

sketch on
Mal Frazier

Reporter
Lawrence Gellert 9/18/39

400 words

Source - 21st AD New Deal
Democrat, Adgator

Mal Frazier has been for years a leading Harlem political figure in the Democratic camp. He was born in Virginia and was brought to New York by his parents as a baby. He attended elementary school at P. S. 80, Lenox Avenue and 135th Street from which he graduated. He was forced to go to work immediately after in order to help out his parents. While working as a messenger in a brokers office downtown, he studied for the Post Office examination which he took and passed. He was appointed a clerk in the service and was assigned to the foreign division for several years until he decided to enter business for himself.

When the World War broke out he enlisted in the artillery and served throughout the War and received in 1918 an honorary discharge. He re-entered business as a partner in "The West" a famous Harlem night club that attracted visitors from all over the World. He remained with the "West" for more than 15 years during which time he is ~~XXX~~ said to have never employed non-union help either for entertainment or service help.

He is a member of the Elks and the American Legion.

Sometime back he ran for Leader of the 21st A.D. sometime back and was badly defeated. He's now running again.

Aside from his political ambitions, he's known as a sporting man and big-time gambler and half-fellow-well-met. At one time he was very closely connected to Joe Louis. Acted as his secretary during the sensational rise of the new famous fighter.

Actually he is said to have been one of Joe's staunchest backers. At this writing he's said to have quite a large percentage in the "ownership" of Joe Louis and regularly receives a good portion of the profits from the career of the ^{World} pugilist champion of the heavy weight division of the fighters.

Whether or not he's still connected with "The Nest" is hard to determine. John C. Carey, one of the known present partners claims Mal Frazier sold out his share to him (Carey) about four year ago.

21st AD New Deal
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138th Street & Seventh Ave
New York