" Take Spotlight With Versatility

By E. B. REA  
 Guide Theatrical Editor

Flashy, and fast moving, okeh with the customers and vaudeville standards, that's Irvin C. Miller's new "Hot From Harlem" revue which closed a four day engagement at the Booker-T Theatre last Saturday night.

It was an hour's smooth-moving bill that seemed like 15 minutes.

From the opening curtain to the finale, the first "flesh" show to visit the city for some time was burning with such stars as Slim and Slam, Pops and Leroy, the comedy capers of Ernest (Baby) Seals and Blanche Thompson, to the exotic dancing of Kahloah, who has a style all of her own.

The music was backed by Connie McLean's orchestra, direct from a tour of South America, a group of 16 musicians all handy at a variety of instruments and tunes and fairly bubbling with versatility.

### ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

The personnel of the better than average combo of musicians included: Connie McLean, director; Luther Brown, trombone; Bobbie Booker and Dick Richard, trumpet; Tarpley Lewis, Sidney Daney and George Morwis saxophone; Hugh Hill, bass; Thomas Bowers, drums, and Olivia Richardson, piano.

A line of eight Harlem girls did some swell floor routines, captivating the audience with their "killer" number. Their work was smooth and included many difficult passages all in good taste.

The lovely to look at chorines, all capable of making the grade as Brown Skin Models, were: Frances Reeves, Bootsie Brown, Ollie Woods, Neverlee Grant, Lillian Hutchinson, Billie (Booby-eyes) Hayes, Adelle Sealey and Lillian Lovett.

### SLIM AND SLAM SCORE

But the delight of the gaping swing lovers was left to the capable showmanship of Slim and Slam, featuring well-executed tricky arrangements which seemed to be able to cause any type of an audi-

### Exotic Dancer



KAHLOAH

ence to get up off its hands and use them for applauding purposes.

The comedy was well handled by Seals and Miss Thompson, the bronze venus of the show world, who kept the house in an uproar from start to finish.

Kahloah, who is described as an "import," did a short but very artistic dancing routine. Possessing nimble footwork and an uncanny sense of gyrations, she is an attraction that could fit in any smart spot. Her fast number is a mixture between a contortionist and a rumba dancer well designed and presented for mass appeal.

Then there is Edith King, songbird of the west, who indulges in some sophisticated song styling and does well for herself on the rhythm tunes.

The revue opened the early part of the week at the Capitol Theatre, Portsmouth, then moved to the Jefferson at Newport News where it was well received.

The heavy demand from the Portsmouth theatre-goers called for another midnight ramble Friday, and so heavy was each performance at the Booker-T, on Saturday until the revue had to do five shows instead of four.

### SOME HIGHLIGHTS

"Kaholah," who captivated Norfolk and the Peninsula with her exotic dancing, was born Elizabeth Kelly, and is a native of Chicago. In private life she is Mrs. Benn Polk, and has one daughter, Dolores, who is eight years of age.

She has been doing her specialty for six and one-half years. Started at the Grand Terrace in Chicago with Earl Hines. Lew Leslie gave her her first big break, also was the first to bill her as "Kahloah" when he starred her in the touring "Blackbirds of 1935."

### ERNEST (Baby) SEALS

Seals started out with his own shown known as Seals and Mitchell's Melody Lane Girls. Joined the Brown Skin Models about five years ago, and has climbed to the top among the fun-makers. . . Has sold himself in theatres like the Golden Gate, in San Francisco; Sheas, in Toronto, Canada; Million Dollar, in Los Angeles, including the Majestic and Lichtman Theatre chains, and Canadian circuit.

Seals is just about ripe for some of the larger spots. His ambition is to get a call into New York's Apollo to show his wares.