The Frederick Douglass Celebration and 75th Exposition of Progress should mean a great deal to the Negro people of New York State, and especially to those living in Rochester, as well as the members of other races, because through the untiring efforts of Douglass the Negro people have enjoyed in the United States, seventy-five years of freedom and progress.

A word of appreciation is extended for the fine cooperation of the Rochester Historical Society for the use of authentic pictures in this Voice Jubilee Number.
"Vital Godliness and Sound Morality"

Actions not only speak louder than words but very properly limit, define and interpret the meaning attached to words by those who use them. The sympathy and understanding of the proper sense in which such words are to be received, but have the additional advantage of assuring us of the sense in which they are not to be received. Words are often used to conceal thoughts. Actions are not so liable to this perversion. Words are signs; actions are the things signified, the profane diversion. Words are signs; actions are the things signified, the translation of thoughts into facts, the mind pictures into living forms.

Hereby we may understand precisely what the evangelical churches of our country mean by the oft-repeated words employed at the head of this article. They stand as the great object which the American Tract Society, the embodiment of American evangelical piety was conceived and planned, purposed and organized to promote. Vital godliness and sound morality are the two leading elements making the sum of the gospel which the American Tract Society professes to proclaim to a world perishing in wickedness. It comes to us, therefore, to look into this gospel and find out if we can, not only what may be the meaning of which it is capable, but the meaning attached to it by those who profess to have this gospel committed to them.

The American Tract Society is an insignificant body — no trilling organization. Its power for good or for ill is tremendous. Holiness to the Lord is written upon its walls, and justice and purity are its habitations. Its prayers are answered by thousands, its promises by hundreds, its gifts by millions, and may be said to have a nation for its congregation, and a thousand process for its preachers. The power of such a system of propaganda cannot well be overestimated.

Let us see, then, what its gospel is and whether it is as such all men ought to approve and receive. We were somewhat expecting in our mode of dealing with this body last week. We shall aim to be more critical, exact and logical in what we have to say in our present article.

The slave system has existed here more than 200 years. The American Tract Society is only 35 years old, and of course, found slavery here when it came, and has lived with it side by side ever since. There has thus far been no quarrel between them. Their relations have been all together peaceful, harmonious, kind and brotherly, and they have reciprocated each other kind offices to a remarkable degree.

The system of slavery has its own religion, as well as its own politics and manners. Stabling a man, degrading him from the dignity of manhood to a level with brute, working him without wages, lugging strings on his back when he refuses to work on such conditions, hunting him down with dogs when he runs away from those who rob him, shooting him down when he refuses to be taken, separating him from his family, selling his children, putting the slaveholder upon his grave, abolishing his name, keeping him in ignorance, forbidding his learning to read the Bible—these, and a thousand other things are not at all described by the tract preachers in the language of "vital godliness and sound morality." A man in the Southern states could not well be expelled from any Southern Evangelical Church for either of all the inhuman practices specified. They are all in harmony with "vital godliness and sound morality," as they are understood and received among our evangelical religiousists of the South. Men there make their religion accord with their interests, or the proposed interests, or their supposed God after their own pattern. To their conception, He is a wealthy, slave-holding planter, that is to say, regard all the planters, consider themselves as the offspring of their great parent slave-holder. The Bible, they tell us, sanctions slavery; that the God of the Bible ordained it; and that an ordinance of God cannot be a sin. Such is the "vital godliness and sound morality" of the slave-holding Christians of our country in the year of grace 1858.
Wednesday, May 31, 1939

The Frederick Douglass Celebration and 75th Exposition of Progress

WHERE FIRST NEGRO PAPER WAS PUBLISHED

Memorial A. M. E. Zi. n Church, Rochester, N. Y.

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For appointments—Main 8242

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St. Simon’s Church
Alma Kelso

The Girls’ Friendly Society held its annual diocesan conference on Saturday, May 13th at Geneva, N. Y. St. Simon’s branch was represented by the President, Mrs. Wm. Holmes, the chairman, Miss Junietta Simpson, and also by the Misses Ellen Christian, Inez Greenlea and Alice Kelso. The principal speaker was Mrs. Harper Sibley of Rochester who spoke to the delegates on India.

H. Grapensteter

COAL — WOOD — ICE

Main 8900 163 Adams St. cor. Ford

The Negro is not only making progress in Rochester and Monroe County, but in Livingston County, as well. Recently Leon Vief, progressive business man of Groveland, was admitted as a charter member of the Groveland Fire Department. This department staged a bazaar on May 11, 12, 13, at which time many hundreds of people attended. It was well patronized by people of both races and proved to be a financial success.

H. Grapensteter

COAL — WOOD — ICE

Main 8900 163 Adams St. cor. Ford

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Congratulations on your "Frederick Douglass Celebration" and 75th Exposition of Progress.

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Frederick Douglass and the North Star

Frederick Douglass was born a slave in Tuckahoe, Talbot County, eastern shore of Maryland, in February, 1817. His mother's name was Harriet. She was a slave owned by Colonel Edward Lloyd, a wealthy merchant. Few slaves knew anything of their fathers, and Douglass was one of the kind.

Douglass was persistent, even as a young boy he wanted his freedom and persistently won the victory. On September 25, 1838, he eluded his master and fled to Philadelphia, then to New York, and from there to Canada, where he lived for two or three years supporting himself by his labor as a deck hand and in the work shops. While here he changed his name from Lloyd to Bailey, and later to Douglass. He was aided in his efforts for self-education by William Lloyd Garrison.

The starting point in Douglass' career as a national character was in the summer of 1841, when he attended an Anti-Slavery Convention in Nantucket. There he made a fiery abolition speech, which set the fires of abolition ablaze and inspired the abolitionists. Douglass was then made a platform speaker, and his eloquent voice rang out in appeal from a thousand platforms for the emancipation of the colored men.

Douglass toured England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and vividly pictured the misery of the American Negro. Great men of letters, wealth and political prominence, listened to his address. Thousands of copies were sent to the President of the United States supplementing the press of the orator.

Up to this time Douglass was still a humble chaste. He was the recognized leader of the anti-slavery group in New York. His weekly paper, the Western Standard, had an influential editor, and was soon subscribed to have his masquerade (freed) in the public. This was one year after he sailed abroad, yet he remained there another year before returning home.

Upon his return to this country in 1847, Douglass came to Rochester, and began the first Negro newspaper in America, the publication of which was named the "Frederick Douglass," a weekly Journal. Regarding this venture, Douglass, in an autobiography written by himself in 1855, says:

"Intention of my purpose reached my friends in Boston, and I was prepared to find them bitterly opposed to it. Some who have denounced me as ambitious and presumptuous in my view of my persistence in this enterprise, I was but nine years from slavery. In point of mental experience I was but nine years old. But in such circumstances should anyone establish a printing press among educated people might be considered, if not ambitious, quite silly. My American friends looked at me with astonishment! A wood-sawyer offering himself to the public as an editor. A slave brought up in the deeps of ignorance assuming to instruct the highly civilized people of the North in the principles of liberty, justice and humanity! The thing looked absurd! Nevertheless I persevered."

History records the famous John Brown raid in 1859 at Harper's Ferry. Douglass was implicated in it by some. Governor Wise of Virginia believed it and he made a requisition upon the governor of Michigan for the arrest of Douglass. Such exchanges of courtesies between sovereigns was common and a search was made for Douglass, who was thought to be in Detroit. But he was spirited away in the night and off to Canada, whence he escaped to England.

After the hubble of excitement had burst he returned to this country, coming to Rochester, N. Y. He renewed the "North Star," and his vigorous pen lashed the slaveholders of the South. Shortly thereaf ter the Civil War broke out.

Toon Douglas urged upon President Lincoln the employment of colored troops and the proclamation of emancipation. For (Cont. page 9)

DAILEY'S Sea Foods, Steaks, Chops and Chicken

112-114 Main St. West
Rochester, New York
Douglass Kin Carry On
Traditions of Service

It is said that 'Frederick Douglass' gift of culture was so unique that his rise to intellectual, his recognition in the world now known and evaluates the public life of Mr. Douglass but very little is known about his private life. The world knows of Cedar Hill, his last home—the National Shrine that is now the charge of the National Association of Colored Women, Inc.

His Public Life

For 44 years Douglass enjoyed the companionship of Anna Murray Douglass, his wife, who was his guiding star not only when he was a slave and fugitive but also a struggling orator, scholar and statesman. It is also said that Frederick Douglass was born of his home, but Anna Murry Douglass was the soul upon which that head turned. It was her savings that financed his flight from Baltimore to New York, for she was free and he was a slave. Two years later she joined him in marriage and to this duo his six children were born.

She became an abolitionist and anti-slavery worker. Her home became a depot of the "Underground Railroad. Her hands were kept busy with the binding of shoes so that their children might have sustenance. She moved with him from New York to New Bedford, Mass; then to Lynn, Mass; to Rochester, N. Y., and lastly to Cedar Hill, Washington, D. C., where her noble life reached its close. Anna Murray Douglass was the center of the life of Frederick Douglass and her children still carry on.

Elsewhere in this paper will be seen a picture of one of the three granddaughters of Mrs. Douglass. They are the children of his eldest child, the late Rosetta Douglass Sprague.

Like their mother, these three girls have been engaged in teaching and while they naturally take delight in the honor and recognition given to those of their illustrious grandfather, in their own right they feel that they are entitled to some recognition because of the part in the world's work they themselves have taken. They are Miss Hattie Sprague, Mrs. Rosabelle Sprague Jones, and Mrs. Fredericka Perry.

A College Teacher

Miss Hattie Sprague taught for many years in the Florida Baptist Academy in Jacksonville, Fla., until ill health sent her home. After recovery her dauntless spirit sent her forth again to teach at Lincoln University, at Jefferson City, Mo. Her physical condition forced her to return home to her sister, Miss Hattie Sprague. Her public life covering many years and her personal touch have been guiding stars to hundreds of boys and girls.

A Model Teacher

Mrs. Rosabelle Jones, prior to her marriage, was considered one of the most progressive teachers in the public schools. She was chosen as one of the model school instructors in experimental classes of boys and won for herself the plaudits of those in authority.

Upon her marriage to Dr. T. A. Jones she moved to Kansas City, Mo., and entered into club life, serving as president of the Kansas City Association for two years and organizing the first young woman's department, the junior association's department and the club president's round table. Mrs. Jones is a constructive thinker, a forceful public speaker and an ardent church worker. She is president of the missionary society of the St. Paul Presbyterian Church of Kansas City. She is also the mother of the late Thomas Perry Jones, youthful aviator, who lost his life in a dense fog December, 1931. Mr. Jones was only 26 years old, but he owned his own plane and was flying under the government department of aeronautics. Mrs. Jones is youngest of the three girls.

Teacher of Home Economics

Mrs. Fredericka Douglass Sprague Perry, who is named for and bears a striking resemblance to her grandfather, entered the educational field as a teacher of home economics and home-making.

She organized and taught these courses in Lincoln Institute, and later in the new Lincoln High School in Kansas City, Mo. She was the first Race teacher of home economics and clothing. This position she filled with credit until she married Dr. J. Edward Perry and although the law forbids the employment of married teachers, Mrs. Perry is retained by the board as a substitute teacher.

Pioneer and Social Worker—Dr. Perry is the founder of the Perry Sanitarium that has become the Wheatley Provident Hospital. Mrs. Perry expressed the idea of organizing an auxiliary of women to assist the hospital. It is one of the greatest assets of the hospital today. An annual fashion show netting large sums of money are the big objects of the auxiliary. Mrs. Minnie Creagh weate is its president. Through this avenue more than $22,000 has been raised for the hospital.

Mrs. Perry next organized the Bacon Club, a group of 10 women who bought the site for a nurses' home adjoining the hospital. For ten years Mrs. Perry served as president of the Kansas City Civic and Protective Association, an organization that cared for persecuted Negroes that were not guilty but were unable to protect themselves. Lawyers were retained for their protection and never have they lost a case. The NAACP has taken over this organization. Kansas City has been very kind to these sisters who have come among them to stay.

Congressman Joseph J. O'Brien
38th DISTRICT
Mrs. Fredericka Perry Stirs Rochester

Continued from page one

Table Score—Mrs. Betty Lee.
Y. M. C. A.—Mrs. J. Hancock.
Community Civic Club—Mrs. Virginia Wilson.

Collateral Material
Booklovers—Mrs. Brandon.
Voice Newspaper—Mr. Colas.
Y. W. C. A.—Miss Fitzgerald.
N. Y. A.—M. E. Langford.
Housing—Mrs. McKelvey.
Y. M. C. A.—George Hancock.

Art Collection
Photographic Collection—Miss Gordon Ball, Phil Johnson.
Art Display—Mrs. Gordon Ball, Sonny Johnson.
Drawings—Earl Sprague, Claude Paul.

Commercial Enterprises
I. J. Miller, Coal and Coke—J. J. Miller.
Bond Brod Co.—Mr. Ferris.
Empire State Insurance Co.—Mr. Comisar.

Unclassified
Boy Scouts—Mr. Lewis Scott.
Invention—Mr. George Jarrett.

On June 10th, the last day of the celebration at 12 o'clock noon Mrs. F. D. Perry was the honored guest at a luncheon given by Miss Estelle Fitzgerald and committee at the Tower Restaurant at Shirley's Department Store. Guests present were: Miss Marion Patton, Mrs. Ernest Sprague, Miss Elizabeth Langford, Lewis Scott and H. W. Colas.

At last, with much anticipation on the part of the committee, the parade to the statue of the famed Negro abolitionist, Frederick Douglass, saw the 75th Exposition of Negro Progress come to a close, before a crowd of more than 1500.

A 30-piece boys' band dressed in white, followed by the drum and bugle corps of Boy Scout Troop 145, handed the parade through downtown streets to pay homage to the late statesman. Uniformed delegations representing the Elks, the Army and Navy Union, East Side Community Club and nurses also took part in the parade.

The granddaughter of the anti-slave editor, Mrs. Frederick Douglass Perry, placed a wreath on the Douglass monument at St. Paul and Central Avenue. Mrs. Perry extended her greetings to the gathering which had participated so enthusiastically in the three-day celebration.

Mrs. Perry, who journeyed here from Kansas City, prayed "that the spirit of Douglass might continue to grow so that next year we might have a greater celebration." She further added, "He is not only my grandfather but the grandfather of every Negro throughout the universe."

The monument was erected 40 years ago today to honor the name of the Rochester newspaper editor who did so much toward bettering the status of the Negro. At that time Leon Dubois gave the invocation. DaBout rendered the same service yesterday.

The Rev. A. E. Kearney also addressed the gathering. He reminded them that they must not forget "that we have much to be thankful for." At the same time he urged that "we carry on in the same spirit as if Douglass were here to guide us."

The General of the Frederick Douglass celebration, Howard W. Coles, introduced the speakers, after which he read a telegram from Dr. Chas. Lewis, Director of the Douglass Hospital, Philadelphia. Penna. Quote: "Frederick Douglass Foundation congratulates you on celebration. Join us in September."

We thank the Newcastle Boxers, Mr. Comisar, L. J. Miller, Tobacco Co., Mr. Elmer R. Fair, Mr. George Jarrett, Mr. Lewis Scott, Mr. Coles, Mr. James "Chappy" Gardener, Mr. Coles, and the P. O. Box.

The general committee is indeed thankful for the fine spirit of cooperation exemplified by the mayors of the various cities in the State of New York, state officials, legislators, Governor, local Oddfellow, mayor of the city, Department of Police, Dept. of Schools, park officials, American Federation of Labor, Cordier's Union, Mrs. Mary T. L. Gannett, Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Sprague, J. J. Dubois, John Lee, Empire State and Continental Insuance Companies, Jean Walthen of the Democrat & Chronicle, Latimer Funeral Home, Keller Florist, Leon Violet and a host of friends, organizations and individuals who assisted in putting over the celebration, and further wish to extend another invitation to be with the general committee next year, when Mrs. Perry will return to us.

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222 Joseph Ave.
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Hawkins' Liquor Store
352 South Plymouth Avenue, near Clarendon
We deliver noon til 10 P. M.

Whiskey, 21 yrs old, Bourbon. pt. 76¢, qt. $1.55 up
Bot. in Bond, 4 yrs old, 100 pt. qt. $1.25, qt. $2.45
Wealth Whiskey, 21 yrs. old, pt. 79¢, qt. $1.55 up
Oak Nellow Blended Whiskey pt.$5, qt. $1.60 up
Country Club Whiskey, 2 yrs old, pt. 90¢, qt. $1.75 up
Ron Chikato Rum, 4-5 pt. $7.75 up
Brandy, pint $5, 4-5 qt. $4.70
Lejurer Rock and Rye Liquor — Prices $1.00 up
Gin—Vicount 5th pt. $1.13, qt. $2.39
Imported Wines—Graves $5, $9
Sweet Wines—Complete Stock Domestic Wines—
5th 25¢, qt. 50¢, 1/2 gal. 79¢, Gal. $1.49, $1.69, $2.75 up and up
Dry Wines—Gal. 99¢ and up

Hawkins' Liquor Store

STONE 4194-J
T. T. GRIFFIN
MOVING and CARTING
AT LOW PRICES

359 Ormond Street
Rochester, N. Y.

We Specialize in Local and Long Distance Hauling
Our special method of handling and preparing furniture and household goods is unique. No marring or scratching. Courtous and Prompt Service Our Motto — with experienced truckmen.

Johnson & Robinson Trucking Co.
Call Geneva 222
Geneva, New York

The Frederick Douglass Celebration and 75th Exposition of Progress

Lauer's

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The Negro Progress

The Rochester Negro has contributed to the world, cultural, religious, political and economic life of the community since its founding, dating back to the year 1816.

Father Frank L. Brown, Rector of the St. Simon’s Episcopal Church, holds the distinction of being the first Negro here to be elected Dean of the Episcopal Diocese.

Austine A. Stewart, pioneer citizen, came to Rochester in 1817, became a successful businessman, author, and later founder of the Willberforce Colony in Canada for fugitive slaves. The late Hon. Henry Spencer was for many years clerk of the New York State Legislature and a national figure in the fraternal world.

Mrs. Elizabeth Wells holds the unique distinction of being the only Negro school teacher here for the past seven years or more, serving with honor and distinction. The Rev. James R. Ross, pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist Church, prominent in religious and civic activities, and recently elected president of the Rochester Ministerial Association, engaging all of the Protestant faiths.

The eminent composer, Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, whose musical contributions to the world have been outstanding, quite recently he composed the compositions for Rochester’s recent centennial.

Frederick Douglass and North Star—Cont.

two years the President hesitated, but in 1863 he gave permission to enlist such troops. Douglass set to work and enlisted many Negroes, especially the 54th and 55th Massachusetts regiments with them. Through the war he was a warm supporter of the martyr-president, Abraham Lincoln.

After the white-winged dove of peace had spread her wings over the land, Douglass discontinued his paper. He applied himself to the preparation and delivery of lectures before Lyceums. But he again picked up the pen in 1870 when he became editor of the “New National Era,” a bi-weekly organ of the Freedmen’s Bureau.

Four years later he was appointed United States Marshal for the District of Columbia. In 1872 he was elected the president elec- tive and delivered the inaugural address before the Congress of the United States.

The Anglo-African Magazine is always a welcome visitor to our table. It contains articles on the life and work of Dr. R. Nathaniel Dett, the eminent composer, and a chapter in the History of the African Race in America.

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Rochester, N. Y.


During the nine years following, Douglass was much on the public platform. He became a strong advocate of equal suffrage for women. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony were great friends of Douglass.

Frederick Douglass, the great ex-slave, died suddenly February 20th, 1895, at his home in Washington, D. C., at the age of 78. He left a wife Helen Douglass, and two sons and a daughter, children, of his first wife, Anna. By name, they were Louis H. and Charles R. Douglass, Mrs. R. Douglas Spurgeon. His son, Charles R. Douglas, posed for the $10,000 bronze monument of Douglass which was unveiled in Rochester.

Douglass’ paper excerpts—Continued

Adulteration of Bread is inevitably postponed in the July number below we print its contents: Logan and the Home of the Iroquois; Dead or Alive; Something to Wear. April.—The Romance of a Poor Young Man. —Present.—The Harvester.—Wall Street to Cashmere.—The Old Apple Woman. —Literary Notice. —Editor’s Table.

The Anglo-African Magazine is always a welcome visitor to our table. The June number commences with Mr. Delaney’s story entitled “Haka or the Rute of America,” and is followed by the “Afro-American Picture Gallery,” by Ethip. Also a chapter in the History of the African Slave Trade, and “Thoughts of Hayti.”

Whiting-Buick

For Finer Cars

Compare Prices and Cars

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Have piping hot water always on tap. Pay only $1.00 a month rent for the gas heater, plus the cost of gas consumed. No obligation to buy.

Douglass' Legacy to Rochester

Frederick Douglass as a journalist, left as his legacy to the Afro-American of Rochester the spirit of incentive to carry on...the journalistic spark was kindled and leaped into flame by a great man, whose spirit lives today in the hearts of the people.

Many years later an aggressive Rochesterian took up the work. That man was Mr. Geo. Burks. His paper was called "The Sentinel" and was edited by Rev. Byrd, Ph.D., then pastor of the Trinity Presbyterian Church of this city. The paper was founded in 1910 and enjoyed an eventful career, discontinuing publication in 1912. Mr. Burks' untiring efforts, together with his faithful wife, Mrs. Burks, deserve the praise of all Rochesterians, for they represented Progress.

A number of years later, another Afro-American, Mr. R. Moore, took up the journalistic cudgel with the publication of the "Rochester Progress," which paper also eventually discontinued publication from lack of support.

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COMPLIMENTS OF
Dr. and Mrs. S. J. Lindsay

The Rochester Advertiser.

This stands in Franklin Square at Rochester. A memorial is erected to the memory of Frederick Douglass, a journalist, left as his legacy to the Afro-American of Rochester the spirit of incentive to carry on...the journalistic spark was kindled and leaped into flame by a great man, whose spirit lives today in the hearts of the people.

Continued page 8

You Will Enjoy the Fine Flavor of Arpeako
Negro Congress

There will be held on June 8th, 9th and 10th, a celebration of the 75th Anniversary of our American citizenship, which was given to Abraham Lincoln and ratified by Congress, Anno Domini 1863. In recognition of the services of God and the help of patriotic men and women, we shall assemble to make joyous in our freedom and to plans whereby we may become more useful to our country.

Such is the spirit of the National Negro Congress and the Sponsor’s Committee. It is not only fitting and proper that we mention something about the officers and organizations affiliated with the Congress.

T. W. Cole, chairman of the local chapter, editor and publisher of the Voice, member of the Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Housing, member, Race Relations Commission, Federation of Churches, International Race Relations Committee, N.Y., N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council, Rochester Board, affiliated with the CIO and AFL Unions, N.A.A.C.P. and the Adult Education committee.

Mr. G. W. Derham, vice president, is Grand Marshall of the F. of E. State of New York, chosen to be commander of Rochester Lodge No. 15, K. of P., W.T.W., Past Grand Masters Council of America, president Negro Civic League, chairman Board of Management West Side “Y”; chairman Trustee Board A.M.E. Zion Church; owner and manager Y.Y.W.C.A., editor and publisher of the “Voice” two months after its beginning and with Mr. Cole have been able to continue on through sacrifices, criticism and help to us when the way looked quite black and impassable.

Legacy to Rochester

Continued from page 7

although since that time the interest has been strong at times and at other times very weak. Mrs. Cole began working on the “Voice” two months after its beginning and with Mr. Cole have been able to continue on through sacrifices, criticism and help to us when the way looked quite black and impassable.

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Will Play at Douglass Ball

Bianche Calloway and 14 Piece Band