

Harlem Celebrates

By ANGELO HERNDON

Two minutes before the Louis-Cabrala ball last night, Harlem was all tense and quiet. Suddenly a loud siren in the streets. A pin dropped in the sidewalk could have been heard. The people had confidence in Joe Louis and he did not let them down. He brought home the honor as was expected.

The dead silence over Harlem was broken only at ten o'clock when radios began blaring forth in homes, restaurants and bar gardens. From Roosevelt, all the way quiet, noisy-making, singing, dancing and speech-making. It was a celebrating the like of which Harlem has never seen. Never before with the people in such a joyful and good-natured mood.

When the decision of Louis's victory came over the radio, all traffic, including buses and taxis from 125th Street up to 135th Street and from Lenox Avenue to 7th Avenue, was suddenly stopped. Shortly ten minutes had elapsed after the fight

when 125th Street and 7th Avenue was jammed in with ten thousand people. The stars and stripes and the flag of Ethiopia flanked at the head of a parade that started at 125th Street, up 7th Avenue to 145th Street and down 7th Avenue, until there were at least two to three thousand in the parade.

Garbage cans, buckets, umbrellas and various other improvised noise-making instruments were scattered throughout the crowd. A "street parade" coming from Lenox Avenue into 7th Avenue and 125th Street, stopped on the corner in front of a radio shop that supplied music for the celebration.

Thousands of light came among their parkers and a jilting contest followed. A woman, standing in the door of the radio shop said almost breathlessly, "I prayed to the Lord to help Joe tonight. And he did. Joe's done good and done it again. Well alright then." She shook her head and under the chin and danced off in the crowd.