

CHARLIE PARKER, JAZZ MASTER, DIES

**A Be-Bop Founder and Top
Saxophonist Is Stricken
in Suite of Baroness**

Charlie Parker, one of the founders of progressive jazz, or be-bop, died here last Saturday night.

The news of the death of the noted musician, known as "The Yardbird," spread quickly last night through Tin Pan Alley, where he was affectionately referred to as "The Bird." A virtuoso of the alto saxophone, Mr. Parker was ranked with Duke Ellington, Count Basie and other outstanding Negro musicians.

Mr. Parker had appeared several times in Carnegie Hall and had played in Europe. More than five years ago the Broadway jazz hall at 1678 Broadway was named Birdland in his honor.

Mr. Parker died while watching a television program in the apartment of the Baroness de Koeningswarter in the Hotel Stanhope, 995 Fifth Avenue. He had called last Wednesday on the Baroness on his way to Boston to fill an engagement. The

Baroness, who is 40 years old, is the former Kathleen Annie Pannonica Rothschild of the London branch of the international banking family of Rothschild. She and Mr. Parker had been friends for many years.

Disturbed by Mr. Parker's appearance, the Baroness called Dr. Robert Freymann, with offices in the hotel. He urged the musician not to drive to Boston and advised him to enter a hospital immediately. Mr. Parker refused but the Baroness persuaded him to stay in her suite until he recovered.

At 7:30 o'clock Saturday evening Dr. Freymann found Mr. Parker in satisfactory condition. Forty-five minutes later he collapsed and when the physician returned, Mr. Parker was pronounced dead.

Dr. Freymann, who notified the Medical Examiner, attributed death to a heart attack and cirrosis of the liver. The body reached the Morgue at Bellevue Hospital at about 2 A. M. Sunday. Last night Chief Medical Examiner Milton Helpert said an autopsy had disclosed death was due to lobar pneumonia.

The police said Mr. Parker was about 53 years old. He lived with his wife Chan at 4 Barrow Street in Greenwich Village. They had three children, a son, who has just entered the Air Force; a daughter 7 and a second son, 5.