

Nixon Boosters Attend Inauguration

Pop artists invaded Washington, D.C. last week to perform at President Richard Nixon's Inaugural. Bobby Vinton, who has been tagged as "Nixon's Frank Sinatra", not only performed but emceed at the Inaugural Ball. Vinton campaigned for Nixon during the election. James Brown, who campaigned for Humphrey, will



POP
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also appear at the Inaugural Ball. Brown said that he felt the new President "needed the support of all the people" and that his appearance at the Ball was "a gesture of that support".

Not only is Brown involved in politics, but also instant food. His business activities really got rolling last week when he announced the formation of "Gold Platter", a firm which will operate and franchise a few good restaurants throughout the U.S. and the Caribbean under the trade name "James Brown's Gold Platter".

Brown said that the organization will be "dedicated to the objective of providing investment and job opportunities for members of minority races, and at the same time, offering services and products of the highest quality, and so appealing to all races that a James Brown Gold Platter operation can be successful in any location, whether ghetto or suburbia."

The new company plans to expand into food store and motor operations both of which will operate under the James Brown name. All of the original restaurant items - architectural design, uniforms,....everything down to the paper napkins - will be based on the 24 million Gold Records (or platters) Brown has had.

Beginning as a backup group for Roy Orbison and once having a rhythm guitarist named Bobby Goldsboro, The Candymen are part of the Atlanta, Georgia stable of acts that includes such great, but unrecognized talents as Joe South and Billy Joe Royal. This week the group was back in New York playing at Arthur, a low key, East side club. They haven't been in the New York area for some time and it was good to hear a technically perfect although not exceptionally

original group work out. Their version of "Don't Think Twice" is a gas.

Joe Butler, leader of what is left of The Lovin' Spoonful, made his Broadway bow as an actor last week in the lead role of Claude in "Hair". Joe, who still claims that the Lovin' Spoonful exist, plans to maintain a dual career as a recording artist and actor.

Gram Parsons of The Flying Burrito Brothers, the new country and western group that also features ex-Byrd Chris Hillman, is presently sporting some zippy onstage outfits designed by West Coast western tailor Nudie. Gram's favourite seems to be a jacket embroidered with flowering marijuana plants, amphetamine and LSD capsules, and female anatomy. Hillman's garb is just as wild, especially one jacket embroidered with peacocks. The group had been asked to appear in the Stone's TV spectacular but couldn't get the proper working permits to do the gig.

Nilsson, who started out with a bank computing job a couple of years ago before getting into the pop composition game, is diversifying back into the business world. He's formed a new company called Nilsson House Products and will start manufacturing a "Self Identity Box"- whatever that is - to be sold next Christmas.

Dee & The Yeomen Back Together

Toronto: It's been reported that Dee of the original Dee and The Yeomen is back with the group who originally released on the Reo label.

The group is comprised of Dee, on lead guitar; Len Lytwyn, drummer; Monk, guitar; John Lovatt, rhythm and Don, on bass.

Dee advises that the group will concentrate on club dates with much emphasis on visual impact. This revue/type unit has included much original material in their repertoire, a good portion of it written by Dee. They have also used many of the standards in their act.

Dates are apparently being arranged for a recording session with hopes of a release by the end of February.

Booking for the group is open.

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FEBRUARY IS A VERY SPECIAL

MONTH FOR R P M

Q. What is a "pot?"
A. A big saucepan.



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