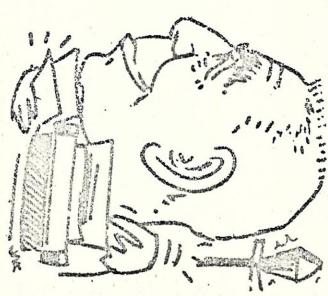


XXXX

Bourbon Street Parade by Clint Bolton

If the first weeks of the New Year are any indication, this may well be one of the swiftest seasons in the last ten years. 1967 had barely limped offstage when things began to happen. This week-end, for instance, marks the official opening of the Horse Stable, which replaces Old Europe in the 600 block of Bourbon. There Hans Dewitz is featuring fine sandwiches and hamburgers, plus a great assortment of potables. Most of ya have spent pleasant evenings in the Patio Bar in the slave quarters. The revamping of the front layout is in cheerful good taste, and already a lot of Quarreites are making it a favorite port of call.

Good taste is also big at La Boucherie's restaurant Francais on the second floor of the fine old building on Chartres. The decor is quietly elegant, the service impeccable, and the food ambrosial. Fred Harper is mostly on hand to greet guests and since this place doesn't believe in overcrowding it is a good idea to phone in advance for a dinner reservation.

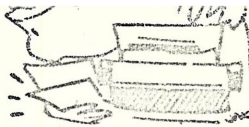


Meanwhile the expansive Pete Fountain is expanding. This time he is taking up an option on the Lido in the 200 block of Bourbon. He will continue making his own headquarters at the French Quarter Inn at Bourbon and St. Ann but will put topflight entertainment in the new establishment. Warren Luening and his combo continue to draw well at Pete's Storyville at Royal and Elysian Fields. Talking about his new venture, Pete told me he ultimately hopes to limit his away-from-home engagements to a few weeks per year. He loves New Orleans and is never very happy about being away from our town.

I've had mail from New York, California, and way stations asking "What's going to happen to the Galley House?" As of now there isn't any more Galley House. It is regrettable but I feel it is also valid. Mary Collins was the soul and spirit of the joint and with her passing she took the legend with her. Alice Brady has moved into Finale at Royal and Ursuline and a gang of Galley types moved with her. Mary left Alice the bar and other fixtures and for a while there was some talk that it would be business as usual at Chartres and Toulouse. But no one really wanted to cop out on Collins. So the Galley House no longer

revamping of the
in cheerful good taste, and al-
ready a lot of Quarterites are
making it a favorite port of call.

Good taste is also big at La



on the second floor of the fine old building on Chartres. The decor is quietly elegant, the service impeccable, and the food ambrosial. Fred Harper is mostly on hand to greet guests and since this place doesn't believe in overcrowding it is a good idea to phone in advance for a dinner reservation.

Meanwhile the expansive Pete Fountain is expanding. This time he is taking up an option on the Lido in the 200 block of Bourbon. He will continue making his own headquarters at the French Quarter Inn at Bourbon and St. Ann but will put topflight entertainment in the new establishment. Warren Luening and his combo continue to draw well at Pete's Storyville at Royal and Elysian Fields. Talking about his new venture, Pete told me he ultimately hopes to limit his away-from-home engagements to a few weeks per year. He loves New Orleans and is never very happy about being away from our town.

I've had mail from New York, California, and way stations asking "What's going to happen to the Galley House?" As of now there isn't any more Galley House. It is regrettable but I feel it is also valid. Mary Collins was the soul and spirit of the joint and with her passing she took the legend with her. Alice Brady has moved into Finale at Royal and Ursuline and a gang of Galley types moved with her. Mary left Alice the bar and other fixtures and for a while there was some talk that it would be business as usual at Chartres and Toulouse. But no one really wanted to cop out on Collins. So the Galley House no longer exists, but Mary remains with us. In our memories.

By the time another edition rolls around Maison Bourbon will be opened, according to Carlos Montalbano. This is where all that work has been going on at Bourbon and St. Pete right across from the Red Garter. This adds another eating place to the local list and a preliminary look 'round indicates this will be a pleasantly nostalgic contribution to the Vieux Carre.

And add the Encore to the new entries. Bill McKensie hopes to have it open for this week-end at Dauphine and St. Peter. A lot of interior work has been going on here with old, exposed brick, archways, and the like. Should be most attractive and comfortable. Bill will have live music on the week-ends and Angel will be back doing vocals.

Despite all the activity this was not a record-breaking holiday season and many places indicated they were as much as 40 per cent off the same time last year. On the other hand, last week a couple of good conventions were held and business got brisk. I was delighted when Al Clark called me from Dixieland Hall the other night to tell me an old pal from the New York News was asking for me. Jack Herrick is now one of the top executives and between choruses he updated me on the New York newspaper scene. The Post is the sole remaining afternoon daily and the News is considering putting out a p.m. edition. Which would mean a 24-hour operation. I hope it happens. There are too few newspapers in big cities these days.

Aside to Larry Johnson. Thanks for the use of the hall. I enjoyed my WDSU visit with you and hope you didn't get any of my cold bugs. We'd love to be invited back.

The other night I dropped into the Caverns, where things were popping. Caught a nice young guy named Ed Cuneo playing a plectrum banjo. He's remarkably good and ought to have a top spot.

Over at the Fatted Calf the Upper Udder cast has gone on a Thursday-through-Saturday schedule, two shows nightly. This remains one of the funniest revues in town and it looks deceptively simple. Actually it is a very demanding show and takes a lot out of the players. The off nights give them a chance to get a little rest and as they are all working folk they have to be on the ball during the daylight hours.

Quarterites who remember Kerry Thornley were probably interested in Jim Garrison's attempt to summon him from Florida. In a phone talk with him Kerry told me he was busy writing, had several good articles up for publication, and saw no reason why he should answer the D.A.'s call. Despite the fact that he was in the Marine Corps with Oswald, Thornley did not see him at any time in New Orleans and until after the assassination did not know Lee Oswald had been here.

I am reasonably sure this is correct because I saw Kerry on an almost two-or-three-times-a-day basis throughout 1963 and had he run into an old buddy from the service he most certainly would have mentioned it, especially because at the time he was working on a draft of his book "The Idle Warriors," which was based on Thornley's overseas experiences in the Corps. A number of fellow service men, including Oswald, figured in the script under fictional names.