

## The Voice of

## SHOW BOAT

From obscurity to fame in two years is the re-

cord of sensational new baritone, William War-

field. The critics say he will reach the top.

WO years ago, singer William Warfield was unknown except to a precious few people. Today, he has all of the top concert managers scrambling for his services and big movie moguls chasing him to do more pictures. That's not bad for a fellow who just "graduated" into the ranks of a concert artist. On the threshold of what promises to be a sensationally successful career. 30-year old bachelor Warfield is taking it all in stride. He isn't too excited over his success. But he is pleased. In his West 47th Street apartment in downtown New York, Warfield recalls the

days before his concert. In the big rush, he almost forgot the important item of sending tickets to the concert managers. Even though he did, the managers failed to appear at the debut. But next day, when all the music critics in New York went overboard on the new discovery, the managers got

Big, and broadshouldered, 195pound Warfield reminds you of Paul Robeson. He also sings like Paul. He was born in West Helena, Arkansas, one of five children in the family of Paul Warfield, a garbage collector, who educated himself.

Teachers helped him

When William was 3, his family moved to Rochester, New York. That was the first good break for William. In Rochester, his teachers recognized and encouraged his musical aspirations. He was sent to St. Louis to compete for the Music Educators National Conference prize. Wil-

liam won it and was sent to the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester. Before he graduated, Warfield was called to the Army. But he returned to get his degree and do some graduate work. This was interrupted when the road company of "Call Me Mister" offered him a job. Then





Warfield works constantly to improve his artistry. In his downtown N. Y. apartment, he devotes hours to

practice. On the wall is a souvenir from Australian tour, a native boomerang. This first tour was a big success.



Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt thanks Warfield after he sang on her special TV show. Warfield sings in four languages.



Todd Duncan (1) famous Negro singer who toured Australia several season ago, congratulates Warfield.



He is friend of actress Helen Hayes, president, American Theater Wing which helped him in his studies.

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