

sang to allied troops. He had a two-hour luncheon chat with Gen. MacArthur in Tokio en route.

**Started Career in 1899.**

Jolson was riding the crest of a popularity wave for the second time in an entertainment career that began in 1899. In World War II, he traveled to Europe, Africa, India and the Pacific, entertaining GI's for the USO.

On his return from Korea, where he gave 42 shows in 16 days, he said:

"Know what it feels like to be back? I'm going to look up my income tax and see if I paid enough. Those guys are wonderful! This is a much tougher war than the last one, believe me."

He was born Asa Yoelson on May 26, 1886, the son of a Jewish cantor, in what was then St. Petersburg, Russia. He came with his family to Washington while a small boy. His father trained him to sing in the temple. But young Al had other ideas. He appeared in a play mob scene and then ran off with a circus.

**Hits Big Time.**

He first starred on the stage in blackface—stagers' mind he was discarded and hired in New York. Most famous performances—est ever recorded in the entire British Commonwealth.

His greatest movie, "The Jazz Singer," was made in 1927, at the first peak of his career. It is generally credited with being the first real talking picture.

Screen fame followed and Jolson repeated many of his earlier stage successes on film. More than 1,000,000 of his phonograph records of "Sonny Boy" were read. The president

# Death Takes Al Jolson, 64

## Dies on Return From Tour of Korea

San Francisco—(U.P.)—Beloved by millions as the blackfaced jazz singer of "Mammy" and "Sonny Boy," Al Jolson, 64, died of a heart attack Monday night in a hotel suite.

Jolson, star of the motion picture industry's first talkie in 1927, returned recently from a strenuous three-week tour of the Korean

battlefront. He was the first stage and screen personality to visit front-line troops since the start of the war.

When the hotel house physician, Dr. Walter Beck, called a University of California heart specialist, Dr. William J. Kerr, after examining Jolson, the entertainer smiled and said, "Well, this looks like the end."

Hotel Nurse Anne Murchison told Jolson, however, he would be all right.

"Who're you kidding?" Jolson laughed.

In a few minutes, Jolson was dead.

Additional details on page 4.

### Drowned Near Sunfield.

Herbert Hulet and son, of Sunfield, were drowned last Saturday in Grand river, while in swimming, the father warning the son to swim. They were part of a family picnic party out enjoying the day. He leaves a wife and daughter.

#### Free Press Wire Services

OTTAWA — A State funeral will be held Wednesday for former Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King, who died Saturday night.

His 21-year service to Canada as chief of state was the longest ever recorded in the entire British Commonwealth.

The body will rest in state in Canada's Parliament for 24 hours before the funeral.

**A SERVICE** will be held in King's church in Ottawa, St. Andrew's Presbyterian. The body will be taken by train to Toronto for burial in Mount Pleasant Cemetery beside his father, mother and brother.

King, who was 75, died of pneumonia in his Kingsmere summer home in the Gatineau Hills, 20 miles north of Ottawa. He never had fully recovered from a circulatory ailment which developed in 1948.

The veteran Liberal leader resigned as prime minister Nov. 15, 1948. He was a bachelor.

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent said that King's death marked the end of a period historians would call "the Mackenzie King era."

President Truman expressed his personal sorrow. He declared that in King, "freedom-loving peoples and democratic institutions found an unwavering champion."

**KING SERVED** as prime minister for a total of 21 years and 157 days.

He had two goals for his politi-