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# The ★ Billboard

*The Theatrical Digest and Show World Review*

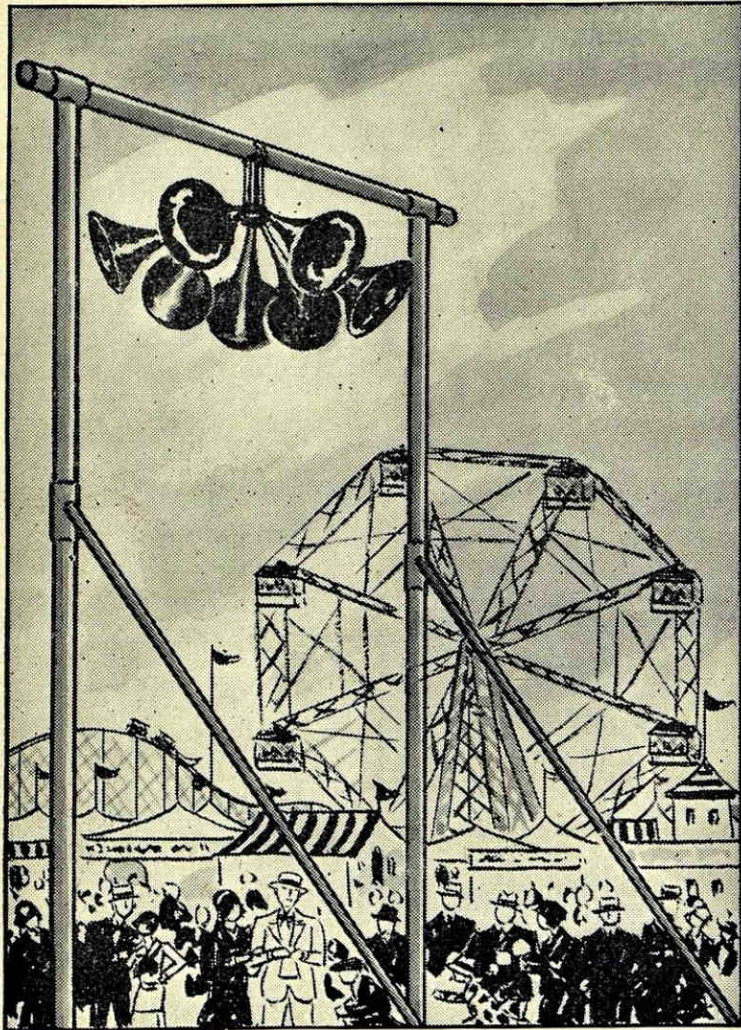


Timely Lists

*Fairs, Coming Events,  
Conventions, Etc.*

In This Issue

(Printed in U. S. A.)



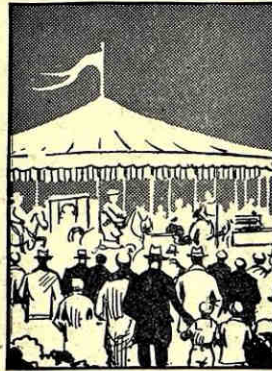
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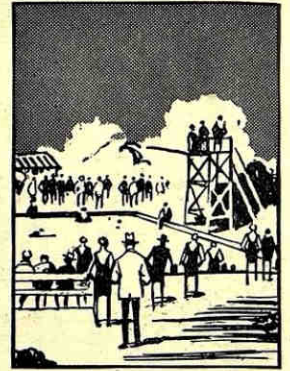
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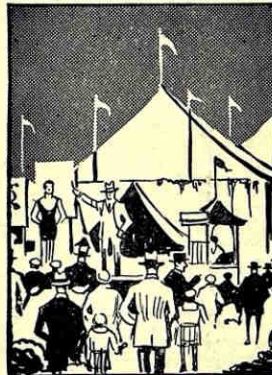
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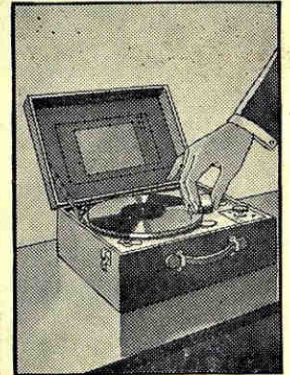
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## BURLESQUE ON ROTARY STOCK PLAN

### Intact-Show Handling Regarded as Illogical

*East-West separation in RKO seen by Billboard prober as injurious to bright future of rotating layouts—no reason why shows cannot play solid—change due soon*

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The general reaction in the trade toward RKO's persistent but unmodified furtherance of the intact-show scheme appears to be that the circuit will not attain a state of 100 per cent efficiency under the new order of things unless it revamps its views of the situation almost entirely. A study by a *Billboard* representative of the progress being made by RKO thus far in its attempt to gradually eliminate spot booking except where this is unavoidable serves to reveal one glaring fault with the present method of carrying out the idea. This fault, stated briefly, lies in the circuit's utter disregard of the future in laying out its current shows.

Since the launching of intact shows is necessarily a gradual move, acts of proven value to the circuit are being forced in many instances to play pick-up dates in the East, thus eliminating them from consideration as spot fillers in pending shows of the rotating genre. This condition is obviously making it difficult for George A. Godfrey to assemble shows that will be qualified to play his route of from 13 to 15 weeks without having many of the acts picked for these play repeats at houses in less than a season. The same difficulty, but under somewhat different conditions, exists in the Charles J. Freeman books covering the Western sector of the circuit. The stumbling block is the complete separation of the booking office into two divisions.

More than once since Godfrey and Freeman slipped into their territorial berths, with Ben Piazza as the anti-friction factor, has it been said in the trade that the triumvirate administration, at least in the manner in which it has finally evolved, is illogical. This is now borne out by the trouble being experienced in providing a solid ground-work for the thru routing of intact shows. To get the most out of its conversion to the rotating method of book-

(SEE INTACT-SHOW on page 11)

### Exhibs., Distributions. Told 'Keep Cool'

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Abram F. Myers, president and general counsel of Allied Exhibitors, under the title of *Do Not Rock the Boat*, has sent out a message to the Allied advocates that should be of wide interest to exhibitors and which has brought the comment from C. C. Pettijohn, of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors' Association, of being quite a rational statement. On account of the interest to exhibitors and to those affiliated with

(See EXHIBITORS on page 95)

### Changing Banquet Date Averts IAFE-SLA Breach

Thru intercession of *The Billboard*, a breach between the International Association of Fairs and Expositions and the Showmen's League of America has been avoided. The break hinged on changing the date of the league's 1930 banquet and ball in Chicago from Tuesday night, December 2, to the following night. The league having consented to the change, with *The Billboard* acting as mediator, the trouble has blown over and the same friendly relationship that has existed between the two bodies continues.

The threatened breach was brought about when President E. G. Bylander of the IAFE received a letter from Walter F. Driver, treasurer of the SLA, advising that the banquet and ball this year would be held Tuesday night, December 2. According to the by-laws of the IAFE the annual two-day meeting is to begin on the first Tuesday of December, which this year will be December 2. Fully realizing that the fair meeting on the second day would be a failure from the standpoint of attendance with the SLA banquet and ball held the night before, Bylander called upon *The Billboard* to see what could be done, inasmuch as he had a few weeks ago written the SLA,

calling attention to the fact that last year the officers of that organization entered into an agreement with the officers of the IAFE to hold the banquet and ball Wednesday night and that he presumed the same agreement would be carried out in 1930. *The Billboard* immediately wrote President W. O. Brown, of the SLA, giving full details concerning the matter and suggesting that the date be changed from the 2d to the 3d for the benefit of all concerned, having been informed that if the league didn't make the change the IAFE meeting place would be changed—probably to Washington—and this would have a serious effect upon the banquet-ball attendance. A year ago when a vote on the place of holding the IAFE meeting was taken more members voted for Washington than Chicago, but the majority left the matter to the judgment of the board of directors, and in its desire to co-operate with the SLA the board decided to have the meetings remain in Chicago. The following telegram was received by *The Billboard* from Brown February 14: "Will gladly change date of banquet and ball to December 3."

### Local Merchants Keystone For Auditorium Circuit

Charles A. McElravy, managing director of the Memphis Auditorium and former president of the Auditorium Managers' Association, has informed *The Billboard* that he is leading a movement to organize a circuit of auditoriums to book road shows which would have the pledged support of the local business men in each community represented.

Under McElravy's plan from 300 to 500 local business men would sign a written agreement to take at least two tickets for each attraction booked into their auditorium. The business man guarantees nothing but the fact that he will take the tickets and get what he pays for. It is believed that such a system will serve a double purpose in that it will assist in raising the standards of productions sent on tour.

McElravy has been in communication with the leading Broadway producers and has received the endorsement of many of them. It is his opinion that the producers under this plan could find some inducement to lower prices. In

Memphis McElravy has experimented with the idea and found it feasible. He says that he already has sold 500 business men in that city on the plan and has found that if he can sign 500 pledges for two \$3 tickets he can get a thousand men to take two \$2 tickets.

It is understood that McElravy, while having the endorsement of the Auditorium Managers' Association, is working independently of that organization. The AMA has less than 25 members, most of whom represent auditoriums in large centers where the auditorium is not needed for legit. bookings. The Memphis manager informs that he has been in communication with 34 auditorium managers on the plan and has received favorable replies from 80 per cent of these.

Present plans call for getting the circuit moving in the South and it is hoped to have it lined up by the time the new season gets under way. While the proposed circuit will book independently it is no secret that A. L. Erlanger is greatly interested in its possibilities.

### Restriction on Outdoor Shows in Davenport, Ia.

DAVENPORT, Ia., Feb. 17.—That part of the ordinance of the City of Davenport pertaining to circuses, carnivals and other outdoor attractions is being revised to prohibit the exhibition of such shows within the city limits from July 15 to August 25, each year.

The restriction is for the purpose of protecting the Mississippi Valley Fair and Exposition, this year's dates of which are August 10-16.

### MUTUAL CIRCUIT ADOPTS POLICY

*In effect at beginning of next season—principals to move—chorus stationary*

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—A new policy which will mean the saving of thousands of dollars annually to theaters and company owners on the Mutual Burlesque Circuit will be adopted at the beginning of next season. It was learned here Saturday following a visit of I. H. Herk, head of the Mutual Circuit. The new move is regarded as one of the most important made by Mutual in a long time and is expected to result in a marked improvement in Mutual shows and a consequent increase in patronage.

The change is in effect the adoption of a rotary stock policy along lines predicted exclusively in *The Billboard* last week. Traveling principals will be used, going over the circuit much in the order that the entire shows now rotate, but the chorus in each theater will remain intact. This will mean a saving of the railroad fares of 16 or more chorus girls, a musical director, stagehands and a traveling electrician, enabling each house on the circuit to save about \$1,000 a week and each company owner about \$600 a week. Each house will have its own producer. Savings effected will be used to increase and improve productions.

It is probable that under the new plan there will be a reduction in chorus girls' salaries, inasmuch as the chorus girls will have no traveling expenses to meet.

New efforts are to be made to obtain better talent for the shows not only as regards principals but chorus girls as well.

Outstanding specialties also are to be sought and those used will be rotated, remaining in a city two or more weeks, depending upon their drawing power.

A number of details of the new policy are yet to be worked out and doubtless further announcements will soon be forthcoming from Herk, who returned to New York Friday night.

### Ga. Fairs Hold Record Meeting

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Feb. 17.—The 18th annual convention of the Association of Georgia Fairs ended a two-day session here last Thursday afternoon with a record attendance, and without question the most largely attended and most successful convention ever held by the association.

The convention assembled at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Baldwin Hotel, and adjourned the afternoon of the following day after selecting Waycross as the next meeting place and electing officers for the ensuing year.

With a few minor changes, the entire board of officers was re-elected. C. B. McCullar, of Milledgeville, president of

(See GEORGIA FAIRS on page 95)

# The Legitimate Stage

Conducted by CHARLES MORAN—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

## Shuberts Join Price-Cutting Wave for B'way Legit. Shows

**MacGowan dropped prices to beat cut rates—sees return to pre-war scales as means to bring back gallery gods—Shuberts lose \$972,055 blaming movies and stock market**

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Kenneth MacGowan, coproducer with Joseph Reed of *Children of Darkness*, today commented upon the success of a recently instituted price cut for tickets to his current attraction. MacGowan stated that the price cut was simply a move to beat Joe LeBlang, proprietor of the Public Service Ticket Bureau, which sells theater tickets at prices ranging from one-half to two-thirds of the established box-office price.

MacGowan said he believes theater-ticket prices to be returning to a pre-war level for the majority of attractions which are not in the "hit" class. This is substantiated by a general price-cutting move on the part of Florenz Ziegfeld and the Shubert organization. Ziegfeld has issued orders for a \$5 top for Ed Wynn's *Simple Simon*, and the Shuberts have opened their current attraction, *Topaze*, at a \$3 top. It is said that this will also apply to their forthcoming attraction, *The Infinite Shoeblack*. Whether other producers will follow in the wake of this move to lower the price of tickets remains to be seen. It is probable that many attractions which are now selling at far below the box-office price in cut-rate agencies will undergo a revision in the scale of box-office prices in the near future, or that next season will see a general change in the price of theater tickets.

Commenting on the move to end ticket speculation, MacGowan stated that a general improvement in conditions would follow the present move provided the managers would agree to stand together on the proposition. He declared himself to be in favor of the system advocated by Gilbert Miller.

MacGowan said following the price readjustment on *Children of Darkness* a considerably larger patronage had attended the play, and that the cutting of balcony prices especially would doubtless return to the legitimate theater a vast audience which had been kept away by prohibitive prices charged for tickets.

Attractions sponsored by the Shuberts being offered at a cut price are *Topaze* and *The Infinite Shoeblack*. This is reported to be the result of the success scored by the operetta revivals presented by the Shuberts at the Jolson Theater. These were offered at lower box-office prices and are said to have been financially successful.

This is doubtless a result of the recent financial account rendered by the Shuberts which revealed that the Shubert Theater Corporation and subsidiaries had suffered a net loss of \$972,055 after depreciation, amortization and interest for the six months' period ending December 31, 1929. The corresponding six months of the previous year are said to have netted a profit of \$470,882.

According to an official statement which accompanied the report it was claimed that talking picture competition, difficulties with union help and the effect of the recent stock market collapse combined to bring about the loss.

## Phillips Directs College Show

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Murray Phillips, casting agent and theatrical producer, is now engaged in directing the annual variety show of the New York University, Washington square branch. The show will be given in a Broadway house in March.

## Buys Play by George Beck, May Become B'way Producer

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Tom Scarlet, Middle Western and Far Western dramatic stock manager, today purchased a nine months' option on *18*, a play written by George Beck, Broadway press agent and reporter. The sale was negotiated thru Taft and Taft, attorneys for the manager, who indicated that Scarlet will try the play out soon in Milwaukee and if found suitable will bring it to Broadway.

Scarlet, according to the report, has been looking for a suitable play to present on Broadway for several months.

## Shuberts May Sponsor Irish Theater Uptown

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Irish Theater organization, which sponsored productions of *The Silver Tasse* and *Playboy of the Western World*, is seeking an uptown theater. The Irish Players are currently holding forth at the Greenwich Village Theater with their production of *General John Regan*. The latter theater is scheduled for demolition in the spring and the Irish group must find another house. If an uptown theater cannot be secured the group may move to the Gansevoort Theater, which also is in Greenwich Village. The Shuberts are said to be interested in the group and may give it a house.

## Cohan and Harris Fight Tax

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The devotion of theatrical managers to their families was today revealed in the United States Circuit Court records of the current fight being waged by George M. Cohan and Sam Harris, his former partner, who are fighting tax assessments. In his appeal against an assessment of \$89,000 for 1920, 1921 and 1922 Cohan explained that he had divided his income with his father. Harris in appealing an assessment of \$26,785 stated that he had assigned one-quarter of his profits to his wife.

## From Out Front

By CHARLES MORAN

*NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.*

IN the last issue, in this department, there appeared a story of the road success of Bert Lytell's "Brothers", and something of Al Butler's report on the play's favor. What Butler had to say is all too true, and what was said in the editorial, "Some Road-Show Publicity That Deserves To Be Copied", of last week's issue, deserves more than passing attention. It should be read and digested by every manager in the business who is sending attractions to the provinces expecting to gain profits thru inferior entertainments. Certainly two more diverse types of entertainment cannot be found than the Lytell "Brothers" and the "Love Duel", with Ethel Barrymore. The methods of exploitation on the surface are entirely different, but underneath there is the same element—the desire of the advance man to sell his show.

*In show business there are press agents and press agents. There are agents who work, who try to sell their entertainment and those who expect the locals to do their work. The day of this agent is over. There is no rest for the "tired" agent on the road any longer, for he has come to realize that if he doesn't work the show doesn't run. What I am getting at is that it might be well to investigate the methods of the successful road men and the Theater Guild road press agenting. The guild has a system all its own, and apparently it is working well. Ray Henderson has a system all his own and it is working. Al Butler has another, and it works. There are several others that are working. I do not mean that road failures of this season are a blanket indictment of all road agents. Some entertainments sent to the road could not be put over under any circumstances. Give a good agent half a chance with a fair, legitimate attraction, that is sold at reasonable prices, and the profits will be found.*

One thing that I shall never understand is the reason for not giving program credit to the unmentioned members of the ensemble who jump from the ranks in a weak spot in any show and do a little hoofing. It is a practice ever present, and rarely have I seen it occur that the chorus hooper could not give lessons to the principals. I wonder why?

Next week comes March 1 and then we shall see just where the sponsors of the ticket speculating-eliminating plan stand. For the benefit of the legitimate in New York I hope they stand behind their promises. A lot has been said, but little is known of what has been done. What I would like to see Brock Pemberton or Arthur Hopkins or Gilbert Miller—no, he's in Europe—do on March 1 is publish a list of the hit attractions playing on Broadway at the time, in the next column the names of the managers, in still another column, whether or not the managers agreed to "no further buys after March 1", and then in the last column the length of the existing buy and when it was made. I think such a thing would be revealing and would certainly show the managers' good faith.

## Actress Asks Right To Quit

**Mary Hay, ill and dissatisfied with play, wants to rescind run-of-play contract**

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Mary Hay, musical comedy star, has appealed to Actors' Equity Association to aid her in breaking her run-of-the-play contract with Jules J. Leventhal, who has engaged her for *You Don't Say*, a revue which the theatrical realtor now has on the road.

Miss Hay has appealed on several counts, one of which is illness. She says she is too ill to stand the strain of a Broadway engagement at the present time. Miss Hay was signed by Leventhal when he commenced casting for this revue, which he said would bring several new and talented entertainers to the legitimate field.

The actress says she was given to understand that the production would be a first-class Broadway attraction, and, according to her, Leventhal has failed to keep this part of the contract. The show is a second-rate production, she says, and, suffering from illness as she is, she feels her reputation will suffer if the show is brought into New York with her starred.

This week it is booked at Jamaica, L. I., and is scheduled to open on Broadway during the week of March 10, altho the theater has not been named. It is assumed that Leventhal has not definitely booked his Broadway opening as yet.

The Leventhal attraction is a musical comedy, with music by Irving Actman and Ray Doll. The book is by Roland Oliver, who has written one or two plays, and the lyrics by Jean Hart. Included in the cast are Joe Donahue, younger brother of Jack Donahue; Ray Walburn and Margaret Brten.

The action of Equity, if any, has not been indicated. It is awaiting Miss Hay's definite filing of charges against the producer before proceeding against him on behalf of the performer. A settlement is expected to be reached next week.

## Kane Plans Rep. Season

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Whitford Kane, of the producing staff and also a member of the acting company of the Goodman Theater, is planning a short repertoire season of his own at the Goodman. He will stage a series of new plays on Monday nights, beginning March 17.

Included in Kane's repertory are *Loggerheads*, by Ralph Cullinan; *Shoot If You Must*, by Joanna Roos; *Juggernaut*, by David Sears; *Mountain Dew*, by George Shiels, and *Black Waters*, by Ralph Cullinan.



# Keating Rows With Ziegfeld Over Disappearing Bird Trick

**Declined engagement and offer to stage number for "Simple Simon" — would cheapen magic, he says — Ziegfeld claims it is exploited by mail-order house**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Following tomorrow night's opening of Florenz Ziegfeld's *Simple Simon* it is probable that Fred Keating, suave magician of the Ruth Selwyn's 9:15 Revue, will cause Ziegfeld no little consternation over the use of a disappearing bird trick by 24 chorus girls. The Keating-Ziegfeld friction has been under way for some weeks. Ziegfeld's costume designer, John Harkrider, acted as the producer's emissary in an attempt to persuade Keating to stage the magic trick number when *Simple Simon* went into rehearsal here. Keating is said to have declined to make an appointment with Ziegfeld on the grounds that he was not interested in staging a chorus-girl number, which, he believed, would cheapen magic generally. Ziegfeld, according to reports, followed this with an offer to put Keating in the show. Keating, however, was by that time rehearsing for the Selwyn revue and declined the engagement.

During Keating's engagement in Boston with the 9:15 Revue his dressing room was broken into following the performance the night of February 3, and the trunk containing the bird trick searched, Keating says. This was followed by an investigation which unearthed three witnesses to the prowling.

Witnesses who saw the Ziegfeld show in Boston say it contained no bird trick number while Keating was playing there in the Selwyn revue. It is said, however, that the bird trick number was injected into the Ziegfeld show shortly thereafter, and that it will definitely be seen at the opening here.

A few days ago Keating conferred with Edgar Selwyn who wired Ed Wynn in Boston asking him to persuade Ziegfeld not to use the magic trick. This was followed by a wire from Ziegfeld who stated that the trick would be used in his show. His wire was said to have contained statements that the trick was a very old one and comparatively simple since 24 chorus girls could manipulate it.

Ziegfeld is alleged to have insinuated in his wire that he would not be so inhumane as to kill a live bird in a trick, and that his girls are using mechanical birds. Keating, who has performed the trick with a live bird for 13 years, says that he does not kill it, despite accusations to the contrary.

Vehement declarations were said to have been made by Ziegfeld that he is not guilty of infringing on Keating's prior claim to the trick, and that a chain store exploits a trick of similar nature. Keating declares that so intricate a trick could not possibly be exploited by a manufacturing company.

Keating is said to have been in conference with Joseph Berkertson, attorney, and with Bernard Ernst, who was for years Houdini's legal adviser.

## Music Revivals in Cut-Rate Price Slash Bring \$2 Top

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Under the guise of the Jolson Theater Musical Comedy Company the Shuberts are sponsoring a cut in theater ticket prices which hits below the \$3 top if subscribers take tickets for a series of five musical revivals. The subscription price of \$10 per seat for the five productions brings the orchestra ticket price down to \$2 a head. Aided by the success of previous revivals this season, and by a stringent mail campaign, the venture is said to be gaining ground.

## Postpone Florida Frolic

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Friars' Club will not give a Frolic in Miami this year. The event has been postponed until next season. It is said that several headlines, including George White, Al Jolson, Jack Dempsey and William Collier, would be unable to appear this season, which caused club officials to cancel the event.

## Two Groups Doing Chekov Play

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—It is seldom that a playwright has two theatrical groups performing in one of his plays simultaneously. It is even more seldom that the two groups perform the same play simultaneously, but that is exactly the case of Anton Chekov's *The Sea Gull*, which is not only on this week's schedule at the Civic Repertory Theater but is being given special performances by the Leo Bulgakov Theater Associates. *The Sea Gull* was performed here last season by Blanche Yurka.

## Actress to Lecture Soon

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Mrs. Patrick Campbell, distinguished actress, will soon lecture in the Auditorium of the New School for Social Research at 465 West 23d street. She will speak on *Beautiful Speech and the Art of Acting*, and will illustrate her lecture with scenes from her dramatic successes, including plays by Shaw, Pinero, Maeterlinck, Shakespeare and Suderman.



ELMER KENYON, the lecturer for the Theater Guild, whose chief duty is to quicken interest in the spoken drama in the cities where the Guild's touring companies visit, is honorary president of the Pittsburgh Drama League and was one of the mainstays of the organization for several years while he was an instructor in English at the Schenley High School, Pittsburgh. Kenyon is a graduate of Harvard University, a World War veteran, and has been vitally interested in the legitimate theater for many years. This is his first season with the advance staff of the Theater Guild.

## Historical Role for Star

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—An operetta based on the life of Nell Gwynne will serve as a starring vehicle for Helen Ford before this season comes to an end. Miss Ford is the wife of George Ford, who will sponsor the show, which has a libretto by Henry Myers and a score by Dimitri Tiomkin. Ford expects to open the show in Boston about Easter.

## Brady & Wiman Active

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Brady & Wiman are preparing for an active season. With their first edition of the *Little Show* on tour the producers are preparing a second edition to be brought to Broadway this spring. Their schedule also includes a tryout of *Her Scarlet Ladyship*, a play by Geoffrey Kerr which possibly will star Jane Cowl.

## Woods Changes Title Again

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—A. H. Woods has again changed the title of the new play which will star Alice Brady. It was first entitled *Man's Enemy*, then *The Fatal Woman*, and is henceforth to be known as *Love, Honor and Betray*. The play was purchased in Europe by Woods who recently turned it over to Frederic and Fanny Hatton for adapting.

# Bookers Look Kindly at Five

**Week's entries make grade with agencies—buys are reported beyond March 1**

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The good-show column was augmented this week when five of six shows that entered the list were favored with the kindly wishes of the ticket brokers. In some cases it is said the good wishes extend far beyond March 1, the deadline when all managers excepting A. L. Erlanger and Charles Dillingham must adhere to a recently signed agreement to allot tickets for attractions only on consignment.

Having no scruples or obligation to the managers, Dillingham is sitting quite comfortably with his entry, the Fred Stone show, *Ripples*. The ticket concessionaires looked at this attraction up in New England and after the tremendous hit Stone made at the opening laid it on the line to cover the orchestra floor with patrons for the next 24 weeks.

Lee Shubert, one of those managers who must carefully watch the distribution of his tickets after March 1, brought in another hit dramatic show in *Topaze*. It opened against John Golden's *Joseph*, with George Jessel, and both were treated kindly by the critics and ticket men alike. The reported "buys" extend beyond the deadline date.

The Ernest Truex show, *Ritz*, brought in by L. Lawrence Weber, who hasn't had a hit in a long while, got off to a good start and Weber reports a buy to March 1. Gilbert Miller has reported a buy on *Dishonored Lady*, the Katharine Cornell show, until March 1, which can be renewed after a month of trial by the ticket scheme.

Herman Shumlin, a comparative newcomer to the producing business, has at last crashed into the hit column with *The Last Mile*. He has no obligation to the managers' group, but his show is booked in a Shubert theater and the brokers were allowed buys only to March 1, it is reported, although they were willing to go beyond that date and an option has been asked, according to reports, for 20 weeks.

A number of the older entertainments, in point of fact, mainly *Berkeley Square* and *Strictly Dishonorable* among the dramatics, and *Sons o' Guns* among the musicals, maintain a high standard among the box-office schedules. Edgar Selwyn, producer of *Strike Up the Band*, has a 24 weeks' buy on his attraction and the brokers have recently renewed their buy on *Sweet Aeditne*, although this show has fallen off considerably during the last month.

The week will see the second largest in openings since the beginning of the season, 12 shows are scheduled to be added to the playboards and that will bring the dark houses down to about 14 along the street.

# No Cash, Equity Puts Ban on Two Productions

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The show business here is getting tough. Tom Van Dyke may end his first production tonight by the request of Actors' Equity Association, and Gregory Ratoff, one of Van Dyke's *Out of a Blue Sky* actors, was asked today by Equity to cease his production of *Candlelight* until he straightened out his account with the association.

Van Dyke's show opened last Saturday night to mingled pannings and fair notices from the critical corner in the dailies and all week has had difficulty getting the money into the box office. His partly cash bond posted with Equity was split among the actors who did not sign waivers today by Equity deputies.

Ratoff signed a waiver and it is presumed by Equity that he will get little or no money from the management of *Out of a Blue Sky* and acting upon this and the fact that the actors in *By Candlelight* had been rehearsing for seven days, today Equity called the rehearsals

off. It is understood that Ratoff called off rehearsals yesterday and said he would notify the cast when the play would be resumed. Equity will not let it continue until Ratoff has squared his back accounts.

The Van Dyke play is the first production of the former press agent. It was translated from the German by Leslie Howard and staged by Howard.

Ratoff took the rights of *By Candlelight* from Gilbert Miller, who presented Gertrude Lawrence in the Viennese comedy here early this season. The show enjoyed a rather successful run of 16 weeks. Ratoff was starring his wife, Leona Leontivitch, in the chief role.

It was to have been booked by the Shuberts and for a time they were supposed to have been willing to guarantee the salaries of the cast, but they did not post the intention with Equity so it was assumed their support had been withdrawn.

## LUMINOUS LIGHT EFFECTS

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# Managers Split Over Plan To Sound Doom of Scalping

Central Bureau advocated and fought by group brought together to end ticket scalping—Miller policing system would be used to check up on violating agencies

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Theatrical Managers' Bureau, which announced its intent to end ticket speculation, struck a snag today in a plan to establish a Central Ticket Bureau, which would supervise the sale of theater tickets to the public. It has been learned that the managers have split into two groups for and against the Central Ticket Bureau plan, with a probable deadlock as the final outcome. Gilbert Miller, who recently sailed for London, has openly declared himself in favor of the Central Ticket Bureau system, which would function on a standard-fee basis. An adequate policing system would be required to enforce the regulations of the bureau. Individuals buying tickets would be required to report any overcharge to the Central Bureau, which would in turn take the matter up with Federal authorities.

The auxiliary committee, formed to function in conjunction with the Managers' Bureau, includes David Marks and John McBride, ticket brokers.

Those in favor of the plan state that it would function on the same basis as the policing system now employed by Gilbert Miller, in which all tickets for Miller attractions are stamped with the name of the person or firm authorized to sell tickets.

The majority of managers, excepting A. L. Erlanger and C. B. Dillingham, agreed to refrain from entering into "buys" with ticket agencies after March 1, but it has been reported that several managers have "buys" which extend past that date. One manager is reported to have a "buy" on his musical show extending up to July.

Conferences have been held by the Managers' Bureau and its Auxiliary Committee, but the movement against ticket scalping has been under way for more than a month, and no announcement has been made which would imply that there would be any radical change in the present system which forces the public to pay exorbitant prices for theater tickets.

## Broadway Engagements

Leslie King, King Calder, Lyle Stockpole, Bernard J. McOwen, Nate Busby, Douglas Cosgrove, Stephen Clark and Robert Porterfield for *The Blue Ghost* (James Cooper).

Joseph Kilgour for the road company of *Young Sinners* (Shuberts).

Richard Bennett, Mildred Mitchell, Hugh Miller, Frank McGlynn, Jr., Conrad Cantzen, Ralph Locke, Jerome Lawler and Mario Majeroni for *Siberia* (Shuberts).

Franchot Tone, Margaret DeMille, George Tobias, Ruthelma Stevens, Lee Strasberg, Harry Cook, William Challee, Otto Hulett, William Griffith, Ruth Corpenning, Ruth Nelson, Frank Verigun, Grace Henderson and Joseph Brennan for *Dead or Alive* (Theater Guild Studio).

Len D. Hollister, Lois Shore, Caroline Newcombe and Edwin Stanley for *This Man's Town* (George Jessel).

Sam Colt, Edward Butler, John Lorenz, Robert D. Williams and Thomas Shearer for *Whatta Break* (John Ravold).

Spring Byington, Herbert Yost, Patricia Barclay, Gerald Oliver Smith, Edward Fleiding, Marion Abbott, Alan Davis and Jerome Collamore for *What a Question* (Murray Phillips).

## Broadway Cast Changes

Harold Woolf has replaced Maurice Lafue in *Srike Up the Band*, at the Times Square Theater.

Mary Wall has succeeded Julia Cobb in *Nancy's Private Affair*, at the Vanderbilt Theater.

Carl Francis has replaced Harland Dixon in *Top Speed*, at the 46th Street Theater. Gerald Cornell and Eleanor Phelps have replaced respectively Calvin Thomas and Anita Kerr in *The Criminal Code*, at the National Theater.

Philip White has succeeded Ted Athey in *Mendel, Inc.*, at the Ritz Theater.

Grace Wooding and Millicent Green have returned to the cast, and replaced respectively Anne Tonetti and Diana Trilling, and George C. Mack has been withdrawn from the cast of *Street Scene*, at the Ambassador Theater.

## Shakespeare Gets Break in Chicago

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—With *Strange Interlude* and grand opera as strong "highbrow" competition, the Shakespearean season of 12 weeks at the Civic Theater was at least given a "break" that was gratifying to its sponsors, a group of public-spirited citizens quite convinced that the cultural advantages of the Bard of Avon will find appreciation among a large number of people.

Following the close of the season Rufus C. Dawes, treasurer of the Shakespeare Society, said: "The outstanding occurrences of the 12-week season at the Civic Theater was the complete sellout of all seats in the dress circle and in the balcony. The balance of the house sold out for a large portion of the other performances."

From a financial standpoint the season exceeded the expectations of its sponsors. *Hamlet* was, of course, the most popular play, and on its opening night more than 400 persons were turned away. The cost for the entire repertory season is placed, unofficially, at \$225,000. Scenery used in the productions was a modified form of the "unit" type. Costumes and scenery both were made in the shops of the Civic Opera.

## Actors Are Awarded \$3,000 In Judgments From Producer

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Eugene Endrey, Hungarian theatrical producer, who was associated with the recent revival of *Sari*, starring Mitzi Hajos, is today facing judgments approximating \$3,000 which were awarded members of his most recent theatrical venture.

Performers brought from Hungary instigated suits against Endrey when his production of *The Gyurkovics Guys* was recently closed when it violated the law prohibiting Sunday night performances.

## Strauss Operetta on Road

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Johann Strauss operetta, *A Wonderful Night*, which concluded its engagement here tonight, will embark immediately on a road tour, according to an announcement from the Shubert office. Plans include engagements in Newark, N. J., and in Philadelphia. If these bookings prove profitable the show will doubtless continue on the road.

## Rum Runner Play to Brady

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—William A. Brady today substantiated his recent denial of a report that he would retire from the theater. Brady read a script entitled *Rum Runners* which so interested him that he telephoned the authoress, who lives in a small town in Oklahoma. The result of the conversation is that the authoress arrives here next week to make changes in the play, which will be rushed into rehearsal for a spring tryout.

## Legislature Saves Actors From Police-Wagon Rides

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Broadway actors were today celebrating the passage of the Post Bill by the New York State Legislature which relieves them from arrest if a play should be raided by vice authorities.

The bill, which was unanimously passed by the Legislature, frees the actor from responsibility until he is judged a responsible party in the production of an obscene play by a court of law.



PEPPI LEDERER, formerly of the moving pictures, is making her initial appearance on Broadway in Ruth Selwyn's "9:15 Revue". Miss Lederer is the daughter of George Lederer, the producer, and the niece of Marion Davies, the screen star. Acting upon her aunt's suggestion that she capitalize her aptitude as a comedienne, she persuaded Edgar and Ruth Selwyn to give her a chance with the revue.

## Harris To Try Play

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—William Harris, Jr., whose production of Martin Flavin's *The Criminal Code* is one of the current successes, has acquired a play for a tryout this spring. The new one is entitled *Prima Donna* and was written by Hatcher Hughes in collaboration with Lillian Harris.

## Broadway Openings

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 17

*The Infinite Shoeblack*, a comedy by Norman Macowan. Presented by Leo Shubert at the Maxine Elliott Theater. Featuring Helen Menken and Leslie Banks.

*Apron Strings*, a comedy by Dorrance Davis. Presented by Forrest C. Haring at the Bijou Theater.

*The Count of Luxembourg*, a revival of the Franz Lehár operetta. Presented by the Shuberts at the Jolson Theater.

*R. U. R.*, a revival of the Karl Capek melodrama. Presented by the Theater Guild at the Martin Beck Theater.

*Simple Simon*, a musical comedy by Guy Bolton and Ed Wynn, music by Rodgers and Hart. Presented by Florenz Ziegfeld at the Ziegfeld Theater. Starring Ed Wynn.

*Those We Love*, a play by George Abbott and S. K. Lauren. Presented by Philip Dunning at the John Golden Theater.

*The International Revue*, by Nat Dorfman and Lew Leslie, music and lyrics by Dorothy Fields and Jimmy McHugh. Presented by Lew Leslie at the Majestic Theater.

*The Plutocrat*, a comedy by Arthur Goodrich based on the novel by Booth Tarkington. Presented by Charles Coburn at the Vanderbilt Theater. Starring Charles Coburn.

*The Green Pastures*, a play by Marc Connelly, with an all-Negro cast. Presented by Laurence Rivers at the Mansfield Theater. Featuring Daniel T. Haynes.

*Mei Lan-Fang*, famous Chinese actor with his acting company in a series of Chinese dramas. Presented by F. C. Coppicus at the 49th Street Theater.

*The Sea Gull*, a revival of the Anton Tchekov play. Presented by the Leo Bulgakov Theater Associates at the Waldorf Theater.

## CLOSINGS

*A Wonderful Night* closed Saturday, February 15, after 124 performances; *The Chocolate Soldier* after 25 performances, *City Haul* after 56 performances, *Recepteur* after 21 performances, and *Josef Suss* after 32 performances.

## REMOVALS

On Monday, February 17, *Bitter Sweet* moved from the Ziegfeld to the Shubert Theater; *The Street Singer* moved from the Shubert to the Royale Theater; *Nancy's Private Affair* moved from the Vanderbilt to the Hudson Theater, and *It Never Rains* moved from the Bijou to the Bayes Theater.

# Apollon Airs Leslie Revue

Material and time allotted unsatisfactory to vaude performer—leaves show

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Dave Apollon, one of vaudeville's favorites, walked out on Lew Leslie's *International Revue* last week in Philadelphia after a week's fling at Leslie's stupendous show that has stars in it from half way around the globe. Apollon felt, according to the notice he gave the producer and told to friends on Broadway, that he was not getting a fair break in the show under the terms of his contract, and that he could do better back in vaudeville, where he is always a desirable and sought-after attraction. And so feeling the Russian dialectician left the big revue cold.

Apollon is one of the best there is in vaudeville. The last time he played the Palace here he was held over for four consecutive weeks, and never failed to win the admiration of the crowd. He works with a Filipino band and ad. lbs half of his lines, altho his work is all along the same line of chatter. His success in vaudeville during the last five years won him the attention of Lew Leslie when he was casting around for outstanding performers representative of national types. For Russia he chose Apollon.

The performer, the rumor says, could not agree with Leslie on the material awarded to him, nor could they get together on the time he would work. He was under a minimum on basic contract, which he could terminate without notice during the probationary period of the show.

The *International Revue* opens during this week at the Majestic Theater here.

## Dramatic League Plays To Continue

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The Chicago Dramatic League, whose first season is nearing its close, will not cease operations when the last of its subscription plays has been presented. So successful has the venture proved, it has been decided to continue the presentation of straight dramatic offerings for some weeks without the subscription feature.

Sponsors of the League feel satisfied that the public has been sufficiently "sold" on the idea to continue its patronage as long as high-quality plays are presented.

The first play announced to follow the subscription season is a new one by Harry Wagstaff Grubbe entitled *Elizabeth and Essex* and is described as a dramatic study of Queen Elizabeth's strange and tragic love affair with Essex. The play will have a tryout at Wilmington, Del., early next week, after which it will head westward, reaching the Princess here on March 17. The role of Queen Elizabeth will be played by Thais Lawton. Others in the cast will be Verree Teasdale, Vivienne Osborn, Hugh Buckler, Murray Kinnell and Wilford Seagram.

## London Cables

LONDON, Feb. 15.—*Silver Wings*, a musical romance adapted by Dion Titherage and Douglas Furber from the American play *The Broken Wing*, was a furor at the Dominion yesterday. The acting, music and humor are all first class. Desire Ellinger, Harry Welchman, Donald Mather and John Kirby are excellent stars. The hit of the evening was Emma Haig and Lupino Lane in comedy dances.

Edith Day, engaged by Lee Ephraim to star in the London production of *Rio Rita*, is due April 3.

Basil Dean has acquired *Healthy, Wealthy and Wise*, by the new American playwrights, Eleanor Chilton and Herbert Agar, for the New Theater shortly.

Bud and Jack Pearson, eccentric dancers, made a highly successful first English appearance at the Palladium Monday, other newcomers at the same house being Rogers and Wynne and Fransky, both making promising debuts.

Myron Pearl and Company concluded their English season and sailed for the South African tour Friday.

**SAM H. HARRIS**

Beginning Thursday Evening, Feb. 13, 1930

**THE LAST MILE**

A play by John Wexley. Directed by Chester Erskin. Setting designed by Henry Drevfuss and executed by the Triangle Studios. Presented by Herman Shumlin.  
 Fred Mayor.....Howard Phillips  
 Richard Walter.....James Bell  
 "Red" Kirby.....Hale Norcross  
 Vincent Jackson.....Ernest Whitman  
 Eddie Werner.....George Leach  
 Drake.....Don Costello  
 John Mears.....Spencer Tracy  
 O'Flaherty.....Herbert Heywood  
 Peddie.....Orville Harris  
 Principal Keeper Callahan.....Ralph Theadore  
 Harris.....Richard Abbott  
 Tom D'Amoro.....Joseph Spurlin-Calleia  
 Father O'Connors.....Henry O'Neill  
 Evangelist.....Clarence Chase  
 Frost.....Bruce Macfarlane  
 Brooks.....Albert West  
 The Scene Is the use of the stone State Penitentiary at Keystone, Okla.  
 ACT I—Late May. It is Evening. ACT II—Two Weeks Later. It is Late Afternoon. ACT III—Six Hours Later. It is Night.

One of Broadway's younger producers has indicated several times that he would do a worth-while play. He is Herman Shumlin and to theatergoers he has kept his promise. The play is *The Last Mile*, the most striking and bitterly resentful play that has come this way in many years. This street of half-baked entertainment can thank Shumlin for one of the most clearly drawn argumentative plays this season.

John Wexley has a dual thesis. One is the old "you can't win against the law" idea and the other attacks capital punishment. The awfulness of an execution is so bitterly depicted that one of the convicts is led to read a line that sums up Wexley's entire argument. It is "if they examined these men before they try to cook 'em they'd save juice." And that this is obvious is shown thruout the first act when Richard Walters is prepared for his electrocution.

Shumlin has chosen a superb cast of mutineers led by Spencer Tracy that could hardly have been improved upon. Tracy gives the best performance he has ever given, for he is little less than a savage beast fighting desperately against all odds, willing to kill anyone or anybody to gain one breath of air. James Bell also does an admirable even piece of work as the man who goes to his death in the first act, and Howard Phillips, one of our newer young actors, is splendid.

Chester Erskin, another remarkable young man, directed this peculiar play, but sadly it is not his best work. Better direction could have been used in several places. Information on one or two errors employed to be realistic is available to one who will not trust too much in one's own judgment. Erskin has evidently done this and has gone wrong on more than one occasion. At other times the play slows up perceptibly because of loose direction, but these faults are forgotten in the awful presence of death—bitter, resentfully taken death.

The play deals with the efforts of six condemned men in a futile fight for freedom. In the first act the terribly cold-blooded manner of the State in doing its work without feeling and that unwillingness to aid the prisoners in getting their minds from their doom is shown. Wexley has done his worst to get sympathy for the men and when Walters is led to his death and the motor roared and the lights dimmed Wexley wins. It is horrible to watch.

Two weeks later young Fred Mayor is being prepared to go. With six hours left the boy, "Killer" John Mears chokes the death-house keeper, strips him of his keys and gun and takes command of the death house. He imprisons all the guards, the principal keeper and the priest and delivers an ultimatum to the warden that every one of them will die unless the convicts are given a chance. He kills two men and the warden attempts reprisal with dynamite, but "Killer" Mears beats him at this game and kills two guards out the window. Stymied in the end with but two bullets "Red" Kirby convinces Mears of the futility of the desperate fight the men are waging against odds and after killing young Mayor himself to relieve his pain Mears gives his gun, containing two cartridges, to his fellow convicts and walks into the path of a machine gun.

It all really happened some time last year out in Colorado and what Shumlin has brought to the stage is more or less an apology for the actions of those men. One wonders why "Killer" Mears did not have just as much right to die fighting and kill as he went if the State exercised the same prerogative.

Able performances are contributed by Henry O'Neill, Joseph Spurlin-Calleia,

**THE NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY**

Hale Norcross, Ernest Whitman and George Leach. Herbert Hayward does a sympathetic bit well and a fine piece of acting is done by Ralph Theadore when he faces death at the hands of Mears. Clarence Chase does a Billy Sunday bit in the approved Billy Sunday manner.

Henry Dreyfuss has augmented the bitterness of this drama, with a setting of cold lifeless cells illuminated by cold white lights.

*The Last Mile* is a fine play to the credit of a hard-working cast, a brave producer and a playwright who stuck to his thesis. It is the other side of prison life and a play of interest and infinite value in the scheme of things in this nation.  
 CHARLES MORAN.

**CORT**

Beginning Monday Evening, February 10, 1930

**IT'S A GRAND LIFE**

A play by Hatcher Hughes and Alan Williams. Directed by Harrison Grey Fiske. Settings by Gates and Morange. Presented by A. L. Erlanger and George C. Tyler. Starring Mrs. Fiske.  
 Austin Tyler.....Cyril Scott  
 Helen Tyler.....Mrs. Fiske  
 Jean Tyler.....Leona Beutelle  
 Timmy Tyler.....Andrew Lawlor, Jr.  
 "Doc" Bardette.....Raymond Van Sickle  
 Nicholas Van Tyle.....Gene Gowing  
 Major Richard Dale.....Robert Barrat  
 Mercedes Dale.....Germaine Giroux  
 Valida Sierra.....Virginia Venable  
 Dr. Moran.....William Lorenz  
 Reporter on The New York Times.....C. W. Van Voorhis  
 Reporter on a Tabloid.....Walter Kinsella  
 Joseph.....Edward Powell  
 A Trained Nurse.....Elsie Keene  
 The Living Room of the Tyler's Park Avenue Apartment. The Action Takes Place in One Evening.  
 ACT I—Nine O'Clock. ACT II—One Hour Later. ACT III—Half an Hour Later. TIME—May, 1929.

If the play, *It's a Grand Life*, in which Mrs. Fiske is currently starring, is as the program announces, a new comedy, then this reviewer is almost any number of years behind the times. In fact, except that it is a bold peep into the sex life of what is supposed to be a family right out of the *Social Register*, it is pretty much the same old dish that has been served by authors Hatcher Hughes and Alan Williams.

It has to do with the Park Avenue Tylers who live their lives as they see fit, and if it were not for Mother Tyler, who holds the family together, it would not be a grand life at all.

Mrs. Fiske, as Helen Tyler, who persuades the husband of Mr. Tyler's mistress to give the child a name; who marries her daughter off to the right man, and who persuades her daughter-in-law not to tell her son that she had experienced a love affair with Mr. Tyler, Sr., before her marriage, is one of the ablest comediennes on the American stage.

C. W. Van Voorhis, as the reporter from *The New York Times*, does the best acting among the male element in a bit that might well have been developed into a leading part by the authors.

Cyril Scott plays the thankless role of the profligate Mr. Tyler in an effective manner.  
 Andrew Lawlor, Jr., is miscast as Timmy Tyler, and struggles against the handicap of negligent characterization on the part of the authors. He lacks the poise and the refinement of speech necessary to the interpretation of a sophisticated member of the younger set.

Robert Barrat and Germaine Giroux were seen in the ridiculously impossible roles of Major and Mrs. Richard Dale. Gene Gowing and Raymond Van Sickle provided examples of miscasting in roles that would be thankless even if properly cast. Leona Beutelle appeared in a calm manner as the unpleasant daughter of the house. Virginia Venable lent the one sincere note to the play with her characterization of Valida Sierra who married Tyler, Jr. Miss Venable is a very promising young actress and she deserves a better play than *It's a Grand Life*. William Lorenz, Walter Kinsella and Elsie Keene played

bits effectively, and Edward Powell made the most of a sophisticated butler role.

The staging by Harrison Grey Fiske is scarcely worth mention, as is the setting which was executed in very poor taste by Gates and Morange.

*It's a Grand Life* is the second repertoire production to star Mrs. Fiske this season. It will by no means do because it is a badly written, generally miscast, poorly staged and negligibly mounted piece of inferior playwriting.  
 CHARLES CROUCH.

**MUSIC BOX**

Beginning Wednesday Evening, Feb. 12, 1930

**TOPAZE**

A play by Marcel Pagnol, adapted from the French by Benn W. Levy. Settings by Rollo Wayne. Directed by Stanley Logan. Presented by Lee Shubert. Featuring Frank Morgan, Phoebe Foster and Mildred Mitchell.

Topaze.....Frank Morgan  
 Ernestine Muche.....Mildred Mitchell  
 Muche.....Hubert Druce  
 Tamise.....Harry Davenport  
 Suzy Courtois.....Phoebe Foster  
 Baroness Pitart-Vignolles.....Catherine Doucet  
 Castel-Benac.....Clarence Derwent  
 Butler.....Cornelius Vezin  
 Roger De Berville.....Nicholas Joy  
 First Stenographer.....Aldeah Wise  
 Second Stenographer.....Dauna Allen  
 Gendarme.....Ceel Clovelly  
 An Old Man.....Alf Helton  
 Pupils at Pension Muche.....  
 Cordier.....Warren McCullum  
 Durant-Victor.....Freddie Stange  
 Pitart-Vignolles.....Peter Boylan  
 Seguedille.....Harry Murray  
 Tuche-Bohne.....James McGuire  
 Jusserand.....George Canto-Janis  
 Bertin.....James Guinaine  
 Blondet.....Richard Offer  
 Mentec.....Eddie Wragge  
 Mentece.....Martin Postal  
 ACT I—A Classroom in the Pension Muche.  
 ACT II—A Small Salon at the Home of Suzy Courtois. The Next Day. ACT III—Scene 1: Office of M. Castel-Benac. Two Months Later. Scene 2: The Same. One Year Later. TIME—The Present. PLACE—A Large City in France.

Frank Morgan has at last found a play worth his while. *Topaze* gives him every opportunity to use his rare ability for comedy, and he does this deftly; so easily, in fact, that he makes a rather insipid play seem important, which it isn't. But Morgan gives to his role an even-balance performance that makes this French farce stand out as one of the best comedies now on Broadway.

There is some gross miscasting here, as well as the perfect casting of Morgan. Principally out of place is Mildred Mitchell, whose work is very little in sympathy with the part she plays, and Phoebe Foster is none too well chosen for her part.

Occasionally there is evidence of a little loose and free direction, but these places are glossed over by the careful handling of the capable Morgan.

*Topaze* is an entertaining play that draws rather silly points into the action to amuse. Some of these little incidents are a bit rough, and often they are vulgar, which does not add to the attractiveness of the play.

It is an uninitiated schoolmaster who strives pitifully to start his charges on the road of life with honesty the uppermost thought in their minds. He himself is so scrupulously clean and innocent of the wiles of men that he gets fired from his job for his pains. He gets into the clutches of a calculating politician who uses him as a decoy in his grafting schemes. Everything goes well until *Topaze* becomes too wise and a Doctor of Moral Philosophy thru political bargaining. Then he turns and in the end we find him a forceful schemer taking the schemes from the hands of Castel-Benac, and even stealing his mistress.

The glibbly *Topaze* believes his philosophy to be correct and the transposition from the trusting, honest school teacher to the scheming grafter is the whole interest of the play. It commences in the schoolroom of the teacher, who is more instructed by his youngsters in the ways of the world than they are by what he imparts to them. The staging and minute atten-

tion to detail here makes this scene one of the most interesting seen in many a day on Broadway. The laughter, caused by little incidents that apparently brought up fresh in the minds of the auditors such things of their own youth, was uproarious. It leaves the first act with a pleasant taste that is not let down for the remainder of the show.

The direction of Stanley Logan at this point is commendable. Toward the end of the piece, however, the author and director have employed dialog and business that are distinctly in bad taste, but which are amusing to a degree.

Clarence Derwent's performance as the politician is somewhat studied, and Hubert Druce is a trifle too much of a caricature as the head master of the school. Harry Davenport, Catherine Doucet and Alf Helton contribute pleasant bits of good acting to the play.

The settings are interesting and mind detail carefully.

*Topaze*, for all its obvious faults, is mighty good entertainment if ribald occasionally. Frank Morgan is mainly responsible for the amusing evening it furnishes.  
 CHARLES MORAN.

**LIBERTY**

Beginning Wednesday Evening, Feb. 12, 1930

**JOSEPH**

A play by Bertram Bloch. Directed by George S. Kaufman. Settings by Redington Sharpe. Presented by John Golden. Starring George Jessel.

Potiphar.....Ferdinand Gottschalk  
 Neris, Potiphar's Wife.....Ara Gerald  
 Pharaoh, Amenemhet III.....Douglas Dumbrille  
 Pharaoh's Guard.....Michael Markham  
 Thetis.....Catherine Cooper  
 Jezra.....Sidney Murray  
 First Guard.....George Ertell  
 Second Guard.....Tom H. A. Lewis  
 A Slave Dealer.....H. H. McCullum  
 Deborah.....Anne Teaman  
 Joseph.....Mr. Jessel  
 An Old Slave.....Pickering Brown  
 High Priest.....Harold Hartzell  
 Pharaoh's Guard.....Lois Hazzard  
 Ashtaboolum.....Curtis Jenkins  
 First Jailer.....Julian Noa  
 Second Jailer.....Robert Burton  
 Prison Superintendent.....Selden Bennett  
 A Prisoner.....Sam Bennett  
 King's Baker.....Tom Post  
 King's Butler.....Ted Athey  
 A Prison Slave.....Lackaye Grant  
 Palace Guard.....Rud Shorer  
 Second Guard.....Al Johns  
 A Guards, Priests, Slaves, Workmen, Etc.

ACT I—Scene 1: Potiphar's Garden. Scene 2: The Same. Some Time Later. ACT II—Scene 1: The Garden. Scene 2: A Prison Cell. ACT III—Scene 1: The Cell. Three Years Later. Scene 2: An Anteroom in Pharaoh's Palace.

John Golden, disciple of clean plays, knows a risqué piece when he sees one, hence his presentation of Bertram Bloch's *Joseph*. Bloch has employed the Biblical yarn involving Joseph and Potiphar's wife exactly like a popular songwriter might use one of the classics in turning out a theme song. The result is far from ungratifying, even tho it may shock the sensibilities of those delicately minded souls who object to having their music of literature jazzed up in the hey-hey manner.

With George Jessel in the role of the Hebrew slave who dared to tread on common ground with his master's wife, the play loses whatever delicacy it might otherwise have possessed and becomes a raucous evening of something quite akin to slapstick. But it is good slapstick and it is highly diverting.

From the time that Joseph is sold into the household of Potiphar thru an unintentional inspiring of the desire of the master's wife, and his refusal to gratify her desire which causes his imprisonment, until he finally comes to interpret the dream of the king of all Egypt, Bertram Bloch's play is filled to the brim with vitality. Perhaps that vitality belongs to George Jessel, who imbues the leading role with a quiet energy that carries it beyond the confines of the role itself. It is all totally Broadway, but good Broadway is not to be scoffed at. It would appear to be far more worth while than half-baked something else. In fact this play is what it is, a boop-poop-pah-doop juggling of a legend that has furnished the plot for many a serious drama ever since the drama had its beginning.

The fact that Bertram Bloch's characters are never quite believable is perhaps a virtue in this case. If the characters and the events thru which they pass so lightly had been given the semblance of reality perhaps *Joseph* would not be amusing at all. Perhaps it would be vulgar and tiresome and  
 (See *NEW PLAYS* on page 95)

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# Vaudeville

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## Hauling Men Condense; Lower Rates Due Soon

**On-Time bows out — Morris and Vodeville merge — smaller shows and excessive rates blamed for business drop—committee considering scale reduction**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The unprecedented depression in the vaude, mart and financial reverses brought on by it have forced a number of baggage haulers out of the picture in the last few weeks. The On-Time Vaudeville Express, one of the oldest member-firms of the TTOA (Theatrical Transfer Owners' Association), was dissolved last week, and reported unable to meet its obligations. Jack J. Peters, manager of the defunct concern, last week joined the payroll of the NVA Scenery Express & Storage Corporation, bringing over with him what was left of the business and good will of the On-Time outfit.

Two other member-firms were stricken from the TTOA list recently when they merged into one concern. They are the Vodeville Theatrical Transfer and the Morris Theatrical Transfer Corporation. The new firm is now known as Jack Roach Vaudeville Transfer, with Roach as its president and Jack Quinn as treasurer. It is reported that other hauling concerns may go out of business or merge with surviving TTOA members in the next several weeks.

The Donnelly & Lazor Express has also changed names since the death in December of William Donnelly. The company is now known as Lazor Theatrical Express. Charles Lazor, who is not connected with the Lazor outfit, was recently chosen treasurer of the TTOA, replacing John Augustine, of Augustine's Express, Mount Vernon.

The practice by bookers in the local area to cut down on the number of acts, due to the running of lengthy film specials, such as *Rio Rita*, *Sunny Side Up* and *Show of Shows*, is one of the contributing factors toward the baggage business slump.

Notices were posted last week by the Morris Theatrical Transfer Corporation that unclaimed or unpaid baggage of a large number of acts is to be sold shortly at auction to satisfy debts to the hauling concern. The ruling on this practice, which has been in force for some time past, is that baggage must have been stored and unclaimed for a period over a year, and when storage costs are not forthcoming within a reasonable time, they must first be advertised as about to be sold before falling under the auctioneer's block.

A price-card committee was appointed recently for the purpose of considering the reduction of baggage haul costs, but up to now no progress had been made. The members of the TTOA have come to the realization that hauling prices have been excessive for a long time, and it is felt that a revision in the scale is more apt to become a reality at this time than at any previous period. Since the revision of the TTOA membership, with the local members numbering only six as compared with seven out-of-towners, it is felt that a price reduction is more likely to go thru by vote. Heretofore the local member firms have held the upper hand and maintained the higher scale. Action is expected to be taken on this within the next few weeks.

### McCaffrey Not Leaving RKO

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Bill McCaffrey, act scout for RKO, will not leave the circuit to accept a job with Station WTAM, Cleveland, according to Billy Diamond, RKO booking chief here. McCaffrey is in St. Louis at present.

### Humphrey May Return

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—C. S. (Tink) Humphrey, for many years one of the "big shots" in the Orpheum Circuit here, has been making frequent trips to Chicago of late, which has given rise to persistent rumors that he is slated to come back here in the near future as an RKO official. No confirmation of the rumors has been possible.

Speculation is rife as to just what job Humphrey will be given in the event he does return. Billy Diamond has made good as chief booking executive and it is presumed he will be retained. In the face of innumerable obstacles he has extended the circuit's bookings thru the Middle West. His present contract with RKO expires next June.

### Lewis for Fox Majors

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Harry C. Lewis and Company, unit consisting of 40 performers, is booked to play the major houses of the Fox Circuit when it completes the four-week tour of the junior wing stands this week. This tab, takes up the entire vaude. time of a bill, no other acts accompanying it.

### Roselyn Field Exits

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Roselyn Field is no longer with the Mosconi Brothers' act. She bowed out last week. Lined up for another dancing act as yet unnamed.

## Vauditorials

By ELIAS E. SUGARMAN

*NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.*

**D**UMB or novelty acts are always the first to feel the tightening of purse strings . . . probably because they are considered by most bookers as the least important item in show layouts. A concerted effort is now being made to turn down these acts as openers. This should be interpreted by those who are interested in dumb acts, not as a death knell; rather as a blessing in disguise.

*If vaudeville is to remain as such, it needs novelty acts. Needs them more than it needs, for example, a booker who put the kibosh on bike acts because his favorite aunt was severely bruised in a collision with a two-wheeler. Bookers—at least the more sensible ones—are getting away from the idea of novelty-act openers for the same reason that they are trying to get away from booking loosely pieced flashes without real production background. Because novelty acts are falling into disuse as bill starters does not by any token signalize their slating for the scrap heap. Whether bookers really want novelty acts now is of little importance. What is more important to the general situation is that they will have to use them sooner or later. And since it has been virtually decreed that novelty acts—if used at all—should be further down on the bill, artistes who are in this category should welcome this new trend in the booking mode.*

Novelty acts have been at last driven out of the rut. They are now like any other act; the latest move has ushered them into the professional fraternity as figurative blood brothers.

*Under the new conditions, however, there will be no room for the so-so pair of balancers or the affectedly European perch team. To work down in the bill 'mongst fast company a dumb act must be good. By good we mean it must be original, moderately fast and presented in a showmanly fashion. There will be less room—even less than now—in the future for dumb acts that just barely pass muster. The whole thing in a nutshell amounts to this: the only ones to ultimately lose by the revolution in the attitude of bookers toward novelty acts are the inferior ones. These should not have been booked from the beginning. To these might be traced a great deal of the disgust the public experiences for the old kind of vaudeville. Not unlike the little girl in the nursery rhymes, novelty acts, when they are good, are very good; when they are bad—well, maybe we shouldn't have brought it up.*

Before we drop for a spell the novelty-act situation, allow us to refreshen the minds of those who were at one time familiar with the favorite trade epigram of an old and revered showman, who for the purposes of this peroration shall be unnamed. He said substantially:

"One attends a show and thrills to the fine voices of the balladists, laughs uproariously at the slap-stick comedians, stares open-eyed at the beautiful settings of flash acts, and finds his uplifted spirits beating in rhythm to the peppy dancings. Very true, yet when the curtain is down and the show is o'er what lingers with us is rarely any of these. We recall time and again the cute stunts of a dog, the mid-air somersaults of a flier, or the daring of a trapezist. These are the impressions that last. They must be worth something to vaudeville."

*Let us add by way of necessary explanation that the man whose wont it was to utter this uncannily accurate observation had no personal or business interest whatever in extending the field of the novelty act. He gave credit where he felt credit was due.*

## Previews Get Kibosh

**Piazza's scheme did not work out well—slim support from acts**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—No more Professional Previews at the Prospect (Brooklyn) and the Franklin. When the Capitol, Union City, was added to Jack Hodgdon's book several weeks ago it was intended to create another stand there for the previews. But temporarily at least the preview scheme has been dropped altogether. Ben Piazza, who caused the preview system to be installed here about two months ago because of his success with it in Chicago, has no idea when the previews will be started again—if ever.

Acts for whom the previews were intended had not been supporting Piazza's pet plan as expected. In several preview shows acts failed to show up. Among the acts that kept their agreement to play the single shows a discouraging few turned out to be acceptable even for the solo session. It was felt that the acts should have been carefully sifted in some manner even before the public viewing.

Previews are less in demand now because of the inauguration of showing policies of seven acts at the Prospect and Franklin. With this number of acts as the steady diet preview nights might have turned out to be drawn-out affairs, lasting well past midnight. Preview idea died, according to report, because bookers did not give it the attendance support expected of them, both by the try-out acts and the office. Piazza is most likely biding his time to start the previews again at the opening of next season, when plenty of good but untried material should be available after summer layoffs.

### Rimacs in Vaude. Soon

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Cira and Rosary Rimac, Brazilian dance team, popular for their *Maxize* number, opened this week at the Colonial Inn, Singac, N. J., booked there by Al Davis. They recently finished a 10-week run at the Moulin Rouge, Brooklyn. About the middle of April they will return to vaude. in a new four-people act, with Charles Rimac, eccentric dancer, in their support.

### Taylor Recovering From Long Illness

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Phil Taylor, who gave up his vaudeville-producing office in the Gaiety Theater Building two seasons ago after being a tenant there for 17 years, is recovering from a serious illness at his home in Brooklyn. He has been bedridden for 15 months after an operation at St. Catherine's Hospital.

He is still under treatment, but writes that he is gaining slowly. Before giving up Taylor was a franchised producer for the K-A Circuit. He would like to hear from his old friends and can be reached at 841 Halsey street.

### Goodman Now Trunk Man

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Bobby Goodman, formerly of vaudeville and musical comedy, is now Eastern representative of the P. B. Professional Trunk Company. He has opened offices in the Loew State Building.



# Smaller Producers Are Becoming Wholesalers

*Taking low nets but making up for it by going in for mass production — artistes working at new lows — may force bigger producers to follow suit*

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—While the larger producers are waiting for conditions to improve before putting out expensive flashes, certain of the smaller ones are going into wholesale production of seven to nine-people acts. Their intention is to produce turns that will net them a fair profit, besides giving the bookers cheap, tho good, attractions. Not only are they going into the mass production because of the present demand for opening and closing flashes, but also from the standpoint of steady bookings, which expensive turns are not getting nowadays.

Those going in for the cheaper acts are content with a weekly stipend of from \$100 to \$150 from each act, which is a situation entirely different from that existing in the better-known offices. There they are not satisfied with such a meager net, deciding rather to wait for the time to come when their elaborate acts will be in demand and bring them the large profits to which they have been accustomed.

In putting out the cheap-selling flashes, those producers claim they are costing the acts as nicely as the expensive ones, and that, they say, also goes for the scenery. However, they do not claim paying salaries that are any too high.

One producer has six such acts now playing steadily and another in the making. They are getting as high as \$650 and going as low as \$500. With seven to nine people in the acts, one having 10, the casts are working for coffee and cake, with a paper napkin thrown in now and then as a bonus.

Without mentioning names, one act has worked 18 weeks since it opened, with a loss of only six days. This has nine people. Another, featuring a foreign warbler and six others, has worked 15 weeks, losing only four days since its showing; a third has been working the last nine weeks without losing a day for (See *SMALL PRODUCERS* on page 85)

## Reviving Censorship

*Stratton again routine man — Piazza says he has Hawkshaws checking up*

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—RKO's internal censorship organization did not die as had been generally believed. It merely slumbered, and now it is awake again and ready for another stab at what has always been regarded as a difficult and thankless job. Chester Stratton, contact man between the three major booking office executives, was the last to hold down the post of routine censor. He left several weeks ago for his annual winter vacation in the West Indies, and when he returns this week he will again be assigned to the task of assembling and disseminating material and business cuts ordered by house and divisional managers and bookers. But under the new lease of life granted the censorship bureau Stratton's work will be but a small part of the plan.

Under Ben Piazza's wing three unnamed experts have been working in various parts of the circuit the last two weeks, checking up on acts to see whether objectionable business or material is used; also to see that they do not cut down on wardrobe and scenery. In short, the men making up the nucleus of the secret service staff are instructed not only with enforcing the circuit's policy of clean shows, but are also delegated with the mission of ascertaining whether RKO is receiving in entertainment what it pays for in salaries. The identities of the secret service men are not being revealed for obvious reasons. Even if RKO really has no such men in its employ, the trade takes it that the object has been attained by trade paper publicity given to the mystic corps. But Piazza insists that the censorship field men are not fiction. And he even adds that their number will be doubled in several weeks. Which means that by that time there will be six "dirt" bogeymen distributed thruout the country—or none, since in school we've been taught that twice nothing is still nothing.

With all due regard for the necessity of censorship at this time when certain acts are exceeding all bounds in propriety, the sentiment among the "know" boys is that RKO cannot and probably will not be foolish enough to attempt to enforce censorship equitably. The acts that the circuit needs badly will hardly suffer cancellation if found using double-entendre and plain dirt. These acts are usually signed up to long-term contracts, and no case has yet arisen in vaudeville history where a circuit has been willing to fork up money on the play-or-pay basis to acts caught using objectionable material or business. Besides, acts that are booked up solid are usually approved of fully before the ink is embrodered on the dotted line. Acts classed as pick-up items usually give the circuit little trouble in this respect because they value a prospective route too much.

George Godfrey seemed to have the right idea when he stated at the time he was in sole charge of the booking office that censorship cannot be applied equitably. He held then that except for undeniably filthy bits, dress and business it depends not so much on the three factors as it does on the individual harnessed to them. Looking at censorship along these lines it applied that a shapely girl working in very much abbreviated shorts is a pleasing sight, whereas a misshapen and ponderous woman in the same raiment is a subject for disciplinary action. This applies as well to gags. A Tucker, Bernie or Benny spilling a doubtful gag can usually count on getting away with it and garnering a good laugh besides. The same gag in the hands of an unfinished product of a comedian is totally offensive. This appears to be the more sensible way to tackle censorship, altho the other intricate systems are worth being given a trial.



KAY SPANGLER, whose blond beauty and dancing talent have been on exhibition three times this year in different acts at the Palace, New York. Miss Spangler played the ace house last week in a new act, "The Lobbyists", in which she is starred with her personable brother, Jack Spangler. They are set for the whole Western Time, under the direction of the Tishman & O'Neal office.

## No Changes Planned In RKO Chi. Force

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—No changes in the personnel of the Chicago offices of RKO are contemplated at the present time, according to Ben Piazza, who returned to New York Tuesday after spending three and one-half days here.

Piazza's visit had been construed as being a forerunner of another shakeup, but, to use the expression of Billy Diamond, local booking chief, it's still "one big happy family" with nothing to worry about except getting more houses. "It's just an inspection trip," said Piazza in response to a query from a *Billboard* representative. "President Brown has asked me to make a monthly trip out here just to look things over."

Asked as to current reports that the Palace Theater will soon go into a vaudeville film policy, he stated that it is possible the house will continue thru the summer with its present policy. "The Palace did very well last summer," he declared, "and the outlook for the coming spring and summer is favorable."

"Will the proposed new RKO Loop house adopt a film or vaudeville policy?" Piazza was asked.

"I have not heard of such a house except in a general way," he replied. "Maybe by the time it is built vaudeville will have come back sufficiently to require a new house here."

## Collection Agy. Functioning

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The recently revived Vaudeville Collection Agency of the RKO Circuit is functioning nicely, with William P. Byrne in charge and with the active support of Billy Diamond, booking chief, and G. W. Howe, auditor. The agency does not aim to make a profit, but is being operated as a convenience for everyone concerned.

## Tiller's Sunshine Girls

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—John Tiller's Sunshine Girls, elaborate 17-people dance flash featuring Marjorie Lane, were booked to show for Loew last week on a split between the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and the Grand, Bronx. The outfit is agented by Lyons & Lyons and is slated for other local dates.

## Walsh Goes to Loew

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—John R. Walsh, lyric tenor, who last season played major circuit dates with a male accompanist, is doing a new cycle of songs this season, this time with a girl pianist, Ruth Johnson. He resumed for Loew the last half of last week at the Grand, Bronx, with other Eastern dates likely.

## Poesifying Porter Uses Trade Theme

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Patrick Joseph Lee is the porter who makes a daily cleanup in the RKO Press Department offices. Pat is a poet, too. As he sweeps and dusts and picks up tailor bills crumpled up and discarded by staff men Pat gets the inspiration for his sonnets, odes and other lyrical things.

Last week Pat got a trade angle on his poetics and when nobody was looking he slipped a sheet of paper into Irene Surgot's machine, and this is the result:

If your act is good  
And you need the dough,  
Your one best bet  
Is the Arr Kay Oh.  
Looks like Pat will have to keep on sweeping a little longer.

## Loew Books Jue Fong

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Jue Fong, Chinese tenor who recently showed for Loew and played several out-of-town dates on the circuit, has been booked for a tour of the local houses. He opened last week in a single, splitting between the Boulevard, Bronx, and the Bedford, Brooklyn.



## 40 SIDES?

When you're opening in New York with your first 40 sides...and you smoke about 40 cigarettes before the house is dimmed... be sure they're all that one great cigarette which gives moist-cool throat comfort... as well as unlimited, old-fashioned tobacco enjoyment.

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# Piazza Is Pay-Off Man For "Moral Obligation"

**Sweet music to ears of producers and others caught napping when unit vogue fell off—RKO denies that contracts or promises were made to squawkers**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Echoes are still being heard of the time RKO was swamped with independently produced units that turned out to be unsuited to the circuit's requirements. Certain producers went into the red for plenty, due to their plunges with offerings that failed to meet with the approval not only of the Godfrey regime, but also with the triumvirate that immediately followed. Within several weeks, however, the squawks will be stifled and another chapter will have been written in the history of the most hectic period in the circuit's history.

Because it feels, also on no mandatory basis, that it owes the producers who were sunk a moral obligation, RKO is settling with all of them in one form or another. As far as is known, however, the only cash settlement decided upon is in the case of C. B. Maddock, whose alleged claims ran up close to \$17,000. The remaining producers and artists involved in the unit-epidemic fiasco are being appeased with discounted playing time or cuts on what is conceded to be the originally planned routes.

An estimate of the amounts involved in the blanket settlement of the alleged claims of producers is impossible since the RKO has not made known the exact basis on which these are being made. The situation, as it now eventuates, is an undesirable one, as more than one faction of the office is ready to admit. RKO is the object of trade handclapping because of its good sportsmanship in disposing of the avoidable tangle, but this sentiment is not felt universally for certain of the producers. Unless one is willing to put George A. Godfrey down as an out-and-out liar, which those who know him well will hardly consider, the squawkers are taking advantage of the recent changes in the booking office administration to be reimbursed in dates or money for their miscalculation of the buying trends.

Altho a trade paper (not *The Billboard*) has frequently inferred that there exists contracts for the playing of the controversial units and acts, Godfrey, as well as Ben Piazza, who is handling the details of the settlements, deny the existence of such instruments. Piazza was not located here nor was he in the high position that he is now at the time the units and acts were submitted. But Piazza is said to have stated that he takes Godfrey's word for what had taken place at the time. It's a question of whether Godfrey's word is more reliable than that of the bawling producers, and Piazza is inclined to place his faith in Godfrey 100 per cent.

Godfrey vigorously denies what has come to be regarded as malicious insinuations, that he told the sunken producers to shoot the works with the assurance that he would back them up. The situation, as explained to *The Billboard* by Godfrey, was an agreement between the office and the producers that the latter be encouraged to produce their units and ponderous acts on two conditions. First, that the productions should come up to expectations, and secondly, that the salaries be within reason. Outside of these plain conditions, Godfrey added, there was no obligation on the part of the office to book the attractions. Godfrey stated that he realized the seriousness of the situation to its fullest extent. Because of this he took special pains to make his side of the transactions clear. He foresees that there might be trouble if the producers go to great expense and are later turned down for booking of their offerings. Producers are now advised to plunge with expensive attractions at their own risk. Godfrey stated that the understanding at the time he was in sole charge of the sixth floor was the same.

The producers, units and acts listed as being involved in the "moral obligation" settlements are the *Marcus Show*, Ruth Mix Unit, Jim McWilliams, Max Hayes' *Doin' Things* Unit, Ike Rose's *Midgets*, Kelso Brothers' Unit, E. K. Nadel's *Golf Fiends* Unit and several others. Altho

(See PIAZZA on page 85)

## Lita Grey Loses Suit by Default

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Because she failed to put in an appearance after being served with formal notice of a civil suit instituted against her by Nicholas Gyory, her former manager, Lita Grey Chaplin may be out \$616.25. Judge Abrams, of the Seventh District Municipal Court, granted Gyory a judgment in that amount last Tuesday.

Gyory told the court that the \$616.25 was due him for salary and expenses when he managed Miss Chaplin's Western vaudeville tour last December. Miss Chaplin had been served with a summons and complaint January 27. Gyory lives at 45 Fort Washington avenue, and Miss Chaplin's local address is the St. Regis Hotel. She appeared last week at the Palace, with Harry Weber designated as her sponsor.

## Bergman's Big Act; Agent Idea Dropped?

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Henry Bergman, formerly partnered with Gladys Clark, is now heading a 17-people act sponsored by Bennett & Carlton, billed *Henry Bergman and His Black Sheep*. It was written and staged by the producers, and cast includes Winona, Charlotte Granart, Virginia Moore and Lennon and Karas. Opened for RKO the first half of this week in Paterson.

Bergman recently got the okay of J. H. Lubin and Marvin Schenck to be a Loew agent, but has evidently changed his plans.

## Tichenor in Flesoon Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Billie Tichenor and Company are doing a new six-people revue described as a modern version of *Cinderella* and written by Neville Flesoon. The production opened for Loew this week, splitting between the Grand, Bronx, and the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. It is sponsored by Sol Turek, and in the cast are Gayle Mays, Fred and Scott, Emily Verdi and Marjorie Johnson.

# Booking Bosses Differ in Their Agent Check-Up Ideas

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The check-up system for the convenience of agents which has been in use for many years on the Keith derived circuit is now the bone of contention between the Eastern and Western booking divisions. On the Freeman side the open check-up idea has been dropped, but in the Godfrey wing agents may still refer to an easily available list in order to determine who's who in the business of the week. Altho this has not been verified, Freeman's office is said to have dropped the open check-up plan when squawks were registered by agents at the overwhelming representation of certain of their ilk on the laid-out bills. Charles J. Freeman is still away on his inspection tour, but Ben Piazza denied that this was the reason for the innovation. Piazza has gone a step further, stating that he, too, approves of the elimination of an open check-up list as opposed to one in which

## College Tap Dancers For Future RKO Acts?

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Ben Piazza wants college-bred bookers. Hi Brown and Joe Plunkett have similar ideas about the future timber of the theater-operating department of RKO. Here's a chance for George Godfrey and Charley Freeman to get on the collegiate bandwagon.

A United Press dispatch from the Coast reveals that a tap-dancing class has been formed by E. D. Haskell at the University of California. There was such a rush of applicants that a new section is being added.

Now add to your reveries of the future a hoover with a Ph. D. degree doing wings and ankle breaks under the load of Phi Beta Kappa key. Hot canine!

## Gaxton Putting Out "Partners" Sketch

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—William Gaxton, is putting out his old farcical playlet, *Partners*, by Leon Errol, with George Haggerty at the head of it, and featuring Eddie Kasper. The recast sketch opens for RKO this week, splitting between the Hamilton and Proctor's, Yonkers, booked thru Charles Morrison. It recently played Eastern break-in dates. Among the others in the cast are Mary Hayes, Karl Huebl and Guy Htner.

## Konosan for Loew

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Konosan, flapper songstress from Nippon, opened for Loew the last half of last week at the Plaza, Corona. She replaced Peg Bates, who has canceled all further dates on the circuit, due to illness.

## Ardine-Tyrrell Get Route

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Grette Ardine and John Tyrrell, who recently showed a new three-people act at the National, Bronx, opened for a tour of the local houses the first half of last week at the Bedford, Brooklyn, booked thru Harry Fincus. Tom Bell accompanies the team at the piano.

## Raccooners Back in Vaude.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Raccooners resumed for Loew last week, splitting between Loew's, Yonkers, and the Bedford, Brooklyn. The musical aggregation was formerly with *A Night in Spain*, Shubert revue. Among the featured members are Tom Loew, and Dorothy Bergere, who until recently did a single. Other local dates have been booked for the outfit.

## Craig Showing Advanced

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Ricky Craig, Jr., played a postponed showing for Loew the last half of last week at the Fairmount, Bronx. Other Eastern dates are likely.

# Says Loew Not Cutting

**Circuit not contemplating dropping vaude. at number of houses, exec. declares**

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Charles C. Moskowitz, general executive of Loew theater operations, emphatically denied yesterday the rumor that the circuit is contemplating pulling vaudeville out of a number of its houses because they were not showing a profit.

Meanwhile, Loew is still marking time in regards to its reported change to Monday and Thursday openings. Meetings scheduled to be held by the executives of the circuit have been continuously postponed with nothing definite set. Altho it is freely reported that Loew will change its present show openings, no official announcement will be forthcoming until the execs. gather in the conference chambers and come to a decision.

## Annual Services of Jewish Actor Guild

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Former members of the Jewish Theatrical Guild who have died since the organization was started in 1924 will be remembered at the Annual Memorial Services, which will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2:30 p.m. at the Temple Emanu-El, with the Rev. Dr. Nathan Krass officiating. The deceased members include Marcus Loew, Jacob Adler, George Le Maire, Jules Hurlig, Oscar S. Straus, Sam Bernard, Barney Bernard, Maurice Block, Julius P. Witmark, Jack Rose, Ben Welch, Silvio Hein, Sophie Irene Loeb and Harry Houdini.

The memorial committee has Bernard N. Sander as its chairman, and William Degen Weinberger, vice-chairman, and is composed of Harry Cooper, Hon. August Dreyer, Wm. H. Weissager, Rev. B. A. Tintner, Dr. Leo Michel, Willie and Eugene Howard, Sam Forrest, Jacob Weiner and Milton S. Lissberger.

## Roxy Boys for RKO

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—"Wee Willie" Robyn, of the Roxy Gang, and Carl Goldner, pianist, former usher at the Roxy and protege of S. L. (Roxy) Rothafel, showed off on RKO dates the first half of last week at the Chester, Bronx. Recently played a string of Fox dates. They are under the direction of Abe Feinberg.

## Friganza Cancels Loew Time

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Trixie Friganza last week canceled all Loew dates. It is reported that she will accept an engagement with the Midwestern company of a musical. She was originally slated for a tour of the entire circuit, but is reported to have favored the legit. contract more than the three-and-four-a-day tour. She is represented by the Irving Cooper office.

## Howland's One-Man Show

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Olin Howland, new vaudeville partner of Nellie Breen, has carved a niche for himself as a water-color artist. He recently shipped 20 of his paintings to London, where they will comprise a one-man exhibit at the Cooling Gallery in the spring. At least that's what p. a. Al Spengler says.

## Ingraham Has Eyes On Vaude. Doubling

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Roy Ingraham, director of the Paramount Grill Orchestra, is in the market for a vaudeville tour with the idea of doubling out of his Paramount Hotel assignment. Several years ago Ingraham was in vaudeville in a singing and dancing act with his sister on the Coast. His p. a. has announced a two-week engagement at the Palace, beginning this week. The RKO office knows nothing about it—as yet.

each agent is handed his own spots to initial before the bills are finally approved by the booking office. Piazza's explanation of his approval is that the closed check-up system prevents agents from becoming too envious of the better breaks given to the more energetic fellows.

In favor of the old plan, retained by George Godfrey, is the undeniable fact that the activities of the booking office are open and above board at all times. Squawking exists at all times. It is recognized as the characteristic attitude of most of the bookers ever since the sixth floor became inseparably identified with vaudeville booking.

Altho Piazza and Freeman are in the majority against Godfrey in the check-up phase of the office's routine, it looks like Godfrey will hold out. And Piazza implies that this is his prerogative.

## Loeb Office Remains Open

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Fox office issued a vigorous denial this week of reports circulated that Jack Loeb intends to issue franchises to agents early in March. The person issuing the flat denial intimated that the idea of running a closed office is as far from Loeb's intentions as becoming a second-grade office boy to Jake Lubin.

Fox has boasted frequently thru its booking officials that it needs no franchise enticements to corral strong material. Every agent with a recent rep., and who thinks he has the goods, is welcome on the Fox floor. Certain agents, however, who have been caught pulling fast ones on the office are barred—and they know it.

## Coliseum Trying Fordham Stunt

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The RKO Coliseum is holding opportunity contests this week from Monday to Friday, and finals on February 24, for the purpose of securing a cast of neighborhood talent for its first annual *Coliseum Frolics*. The show will rehearse 10 evenings under the direction of Gertrude Bigelow, producer of the *Fordham Flashes*, a similar revue idea which has been tried successfully for several seasons at another local house. Age requirements for the candidates have been set at over 16 and under 21, and the show is slated for a seven-day run at the house starting March 5. Likely contestants are being reminded of the success of Helen Kane, Mae Questelle, Morton Downey and Nancy Carroll, all of whom are said to have made a beginning the same way.

## Sinclair's Five-Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Frank Sinclair has dropped his *On Long Island Sound* act for a five-people affair, *Kiddin' Thru*. Opened for RKO last week on a split between the Jefferson and the Capitol, Union City. He is assisted by Bee Paige, Dolores Harte, Kay Karyl and George Paige.

## Dempsey-Healy Either Way

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Paul Dempsey, associated with Harry Fitzgerald, has landed Ted Healy for three weeks of RKO dates. In the event that Healy goes to the Coast to make pictures which is more than likely, Dempsey will go along with him as his personal manager. Both have been close friends for many years, and whenever Healy played for RKO Dempsey did the agenting.

## Friend and Wells Showing

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Al Friend is coming back to town, not as an indie agent, but in an act with Jack Wells. They had been playing break-ins with *The Smuggler*, and showed it for RKO the last half of last week at the Franklin, Bronx. Direction of Gladys Brown, of the Thomas Fitzpatrick office.

## Murray-Trivers Writing Shorts for Shaw and Lee

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Jack Murray and Ben Trivers, song-writing team, are working on every writing and musical phase of a series of talking shorts for Shaw and Lee. No company announced yet for production.

The Murray-Trivers team, who have already rung up several hits, are slated to write the book, music and lyrics of a show to be sponsored shortly by the comedians.

## Still They Clown

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The once familiar allusion, "over the hill to the poorhouse", is passe.

Vaudeville actors, looking with longing eyes toward the place where one doesn't have to struggle for coffee and cake, are thinking of cutting out the hill—to make the jump easier.

## Things To Worry About

By AL FRIEND

- Being told rehearsal is 11 o'clock and the orchestra walks in at 12:30.
- Dressing with another act and finding that they have allowed you one hook on which to hang your clothes.
- On the opening day the theater is packed with children—and you're doing a talking act.
- When the manager comes back after the first show and cuts your best gags, claiming they have a double meaning.
- Singing a parody on *Singing in the Rain*, then finding out that the original song has never been heard in the town.
- Your contract calls for a full set of orchestrations, and upon your arrival at the theater you find there are only three pieces in the orchestra.
- When your agent tells you your fare to the next stand is \$2.20, and you find out too late that it is \$5.40, and you make three train changes to get to the town.
- When you get on a bill and find the act spotted before you doing your best gags.
- When your agent tells you the booker is wild about your act, then lays you off for five weeks.
- When you are all set to hold down the next-to-closing spot, then discover that there are only two acts on the bill.
- When a bill companion tries to rewrite your act.
- When the act in the next room do their cooking in their dressing room.
- When you are singing the punch line of a song and the cornet player blows forte.
- When you stop the show three times the first day, and the manager sends in a "fair" report.
- When the only place to eat in town is the lunch wagon.
- When you book direct.
- When you work with a woman partner.

## Success Assured For A. U. Ball

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—All preparations for the first ball of the Actors' Union of America are complete, and the success of the event is already assured, a sufficient number of tickets to more than cover all expenses having been sold, and prospects excellent for the sale of several thousand dollars' worth more. The ball will be held in the Cameo room of the Hotel Morrison Friday, February 21. Many theatrical celebrities are expected to attend. Waddy Wadsworth's orchestra will furnish music for the dancing.

## Plummer Stages Show

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Jack Plummer staged the new revue now running nightly at the Krazy Kat Inn. Lou Taylor is m. c. and is assisted by Harry Deison, Rita White, Bud and Eleanor Coll, Bobbie Thompson, Legs Lamont and Bobbie London.

## Fay Choicest Dish on Palace Menu; Barton Comes Second

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Talking about Palace shows, here is a story that should keep your chin out of the saucer for a few moments.

The publication of the following information will put a stop to a great many heated discussions—it should stop, for certain, the boys from dripping egg on their vest fronts because of such arguments.

Regardless of what is said to the contrary, Frank Fay has played the Palace more times and more consecutively than any other act in the last five years. To flip the lip further, it can even be proclaimed that he has held down that rostrum almost twice as many weeks as any other performer in that length of time. Fay played the ace house 22 times since 1924, and held down the stage eight weeks in succession from the week of May 24 to July 12, 1926. He was on the stage so long they tried to force him to join the stagehands' union.

Snatch another piece of toast and try to digest the fact that James Barton runs second, but not closely, with 13 weeks played, which includes a consecutive run of four weeks in the summer of 1928. He beats Bill Robinson by two weeks and Will Mahoney by three. Considering the times Robinson has been on

## Loew Corrals "Names" For February-March

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Several "names" have been booked for Loew dates during February and March. A significant fact is that each one is slated to play Akron, especially in view of the report from an authentic source that the manager of that house recently complained to the booking office that the vaude bills were not strong enough to overcome its opposition.

Anita Stewart will open next week in Akron and play eastward. She will arrive here the latter part of March for a date at the State. Chester Conklin, who recently played Eastern RKO dates, but was called to the Coast to make a picture, will resume vaude., for Loew this time, and will open March 8 in Akron. Sophie Tucker is slated to open March 1 at the Midland, Kansas City, and will play Akron two weeks later. Billy Dooley opened this week in Kansas City, and will play Akron next week, coming eastward for dates in Syracuse and Rochester.

the Palace stage to help other performers without getting paid for it, he probably runs Fay a close second.

Al Trahan and Dave Apollon run neck and neck for the fifth position as far as weeks played are concerned, both doing eight, but Apollon takes the gravy on consecutive runs. He stayed four weeks at a stretch last July and August, while Trahan could never get over more than one repeat.

It may tickle your palate to learn further that Fannie Brice and Ken Murray are tied for seventh place, with seven weeks apiece. Ladies first here on the consecutive honors, Fannie doing a three-week run to Murray's top of two. In the "also rans", but deserving mention for Palace repeats, are Clayton Jackson and Durante; Joe Frisco, Pat Rooney, Van and Schenk, Jack Benny and Ben Bernie.

If your coffee isn't cold by this time, glance back and notice that every one of the record-holding acts contains comedy, which only goes to prove that success in vaudeville depends on laughs.

What a marvelous cure it would be for the indigestion of the Palace, Chicago, were the above acts to repeat as often there as they do here.

## A.U. Considers Act Booking

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—It is rumored that the board of directors of the Actors' Union of America is considering the feasibility of opening a booking bureau for the purpose of securing employment for union actors. It is understood that the union has received many calls from labor organizations for talent, but as things stand they could only refer them to established booking agencies. With a booking bureau of its own the union would, of course, furnish only union talent. Many of the members are said to be strongly in favor of such a move and it is expected the board of directors will reach a decision on the matter shortly.

## INTACT-SHOW

(Continued from page 3)

ing, RKO must tackle the problem with the future in mind. Those who are conversant with all angles of the RKO situation are now coming to the inescapable conclusion that intact shows in order to serve the purposes for which they have been conceived must be handled along more logical lines than that forced upon the office by the artificial separation of the East and West.

Acts that have been playing around here far too often to be considered immediately for Godfrey's rotating units must be absorbed, it is felt, by the Western division and sent out in intact shows over the out-of-town route. By the time they are washed up with dates in the Freeman territory they are concededly qualified to play in Godfrey's houses again. Under the present arrangement, whereby Godfrey and Freeman depend on the good offices of one another to "take care" of acts, nothing resembling the more logical scheme of starting intact shows out of town can be put into effect.

Altho it has not been openly admitted, the inner councils of the office feel the handicap of the present arrangement. The angle of hindering the work of the circuit's production department by operating a segmented booking office has already been discussed in last week's *Billboard*. The problem on tap here of being unable to give deserving acts enough work to keep them tied to the circuit is considered even more important than the production department phase.

It is becoming recognized more and more that the circuit does not need an artificial separation of its houses along territorial lines. Experimentation with intact shows thus far has convinced those in power that it is possible to assemble shows at one point that meet the requirement of being adaptable to playing in all houses of similar budgets. Whether a house be located in New York, Chicago or Minneapolis should not be a determining factor as to its entertainment requirements. Films are not produced for certain territories, altho they pull better in some than others. The same theory can be applied to vaudeville. Differences in the makeup of shows should be governed, it has been found, only by the house budgets. Once a uniform budget is established for all houses of the same class then territorial differences mean nothing. The intact shows, it is being pointed out, are assembled to play the better houses anyway. Outside of the Palaces in New York and Chicago, all the better houses of the circuit are qualified to play a certain type of show that can be gotten together with the purpose of meeting their general requirements.

When the RKO agents are shaken up early in March, along with other expected changes in the circuit organization, something may be done about the Godfrey-Freeman separation of booking interests. The picture-house chains are not weighted down with such artificial segmentation; neither are the Loew and Fox circuits, both of which have in their columns a total of houses that exceeds by far the total on either of the RKO books. From the way things are shaping up the East-West divisions of RKO appear to be a lame excuse to give two men jobs that might just as well be handled by one. It appears that either Godfrey or Freeman will eventually lose out when the office finally concedes that the dual booking boss system is fundamentally wrong, as those who declare themselves to be in the know say it will.

## Ripley Target Of Circuit Bids

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—RKO and Warner are waging a spirited salary-bidding contest for Robert L. Ripley, creator of the *Believe It or Not* cartoons. He opened for Warner last Friday at the Earle, Washington, D. C., doing a midnight show and continuing thru this week, at a reported salary of \$3,000. He played only one other vaude. date, the week of January 11 at the Keith-Albee, Boston, where it is said he offered tough competition to Amos and Andy, playing opposition at the Metropolitan, Boston. Receipts there were \$25,000 and his salary \$2,500. He has since been offered 25 weeks at slightly higher salary and percentage, but preferred to hold out for a straight salary.

He may yet play for RKO on a minimum 15-week tour of the principal houses of the circuit. He is also planning to accept a 52-week contract for NBC, doing a weekly 15-minute program. Salary for this reported to be \$52,000. His vaude. dates are run with special tieups in publicity, school contests and whatnot in those towns where King Features syndicates his drawings. Five press books were filled during a 30-day contest previous to his Boston RKO date.

He is said to be the only other attraction outside of Jack Dempsey, not essentially a vaude. or stage "name", who has been offered a big percentage to play for RKO. He wants \$4,000 straight.

## Billy Cantor in East

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Billy Cantor, black-face comedian, recently returned here after playing a string of out-of-town dates with the Four Caddies. He contemplates doing a two-act soon.

## Rich-Adair Vehicle

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Phil Rich and Alice Adair showed for Loew the first half of last week at the Lincoln Square in a new two-act, subtitled *The Flower Girl*. Th singing, dancing and musical offering is agented by Mack & Shilling.

## Schechter Out on Own

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Harry Schechter, who for the last three years has been with the E. K. Nadel office, has branched out for himself as an indie artistes' representative. He has taken office space in room 1510 of the Bond Building.

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## Know Everything Else

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—It takes a house manager to ask questions and a vaude. chorine to answer them. Two fems from a flash lineup, playing a Brooklyn RKO house, stepped into the orchestra from the stage entrance, a house rules violation, and were accosted by the manager, who queried: "What can we ever teach you birds?"

"Oh, we'd love to learn how to fly!" was the flip retort.

## New Schoolboy Band

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—A band composed of high-school boys has been organized for vaudeville and presentation houses by Kuy Kendall, active until two seasons ago in the vaude. producing field. It is called Kendall's Harmonians and all of its members are from the Lynnbrook (L. I.) High School. Arthur Branning is the director and Arthur Poole its librarian and secretary. Others in the band are Charles Devlin, Charles Meyer, Louis Thompson, Gohre Winter and Alex Wall.

## Bubbles Hurt; Act Cancels

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Bubbles, of the w.-k. colored team of Buck and Bubbles, suffered an injury to his head in an auto accident last week. The wound necessitated several stitches. On account of it the boys had to cancel their date for RKO in Newark.

## Lander Brothers To Show

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Lander Brothers started rehearsals last week in a new seven-people comedy act which they are staging themselves. They are slated to show for RKO this week, splitting between the Fabian, Hoboken, and the Lincoln, Union City, booked thru Eddie Sobol of the Max Gordon office. The cast also includes Yvonne Monhoff, Eva Frish, Adeline Brunner, Beatrice Findlay and Eleanor Little.

## Ponselle's Few Weeks

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Carmela Ponselle, mezzo-soprano of the Metropolitan, has been booked for a return to vaude., getting several weeks from RKO. She and her sister, Rosa, are old favorites in vaude. Miss Ponselle showed off last week in Boston, and this week goes to Portland. Nothing yet for the week of February 22, but March 1 she will play Providence.

## Vaudeville Exploitation

This department is intended as an agency for the dissemination of exploitation ideas as applied exclusively to vaudeville. The Billboard feels that energetic and persistent exploitation is one of vaudeville's cardinal needs. So that the trade may benefit generally from this feature, we will give due consideration here to stunts and ideas of acts, circuits and houses. Address communications to Elias E. Sugarman, Vaudeville Editor, The Billboard, 1560 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Make them brief.

**BOY SCOUT BUGLE CONTEST**—The RKO Prospect, Brooklyn, is receiving entries for all boys under 18 years and over 16, in a bugle contest called the Prospect Rexcraft Bugle Contest. The event will be held on the stage of the theater February 22, as a special Washington's Birthday affair, and tieups have been made with all local scout troops and division heads. In addition to this a souvenir photo of Washington, similarly suitable for framing as the one of Lincoln, will be given to each of the patrons all this week.

**ACTOR'S SPECIAL PLUG**—On all of the bills which he plays on the Loew Circuit, Bob Robison, of the team of Robison and Pierce, gets the benefit of special exploitation in lobby displays, programs and advertising, as the featured m. c. He works thruout the bill introducing the various acts on the bill. He will play this last half at the 46th Street, Brooklyn, on a five-act bill.

**THEATER RADIO BROADCASTS**—The Harris Circuit of 16 houses, scattered thru Pennsylvania, have each had special radio sets installed in the theater, and on a tieup with the Popsodent toothpaste concern, which broadcasts Amos

## Rosenbloom Set For Loew Tour

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Maxie Rosenbloom, light-heavyweight boxer, probably won himself about 12 weeks' bookings by taking the decision in a bout with Ace Hudkins last Friday night at Madison Square Garden. He is practically set to play Loew dates in and around New York.

Terry Turner, who will handle Rosenbloom's vaude. engagements, waited for the outcome of the fight with Hudkins before preparing suitable act material for the boxer.

## Eula Sharon Booked Abroad by Kemp, Jr.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Lula Sharon has been booked by T. D. Kemp, Jr., for a four weeks' engagement at the Cafe de Paris, London, which will be followed by two weeks at the Palladium. She opens in the club May 5. This will be Miss Sharon's second engagement in England, having been the featured dancer in the London production of *Sunny*.

Besides Miss Sharon, Kemp has booked Frank Crumit to open at the Palladium June 16, with further dates in England to follow, and Seger Ellis, recording artist, to open in the Cafe de Paris March 24. Ellis recently completed a concert tour of the South.

## Newells Back in Old Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Billy and Else Newell, who recently closed with *Wool Wool*, musical comedy sponsored by Demarest & Lohmuller, resumed for Loew last week in their old act, splitting between the Willard, Woodhaven, and the Gates, Brooklyn. Next week they will play at the State, with several other Eastern dates to follow.

## Rhyme and Rhythm

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—*Rhyme and Rhythm*, new five-people flash, shoved off for RKO the first half of last week at the Prospect, Brooklyn. Cast consists of Dalma Denee, Marsden Argall, Jean and Walters and Lou Palani.

## Coleman Opening Soon

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Dan Coleman and Company, new five-people mixed comedy act, will open next week at the Royal, Bronx, and play a string of local dates. The outfit recently played several weeks of out-of-town break-ins. Billy Jackson is the agent.

## Opera "Name" Shoves Off in Showing House

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Cecil Arden, mezzo-soprano of the Metropolitan Opera Company, has followed Carmela Ponselle into RKO vaude. She shoved off this first half at the Franklin, Bronx, brought in by Ben Piazza.

The trade regards the Franklin starting point for this attraction as a rather unusual booking. The Franklin is one of RKO's showing houses for unknown turns.

## Publix's Rochester Going Into Vaude.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Piccadilly, Rochester, a Publix house which heretofore played the circuit's presentation units, will slide into vaudefims next Friday on Lawrence Golde's books. The policy will be six acts on a full week, with Friday openings.

The addition of this house to his books gives Golde a total of two and one-half playing weeks. He books vaude. into several other Publix-operated houses in New England.

## All-Star Stranded, Report

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—A communication from the All-Star Musical Company states it is stranded in Birmingham, Ala., at the Ritz Hotel, without funds. A benefit staged February 11 netted each member about \$7.

## "Nine Fifteen" Stops

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Ruth Selwyn's *Nine Fifteen Revue* ended disastrously Saturday night after seven performances, and within the four weeks' trial period, making Mrs. Selwyn liable for only one week's pay. The principals were not paid at the closing and the Actors' Equity Association expects to proceed against the bond with the Managers' Protective Association, of which Mrs. Selwyn is a member.

## Cooper in New Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Harry Cooper, Dutch comedian, who recently headed a full-stage comedy act, *Miles of Smiles*, is out with a new five-people turn, *Heavenly Rest*, written by Matt Kennedy and sponsored by Harry Rogers. The act went RKO this first half at the State, Jersey City.

## Saranac Notes

Olga Kallinin, of the Lodge, left for the French Hospital, New York, to undergo a major operation.

Irving Bloom, leader of the Irving Bloom Orchestra, is now under care of the NVA and residing at 84 Park avenue.

David Mavity, who had been confined to his bed for a few weeks, is up and on exercise again.

Mary Bradin, under care of the NVA for two and a half years and who left the Lodge to continue the cure at her home in New York, has returned to Saranac Lake. She is now under care (See SARANAC NOTES on page 93)

### ADVANCE AGENT WANTED

AT ONCE, for Minstrel Show. Must have car. Have opening also for Colored Musicians and Performers. No tickets unless I know you. Wire; don't write unless I know you. The Ghost walks here regular. Dr. John E. Foye, wire. MANAGER RED ROSE MINSTRELS, Shelby, Miss.

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### "Figures and Facts" Revue WANTS

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**SOUND TRAILERS** are being produced by RKO for its feature vaudeville attractions, two being already completed and used by the circuit on Leo Reisman and his orchestra, and Clayton, Jackson and Durante. The Reisman trailer has the band leader speaking, while triok (See EXPLOITATIONS on page 84)

**VAUDE. NOTES**

**ROSITA HOYA**, Spanish opera singer who recently completed a string of Fox dates, opened for RKO this week on a split between the Chester, Bronx, and the Coliseum, New York. She is assisted by Ruth Peters at the piano.

**CHARLES WEBER** and Al Raymond are scheduled to open for RKO soon in a character comedy skit billed *The Guest of Honor*.

**GRACE HOLDEN** and Coral Kayne will play for RKO in a new skit labeled *Going Places*. Edward Joyce Heeney wrote the material.

**AL AND LOUIS RUDBACK**, who call themselves the "Personality Steppers", opened at the State, Jersey City, this first half. They are agented by Edward S. Keller.

A vaudeville actor went out and got frightfully drunk last week . . . the first time in 20 years. He was celebrating the landing of a last half in Union City. And he lost the date, too, because a hangover prevented him from leaving his home in time for rehearsal.

**JOE BURKE**, Pearl Matthews and Harold Moru will open for RKO at the Franklin, Bronx, the first half of next week in a comedy, singing and dancing act labeled *The Best Man*. Weeden & Schultz are agenting, and Fred Allen wrote the material.

**KIT KAT BOYS**, w. k. radio and re-cording artists, played their first vaude. engagement for RKO at the Franklin, Bronx, the first half this week. They are doing a straight harmony turn.

**HARRY MILLER** and Jay Velle made their first appearance together at the Prospect, Brooklyn, last week for RKO, with further dates to follow. They are in a comedy, singing and dancing skit, *Waiting at the Church*, and are assisted by Audrey Berry and Claire Nolte. Velle formerly did a single besides working in RKO's radio hours.

**OLVERA BROTHERS**, who canceled for Loew recently when one of them was injured by a fall during their balancing and perch work, resumed this week on a split between the Oriental, Brooklyn, and the Boulevard, Bronx. They were booked direct.

**NINA OLIVETTE AND COMPANY**, elaborate 12-people revue which showed for Loew last week, are slated for a tour of the New York houses, booked thru Creators & Martin. Among those featured are Benny and Western, and Charles Strong and Boys.

**BERNARDO DE PACE**, who showed for Loew recently in a new three-people act, opened on a route this first half at Loew's, Yonkers.

Pretty tough right now to write topical scenarios about stars who jump into the lights overnight from a last half in Oskaloosa or some such town. The Oskaloosas, Hickorias and Sticktowns are no longer small-time links. Talkies are squeaking where future Al Jolson's mammed before. We don't feel it much right now . . . but wait until five years from now.

**EMILE BOREO**, who recently played several Fox dates, resumed for Loew this week, splitting between the Victoria, New York, and the Gates, Brooklyn, booked thru Lyons & Lyons.

**JOE TERMINI** will return to Loew this last half at the Bedford, Brooklyn, in his familiar comedy and musical single. He was recently featured in *Gypsy Dreams*, one of the circuit's presentation units.

**MR. AND MRS. JACK NORWORTH**, who canceled at Loew's State, New York, last week on account of illness, resumed this week on a split between Loew's, Yonkers, and the Bedford, Brooklyn. They are agented by Lyons & Lyons.

**BUD CARLELL**, doing a rope monolog act a la Will Rogers, opened for Loew the last half of last week at the Victoria, New York, and has been booked for further dates this week, splitting between the Orpheum, New York, and the Premier, Brooklyn.

**THE CAITES BROTHERS**, comedy and dancing pair who recently returned from the Loew Southern route, will resume on Eastern dates the last half of next week at the Plaza, Corona. They are agented

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**LE GROHS**, three-people contortionistic act, will open for Loew this last half in Yonkers, with other Eastern dates likely.

Atlantic City, generally conceded to be what its Chamber of Commerce calls it, "The Playground of the World", is without vaudeville except for the Sunday shows at the Apollo. Surely this condition is not attributable solely to public response. Theater operators missed up somewhere.

**ETON DAYS**, reconstructed presentation unit, is slated to open for Loew the last half of next week at Loew's, Yonkers, before taking the Southern route. Several changes have been made in the cast. Virginia Rucker has been replaced by Caroleah, and the Three Keena Sisters have been added.

**JACK AND BILLYE CAVANAUGH** are slated for a return to the Loew Circuit next week, splitting between the Grand, Bronx, and the Victoria, New York.

**KEENE AND WILLIAMS**, heading a three-people comedy act, opened last week on Eastern indie dates, splitting between Utica and Niagara Falls, booked thru Amos Paglia. They may show for Loew shortly at one of the New York houses.

**ED FORD AND WHITEY**, who recently played for RKO at the Palace, New York, and switched to Loew the last half of last week at the Gates, Brooklyn, will tour for the latter circuit over the Southern route. He opened this week in Richmond.

**BENTO BROTHERS AND RITA**, novelty act, were forced to cancel the first half of last week at the Apollo, Gloucester, New Jersey, when one of the brothers broke his nose during the performance. They are slated to resume shortly and will show for Loew at one of the New York houses, booked thru Joe Michaels.

**ESTELLE BREINES** is acting as secretary for Al Grossman, Loew agent, for the next few weeks during the absence of Lillian Bromberg, who was married February 8 to Robert Fiebach in Brooklyn. The couple are on their honeymoon.

**THE DILLEY BROTHERS** and the Bonnette Sisters, youthful foursome who formerly did a singing and dancing act subbilled *The Campus Kids*, have joined the *Dunn and West Revue*, which is slated to show for RKO shortly at one of the New York houses. Daniel Makarenko is sponsoring the production.

**SEROVA REVUE**, elaborate 10-people affair formerly known as *Revue de Danse*, which was slated to open for Loew recently, but was canceled for a later showing date, will open the last half of next week at the Lincoln Square, New York. Princess Ghika has been replaced by Affie Martin, and the other featured members include Edgar Wallace and Schaffer and Evans. Booked thru Jerry Cargill.

It's really time to crab, as the heading of the syndicated cartoon goes, when an act is playing a date for less than expenses and the stagehands are pestering him to death to buy tickets for their annual shindig.

**THE LOEW ROAD SHOW** which opened this week in Richmond includes Vernon Rathburn, Whitey with Ed Ford, Lorraine and Minto, and Ann Codee and Company.

**HAP HARRISON'S CIRCUS**, which recently played for RKO, opened last week for Fox on a string of Eastern dates, splitting between Port Chester and Waterbury.

**DAVE FERGUSON AND COMPANY** opened last week on the Amalgamated Circuit, splitting between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. Ferguson is heading a four-people comedy skit.

**HARRISON AND FISHER**, who were slated to open for Loew this first half at the Plaza, Corona, were pulled out and put into the show in Syracuse instead, and the Bon John Girls replaced them at the Corona house. They are slated to play Rochester next week before returning to New York for further Eastern dates.

A stroll thru the offices of a few of the large theatrical buildings in the Times Square district leaves one wondering why a good majority of the producers and agents do not look for another medium of making a livelihood. The bosses are rarely in, and on their occasional "visits" are sitting with their feet on the desk. Their stenographers appear to have little to do but call the boy or girl friend.

**SI WILLS** has been booked for further Loew dates in the East. He opened this week, splitting between the Bedford, Brooklyn, and the Willard, Woodhaven.

**ARTHUR AND MORTON HAVEL** are booked for the Palace next week in their familiar farce, *Oh, Uncle*. They recently completed a number of dates for Fox and before then were featured in *Just a Minute* and *A Night in Venice*. They are agented by Phil Morris.

**CUBY AND SMITH** were slated for the Grand, Bronx, this first half, but were switched instead by Loew to the last half at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

**ETHEL PASTOR** has been okhed for further dates on the Loew Circuit. She plays on a split this week between the Plaza and National, New York.

**GEORGE SCHRECK AND COMPANY** are scheduled to open soon for RKO in a new comedy, singing and dancing act titled *The Love Cure*. Schreck is assisted by Adelaide Lorraine, Renee Laurie and Betty La Forrest.

**ETHEL SINCLAIR** and Florence Clark opened in Paterson the first half this week in a comedy skit subbilled *After the Wedding*. More RKO dates are expected.

Doesn't look so kosher when performers of the first water are shoved into the background and certain new acts favored that do not deserve the coffee-and-cake stands. Among the new turns caught by us lately are an appreciable number that hardly do credit to their producers, and still less to the bookers. Certainly much better could have been accomplished by booking in front of the Bond Building.

**MASTERS AND GRACE**, comedy team, originally slated to play this last half at the Premier, Brooklyn, are being used instead on a full week at the Metropolitan. Ed Lowry wrote the material for their skit, *Oh, Harry*.

**BILLIE TICHENOR** and Company have been given more dates by Loew. They are playing the Victoria, New York, and the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, on a split this week.

**RALPH OLSEN AND COMPANY**, elaborate 10-people singing and dancing flash which recently showed for RKO in (See VAUDEVILLE NOTES on page 85)

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## NEW ACTS

Reviewed in New York

**Lewis Armstrong**  
And His Hot Chocolates Orchestra  
Featuring Peg Bates  
With Bobby Di Leon

Reviewed at Loew's State. Style—Musical, singing and dancing. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Twenty-three minutes.

Red-hot numbers are interspersed in this corking musical offering with blues warbling, straight and monopied stepping and trumpet specialties by the standard bearer. Lewis Armstrong and his Hot Chocolates musical ensemble of 10 pieces dispense some clever arrangements of the symphonic variety, playing tunes from recent Broadway shows. Featured in the cast—evidently for this date only—was Peg Bates, cyclonic monopied dancer, from *Blackbirds*. Bobby Di Leon, who has been seen recently with other colored acts, offers a song and dance. Spotted at the close here, the outfit bowed off to show-stopping honors. Act carries elaborate scenery, costumes and special lighting.

Arranged in a semicircle, the orchestra opens with an introductory paraphrase, following with a peppy pumber, *Do That Thing*, and in which the animated bass-fiddle player takes the cake for pep. To the strains of *Ain't Misbehavin'* Armstrong makes his entrance and got a slight ovation at this show. He sandwiches a few clear, high notes on his ever-present trumpet, later introducing Bobby Di Leon, who sings *Turn on the Heat*, and interpolates with a fast tap. Other syncopated tunes follow closely, including *When You're Smiling* and *Some of These Days*, each of which Armstrong warbles and interpolates with tooting. The latter part of the act is carried on by Peg Bates, who offers his familiar one-legged dancing routines, and got several show stops. Ensemble finishes with *St. Louis Blues*. Okeh for this type house. C. G. B.

### Metropolitan Duo

Reviewed at the Franklin, Bronx. Style—Singing and comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Twelve minutes.

"Stick to your singing, Tony!" How perfectly that line fits these male warblers. Equipped with marvelous sound boxes, they step out of their roles in an ambitious attempt to become comedians, using an Italian accent to further the illusion. But anybody who would laugh at their gags would laugh at a funeral—and that isn't drawing the line too fine.

The spotlight finds them lying on a bench dressed in Italian peasant clothes. After numerous stretchings and grunts, they go into the crude comedy and are slowly expiring until one of the males warbles a homeland tune. His voice was of such resonance, a restless audience was transfixed and he was roundly applauded. However, they spoil the effect by again going into some terrible gagging before doing another opera in duo. After another solo they finished with a pop, medley and were given a great sendoff here.

This act would be sure fire for the intermediates were this pair to exchange their gags for a good pianist. J. S.

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### Danny Simmons

Reviewed at the Tivoli, Brooklyn. Style—Comedy novelty. Setting—In one. Time—Fourteen minutes.

Old-time Scotch comedians are scarce articles in this section of the country and the arrival of a good countryman from the land of heather is signalized by generous reception at any of the Eastern houses, such as that given to Danny Simmons here. Simmons is an adept at the Lauder style of gab and comedy singing, and adds to his conventional routine a bit of tap dancing which helps to swell the hand. He works thruout in a grotesque, loud-checked costume of the Horse Marines and possesses a pleasing personality and a good sense of show values.

Opening special is a comedy ditty on the Horse Marines, which he sandwiches with a Scottish jig. He got big laugh returns on the dance when he displayed the prominent back view of his riding costume. Followed with a chatter session and landed solidly in the guffaw niche with his Scotch witticisms. He sings two other numbers, each of which he interpolates with clever buck and clog routines. His numbers on the three Scotchmen on a spree and *The Army Rag* were effective pieces of work. His delicate handling of the Hebe vs. Scotch gags are a credit to his offering. Suitable fare for the neighborhoods. C. G. B.

### George P. Wilson

With Ferné Rogers

Reviewed at Keith's Chester, Bronx. Style—Comedy, musical and singing. Setting—In two (special). Time—Sixteen minutes.

George P. Wilson has worked around for a good many seasons with a girl plant in support, the last sharing billing honors with him as Wilson and Addie. He has given up the plant idea, and is now twing it on the boards with the comely Ferné Rogers. As has been the case with all his other acts, Wilson is trying to get them to laugh at a load of weak and stale gags. His appearance and splicing would be glove-fit for punchy material, and Miss Rogers is a good enough straight to help him out

considerably. There is no complaint, however, about Wilson's ivory-tickling and his partner's honey-voiced warbling.

Wilson pans off as a vocal teacher, who comes to teach his affectionate pupil when her hubby isn't home. Only once do they go in for something else but chatter, singing and keyboard playing. And then Miss Rogers had to actually beg her teacher to give her a little loving. They dished out some good laughs in this bit. Wilson's funny getup got a laugh right off the bat. He has a neat style of gab delivery, and makes it more salable by amusing antics and mugging. His piano solos are choice morsels in the act. Miss Rogers has sweet pipes, suitable for semi-classical numbers. At the finish they sing *My Hero* effectively. Following the fair-sized reception, Wilson stayed on for a weak getaway bit. Spotted in the deucer here. S. H.

### Don Galvan

Reviewed at the Franklin, Bronx. Style—Musical and singing. Setting—In one. Time—Eleven minutes.

If this youth had nothing else, he could still get by with his personality. His abundance of "what it takes" is bound to win him a host of fan-me admirers—while his pleasant sound box and excellent strumming of the guitar and banjo will take care of the applause from the opposite sex.

His appearance here in the hello spot was timely. The orchestra had just completed a medley of tunes from *Rio Rita*, the current attraction, paying the way for his Spanish accent and a homeland song. After a cross-fire of chatter with the pit leader, the Don slipped over *Tip Toe Thru the Tulips*, in imitation of Nick Lucas, and was accorded a burst of applause. A request sent him into the *St. Louis Blues* and, if he is an impressionable young man, he must have been talking to the stage crew about the palm music for hours afterwards.

Galvan finished with a banjo-mandolin harmony on one instrument and received a near show-stop. There are a number of houses that he won't fit in—but those houses are closed to vaudeville. J. S.

### Havana

Reviewed at the Madison, Brooklyn. Style—Balancing and female impersonation novelty. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Ten minutes.

Rushed into a breach caused by the absence of an afterpiece for an intact bill, this balancing and quick-change turn held up its end very well in the closing position.

Havana came on swathed to the ears in costumes, and for a moment it looked as if the auditors were about to be treated to a performing elephant. However, she (only it's a he) disillusioned the house by stripping to four different changes in so many seconds and the house began looking forward to something risqué. Two pretty femmes, attired like nurses for no reason whatsoever, piled up tables on which Havana did some neat balancing by placing the legs of chairs on bottle necks and then sitting on the chairs. A rather uncertain position. The costume unceremoniously continued and by the time Havana executed the final balancing atop a four-table stack close to 20 changes had been made.

In slipping off to a great hand—by that time down to a close-fitting pair of tights—Havana took four bows in so many different wraps. It wasn't disclosed that he was a female impersonator, altho very obvious at the last. This novelty will fit the closing berth at the Palace and is certainly okay for the intermediates. J. S.

### Gautschi and Carol

Reviewed at the Franklin, Bronx. Style—Dancing and singing. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Fifteen minutes.

Gautschi, the male standard bearer, and Carol, his partner in dance, were reviewed two months ago by *The Billboard* in an elaborate flash which featured Don Carlos and the Rio Rita Orchestra. It was tagged as a good act, but apparently they couldn't get enough to keep it going, for it is now cut down to a two-fem. assist, pianist and soprano soloist. It is still a good act and worthy of the family time.

The dance team opens with a smoothly routined waltz which is featured by a dizzy and sustained pirouet that is bound to get a burst of applause. A piano solo of an opera number intersperses a tango dance. The fem. tickling the ivories would do well to have picked a pop. tune instead of the classical piece.

When caught the audience tittered at the blond soprano because of her facial movements while singing another opera tune. However, she won the house by an excellent rendering of *Love*. Gautschi and Carol wind up with an apache that features the usual dramatic climax.

All four performers are excellent in their respective work and the act would have certainly received much better than moderate applause were the pianist and soprano to use pop. instead of opera tunes. The contrast is needed. J. S.

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**Adelaide Hall**

Accompanied by Dandridge and Tate  
All Songs Written and Conceived by  
Cecil Mack

Reviewed at the Palace. Style—Singing  
and dancing. Setting—In three (cyc).  
Time—Twenty-eight minutes.

Adelaide Hall is known to hosts of  
theatergoers for her stellar contributions  
to Lew Leslie's lingering *Blackbirds*. She  
comes to the Palace with this angle  
touted in her billing, but unlike most  
others who achieved fame in musicals,  
the Negro artiste has gone to special  
pains to create a round of entertain-  
ment that is about 95 per cent vaude.  
In other words, Miss Hall has not bor-  
rowed from *Blackbirds* hits to serve her  
in the present venture. Hers is a very  
sweet act that steers clear entirely of  
musical plugging. Of course, when Bill  
Robinson comes on from the lower floor  
near the finish there is a suggestion of  
the work they did in the Leslie show—  
but nothing more than that. There  
might have been some bars from *Diga-  
Diga-Do*, but we're not sure.

In four complete changes that allow  
ample exposure for her Sumatra com-  
plexion, Miss Hall warbles with a delivery  
that is not easily matched among others  
of her race and other races. Miss Hall  
is not a technically perfect prima, but  
there's a certain unforgettable appeal in  
her handling of a plaintive number or a  
fast one. She has a nasal quality that  
helps; this characteristic in other voices  
might be pigeonholed as a defect. She  
opens with a snappy number probably  
titled *Woman*. This smashed over in a  
red creation that makes Lulu Belle look  
like a prim librarian. Her next is *My  
Blue Melody*, to which is appended step-  
ping. The capable piano duo, Dandridge  
and Tate, fill a wait with tuneful ivory  
tickling, and Miss Hall is out this time  
in blue denim and warbling *The Sun  
Must Shine in Your Door*. A third  
change is made and during this wait the  
piano boys get plenty hot with the  
ivories and their larynxes, one of them  
going heavy on the poop-poop. Then  
comes Bill Robinson on the invitation  
gag and he clownes along with Miss Hall,  
steps with her, and he continues his  
hoofing as she croons a guitarized ac-  
companiment. And this still in another  
change.

Miss Hall is perfect for vaudeville. And  
she can play right along without the  
Robinson interference, altho at the Pal-  
ace every little bit helps. E. E. S.

**Johnny Downs**

Reviewed at Keith's Chester, Bronx.  
Style—Comedy, dancing and singing.  
Setting—In one. Time—Thirteen min-  
utes.

A graduate of Hal Roach's *Our Gang*  
comedies, Johnny Downs has gone vaude,  
again. Recently he worked with two of  
his "Gang" playmates, Mary Kornman  
and "Scooter" Lowry, in a Herman Tim-  
berg act, *In and Out of the Movies*. This  
time Downs is doing an act all by him-  
self. He can't be classed merely as a  
"name" attraction, for the kid packs  
plenty of genuine vaude, entertainment.  
Possible that he is dabbling in vaude, as  
a means of voice training prior to in-  
vading the talkies. He is no longer in  
the infant class; now a well-groomed  
and handsome juvenile. He offers up  
story telling, dancing and singing.

Stage action is preceded by a three-  
minute screen trailer, with shots of him  
in *Our Gang* comedies. His starter is  
the singing of *Painting the Clouds With  
Sunshine*, which ill fits his pipes. From  
then on he dishes out a variety of stories,  
songs with recitations and dancing, the  
latter being his best bet. His taps ring  
out rhythmically in difficult steps. A  
peach of a dance is his *Spook Town  
Blues*. His neat legwork and mugging  
make the number a beaut. Story tell-  
ing runs his hoofing a close race for  
honors. He has a good collection of  
stories. He was spotted next to closing  
here and got heavy applause before and  
after. S. H.

**Johnny Marvin**

Reviewed at the Palace. Style—Sing-  
ing, musical and comedy. Setting—In  
one. Time—Twenty-five minutes.

Johnny Marvin belongs to the species  
of entertainers who are not so forte on  
warbling, but lean on their strumming  
accompaniment to tone down the melo-  
dic defects. Maybe Marvin is a big guy  
in disc recording—and that might apply  
just as well to broadcasting—but as a  
vaudeville single he lacks plenty. For-  
tunately, in this appearance at the Pal-  
ace, the personable but pep-deficient

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Dir. Chas. H. Allen—M. S. Bentham Agency

artiste does not attempt to go it alone.  
He has with him a lad who is introduced  
as his brother, Frank Marvin. In sickly  
green shoes, ill-fitting suit and the typi-  
cal backwoods haircut, Frank sells him-  
self pretty well as a rustic natural. Too  
often, however, he appears to have per-  
haps unconsciously adopted some of  
Cicero Weaver's favorite tricks.

Johnny starts his guitarized crooning  
with *Happy Days Are Here Again*, insert-  
ing an uncredited imitation of Ukulele  
Ike's rhythmic catcalls. Follows with  
*Have a Little Faith in Me*, and finishes  
this rendering with a tuneful session on  
the musical saw. After a couple of  
stories (not so hot) he does *I'm a  
Dreamer*. Then in comes Frank (Cicero)  
Marvin. After the crossfire Frank does a  
warble of *I'm Blue When It Rains*. John-  
ny accompanies. The running time is  
padded out with Johnny's two "request"  
numbers. A remarkable pickup, how-  
ever, is their finish warble, *The Yodel  
Song My Mammy Sang to Me*. Frank  
has more appealing pipes than his bet-  
ter-known brother—and he knows his  
yodels. About 10 minutes sliced off,  
and with both working together thruout,  
this act will be up to par. Even for  
the Palace. E. E. S.

Morgan was clapped out for a speech.  
This should be a perfect closer for the  
better families. E. E. S.

**Eddie Leonard**

With Gus Stewart and Betty Gardner  
Art Sorensen at the piano

Reviewed at Loew's Victoria. Style—  
Black-face singing and dancing. Setting  
—In one and full stage (special). Time—  
Twenty minutes.

Eddie Leonard will shortly appear at  
the head of a 70-people minstrel unit  
over the Loew presentation route, ac-  
cording to a recent announcement, but  
in the meantime he was booked for  
several weeks of Eastern vaude, dates  
with this act. The offering serves  
mainly to remind one of Leonard's  
balmier days. He is a showman thru  
and thru. The ravages of time are  
noticeable, but he remains a great  
favorite and was given a big ovation  
with show-stopping results here. Leon-  
ard is capably supported by Gus Stewart,  
a whirlwind tap dancer; Betty Gardner,  
shapely miss, who also clicks out sev-  
eral routines, and Art Sorensen, tickling  
the ivories. They all work in burnt  
cork. Leonard wears his purple silk  
cutaway, the boys are tux-clad, and the  
girl works thruout in shorts.

Leonard opens with *Sam the Accor-  
dion Man*, and subsequently sings and  
dances to the strains of *Clover Moon*,  
*Roly Boly Eyes*, *Mandy Jane* and *Ida*,  
all almost synonymous with his name.  
Stewart and Miss Gardner put over sev-  
eral dual tap routines and each singles  
effectively with specialties. Sorensen  
plays a subdued but lively piano accom-  
paniment. Leonard got several curtain  
calls and obliged with encores and a  
speech. C. G. B.

**Ricardo Cortez**

In Edwin Burke's Dramatic Playlet  
**WANTED**

With Tom McGuire, Leslie Adams and  
Doris Kemper

Reviewed at Proctor's 58th Street.  
Style—Sketch. Setting—In one and full  
stage (special). Time—Twenty minutes.

Ricardo Cortez makes his vaude, debut  
in masterful fashion. Using a vehicle  
that last season featured William Harri-  
gan and Robert Gleckler—at that time  
titled *Brothers*, but changed since in or-  
der not to conflict with the legit pro-  
duction—his excellent performance in a  
sentimental role makes it evident he is  
as fully adapted to the stage as he was  
to the silent screen.

The sketch opens "in one" with De-  
tectives Farrell and Orsatti waiting for  
Rita, a wronged "gun moll", to make an  
appearance and spill the info. on the  
hiding place of Tony Cappello (Cortez),  
who is wanted for murder. Farrell bears  
a grudge against his brother officer and  
while the latter walks away Rita comes  
and tells him that Cappello is Orsatti's  
brother and also where he is hiding. De-  
termined to force brother to arrest  
brother, Farrell tells Orsatti of the hide-  
out.

The stage goes to "full", showing  
Cappello in a bare furnished room wait-  
ing for the return of Rita. After a dra-  
(See *NEW ACTS* on page 85)

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# VAUDEVILLE REVIEWS

## New Palace, Chicago

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 15)

Light house in spite of the presence of Joe Cook and Rae Samuels, two strong favorites. Fully 500 vacant seats downstairs. Again a seven-act bill and most of them good.

Bob Gordon and Harry King started the ball rolling with a fast session of eccentric hoofing that earned them a big hand.

In the deuce spot Harry Faber, Leta Wales, Lew Lehr and Nancy Belle presented a comedy sketch, *Woman Crazy*, that garnered a flock of laughs. Plot revolved around two campers who think they have gotten clear away from women, but find they are mistaken. Plenty of old tab, hoke, but it made the grade.

Frank Gaby, in the trey spot, came near being a show stopper with his crazy antics, in which he used a girl as a feeder. Audience roared at his gabby nonsense, and his ventriloquial finish was one of the best of its kind ever seen here.

The De Marcoss, Antonio and Renee, are the acme of grace and their routine today was splendidly done, winning them heavy applause. A slip near the finish unnerved Renee De Marco, and as she was about to make her final curtsy she fainted, but was quickly revived and suffered no ill effects. Rose Vanderbosch and Bobby Roth, at the ivories, were more than mere fill-ins, their several numbers being generously applauded.

Rae Samuels, with pep and personality plus, put over her usual line to tremendous applause.

Sam Summers and Estelle Hunt, on after intermission, were billed as "musical comedy stars", but their skit, *After the Ball*, got across to only fair returns. Miss Hunt's comedy was splendid, but Summers was weak and it slowed the act.

Closing the show, Joe Cook did about everything on the vaudeville calendar. Has a crew of four or five people assisting him. His versatility is marvelous and the auditors ate up his monstrous tomfoolery.

NAT GREEN.

## Fox's Academy, N. Y.

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 15)

Seven acts on the bill, each good, but the house booker has a poor idea of how to lay out a show. Four of the turns were full-stage flashes, two were comedy and one an acrobatic novelty. Thus spotting was bad and difficulty displayed in striking sets.

Lou Lockett and Peggy Page brought their four-people flash into the opener, doing nicely, the taking too much time to do it. It's all song and dance, with the standard bearers showing up well. Hot pipes work and hoofing from boy assist, Wally Coyle, while another lad is at the grand. Fair-sized hand.

Large and Morgner deuced—and how. These one-legged boys rightly received loud and prolonged plaudits. Their hand-to-hand acrobatics and the way they do it would put to shame many a two-footed acrobat. One boy's four-chair dive into a hand-to-hand catch with his partner is a wow finish.

Houston Ray and orchestra, with the Wheeler Twins and Margie Hines, were pleasing in a musical, dancing and singing routine. Ray displays his usual mastery of the ivories, and his 10 bandsters play hot. The dancing Wheeler girls are the act's punch. Margie Hines does neat baby warbling. Bowoff was a big applause one.

Sammy Fields and Arnold George were liked, with the mob showing it by heavy palm-whacking. The boys have laugh-compelling material and make it more appealing thru their sure-fire delivery. They are nifty eccentric stppers, too. Just a lot of fun.

Dave Apollon, who stands aced high with the 14th street crowd, followed with his revue and entertained them royally. Applause was heavy on entrance and show-stop returns for the finish. Apollon is ever-entertaining and he's surrounded by a most capable cast. Danzi Goodell, Mile. Isabelle and the Filipino string octet were great. A Russian girl singer was an extra feature.

Bobby Barry and Dick Lancaster provided a load of laughs in their restaurant skit. They have a peachy delivery.

## The Palace, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, February 15)

A show that leaves the beaten track and manages to be just as entertaining as last week's fare. Great business last week, and the outlook at this matinee is just as good for this layout. Enough novelty here for two Palace shows; spotted right, too. On his third week, Phil Baker looks ripe for at least two more. Harry Carroll might have to do a little cutting to allow them to get out in time the remainder of the week.

DANNY SMALL, a sure-fire item for this house the last several seasons, does less warbling this time and more stepping. That unbilled dusky gal in his support has more to do and does it okay, and just to make things livelier Danny enlists the aid of his old "pardonner", Harry Mays. The trio finish with plenty of hot hoofing. A great hand for a great act.

LESLIE STRANGE, who arrived here several weeks ago from England, made the grade in the second frame with his novel burlesque characterizations of Lloyd George, Ramsay MacDonald, George Arliss, and Bairnsfather's lovable cartoon character, "Old Bill". Strange makes his face changes with a facile speed, being helped by Doris Earl. The mime cartoon of Lloyd George appealed best, although the others were also received warmly. For this date Strange adds a somber study of Abraham Lincoln. This serves as his bowoff. Strange looks okay for American vaudeville, and he'll play the Palace soon again if he can get some new impressions.

WILLIE WEST AND MCGINTY, who can work forever if they live that long and if their money is right, offered their classic of slapstick to an audience that laughed until it got blue in the face. The blundering blunders put over every one of their multitudinous effects without a blunder. They didn't stop the show, because an act like this rarely stops a show. They wring out so many belly laughs that by the time the bows are taken the breathless audience takes advantage of the interval to relax. That's our theory, and we've proven it more than once. Phil Baker and his plant introduced the trio from backstage via loud-speakers installed at both sides of the apron. Something went wrong with the hookup, and most of the gab sounded like the unearthly sounds issuing from a crystal set.

ROBERT EMMETT KEANE AND CLAIRE WHITNEY, each with a host of fans, use Edwin Burke's novel comedy piece, *The Faker*, as the vehicle for their debut here as a team. Howard Smith has been doing the act around the families in recent months, even using the same hangings. George Sweet takes the part of the victimized youth, and Keane, of course, slides gracefully into the role of the convincing pitchman. The speller succeeds admirably in convincing the audience of the parasitical qualities of woman, but his line is not strong enough to save himself. Miss Whitney plays the scheming siren creditably, and Sweet is up to par all around received.

ANN PENNINGTON, who hasn't played here longer than that, holds down this week's topline position in an acceptable act with Jack Pettis and His Orchestra. The little lady in three numbers shows the mob almost all she knows about the Charleston, Black Bottom and doing something with cotton. She still knows plenty. Pettis and his 14 musickers are nothing to wave long-term contracts at, but they never fall below a high standard. Their incidental comedy doesn't help much. Too long a wait before Miss Pennington enters the picture, but otherwise smartly routine. Baker preceded the act with corking clowning with Humphrey Muldowney, and helped Miss Pennington get a big sendoff by a session with her after the bows.

HARRY CARROLL AND MAXINE LEWIS close intermission in a short display of the latter's warbling talents. She puts over several of Carroll's hits of former seasons, and reveals a delivery that's going to bring her fame and dough before long. Her handling of *What Do I Care* was one of the brightest contributions to the show.

HARRY CARROLL'S REVUE features Eddie Bruce, a dynamic youth with a gift for making folks laugh, who also gave a glimpse of himself in the preceding two-act. The latest Carroll effort along revue lines is characteristic in that it stresses the composer-producer's ability not only to pick them but to use them to the best advantage. Bruce peps up the flash routine with all varieties of tomfoolery, and Carroll works up to him unstintingly. If Bruce had better material he'd be a knockout. He was almost that even with the disproportionate stuff he used. There are eight girls who are wow specialists and lean heavily on smartly routine stepping. Maxine Lewis did a medley near the finish, which assured a torrid sendoff.

PHIL BAKER, who by this time had been seen in almost every spot, and never tired, was smart enough to do only nine minutes. But this he did well, which can be said also for the plant, who should have been allowed to finish his warble.

JOE BONOMO, strong man of the screen, had Baker on with him most of the running time. Bonomo is plugged in an intermission trailer, and by the time he goes on those who haven't seen him in pictures at least saw the five-minute refresh of his favorite shots. He does the bar-twisting and chain-breaking bits, also the "phone directory" staple, but he is best as understander in stunts with Arthur Karoll. Baker gives a much-needed sense of humor to the routine. Just as the folks were about to mosey, Baker remembered that he had some free talent in the audience, and called up the baritone-bass, Nicolai Kuznetsov, for a number. This delayed the unwieldy show still longer.

ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

Their argument about the sausages couldn't have been more real, and they even carried it into the orchestra. They both sing well, and Barry knows his eccentric hoofing. Follad big returns.

Marym Bellit and Company, four-people flash, closed. Act goes along pleasingly up until the finish, when the sock is packed thru Miss Bellit's unexpected knockout acrobatics. She sings nicely, too. Her support consists of a song-dance boy and a clever adagio couple. Hit it off big.

## Albee, Cincinnati

(Reviewed Sunday Afternoon, Feb. 16)

After two weeks of using only four acts in conjunction with the feature film, the Albee gets back to its old schedule of five acts, with one of the best and most varied layouts of the year.

Jean Carr, with the assistance of her

partners, opens the festivities with a corking line of tap dancing. Miss Carr, following a single routine, introduces first her mother then her father, who entertain with single and double tap work. The trio swings into a fast tap for the finale. Much applause throughout the running time, and a mighty fine hand and three bows at the finish.

Bobby May turned out to be one of the brightest spots on this excellent bill. The personality kid renders *The St. Louis Blues* and *Rio Rita* on the harmonica as an introduction, and then launches into his juggling work with the clubs and tennis balls which proved a revelation. His style is exceedingly pleasing, and he made a host of new friends here. A red-hot hand at the end, and an easy encore.

Roxy's Gang, including Jeanne Mignolet, Adelaide De Luca, Harold Clyde Wright, John Griffin and Helen Andrews, accompanist, have selected an appealing

repertoire of songs for their vaudeville tour. Each of the artistes is heard in solo, and the group offers three numbers as a quartet. The singing is excellent and the Gang should click handily in any of the better-class houses. Garnered a tremendous ovation at the wind-up.

Fred Lightner in *A Fool There Is*, in which he is assisted by Rozelle, a shapeless miss, left nothing to be desired in the way of comedy. His facial expressions, wild gestures and uproariously funny material left the mob with aching sides. He stacks up with any of the funmakers who have appeared here in a long time, and is welcome back any time. Even the handcuffed ones banged loudly on this one.

Billy House and Company, in *Resolutions*, battled their way out of a tough spot to gain their usual quota of laughs. House is as funny as ever in his old vehicle and registered in a big way here. He receives capable support from Lorraine Weimar, Helen Lavonne, Frances Logan, Frank Farber and Jack Young. Billy and his helpers bowed off to a big reception, and House acknowledged the hand with a brief curtain talk.

BILL SACHS.

## Loew's Midland, K. C.

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 15)

Dresden China, a unit show, using the house orchestra on the stage, luckily met with a feature film of sufficient drawing power, as the vaudeville, while not so bad, is by no means good. The accompanying film is *New York Nights*, featuring Norma Talmadge.

Collins and Peterson serve in the capacity of masters of ceremony, with Collins taking the honors of this pair. Peterson devotes too much time begging for applause. This team also puts over a skit, *I'll Be Seem' You*, which is a comedy-chatter bit. Collins also displays some talent with his cornet.

The Rodion Dancers, a graceful trio of two girls and a man, were the hit of the show, presenting a nifty routine of acrobatic dancing.

Patti Spears received a fair hand for her few song numbers. Her singing of *Gianina Mia* was her best. Her violin number, accompanied by the orchestra, could have been eliminated.

Smith and Jolly, a male team with good voices, win favor with several songs. More numbers from this team would have increased the value of the program.

Georgia Tap lived up to his name and tapped out some clever dance numbers. He works hard and is a fair hooper.

The Three Melvin Brothers have a fair hand-to-hand routine and clicked with one feat, catching from a high platform.

Sammy Hearn offers a clever routine of comedy chatter, followed by several violin numbers. Hearn received a big hand and deserved it.

The Chester Hale Girls, a chorus of 12, are idle too much of the time and their few numbers are poorly produced.

The finale of this conglomeration of acts is a bow-taking bit of specialties.

GREGG WELLINGHOFF.

## Golden Gate, Frisco

(Reviewed Friday Evening, Feb. 14)

The Pavley-Oukrainisky Ballet offers but three dance numbers, but they are lengthy in their presentation and so well done that quality more than makes up for the seeming lack in numbers.

Their opening, a bathing-girl seashore offering to *Blue Danube* waltz music, with five girls participating, is effective and received several rounds of applause. Then a Dutch doll dance, in which both girls put over clever work. The finale, with nine girls and one lone man in a colorful gypsy dance, lacks nothing in pep and fast footwork and merited the sustained applause at the end. The act carries its own musical director, and the costuming is well worthy of special mention.

Dick Nash and Midgie Fately offer comedy chatter with a little Will Rogers rope thrown in. Their wisecracks got over for many laughs.

William and Joe Mandel, billed as "The Agile Comics", do comedy acrobatics in their own particular finished way, which leaves nothing to be desired.





# Pictures ~ Presentations

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## "Disraeli" Leads Year's 10 Best With 192 Votes

"Broadway Melody" runs second, with many surprises in selections—box-office value of many of list doubted—Paramount and First National not listed in first 10

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Disraeli, Broadway Melody, Madame X, Rio Rita, Gold Diggers of Broadway, Bulldog Drummond, In Old Arizona, The Cock-Eyed World, The Last of Mrs. Cheyney and Hallelujah were named as the 10 best pictures of 1929, according to a poll taken by *Film Daily*, and in which a total of 327 critics, representing 331 newspapers, 40 trade publications and three syndicate writers voted. *The Billboard's* motion picture editor picked 6 of the 10 that received the country-wide vote. They were Disraeli, Hallelujah, Madame X, The Broadway Melody, The Cock-Eyed World and Bulldog Drummond. In place of Rio Rita *The Billboard's* selection was The Love Parade, while the remaining three were The Letter, Drag and Taming of the Shrew.

Of the 10 selected by the reviewers four were Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer productions, two Warners, two Fox, one United Artists and one RKO. It is odd to note that neither First National nor Paramount is included in the first 10 selections, tho *The Billboard* had two Paramount productions in its list in *The Letter* and *The Love Parade* and one First National in *Drag*. However, the 11th picture in the poll and the highest rating for Paramount was *The Lady Lies*, followed by *The Letter* in the 12th position.

*Drag*, starring Richard Barthelmess, which to *The Billboard* reviewer was one of the finest pictures of the entire year, ran in the 28th position.

*Disraeli* held first position, with 192 votes, with *The Broadway Melody* second, 29 votes behind. The nation-wide voting had several surprises and it would be interesting to hear from exhibitors which one of these productions, if any, took the box-office leads during the last year. It would be a pretty safe bet, no doubt, that *Disraeli* did not. This picture, based on the great Jewish statesman, which no doubt appealed to reviewers on account of its historical interest and the performance of the star, is just one of the type that would hardly draw in the hinterlands, while *Gold Diggers of Broadway*, the other Warner runner-up with its intriguing title and all-color production, no doubt was more popular in the smaller towns than in the larger cities.

In *Old Arizona*, the first outdoor talking picture, which was one of the surprise selections for 1929, no doubt proved one of the big box-office draws over the entire country, as did *The Cock-Eyed World*, both emanating from the Fox studios. *The Broadway Melody* and *Madame X* very probably held their own at the box offices thruout the country. *The Last of Mrs. Cheyney*, the biggest surprise in the 10 selections, to *The Billboard's* reviewer was not in the same class of *The Trial of Mary Dugan*, both with Norma Shearer as the star, and it is doubtful if *Mrs. Cheyney* had the drawing power of the earlier production.

No doubt if an exhibitor vote were taken *Welcome Danger*, *The Cocoanuts*, *Show Boat*, *Coquette*, *Flight*, *Thunderbolt*, *Sonny Boy* and *Alias Jimmy Valentine* would be among the runners-up. There is no doubt that the film critics very often fail to feel the public pulse in their selections and in this year's poll they seem to have hit it about 50-50.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—J. V. Allan has returned to New York after a tour of Southern and Western Warner exchanges over which he is manager.

## Two Bids for Chi. House

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Two offers have been received for rental of the Drake Theater, motion picture house, that was closed last week, and a hearing will be held before Judge Sullivan early next week. Leo A. Solomon has offered to rent the theater for \$700 a month or up to \$1,200 a month on a three-year lease. Teeter & Foster, who operate the Rivoli, have offered 14 per cent of the gross receipts with a guarantee of \$1,000 a month for 15 years and will spend \$25,000 on improvements.

## Long-Term Contracts

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—Lila Lee and David Manners have been awarded long-term contracts by First National. Manners appeared in *Journey's End*.

## Columbia Branches Out

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Columbia Pictures has acquired the 12th floor of 729 Seventh avenue and will move the publicity and foreign departments to that floor. Columbia now is occupying two floors in the Seventh avenue building.

## Belle Bennett Signed

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Warner Bros. have signed Belle Bennett to appear in *Fime*. Production to start at once with John Halliday playing opposite Bennett.

## Pathe Plans New Product

Divides season's production into 3 distinct parts—E. B. Derr in charge

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Pathe will produce 30 specials and 450 short subjects during the year 1930. Since E. B. Derr became the chief studio executive on the Coast Pathe has taken a sudden spurt towards building a program that will be of unusual interest to exhibitors.

Contrary to previous plans Pathe plans to divide its season into three distinct parts, making and distributing 10 special pictures during each four-month period, which will be supplemented by a series of varied shorts.

The first group of the new product is now ready to go into production and will be set rolling by *Swing High*, a story of circus days by Joseph Santley and Jane Seymour, with Santley directing and Fred Scott and Helen Twelvetrees in the leading roles. Second on the list will be *Lipstick*, starring Constance Bennett, to be followed by Ann Harding in *Jane Eyre*. *Beyond Victory*, from a story by Lynn Riggs, will be the fifth production.

William Boyd's first starring vehicle for the new season, *The Last Frontier*, is next on the schedule. Then come Eddie Quillan's first 1930 vehicle, as yet untitled, now being written by Russell Medcraft, author of *Cradle Snatchers*; Ina Claire's *Lazy Lady*, by Basil Woon; *The Painted Desert*, William Boyd's second starring vehicle, and *Crash*, under direction of Paul Stein.

## Fox Files \$9,260 Suit Against Indiana Exhib.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 15.—Judgment of \$9,260 against Harry Mueller, proprietor of a motion picture theater in Anderson, Ind., is asked in a suit filed in the United States District Court here by attorneys in behalf of the Fox Film Corporation.

The suit is viewed by exhibitors as another step in the controversy between exhibitors and producers which began last August when Indiana exhibitors refused to abide by the decisions of the arbitration boards set up by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America.

The Indiana exhibitors charged that the boards, composed of three exhibitors and three representatives of the national association, did not adjust grievances, but merely carried out the edict of the national association.

The federal court suit filed here alleges that Mueller had violated a contract in which he had agreed to use a series of motion pictures and musical scores to have been provided by the Fox Corporation. Judgment of the amount asked is sought on the ground that he would not accept the films and refused to pay for them.

## "Murder Case" in Spanish

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—*The Benson Murder Case*, being produced by Paramount, is also being made into a Spanish version at the same time. The Spanish version is shot immediately after the English-speaking company has left the set, under the direction of Don Pezet. Frank Tuttle is directing the American version with a cast that includes William Powell, Paul Lukas, William Boyd and Eugene Palette.

## Long Shots and Flashbacks

By H. DAVID STRAUSS

NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of *The Billboard*, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.

EVERY now and then some player of note who has been lost in the depths of affliction makes a bid for a public return. There are times these bids are met with little response from the public. Today a young woman, who has been as fine an actress as the screen has ever boasted, returns, cured of the drug habit, and will no doubt shortly return to the professional life, either on the stage or screen. She has the well wishes of everybody, both in and out of the profession. The last screen role we remember her in, before her affliction carried her to a sanitarium for treatment, was as Julie, in Universal's production of "Show Boat", when she gave one of the outstanding characterizations of the production. She is now in the East with her husband, Ricardo Cortez, who has stuck faithfully by her side, passing up an opportunity to go abroad and appear in pictures when he felt she might need him here at home. He is now appearing in vaudeville, and there are those both in and out of the film world who make their well wishes of double measure on account of the manner in which he has proved his worth to his wife during the days of her fight against an insidious enemy.

The public is fickle. There have been others who have been forced from the screen on account of lapses from the so-called straight and narrow. But once the public builds an aura of romance around the unfortunate one, they, as well as those in the profession, will lend a helping hand to start them back again on the road to fame. Mary Nolan is another star of today who thru unfortunate publicity was known to the stage, but not to the screen, as Imogen Wilson. Adopting the new name in an effort to forget and be forgotten, she has forged to the front steadily, until today she stands as one of the screen's most popular younger players. James Murray, the youth who was formerly a doorman at the Capitol Theater, was picked from the extra mob in Hollywood by King Vidor for a leading role in "The Crowd", and let sudden success sweep him off his feet. His errors, however, were only those against Hollywood directors and producers. But after being released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer he had a hard fight to come back, and was finally signed by Universal, with the result that he has learned his lesson and is sticking straight to business.

Fatty Arbuckle is the unfortunate of the screen, who has been unable to make a return to public favor. There have been numerous rumors concerning his return to the screen, but each one seems to die aborning. Arbuckle's affair, however, was one that received such unpleasant notoriety that his return would have been considered a menace to the entire film production. At least that is the way those higher up looked at it on account of the stand women's clubs and public organizations had taken to his screen productions.

However, the public as a rule has much more charity in things of these kind than those directly connected with the profession. Many of the tales of the wild affairs of Hollywood and the theatrical profession emanate from those in the profession or from some work of fiction that pictures the theatrical world as a tiny Sodom or Gomorrah in itself. There are many unfortunate affairs that have reached the public, but as a rule the iniquity of the film center has been greatly exaggerated, and the theater-going public will lend its aid to the comeback of any worthy person.

# Talkie Road Shows Problem of Future

*Have seen little success so far—public educated to fact that \$2 attraction will eventually be seen in regular-run houses at less than half the price of admission*

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The future of the motion picture road show hangs in the balance. When talking pictures were first introduced they were taken as a fad. Soon owners of the legitimate theaters began to realize that this talking-picture proposition was not a novelty, but a thing that had come to stay and only offered a severer competition to the dwindling legitimate game than did the silent drama. With this realization came the wiring of numerous legitimate houses thruout the country in an effort to combat the large motion picture theater invasion with the road-show motion picture. But the road-show proposition has been anything but hot. First, the acoustics of the legitimate theaters have failed to prove any too successful for talking pictures. Secondly, the theaters, as a rule, are so constructed that many seats are too far on the side that screen forms take on an exaggerated length. Thirdly, the road-show productions have been few and far between, and fourthly, those that have been booked have shown no great inclination towards a heavy enough business to bring any demand for more road-show attractions.

Then, too, the legitimate owners feel that they can still have hope for the return of popularity to the legitimate stage and believe that the talking picture will bring about such a condition.

Even on Broadway the road-show or long-run picture has not proved as successful in the last two years as it had previously. This is perhaps due to the fact that executives are forcing too many productions in for long runs—pictures that in the old days would not have warranted a try at a \$2 price. Looking back at such productions as *The Birth of a Nation*, *The Big Parade*, *What Price Glory?*, *Seventh Heaven* and *The Covered Wagon* one can readily realize why these pictures were huge successes as long-run attractions. There was spectacle, an excellent story and a perfect cast, all blending into the making of a production that was worth \$2 top. And look back at their runs—any talking picture has yet to equal them.

But there is still another reason for the long-run attraction not drawing as it did in the earlier days. The picture-going public has learned that the picture will soon reach one of the regular-run houses, where less than half the price will admit them and even at morning matinees they can secure admission at a nominal sum. When D. W. Griffith first offered *The Birth of a Nation* at a high price he was regarded as foolish. But Griffith knew what he had and then he had the novelty with it and the public soon found out. Since that time pictures are looked upon in a different aspect and it is doubtful if the road show or long run outside of New York will give the legitimate producers any great worry. But the regular-run houses will; the producer cannot compete with their admission price due to the lack of seating capacity or the swift return from four or five shows a day.

Broadway will continue to have its long-run attraction. It is the ballyhoo that the producer wants to give the picture demand in the hinterlands. Its profit doesn't matter—a loss is credited to publicity and they are satisfied.

## Forst Gets Assignment

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Emil Forst has been appointed head of Universal's foreign literature department. Forst was formerly a member of U. S. scenario department, but being well versed in foreign languages was given the new appointment this week. He has established contacts with European publishers and authors' agents.

## Publix Florida Changes

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 15.—Publix has split Florida into two divisions, with Jesse Clark, formerly headquarters at Jacksonville, transferred to Miami to have charge of the East Coast division. Charles Branham has been transferred from Tampa to Jacksonville to have charge of the West Coast division, which will also include Jacksonville.

## Chevalier's New Long Contract With Paramount

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Maurice Chevalier has signed a new long-term contract with Paramount. Chevalier's first picture, *Innocents of Paris*, was anything but a sensation from a story standpoint, but it served to establish the French idol as a fixture in American films.

His second production, *The Love Parade*, was a genuine knockout. He has just completed *The Big Pond* and is now preparing for his fourth production, *Too Much Luck*.

## Warners Name May Sam Morris Month

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The fifth annual celebration of the Sam Morris month has been set for May by officials of Warner Bros. The celebration will result in a mammoth drive for sales and playdates that is expected this year to break all preceding records. Not only will features be plugged, but the sales and playdate drive will also include the short subjects and Vitaphone Varieties.

For the first time in the history of the month the sales drive will be international in scope and will include all the foreign offices of the Warner organization. Norman H. Moray, branch manager of the Warner office in Chicago, will be the chairman of the United States and Canada during the drive, while H. A. Bandy, manager of foreign distribution, will direct the campaign abroad.

# Comerford Celebrates Silver Anniversary

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The theaters comprising the Comerford chain, the largest of the indie circuits, are celebrating their silver anniversary during the month of February. The observance is now under way with local officials participating in the various towns in which Comerford theaters are situated.

The Comerford chain is not only the largest, but the oldest of the independent circuits in America. Its theaters are concentrated in Northeastern Pennsylvania, but extend into New York State and New England.

The silver jubilee is not only a corporate celebration, but an important anniversary in the achievements of "Mike" Comerford, who began his career in the amusement business by opening the Bijou Theater in Wilkes-Barre, in January, 1905. That same year he opened the Wonders Theater, in Scranton, and from these two important Pennsylvania key cities he extended his theater holdings as far east as Mauch Chunk and as far west as Williamsport, Pa., building up, in the 25 years that have intervened, one of the most closely knit and successfully operated theater chains in the history of the motion picture business, and, in the last several years, he has crossed the border into upper New York State, and has extended his holdings into New England.

Few theater owners in the history of motion pictures have been as well known, and as widely known, as Mike Comerford, who, altho operating in a distinctly local territory, has been so active in the affairs



JACK WHITE, producer of *Educational Comedies*, is a veteran in the film industry tho still a young man. White was born in New York and at the age of 10 moved with his family to the Coast, where he immediately went into the movies, doing extra bits. Since that time he has risen to be one of the foremost producers in the short feature, as hordes of exhibitors who play his laugh getters will testify.

## Deaf and Dumb Author Sues M-G

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Frank Burr Wiles, an author who is both deaf and dumb and who dictates his ideas to an expert stenographer by way of the sign language, has started suit for plagiarism against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. The author claims that the film company used his story *Underground Tracks* with only a few slight changes for the Lon Chaney starring vehicle *While the City Sleeps*.

Thru his attorneys, Wien & Tomback, Wiles asks that M-G-M be restrained from further showings of the picture and that an accounting of the profits be made to him. E. Eloy David, now with RKO Film Booking Corporation, worked on the script with Wiles.

# Operator Law Unreasonable

*Buffalo judge rules N. Y. requirements for machine operator unconstitutional*

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Judge Clifford J. McLaughlin has ruled in favor of motion picture owners in the strike here of motion picture operators. Judge McLaughlin has declared unconstitutional Section 18 of the general law of the State, which requires that a motion picture machine operator before obtaining a license must serve an apprenticeship of at least six months under a licensed operator, who must file a certificate stating that the applicant has served the prescribed apprenticeship.

The case arose out of the arrest last December of Stanley Kozanowski, manager of the Rivoli Theater, who was operating a projection machine without a license, following a strike of the motion picture operators at his theater.

Counsel for Kozanowski argued that the section was unconstitutional, which Judge McLaughlin held, ruling that the section is unreasonable in its requirements.

## "Radio Revels" Starts

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—*Radio Revels*, RKO's production which has been in rehearsal for several weeks, was started in actual work this week with Robert Woolsey and Bert Wheeler heading the cast. Other members include June Clyde, Hugh Trevor, Mitchell Lewis, Jobyna Howland, Ivan Lebedeff, Dorothy Lee, Marguerite Padula, Raymond Murel, Velma Valentine, Betty Recklaw and Audree Henderson, with Paul Sloan directing. Pearl Eaton is directing the dances and Victor Baravalle the music. The musical numbers were written by Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby.

## Town Votes Sunday Shows; Manager Will Install Talkies

DES MOINES, Feb. 15.—At a special election last week Sunday movies were voted in at Humboldt, Ia., by a majority of three to one. The town has never had Sunday movies before.

W. B. Franke, manager of the Humota Theater, only picture house in the town, promised to install "talkie" equipment if the election carried.

## Big Names Set for Chi. House

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The Chicago Theater, B. & K. ace Loop house, has some big names scheduled for the Lenten season. First announced is Nils Asther, screen star, who will make a personal appearance at the Chicago the week of March 7. He will be followed by Ted Lewis week of March 14. For week of February 28 the Chicago will have the big Public anniversary show. The Rivoli, B. & K. neighborhood house, will stage an anniversary show the week of February 21.

## Rosenberg New Sono-Art Dist. Mgr.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Ben F. Rosenberg was last week appointed Western district manager of Sono-Art, with headquarters in Los Angeles. Rosenberg's new job followed his resignation as circuit sales manager for Columbia in New York.

Offices under Rosenberg's supervision will include Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, Vancouver, Salt Lake City, Butte and Denver.

## Film Firms Moving

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—With the completion of the new film building at 13th street and Wabash avenue, three film firms will move into the building in March. They are Warner Brothers, Vitaphone and First National. Universal also is planning to move into a building at 13th and Wabash adjacent to the Warner building, but has not yet signed a lease.

# Receivership for Fox Is Up to Stockholders

**Vote will take from 10 days to two weeks—trade confident refinancing plan will win out—two directors close to Fox reported opposed to it**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—To have a receiver or not to have a receiver is still the problem of William Fox. And the matter has now been left to the votes of the stockholders of the Fox Film Corporation to decide whether or not a receiver shall be appointed or whether one of the numerous refinancing plans that have been suggested is to be accepted. The various refinancing plans have had several objectors and on account of this Federal Judge Frank J. Coleman this week adjourned argument on an order to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed until after the stockholders have voted on the refinancing. This will probably take from 10 days to 2 weeks, so no doubt the Fox problem will remain much the same until after the stockholders' report is received.

Martin Conboy, who said he represented 6,500 Class A stockholders, demanded the elimination of William Fox as head of the organization. Martin Bogue, representing Halsey, Stuart & Co., the present bankers, argued against the proposition. Attorneys for the Electrical Research Products, Inc., filed objections to the refinancing plan on the plea that more than \$400,000 royalties are overdue it.

Susie Dryden Kuser, second largest holder of Class B stock, who filed one of the first suits against Fox, thru her attorneys declared in favor of the refinancing plan.

Samuel Untermyer, attorney for Fox, presented a letter from the company's directors declaring that they were in favor of the refinancing plan for issuance of \$40,000,000 in 7 per cent debentures, each with stock rights for 25 shares, and \$25,000,000 in new stock. Two directors it is stated were against the proposed refinancing proposition.

It is rumored along Broadway that the two directors who opposed the refinancing plan are two of the directors who were closest to William Fox. This rumor has led to wide conjecture along the street even tho it is confidently believed that Fox will beat the receivership proposition.

## 3 Publix Towns Out

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Three weeks have been shaved off the Publix unit shows. Last week, the State, Cleveland, and Ohio, Columbus, closed their doors to the units. Now this week the Paramount, Des Moines, and Paramount, Omaha, discontinued their full-week policy in favor of split week. The units will open in Omaha on Friday for three days and lay off until the Saturday opening in Des Moines.

## Legit. Player for Films

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Claudia Dell has been given a five-year contract by Warner Bros. and assigned the leading role in Warner's forthcoming production *Sweet Kitty Bellairs*. Miss Dell was a former legit. star.

## Writing for Loder

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—Vina Delmar's first writing assignment by Warner Bros. is an original story that will be used as a starring vehicle for Lotti Loder. The title of the new piece is *Come Easy*.

## Howson To Talk

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Albert S. Howson, scenario editor of Warner Bros., will be the chief speaker at the next meeting of the Theater Club February 25 at the Astor Hotel. The subject of Howson's address will be *Story Requirements for the Sound Picture*.

## Denies RKO-Pathé Rumor

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—E. B. Derr, vice-president of Pathé, last week issued a definite denial of the reported Pathé-RKO merger. Derr explains the rumor in the fact that RKO holds a 30-year franchise with Pathé productions which has caused considerable speculation regarding the company's future.

## Woodlaw Sues Tiffany

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 15.—Action has been filed against Tiffany Productions by Woodlaw Amusement Company alleging breach of contract which granted exclusive first-run rights at 25-cent admission price to the Columbia and Capitol theaters. It is claimed the contract was broken on account of the reduction in admission price at Hamrick's Music Box Theater. The suit is similar to the one of C. M. Dunn, Inc., against the Columbia Pictures Corporation.

## Write for Fox Follies

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—Grace Henry and Morris Hamilton have been assigned by Fox to write numbers for the *Fox Movietone Follies of 1930*.



MONTAGUE SALMON, city manager of Publix Theaters, Macon, Ga., who is considered one of the most popular and efficient theater managers in the entire Publix organization. Not only is he popular with his coworkers but with his fellow townsmen as well. Several years ago when Salmon left the Publix organization to go to the West Coast several editorials in local papers and the chamber of commerce and other civic organizations called upon the Publix officials to keep him on his present job. "Monty" is slated for one much better, and bigger, in the near future.

# Theater Acoustics Engineer Discusses Sound Problems

By S. K. Wolf

(Theater Acoustics Engineer, Electrical Research Products, Inc.)

There is a great deal more to this matter of sound than simply making a program understood. Public psychology demands that it be "easy to listen to."

We can discuss this subject in terms readily understood by everyone, namely percentages. A theater can be rated in the percentage of intelligibility of speech, which is the index of "how easy to listen to" the patrons find sound in that theater.

Telephone engineers have found that a good measure of the efficiency of a transmission system is in the percentage of disconnected, meaningless syllables that can be understood thru it. This is called an articulation test.

An articulation test of normal speech direct from speaker to listener under perfect conditions gives 96 per cent. If there is any doubt in your mind that speech cannot be transmitted 100 per cent under ideal conditions, try this simple test. Ask your listener to close his eyes so that he may not read your lips.

Then you say the following words once each—map, nat, mack, nap, mat and nack—and ask him to write them down as you say them. Providing you do not unduly emphasize the final consonant of these words, you will find that one or more of them have not been understood. This gives you an idea of the difficulties encountered in speech transmission.

The loudness with which sound equipment is operated is an appreciable factor in the intelligibility of the resulting sound. There is a fairly broad range of volume about equivalent to the volume used in average conversation, for which there is no depreciation in intelligibility. However, as tests have shown if the loudness is somewhat greater or somewhat less than the conversational loudness, we can expect a reduction of articulation of one to five per cent.

Another factor influencing the intelligibility of speech is the amount of extraneous noise present. Audience noise is of two kinds. The first includes whispering, coughing, laughing, rattling of programs, etc., and is not controllable by the exhibitor. The other, scuffling of feet on concrete floors, is controllable and eliminated with the use of carpet. Further noise if often introduced into a theater by and thru the heating and

ventilating systems, and street noises sometimes enter thru this channel. This, too, is controllable. Tests have shown that if the aggregate noise is 20 per cent as loud as the sound, the articulation will be reduced 10 per cent.

Excessive reverberation is still another factor tending toward decreasing the articulation in the theater. If, in any given theater, the reverberation exceeds by two seconds a certain optimum value a reduction of 10 per cent in the articulation results. It can be readily seen that this condition is often encountered in houses not properly treated acoustically when the audience present is small.

There are two more factors to be considered before we can round out our estimate of the probable articulation of the theater and these are the percentage reduction necessary on account of the recording and on account of the reproducing system. Since the articulation rating for speech under the best conditions from the original sound source is only 96 per cent, let us assume that the best possible recording and reproducing would be 95 per cent each, or a reduction of five per cent each.

To sum up these reduction factors and to get an idea of how a theater would rate under the conditions that I have outlined above, we get the following:

Percentage articulation of original speech under perfect conditions.....	96
*Percentage reduction due to incorrect loudness.....	5
*Percentage reduction due to extraneous noise in theater.....	10
*Percentage reduction due to reverberation.....	10
Percentage reduction due to recording..	5
Percentage reduction due to reproducing.....	5

\*Controllable by exhibitor

Applying the above listed reductions to the original 96 per cent in the regular commercial method of applying discounts, we find the resultant percentage articulation to be 67 per cent.

Extensive tests by Dr. Fletcher of the Bell Laboratories have enabled him to draw a curve showing the relation between the percentage articulation of meaningless syllables and the resultant (See *THEATER ACOUSTICS* opp. page)

# Brunswick On Television

**Company applies to U. S. Radio Commission for a license**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—With the Radio Corporation of America, General Electric and Jenkins experimenting with television comes the news that the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company has been and is now doing vast experimental work along similar lines.

Television is evidently the next move in talking pictures. How soon they will be established is a matter of time. However, the big corporations evidently believe that they are thoroly practical and the various organizations are working in a most secretive manner towards the end of perfection.

The Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company has made application to the Federal Radio Commission for a license to operate an experimental television station on Long Island.

Dr. Arthur W. Carpenter, of the United Research Corporation, subsidiary of Brunswick, appeared before the commission in Washington and stated that the Hart silentium cell used by it is superior to any cell heretofore made. The commission was also told that up to the present time it has been used in the development of talking pictures and has a direct bearing on television and that the organization wants to continue its development along those lines.

## Two Injured in Film Fire

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Fire which swept two floors of a building at 1018 South Wabash avenue, Monday, cut off escape of persons in the office of Bland Bros., film distributors, on the eighth floor, and Margaret Paine, stenographer in the office, was seriously injured when she attempted to leap into a life net, but struck a ledge of the building in her descent. She is in St. Luke's Hospital and is said to have a fighting chance for life. Joseph Sandman, theater broker, jumped from the eighth floor into the life net and sustained a broken leg. Cecil McDonough, Bland Bros.' office manager, also leaped and escaped without injury.

## Chicago Execs. Form Club

CHICAGO, Feb. 15. — Motion picture and theatrical executives have launched the Stage and Screen Club, with headquarters in the Woods Theater Building in the quarters formerly occupied by the N. V. A. Prominent in the club's membership are Mort Singer, of RKO; Ralph T. Kettering, representative of A. H. Woods; Max Balaban and William Hollander, of Balaban & Katz; Clyde Eckhardt, of Fox Film Corporation, and John J. Jones, of Jones, Linick & Schaefer.

## M-G-M Buys "Caught Short"

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—M-G-M has acquired the screen rights to Eddie Cantor's book, *Caught Short*. Simon & Schuster published the book, which sold over 150,000 copies.

## Columbia Employees' Club

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Columbia Pictures employees have organized a social club and elected officers. The club plans to stage many entertainments for the employees in the near future.

## Fox Buys Old Play

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Fox has purchased the rights to *The Man Who Came Back*, which appeared as a stage play several years ago. No cast assignments yet.

## Pathé Buys Cowan Story

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Pathé has purchased *Playing the Game*, by Sada Cowan, and will produce it in this year's product. Miss Cowan will adapt the story for the screen.

# RCA Policy Changes Interest Exhibitors

**Corporation to confine activities to distribution of three types of sound-reproducing equipment—1,000-seaters same price as 500—exhibitor given right to cancel**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Charles J. Ross, executive vice-president of RCA Telephone, Inc., announces a radical change of policy in connection with the distribution of its sound-reproducing equipment that should have a wide interest to motion picture exhibitors. The changes announced are that RCA will confine its activities to the distribution of three types of sound-reproducing equipment; that the price heretofore established for equipment for theaters up to 500 seating capacity would be the same for theaters having a capacity up to 1,000 seats and that the exhibitor will have the right to cancel, at his option, the obligation to receive and pay for service after the first two years.

Prior to this time RCA Photophone sound-reproducing equipment for theaters above 500 seating capacity and up to 1,000 seats has been nearly double the cost of the model known as Type G, which was designed for smaller theaters. The three types of equipment to be distributed in accordance with the provisions of the new policy have been given three classifications: Type B for theaters above 2,000 seating capacity, Type C for theaters between 1,000 and 2,000 capacity and Small Theater Type for theaters up to 1,000 seating capacity. In the small theater models the exhibitor may choose between battery or motor generator operation.

The new policy was presented to RCA district managers and commercial representatives this week by Sydney E. Abel, general sales manager. This first meeting was followed by three others this week at which talks were made by Charles J. Ross, executive vice-president; A. E. Reoch, vice-president; Sydney E. Abel, general sales manager; J. W. Rafferty, assistant sales manager in charge of the Educational and Industrial Division; L. B. Morris, general counsel; C. C. Chappelle, treasurer; H. L. Sommerer, manager of the recording department; M. C. Batsel, chief engineer, and Gerald K. Rudolph, director of publicity and advertising.

## Fanchon & Marco Invade Spokane

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 15.—Fanchon & Marco will enter Spokane for the first time commencing February 28 when Ray A. Grombacher opens the American Theater with the "Idea" unit shows and talking pictures. An extended lease was taken on the house this week, which makes the fifth theater to be operated here by Grombacher under the Spokane Theaters, Inc., chain. He also operates in Lewiston and Coeur d'Alene, Ida. The American has been housing road attractions only. The Fanchon & Marco shows will open Fridays for six-day weeks under the Grombacher policy. The house will be immediately wired for sound.

## "Krazy Kat" to Coast

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Winkler Studios, producers of *Krazy Kat* animated cartoons, have moved to the Coast, where all future production will be conducted. The party off to the Coast included all the staff except Charles Mintz, who will remain in the East as manager. Jimmy Bronnis headed the party moving west.

## Chevalier's Chi. Date Delayed

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Maurice Chevalier's personal appearance at McVicker's Theater, originally scheduled for February 17, has been postponed a week because of the screen star's illness. The opening of his picture, *The Love Parade*, at the same house, also has been set back a week.

## Buy "The Fall Guy"

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Screen and dialog rights to *The Fall Guy*, authored by James Gleason and George Abbott, have been acquired by Radio, with production slated to begin next month. An all-star cast will work under direction of William S. Siström.

## Publix Iowa Changes

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 15.—Nate Frudenberg, Publix district manager for Eastern Iowa, has announced the following changes, effective this week: Jack H. Roth, who has been managing the Paramount, has been made manager of both the Paramount and Des Moines theaters. Don Allen becomes assistant manager at the Des Moines, and George Bickford, of Rock Island, Ill., comes here as assistant manager of the Paramount. M. L. Elewitz remains as district publicity director of the Eastern Iowa division, with headquarters continuing in Des Moines. George Watson, who has been manager of the Des Moines Theater for several months, is transferred to the Publix Theater in New Orleans.

## "Prisoner of Zenda" For Dialog Production

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—*The Prisoner of Zenda*, Anthony Hope's well-known novel, has been secured by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for dialog production. The picture was produced some years ago by M-G-M with Ramon Novarro in the leading role.

A few seasons ago the Shuberts produced the story as a musical comedy under the title of *Princess Flavia*. While no cast has been assigned, it is probable that Novarro will appear in the role of Rudolph Rassendyll, and the picture will no doubt have several interpolated numbers.

## Kern to West Coast

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Jerome Kern is now a Vitaphone composer. The composer of *Stepping Stones*, *Sally* and *Showboat* was signed to a Warner contract this week and leaves for Hollywood shortly to join the coterie of well-known musical writers, including Oscar Strauss, Sigmund Romberg and Oscar Hammerstein II, who are now on the Warner lot.

## Foy Back on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—Bryan Foy returned to the Coast last week after a four weeks' visit in New York, and now has three directors working under him on short subjects. They are Ray Mack, Herman Raymaker and Carter De Haven. Foy has taken direct charge of the *Potter* series and will start on the next one, *Pa Takes a Vacation*, this week. Herman Ruby and Beatrice Van remain on the staff of scenarists.

## Walter With Pathe

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Eugene Walter has been signed by Pathe, according to announcement made this week by E. B. Derr, executive vice-president and studio chief. Walter is the author of many famous stage successes including *The Eastest Way*, *Paid in Full* and *The Trail of the Lonesome Pine* and should serve as an excellent acquisition to the staff of Pathe writers.

## Hughes and Astor

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Mary Astor and Lloyd Hughes, who were famous as a team under the First National banner a few years ago, will be seen as co-starring mates again under the RKO banner in *Cooking Her Goose*, based on H. H. Van Loan's stage play. This will be William Siström's first production since joining RKO as an associate producer, with Donald Crisp directing.



HARRY COHN, vice-president and general manager of production of Columbia, is another young executive in the film business. Cohn is largely responsible for such productions as "Flight" and other Columbia superspecials which speak for themselves.

## Metzger to Coast For Conferences

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Lou B. Metzger, general manager of Universal Pictures Corporation, left New York last week for a trip to the West Coast to confer with studio executives concerning the forthcoming Universal product. The series of meetings that Metzger will conduct while on the Coast will largely determine the character of the Universal product that will be produced in the near future.

For several weeks Metzger has been conducting a series of meetings in New York with sales heads from different sections of the country attempting to get first-hand information on what the exhibitor wanted from Universal. It is on these meetings that he has based a great deal of data about the new product. Accompanying Metzger to the Coast are Verne Porter, Eastern scenario head, and N. L. Manheim, export manager of the company.

## THEATER ACOUSTICS

(Continued from opposite page)  
conversational efficiency in which the listener has the aid of context of the sentences in which the syllables are found. From this curve we find that in a theater having an articulation rating 67 per cent, the conversational efficiency would be 80 per cent. This means that the patrons would miss about 10 per cent of what was going on, which would keep them under a continuous strain to try to make it out. This strain is perhaps not conscious, but does interfere with the ease and comfort of the audience.

Loudness of operation, extraneous noise and reverberation in the theater are controllable by the exhibitor in ways described above.

In addition to these measurable factors there is another that has an appreciable place in show psychology, illusion. The sound must appear to come from the picture and yet the listener must be allowed to feel that he is in the same room with the speaker. With present-day recording the areas around and immediately in back of the horns should be sound reflecting, which allows the "room tone" of the recording to become associated with the "room tone" in front of the theater so that the listener unconsciously feels that he is in the same room with the speaker.

With so many factors bearing upon the net result, each presenting its reduction factor however small, it behooves the exhibitor who wishes to preserve and increase his success to see that all reduction factors within his control are kept to the absolute minimum.

The best possible equipment obtainable, properly operated in a theater that is acoustically correct and free from extraneous noise, is the only possible answer to "easy listening" and increasing receipts.

# Change Para. Corp.'s Name

**Recommended by directors to drop Famous-Lasky and substitute Publix in title**

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—At a meeting held here last week the directors of the Paramount-Famous-Lasky Corporation recommended that the Famous-Lasky be dropped from the corporation's name and Publix substituted so that the name of the organization would read Paramount-Publix Corporation.

In addition a quarterly dividend of \$1 a share was declared at the meeting, payable March 20 to stockholders of record on March 7. Heretofore 75 cents per quarter has been the usual dividend. This increases the rate from \$3 to \$4 a share.

The directors also voted to recommend to the stockholders for approval at the annual meeting, which will be held April 15, an increase in the total authorized number of shares from 3,000,000 to 4,000,000.

In commenting upon the above actions Adolph Zukor, president, stated that from careful forecasts of the profits of the corporation for the year of 1930 and from the results during the month of January he believed that the directors were amply justified in increasing the dividend rate from \$3 to \$4. He further stated that there was no intention at present of issuing any substantial amount of additional stock. The company had, however, grown steadily in the last few years and the directors deemed it advisable to increase the capital by 1,000,000 shares so that the company will be in position to expand by the issuance of additional stock if and when opportunities arise as they have in the past. He pointed out that there are now issued and outstanding approximately 2,700,000 shares of stock, with 250,000 additional reserved for employees as heretofore approved by the stockholders, and that in view of the fact that the total capitalization is only 3,000,000 shares there are only 50,000 shares now available for possible expansion.

In connection with the recommendation for the change of name Zukor stated that the directors deemed it advisable to include in the corporate title the name of Publix, the chief theater-operating subsidiary of the corporation, which operates theaters throughout the country and has built up a substantial good will.

## Tiffany Dance Shorts

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Tiffany Productions plan the production of a series of dance shorts done entirely in technicolor. Norma Gould Productions will produce the shorts, starting at once.

## Columbia Contracts

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Pauline Starke, Ralph Graves and Lowell Sherman have been signed by Columbia to appear in productions during the coming season's schedule. Edward Sloman has been signed as director.

## Directs Belasco Story

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 17.—John Francis Dillon has been assigned to direct *The Girl From the Golden West* for First National. The story, based on the Belasco success, is being adapted by Waldemar Young.

## Richard Dix's Next

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—*Roughneck Lover* is to be the title of Richard Dix's next starring vehicle for Radio that is now nearing completion. Lois Wilson, Renee Macready and Rita La Roy are in the supporting cast.

## Clara's Last Para.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—*True to the Navy* is to be the title of Clara Bow's next starring vehicle for Paramount. Frank Tuttle will direct with an unannounced cast. This production completes Clara Bow's contract with Paramount.

# REVIEWS OF THE LATEST

## "Puttin' on the Ritz" (UNITED ARTISTS)

At the Earl Carroll Theater

Harry Richman, billed as Broadway's greatest entertainer, is the star of this production. Richman has nothing to feel ashamed of in his first screen effort, for it is the excellent blending of cast, direction and several catchy musical numbers that bid for quick and wide popularity. While the story is rather obvious, it still has been so expertly constructed that it takes on an entertainment value that is far above the average.

However, it is a vehicle to permit Richman to display his wares in the best manner possible, and this he does in story and song and in song particularly. There are surely three hit numbers in this production in *Puttin' on the Ritz*, *With You* and *The Singing Vagabond*, one of which, the title number of the picture, has been staged in such a manner that its dance development is a sure applause getter.

There has been much interest concerning Richman's first screen appearance. The publicity that he has received thru his club and thru the rumors of his approaching marriage to Clara Bow should have made him well enough known in the hinterlands for local exhibitors not to worry about acquainting the public with news of the new screen personality.

In New York Richman is a favorite and this, his first screen production, is certainly going to win for him new friends. He has poise, ease, grace, and while no John Gilbert profile, has the personality to hold an audience. His manner of handling a song is too well known to need any comment. It is sufficient to say that he puts his numbers over with a bang—and how! His dialog he handles surprisingly well, for in less capable hands some of the romantic moments might have become more ludicrous than dramatic.

Of course, Richman has the able support of James Gleason and Lilyan Tashman, who bring the comedy of the picture. This Gleason once again establishes himself as an individuality of the screen as well as of the stage. Lilyan Tashman, having one of the best roles of her career, proves an excellent running mate for the amusing Gleason. Joan Bennett, in the ingenue role, is winsome, charming and nicely cast, while Alleen Pringle, who seems doomed to vamp roles, is better than she has been in her last few roles.

John W. Considine, Jr., wrote and produced the Richman film. Considine has managed to fit Richman with a revue production that will hold its own with any of this type that has so far come to the talking screen. Edward Sloman, who directed, has proved himself able to combine the motion picture with the talking drama so that the action keeps up at a rapid pace.

The one fault one might find with the picture is the technicolor sequence, which seems a waste of footage and totally unnecessary to the development of the story.

All in all, *Puttin' on the Ritz* should prove popular everywhere. Plug those song numbers in advance, if possible. Irving Berlin has a couple of numbers that are surefire, and Richman's performance will bear out any plugging you may do on him alone.

H. D. STRAUSS.

## "Caught in the Berlin Underworld" (NO. DIST. CREDIT)

At the Cameo

The title of this story is rather misleading, tho its leading characters come from the Berlin underworld. The picture is a German production presented by Martin Berger, with Fritz Kortner, Maly Delschaft and Hans Stuwve in the leading roles.

After the first title is presented on the screen the first subtitle appears reading: "According as the face of the world smiles or scowls upon him, man lives and acts. Man is what his fellowman makes him." With this theme as a basis the authors have tried to preach heredity and environment and after all is said and done it is difficult to tell just what the film proves, tho probably it is

heredity that wins out in the end. The story is rather complicated and at times leaves one pondering.

A criminal going to prison leaves his wife and son penniless. The problem presented is what to do with this son, who after growing into manhood marries the daughter of the man his father had murdered. The lad proves himself okay. There are blackmailers and the similar ilk of the underworld brought into the story. Fritz Koertner, that capable foreign player, gets as much out of a rather impossible role as could be expected. Maly Delschaft registers nicely as the wife. The typical German direction is found in the majority of scenes, some of which are quite interesting. The picture is silent and should go all right in the grinds.

H. D. S.

## "The Green Goddess" (WARNER BROTHERS-VITAPHONE)

At the Winter Garden

That really incomparable character star, George Arliss, is once again seen in the leading role of *The Green Goddess*. This time it has been made into an outstanding talkie, one which duplicates Arliss' sensational hit in *Disraeli* and which should prove to be one of the biggest box-office hits of the year. It has been done beautifully and intrigues, entertains and, above all, holds thro suspense thruout the 73-minute running time.

Three times has Arliss been seen in this interesting melodrama from the pen of William Archer. Just nine years ago it captivated the attention of Broadway playgoers, then it was used as silent screen fare and now it has succumbed to the talkies. It is not to be compared with *Disraeli*, tho Arliss turned out just as beautiful a performance. *The Green Goddess*, it is believed, will prove of bigger appeal in popular-priced houses because it is a modern melodrama, whereas *Disraeli* is a historical story, fashioned so as to be "over the heads" of many.

Hardly enough praise can be bestowed upon Arliss for the way he interpreted his role, but it was expected because of his ability and experience with the story. His diction, manipulation of words, expression and cunning all blended beautifully in making his role a perfect one.

H. B. Warner, Alice Joyce and Ralph Forbes also contributed portrayals of excellence. Warner, as the drink-loving and fickle army officer, was capital. Miss Joyce is really an aristocratic little lady and gave her role all it should have. Forbes charmed thru the excellent manner in which he handled his hero role.

Ivan Simpson, who appeared in the original play with Arliss, was outstanding as the English henchman. Lesser parts were capably entrusted to David Tearls, Reginald Sheffield, Nigel de Bruller and Betty Boyd.

The story, to refreshen memories, is built around the forced airplane landing of three British subjects in the kingdom of Rukh, where the people are fanatics of the Mosaic law. The Rajah of Rukh has plans for using them to exact vengeance for the coming execution of his three brothers by the British Government. After living in fear for a while the major, who finally shows there is something fine in him, gets thru a wireless for help. But he is shot and killed by the Rajah while doing it. The Rajah offered to spare the heroine's life if she would head his proposition, but she refused. Just as they are to be executed the British air squadron arrives to save them.

Alfred E. Green's direction is superb, being consistently smooth, and the photography and recording are good. The opening shot of the airplane flight and its forced landing are exceptionally good. Many of the settings were striking. To Arliss goes the credit for making the picture what it is. SIDNEY HARRIS.

## "The Lone Horseman" (SYNDICATE)

At Loew's New York

Tom Tyler is a very silent Western. It is so quiet, in fact, that it's perfectly dumb. The same sets and cast are used in this production that have been used in two former Syndicate pictures, and their plots are so stereotyped that it is with difficulty that a frequent theatergoer remembers whether or not he has seen the production.

The cast boasts of Tyler, Charlotte Winn and J. P. McGowan, who also directed the production besides playing the heavy. No one does any work that is worthy of mention. The cast breezes along thruout the entire show doing their bits and wondering, it seems from their expression, what the next shot is or when the lunch whistle is going to blow.

Tyler, of course, is the hard-hitting, riding cowboy that wins the girl in the end and gets his ranch back which was sold by the heavy when he, Tyler, was sick. It is evident after the first five minutes how everything is going to turn out and that gold is going to be discovered which will make things all pepped up in the end.

Photography is okay and this one will play somewhere, maybe. J. F. L.

## "Happy Days" (FOX MOBIE-TONE-GRANDEUR)

At the Roxy

Another one of those spectacular productions fashioned very much after the pattern of the *Fox Movietone Follies* of 1929 is this latest offering, gaining a decided prestige over its predecessor thru its presentation on the Grandeur screen and its production via the 70-mm. camera on which the Fox technicians have been working for several years.

Much has already been written about the Fox Grandeur film as it was presented for several weeks at the Gaiety Theater a few months ago. The production shown at that time was *The Movietone Follies*, which had been shown some months previous at the Roxy on the regular-sized screen. There is no gainsaying the fact that the Grandeur screen allows vast possibilities to the movie of the future and the time will not be long before practically all productions will be done on screens of similar proportions, especially the musical or spectacular production.

*Happy Days* was fashioned entirely for the Grandeur production. One can readily surmise that after viewing the numerous enormous sets that would have been totally lost on the 35-mm. film. The chief fault with the spectacle in the past has been the fact that the camera could not catch an entire scene or ensemble at once, except by long shot, when its beauty was practically lost. Formerly it was a case of shifting the camera focus from one section of the scene to another. This has all been eliminated by this new invention and the result is nothing short of startling.

Practically all of the stars on the Fox lot appear in this production. Even George Jessel, who has since abrogated his contract, appears in the opening sequences. Among the leading players are found Janet Gaynor, Charles Farrell, J. Harold Murray, Victor McLaglen, Edmund Lowe, Walter Catlett, William Collier, El Brendel, James J. Corbett, George McFarlane, Sharon Lynn, George Olsen, Tom Patricola, Ann Pennington, Will Rogers, "Whispering" Jack Smith, Marjorie White and Richard Keene, the two last named playing the leading roles in the story that knits the musical numbers together.

The story of *Happy Days* is rather similar to that of the *Movietone Follies* in that it is one of those back-stage affairs. This one, however, has been presented in a more novel manner with a minstrel first part introducing a couple of hundred players forming the usual minstrel semi-circle built on pyramided platforms, taking up the greater part of the picture's length. The principals are presented in blackface and each specialty is started fades into white.

Marjorie White does nicely in the ingenue role, while Richard Keene makes an acceptable juvenile. The hit number of the production is offered by Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe, which is a sort of talking number in which they proclaim their friendship for one another, only to end up in a comedy squabble over a girl. Farrell and Gaynor do a cute little musical comedy bit, while El Brendel and Tom Patricola bring a few laughs. *Happy Days* is a vaudeville show with an enlarged chorus brilliantly staged with enough novelty to make it popular, even tho it did not have the Grandeur screen as an added attraction. Benjamin Stoloff directed and has come thru with an innovation that should click. Plug the various personalities in the production, even tho some of them are seen only for a few moments. H. DAVID STRAUSS.

## "The Climax" (UNIVERSAL)

At Loew's New York

Universal has again muffed an opportunity to make a very good picture. The story is here, but somehow it has been so badly mishandled that it is boring and in part gets so terrible that it well deserves the razz handed it.

It is difficult to place the blame on any one person in particular. Other than Jean Hersholt, the production has been miserably cast. The directorship is about as bad as it could possibly be. The lighting and sound recording are poor and the characters don't seem to know

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what it's all about, which may or may not be blamed on the director.

The story is that of a girl who is operated on to prepare her voice for opera. After her cure the physician, who is in love with her, undoes his work upon the realization that the girl loves the son of her maestro. Faced with poverty, the boy gives the girl up to wed the doctor and at the church the girl recovers her voice, the villain is discovered and everything turns out happily.

Kathryn Crawford as the girl with the grand opera voice is terribly out of her sphere. She can't sing, which, coupled with poor recording, puts her in a very bad light. She has all the other attributes of making a fine actress in the future if given the right roles. Jean Hersholt never has an opportunity to give the performance he is capable of. This fine character man has been so heavily burdened with such an atrocious make-up that he is handicapped from the beginning. LeRoy Mason as the boy in love with the girl is just fair. The camera work puts him in a bad light and the boy never has a chance.

It would behoove Universal to either do this production over again or shelve it for the good of the company's reputation.

The story has an Italian locale and will play in the foreign quarters okay, elsewhere it will be a total loss.

JAMES F. LUNDY.

## "Peacock Alley"

(TIFFANY)

At Loew's 42d Street

Mae Murray returns to the screen after a long absence in this none too good production. Nothing has been spared to smear the sex appeal of the lady over the entire production. Sometimes the lady is successful in her attempts at vamping and at other times she's rather flat. The production would have been much better had Miss Murray stuck to acting and had not kept herself in such an attempted alluring position as to make a real interpretation of her part impossible.

The setting of the production is in one of the famous Peacock Alleys of a New York hotel. Many things can happen in any hotel lobby and the director has made a puerile attempt to incorporate every situation that might possibly happen.

George Barraud, Jason Robards, Richard Tucker and Arthur Hoyt are in the supporting cast. The actors have been known to do more creditable work than they have in this piece, but all in all there is no great complaint to offer against them. La Belle Murray has seen to it that no one is on the screen long enough to steal any of her possible honors. She very likely is remembering *The Merry Widow* too well for that.

The sound is okay, and the folks in the provinces who feel the city a wicked place will love this one.

JAMES F. LUNDY.

## "Dangerous Paradise"

(PARAMOUNT)

At the Paramount

Here is a box-office natural. Everything that is necessary to make it appeal to all classes has been finely woven into the story to give it a universal appeal, especially in the smaller towns where Nancy Carroll and Richard Arlen will more than establish themselves for future productions.

A great deal of credit should go to the director, William Wellman. It would have been easy for him to have slipped up on this one and had a maudlin soggy production as the result. He has nicely dodged all the pitfalls that belie a director of a South Sea action romance, and has turned out a finished piece of work that will give those who find fault with this type production nothing to kick about.

The story is that of a girl in a band who finds herself stranded in the South Seas playing at a honky-tonk with no possibility to escape. Every man around the place is on the make for the lady and she finally escapes in the boat of Richard Arlen, who has put into the port for supplies before returning to his island home down the coast where he lives in seclusion due to an ill-fated love match. The boy thinks the girl a bum and agrees to keep her until the boat passes the next week when he will send

her home. Meanwhile the report that the boy has gold on his island attracts three thieves, Gustav von Seyffertitz, Francis McDonald and George Kotsanos. The boy and girl are in love, but won't admit it, and when the thieves are beaten off and two of them killed they realize that life doesn't mean so much apart and they get married.

The cast is a long one and deserves commendable mention. Warner Oland, as the hotel proprietor, is very good, as well as von Seyffertitz. The latter is deserving of a much better part and it is to his credit that he shines even in the minor role he portrays. Francis McDonald, as another of the robbers, is getting to be fully as good a bad man as William Powell used to be, which should be recommendation enough. Dorothea Wolbert, Clarence Wilson and Willie Wong are also very good.

The sound is okay and no exhibitor should fail to step on this one. It is a story that any audience will thoroughly enjoy and will make many new friends for Arlen and Carroll.

JAMES F. LUNDY.

## "Second Wife"

(RADIO)

At the Globe

Three attempts to make something out of Fulton Oursler's play, *All the*

*King's Men*, have been rather unsuccessful. It seems as tho "All the King's horses and all the King's men" can't make it satisfy the public's yen. First Jed Harris put it out on the road, but shelved it pronto. Then Lew Cantor dished it out for Broadway playgoers, but the run was for only 33 performances. Then Radio Pictures took it over for the screen and result is only mediocre entertainment.

Very little change has been made in the original play, and thus the picture starts off fine, but action and interest wanes as it goes along. As a whole it doesn't meet up with the modern pictures and looks to be of the old days. The splendid cast makes it entertaining fare for neighborhood houses. It features Conrad Nagel and Lila Lee and serves to show them up as good bets for the talkies.

It concerns a prosperous advertising man (Conrad Nagel) who takes unto himself a second wife (Lila Lee), even tho his first wife died less than a year ago and he has a son to look after. Wife the second induces him to move from his old quarters, and he sends his boy to school in Switzerland so that they may spend their first married year by themselves. On the eve of his wife's expecting a child he receives a cable that his son is dangerously ill. He forgets about her condition and leaves immediately. She cold-shoulders him on

his return and allows her former suitor to press his attentions.

She almost flies the coop with the heavy, but suddenly realizes that she is wronging hubby. Calls up a school in Connecticut and asks his son to come home, and the couple clinch in a happy fadeout.

The only really interesting role in the play, that of the old family governess, was made doubly entertaining in the capable hands of Mary Carr. Hugh Huntley plays the same role he had in the play, the unwelcome suitor. The boy role is superbly enacted by Freddie Burke Frederick. His splendid work was curtailed to only a few lines and more from him would have been enjoyed.

Directed by Russell Mack.

SIDNEY HARRIS.

## "The Mounted Stranger"

(UNIVERSAL)

At Loew's New York

Another Hoot Gibson Western, but far inferior to Gibson's last production, *The Long, Long Trail*. Gibson seems to be more talkie shy than he was in his first production and the story and directorship are not nearly as good.

Louise Lorraine, Francis Ford, Malcolm White and Robert Burns ably support the cowboy in this piece, but one misses the little Ellers lady that Gibson is reported to be wedding in the near future. It might not be a bad idea to have the couple teamed together in the future, as it will do the bashful Gibson no harm to have someone near him that he knows very well, especially when he's talking.

The story is the usual Western done over for another release title. The usual bad men make their appearance, and, true to form, Hoot wins the girl in the end after everything seems hopeless and the boy apparently beaten.

The sound is okay and this production will play successfully, as any production will, in the theaters that cater to a class that must have its action.

JAMES F. LUNDY.

## "She Couldn't Say No"

(WARNER BROTHERS-VITAPHONE)

At the Strand Theater

There may be plenty of knockers against the talkies, but if it wasn't for the spoken screen there would be no Winnie Lightner to amuse the flicker fans. If she can't amuse a person, then the party is in a state of gloom where he or she as the case may be is beyond all hope. She is starred in *She Couldn't Say No*, and has a role that is tailor-made for her. With Winnie at the helm and the superb Chester Morris as first mate, together with a thoroughly interesting story, this talkie is an interest holder and entertainment provider of the nth degree. This is said from the bottom of the heart, and not because of the big plug they give this publication.

The story treats of a much-resorted-to subject, but this is excusable because of the excellent treatment it is accorded. While the plot may be simple on the surface, it has plenty of depth brought about thru the casting and cleverly constructed situations. Winnie takes on the role of a night club singer, who is just "nuts" about a young, handsome racketeer. He is fed up with his game and ditches it by managing Winnie, in whom he sees great possibilities. Winnie looks much older than Morris, and to that may be attributed his considering her only as a pal and giving his love to a young society gal.

She's heartbroken, but takes it on the jaw gamely. By this time she has made a name for herself, but thru losing him she ducks the Main Stem to submerge herself in a honky-tonk show. Her pianist and songwriter locates her, tho, and induces her to make a comeback. She does—and how! As the star of a musical comedy hit, she knocks them for a loop. Unhappy ending comes about when she learns that Morris was plugged aplenty in a gun battle, and she was by his side when his dying words were to the effect that she was a real pal. She later learned he was the secret backer of her show, and the fade-out has her going on just the same because it is for him.

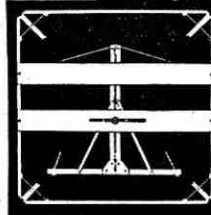
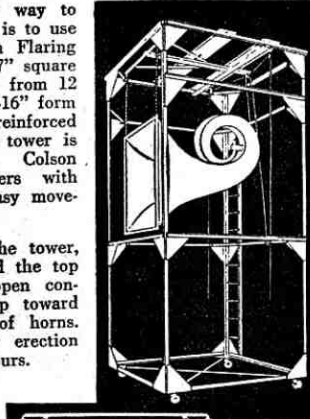
The Broadway lingo is used continually thruout, and there could be no more (See *REVIEWS* on page 25)

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**Presentation Notes**

FRANK CAMBRIA'S new Publix unit is attractively titled, *Aladdin's Revue*. Revue presages a colorful Oriental atmosphere, and Vincent Minelli, costume designer, and Carmine Vitolo, scenic designer, have certainly a wide latitude on which to lavish their particular talents. Rene Riano is importantly placed in the show and this "girl with the rubber legs" will, no doubt, pull many an amusing wonder. Others in the cast include Du Calion and the melodious and stepping Cheerleaders Quartet.

THE GAY NINETIES is mirthfully treated in Boris Petroff's Publix show, *Tin Type Revue*. What with the Hoboken revivals, *Sweet Adeline*, and Marion Davies' projected film, *The Gay Nineties*, this production comes at a moment when the dear dead Mauve Decade is being satirized on a wholesale scale.

HARRY SAVOY dropped out of the Publix unit *Painted Melodies* last week at the Paradise, Chicago. Forsythe and Kelly left the *They're Off* unit to fill the vacancy.

AIMEE SEMPLE McPHERSON is now a film actress as a result of her voice and screen tests which were made January 27 at Tec-Art studios, Los Angeles, preparatory to the evangelist's entrance into talking pictures. Mrs. McPherson made two tests, one a sermon and the other reel for the Voice of Hollywood, recording her thoughts on the film capital and talking pictures. Production is soon to start on the full-length talking picture, *Clay in the Potter's Hands*, based upon the life of the evangelist in which she will be featured.

FANCHON & MARCO have signed Lucille Page, with all managerial rights for a term of five years. Plans are under way in the Fanchon & Marco office for starring the Page girl, either as a feature of one of their *Ideas*, or by playing her as an outright single attraction in the many theaters they book.

BILLY TAYLOR has left vaude, and legit. in favor of touring the deluxers. He will open February 22 as the m. c. at the Capitol, New York, and will follow with the rest of the Loew picture houses. Taylor recently played in *Great Day* and also *Hello, Daddy*.

EVA FAY, mindreader, is being handled by Dave Rafael, former Pantages agent, for a tour of Eastern picture houses on the same basis as when he represented Harry Carey. Will work on a strictly percentage basis. She is heading a five-people act.

TIN TYPES is the title for the new Publix unit which will open next week at the Olympia, New Haven. Charles Hill has been given the m. c. assignment and the cast includes Llorra Hoffman, Lassiter Brothers, Three White Flashes and the Dorothea Berke Girls.

WINNIE LIGHTNER, star of Warner pictures, returned to the stage this week for personal appearances at the deluxers. Her route calls for playing the Branford, Newark; Stanley, Jersey City, and Mastbaum, Philadelphia. Following this she will head for Hollywood for another Vitaphone.

BUDDY ROGERS, of the flickers, has been booked for a personal appearance next week at the Paramount, New York, and will probably draw a record-breaking b. o. of femme admirers.

RIVER MEMORIES unit had to lay off this week instead of playing the Metropolitan, Boston, on the Publix route because Ted Lewis and his bandsters got first call for the house. However, the unit will show into the Paramount, New York, next week.

TED LEWIS will again dish out a Publix unit when he plays the Mastbaum, Philadelphia, next week. *Tip Toppers Revue* was slated originally for the house, but instead will hold forth on the stage of the Earle, Philadelphia.

DOROTHY BERKE will head for Florida next week for a brief vacation. She just finished staging an old-fashioned ballet for her girls in Boris Petroff's unit *Tin Types*.

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- ATKINSON, Neb.—Lyric Theatre.
- ARLINGTON, Mass.—Regent Theatre.
- ALPENA, S. D.—Anjune Theatre.
- ALBUQUERQUE, N. M.—Pastime Theatre.
- ALEXANDER CITY, Ala.—Strand Theatre.
- BROOKLYN—Gates Theatre.
- BOONE, Ia.—Princess Theatre.
- BAY CITY, Mich.—Temple Theatre.
- BARTLESVILLE, Okla.—Odeon Theatre.
- BROOKSVILLE, Fla.—Victory Theatre.
- BREWTON, Ala.—Vaudette Theatre.
- BUTLER, Mo.—Fisk's Opera House.
- COLE CAMP, Mo.—Star Theatre.
- CULPEPER, Va.—Fairfax Theatre.

- CINCINNATI—Park Theatre.
- CLEVELAND—Princess, Eclair, La-Salle, Norwood, Regent and Corlett Theaters.
- COFFEYVILLE, Kan.—Lyric Theatre.
- CAMERON, Mo.—Ritz Theatre.
- CANNELTON, Ind.—Irvin Theatre.
- CONCORD, Calif.—Majestic Theatre.
- COUNCIL GROVE, Kan.—Stella Theatre.
- CLEVELAND—Crown and Arion Theaters.
- DENVER—Cameron Theatre.
- DE SOTO, Mo.—Jefferson Theatre.
- DEL RIO, Tex.—R. & R. Casino Theatre.
- DADE CITY, Fla.—Crescent Theatre.
- ELKHART, Ind.—Orpheum Theatre.
- EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—Home Theatre.
- EXIRA, Ia.—Palace Theatre.
- ESCONDIDO, Calif.—Kinema Theatre.
- ELDON, Ia.—New Theatre.
- ERIE, Pa.—Colonial Theatre.
- ELY, Nev.—Ely Theatre.

**Exploitation Tips**

The Billboard will be glad to receive and publish accounts of exploitation stunts or ideas that exhibitors have found successful. Address your communications to H. David Straus, Motion Picture Editor, The Billboard, 1560 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

**BURNING UP (Para.)**—Credit Eddie Hitchcock, Paramount Theater p. a., with this one. Eddie secured a racing car and used it before and during the engagement of this production at the Paramount. A motorcycle that carries fire equipment was also used to plug the picture. Stills of the racing cars with Firestone tires secured 100 choice windows out of the 500 windows in Greater New York belonging to dealers handling Firestone tires. The trade name of the tire company appears prominently in several scenes in this production, and exhibitors have a natural tieup here that should net them a great deal of exploitation.

**UNHOLY NIGHT (M-G-M)**—Al Kaufman, manager of the Great Lakes Theater, Buffalo, N. Y., used a cut-out ad contest to put this feature across. Kaufman ran an ad in the local paper that was jumbled up in small pieces. The contestants won free tickets by cutting the ad up and putting the puzzle together and naming the actor. The answers to the contest had to be left in the lobby of the theater, which drew several thousand contestants inside the theater. Kaufman is of the opinion that once you get a patron in the lobby the patron is sold.

**DYNAMITE (M-G-M)**—Sim Allen, manager of the Avon Theater, Utica, N. Y., arranged a dynamite sale at one of the local stores in Utica to help sell this production. The store carried a great deal of newspaper advertising on the sale, giving the picture and theater a good break in the copy. A Goodyear balloon was used over the theater to exploit the picture. It was so good it broke into the local papers, which, by the way, is some job in Utica. Allen was assisted by an M-G-M exploiter.

**SHOW OF SHOWS (Warner Bros.)**—An illuminated sandwich man was used to put this feature over when it played the Capitol Theater, Sydney, Australia. The letters were cut out in the box which the man was developed in, with batteries being carried around the man's waist. The sign would flash intermittently.

**CONDEMNED (U. A.)**—Montague Salmon, manager of the Publix house in Macon, Ga., dressed his lobby up like a prison when this attraction played his house. The entire lobby and mezzanine had a tropical atmosphere as well. Bookstores furnished window displays and bookmarks that were used in the public and private libraries around the city. Large banners were strung up over the theater marquee, which contained cut-outs as well.

**IT'S A GREAT LIFE (M-G-M)**—Free instruction in the Duncan Sisters' Hop was the highlight of the campaign put over by George Murphy, manager of the Alder Theater, Portland, Ore., when this production played his house. The tieup was with a local dancing school that in return for the advertising and publicity given the tieup by the local paper furnished instruction. A large ballroom in the city put on It's a Great Life Night and offered prizes for the best dressed couple wearing a Hoosier costume. Bales of hay, harness and other barnyard accessories decorated the hall. A special night program was offered by the dancing school, with 10 girls doing the dance with the school instructors participating. The stunt was good for considerable newspaper space.

**SHOW OF SHOWS (Warner Bros.)**—Because bicycle riding is featured in one of the principal acts of this revue, Warner Bros.' Downtown Theater in Los Angeles recently staged a bike race from

Hollywood to the downtown district as a part of its exploitation campaign. Thirty-five entrants competed for the prizes offered, four of the participants riding antique models. Joe Brown started the race from the theater in Hollywood to the Los Angeles house. Much publicity resulted from the stunt.

**THE KISS (M-G-M)**—Just about the time that the Fox Theater in San Francisco played this production the Kiss Proof Products Company decided to distribute 5,000 samples of its product. Manager S. Pechner tied in with the manufacturers and made the distribution of the samples the highlight of his campaign on the picture. The Owl Drug Stores in the city donated several choice window displays on the tieup. The samples were distributed in envelopes as gifts from Greta Garbo, the star of the picture. The copy read "Compliments of Greta Garbo, now appearing in the fiery French drama, *The Kiss*, at the Fox Theater". The window copy used read "If Greta Garbo, appearing in *The Kiss*, at the Fox Theater, had used Kiss Proof toilet articles she might have avoided the fatal consequences that befell her". The stunt created a lot of friends for the theater.

**THE GRAND PARADE (Pathe)**—Another campaign that Rutgers Nelson figured prominently in. The 71st Regiment Army Band was dressed up in minstrel attire and paraded up and down in front of the theater playing songs from the show. Music from the production figured heavily on the broadcasting programs of several stations before and during the run of the picture. Music stores along Broadway gave the production a great deal of window space and carried stills of the principals. An exhibit of old minstrel photos was made in the empty window next door to the theater along with a number of old programs.

**SALLY (F. N.)**—When this production played the Earle Theater in Washington a most comprehensive campaign was put over to let the people know it was in town. Back-page space on the house programs of 10 Stanley Crandall houses was used a week before the picture's engagement. Song slides with the most popular numbers from the picture were also used. A 24-sheet cutout of Marilyn Miller was used on the theater marquee with streamers down to the building. Announcement was made for a week daily over the Columbia broadcasting station in the city. The Lux Company secured 20 complete windows on the picture on its tieup with Lux soap. Fifteen hundred hotel cards were placed in local hotels.

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REVIEWS

(Continued from page 23)

effective slingers of it than Winnie Lightner and Chester Morris. They made their roles real. Johnny Arthur rang up a beautiful performance, and so did Sally Eilers, Louise Beavers and Tully Marshall. The story comes from the smart pen of Benjamin M. Kaye, and the really charming direction was justly entrusted to the capable Lloyd Bacon.

This picture should be a big go anywhere, especially drawing with those who saw Miss Lightner in *Gold Diggers of Broadway* and Chester Morris in *Alibi*.  
SIDNEY HARRIS.

Silent Shorts

"Dangerclaim"  
(UNIVERSAL)

STYLE—Western.  
TIME—Twelve minutes.

This is one of the Pioneer Kid Series that Universal has been producing for no one in particular. Whether or not Universal plans to distribute these shorts cannot be determined, but it's certain that they are a loss to even the most gullible except perhaps a kids' matinee for extremely young boys and girls.

The kid has some mighty good qualities, but they are a loss in his present capacity. His father-director should at least give the boy a chance. J. F. L.

Sound Shorts

"The Sleeping Cutie"  
(RADIO PICTURES)

STYLE—Comedy.  
TIME—Fifteen minutes.

Hoke in all its glory is this two-reeler and at times reaches ridiculous heights, yet it's laugh compelling. So what's the difference? When reviewed the audience was laughing loudly and consistently. It is one of the H. C. Witwer Record Breaker Series, and has Alberta Vaughn, Albert Cooke and Lew Sargent playing conspicuous parts. The direction has been capably handled, with laugh situations built up just right, and Lewis R. Foster gets the credit.

It concerns an old judge who has a penchant for banquets and the stuff they make toasts with. After one of those affairs he comes home with a bum tummy. As a bracer he drinks some ink which he thought was whisky. As his tongue is discolored he and his servants think he's dying, so they summon his many relatives to his bedside. While they are waiting for his passing out, they greedily think about what he will leave them. But believing that "possession is nine points in the law" they start to tear the house apart in their haste to collect valuables. The old man wakes up to the fact that he only took ink, gets out of bed and kicks the mob out. An entertaining laughfest for the neighborhood houses. S. H.

Crosby Corners"  
(PATHE)

STYLE—Rubeville comedy.  
TIME—Eighteen minutes.

Another of a series of Rubeville comedies Pathe has found so pleasing to small-town accounts. The action and story are so near like that of a burlesque show that one gets the idea that it would pay the Mutual Wheel to play the small towns for profit if this series is going over like the house afire it is claimed to be doing.

A party for a returning son, with incidental songs and dances that are good, is featured. The recording is okeh and it's a certainty that this short will click in the provinces. J. F. L.

"Broadway Follies"  
(UNIVERSAL)

STYLE—Animated Oswald.  
TIME—Six minutes.

A very good short. Oswald does his stuff in a cabaret and all the old animated sex appeal is introduced and is really funny. The creators of Oswald are due more and more credit for what they have accomplished with this series of comedies. They are the one bright light in the entire Universal short-subject release.

Sound okeh and will play well anywhere provided you don't have to buy the balance of the U. shorts for this group. J. F. L.

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"Room 909"  
(VITAPHONE 921-22)

STYLE—Comedy playlet.  
TIME—Sixteen minutes.

Robert Emmett Keane and Claire Whitney, standard vaudeville couple, have brought to the talkie fold their familiar laugh producer, *Room 909*, by Homer B. Mason. Since Keane and Miss Whitney are well acquainted with the vehicle and vaudegoers went big for it several seasons ago, the canned version of it is certain to be good—and it most assuredly is. There's no use keeping it on the shelf when some spending money is in the offing.

Playlet itself is just chock-full of laugh-packed lines, and is doubled in effectiveness thru Keane's keen comedy foresight and Miss Whitney doing a perfect straight. An undertaker's convention at a hotel makes for a rush of business at the hostelry, and the proprietor's daughter gives a hand in cleaning the rooms. One of the big-shot undertakers is attracted by the girl as she straightens out his room. So they both resort to a gabfest. She's cold at first, but at the fadeout she accepts his marriage proposal. Murray Roth directed, and capably indeed. S. H.

"Niagara Falls"  
(VITAPHONE 3778)

STYLE—Comedy.  
TIME—Eleven minutes.

Bryant Washburn and Helen Jerome Eddy got a tough break in being slipped *Niagara Falls* for a short. The skit concerns the "good old days," and that's about the way it is treated. It looks to be like one of those things put out when talkie shorts were first introduced. Seems as tho the comedy relies mainly on the situations, as Washburn and Miss Eddy haven't many lines to work with. As comedy fare it's pretty stingy on the laughs.

It concerns a married couple of the Gay Nineties, who ever since their marriage planned a trip to Niagara Falls, but each time had to postpone it. They intended to go for their honeymoon, but couldn't go as wife's dad needed financial aid. They planned to go five years later, but baby took sick. Twenty-five years later they made preparations again for the trip, but their boy absconded with money from his bank and pa had to make good. They finally had to be content with tacking a picture of the Falls on the wall and get the effect by turning the shower on in the bathroom.

Directed by William McCann. S. H.

"Traffic Troubles"  
(UNIVERSAL)

STYLE—Comedy.  
TIME—Twelve minutes.

Depicting to no one's amusement just what a fool anyone can be in traffic. The comedy as a whole is just so much time lost and it would pay to put this one on the shelf. It's a certainty that so few will like it that it won't pay.

It is evident that a cameraman went out with the boy and girl, unknown, and simply shot the pair while they were making funny faces and tying up traffic. Both the principals are the type any decent motorist would like to kill while driving.

Sound okeh, but it's poor fare. J. F. L.

"Splashin' Thru"  
(PATHE)

STYLE—Race Sportlight.  
TIME—Eight minutes.

Swimming as done by animals and anthropoids. Some very good shots of the young Norelius lady who claims several championship records. Other shots in the short are of greased-pole walking over one of Miami's swimming pools and some very good, as well as interesting, under-water shots taken at Silver Springs, Fla.

For the people in the colder climates this short will cause a great deal of longing for the warmer places. The shots are good enough to make you wish that you were there.

Sound recording okeh and suitable for all runs. J. F. L.

"The Family Next Door"  
(PARAMOUNT)

STYLE—Comedy.  
TIME—Eighteen minutes.

One of the very best comedies that has been produced since the inception of sound. It concerns the doings of two families, one of which attempts to stop the other from fighting and whose members wind up in a battle themselves, only to be helped out by the neighbor. After each battle, and there are several, the two families join in a drink with each other and pretty soon everyone is feeling right. Charles Ruggles is in the leading role and is well supported by an unnamed cast.

The sound is okeh and this production will be a laugh riot on any theater program. J. F. L.

"Sky Skippers"  
(PATHE)

STYLE—Animated Aesop.  
TIME—Five minutes.

A very good Aesop Fable. Good animation, with comedy that is pleasing for those that especially care for this type short. Naturally the skipper is the goat of the many tricks that are pulled off on him by friend cat, which are due to keep the younger generation, and many of the old, in constant laughter.

Recording is okeh. This one should please anywhere. J. F. L.

STAGE SHOWS

Roxy, New York

Von Grona, the continental star, who made such a favorable impression at the Roxy last winter, returns to the haunts of his first triumphs as one of the features of this week's presentation at the Cathedral of the Motion Picture. Von Grona is the chap who originated the ballet of mechanics, symbolizing labor, its various machines and the movements embodied in their motive power. This latest number is danced to Liszt's *Rhapsody* and the featured artist is assisted by the Roxy ballet. The work is more of body and arms than of the pedal extremities, tho it is beautifully done and proved one of the sure applause getters of the program.

The *Two Grenadiers* is the second scene, in which Harold Van Duzee and Jose Santiago appear as the leading singing figures, two French revolutionists. As one is dying in the arms of his

comrade the scene shifts in on the entire Roxy chorus dressed as Napoleonists, with the famous leader as the central figure of the group. They sing *The Marseillaise*, bringing the scene to a thrilling curtain.

The third and last scene of the presentation is titled *La Grande Jardiniere*, with Beatrice Belkin singing the solo part and Patricia Bowman and Leonide Massine appearing as the solo dancers. The Roxy ballet is grouped as the flowers in an immense jardiniere, while the Roxyettes appear as a gold frieze about the urn. Both groups offer two interesting precision numbers that are roundly applauded. H. D. STRAUSS.

Capitol, New York

Shaw and Lee, those two amusing comics, well known to both vaudeville and the musical comedy stage, top this week's presentation at the Capitol Theater. Getting a billing a little different from the usual headline act in that they are starred in the production instead of being featured, the comedians go thru their usual comedy routine, brightened here and there with a new gag or bit of business, in a thoroughly amusing manner. They naturally held the spot just before the finale and prove the genuine laugh-getters of the show; in fact, the only laughgetters, and none other was needed.

This newest presentation is an Arthur Knorr production titled *Pearls*, staged under the supervision of Louis K. Sidney. The setting, as one might surmise from the title, carries out the pearl idea as do the costumes of the show girls and the Chester Hale dancers. Particularly colorful is the lighting on the white satin costumes worn by the Hale girls in their first number.

Jerry Coe and Brothers, who have been appearing in vaudeville for the last few weeks, having been a feature on the Palace program only three weeks ago, deliver a nice bit of dancing and instrumental work on accordions and clarinets. Desha and Sansone present an adagio in slow motion that is out of the ordinary on account of its tempo. Tito Coral, a male singer, introduces a couple of numbers.

Al Evans is the guest conductor and his slow delivery in announcing the various numbers led to the impression that he may have been new in his talk. H. D. STRAUSS.

Paramount, New York

*Aladdin's Revels* is the title of the stage show this week at the Paramount. The bill is headed by Renee Riano and DuCillion, with the Four Cheer Leaders' Quartet; Ray Teal, master of ceremonies, and the Gambarelli Girls in support. Renee Riano and DuCillion well deserve the headline billing. This pair of real laugh provokers do some fine work that is well received and are called for a number of encores. The Four Cheer Leaders, veterans on the Public Time, are a well-balanced quartet and do a couple of numbers so well the customers insist on more. These boys are not original, but they can sing. The Maria Gambarelli Girls are by far the prettiest and best trained dancers that have graced the Paramount stage in a long time. The girls do some difficult routine stuff that shows a great deal of training. Paramount should patronize Madame Gambarelli more. Ray Teal is the m. c. and does his job in a nice enough manner. The boy has personality and doesn't ruin his work with a lot of attempted songs and gags as a number of his predecessors have been known to do.

The bill is far above the average seen on the Paramount stage. JAMES F. LUNDY.

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# Orchestra and Melody

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## "Red" Curtis Is Held Over

**Gets 3 additional weeks at Castle Farm, Cincinnati—band taking well**

"Red" Curtis, whose 11-piece combination has been holding forth at Castle Farm, Cincinnati's leading night resort, for the last six weeks, last week was contracted to remain over at that place for an additional three weeks. The Curtis band has been doing very well at the Cincinnati dine and dance place.

Before coming to Castle Farm "Red" Curtis and his boys played for two weeks at Crystal Gardens, formerly the Spanish Band Box, Dayton, O., under the M. C. A. banner.

In the Curtis organization are Bill Boyd, Pete McVay and Stan Severance, reeds; Homer Batterson, first trumpet; George Mounce, second trumpet; Mort Croy, trombone; Bob Robinson, banjo and voice; Ray Hasenheyer, bass; Carlos (Cody) Johnson, drums; Joe Mitchell, piano, and Red Curtis, director. The arranging is handled by Bill Boyd, Stan Severance and Bob Robinson.

Curtis organized his first orchestral combination back in 1924. Later he played with "Fatty" Arbuckle's own band at the latter's Plantation Club in Culver City, Calif. Following the latter engagement he again took out his own band for a tour thru the Middle West.

## Isham Jones Band Back at Schroeder

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Isham Jones and his orchestra are back at the Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee, for an indefinite stay, and on their reopening last Sunday they broke all house records.

Jones and his outfit of 14 men are credited with having been in a large measure responsible for the record attendance at the recent Minneapolis Automobile Show.

## Ernie Palmquist on Tour

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 15.—Ernie Palmquist and his Carolina Collegians, who have been playing at the Roof Garden, Galesburg, Ill., for the last six weeks, last night began a tour of theaters, ballrooms and clubs thru Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and West Virginia, under the direction of the Conkley offices, with headquarters in this city. There are 10 men in the Collegians lineup.

## Dan Russo Boys On New Location

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Dan Russo and his Oriole Orchestra terminated their engagement at Beachview Gardens here Thursday night and last evening opened at the Edgewater Beach Hotel for an extended run.

The Oriole aggregation will be heard nightly from the Edgewater over Station KYW, as well as one night a week over the National Broadcasting System.

A new dance number, *You Left Me So Blue*, written by Dan Russo and Victor Young, is showing up well here and is being featured by a number of band and vocalists over the local stations.

## Lucile Carewe Books San Antonio Resort

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Lucile Carewe, club booker, now has Shadowland, well-known San Antonio (Tex.) resort on her books and has sent some clever entertainers to the border city. At the present time she has Carol Lewis, blues singer; the Dades, dancing team, and Dollie Darcee, dancer, at that place.

Miss Carewe recently placed under five-year contract a nine-year-old girl from St. Louis—Julia Brugnone—who gives promise of developing into a "child wonder". In recent appearances here she proved herself proficient in every sort of dance—tap, acrobatic and others. She is a sister of Jimmy Burco, of the team of Burco and Mills, recently at the College Inn. Miss Carewe is convinced that she has a real "find" in this youngster.

## Fred Kline Clicks In Hot Springs Run

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Fred Kline and his orchestra, who have been playing at the Kingsway Hotel, Hot Springs, Ark., since last November, have become prime favorites with the hotel's classy clientele and will remain there for the balance of the winter, playing for concert and dance.

The band played for two years at the Mayo Hotel, Tulsa, Okla., where it gained a wide popularity under the name of "Voice of Oklahoma".

## Chicago Musicians Seek New Quarters

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The Chicago Federation of Musicians, for many years located in the Musicians' Club Building at 175 West Washington street, is looking for new quarters somewhere in the Loop and in all probability will move within the next two or three months.

The Musicians' Club recently received an offer of approximately \$500,000 for its property. The proposition soon will be put to a vote and it is expected a deal will be made disposing of the property. It is probable that the purchasers will erect a new building on the property as the present structure is an old out-of-date five-story building that does not yield a revenue commensurate with the value of the site. Most of the building's tenants are labor unions.

## Campbell-Vester Band Begins Extended Tour

The Campbell-Vester Band, formerly known as the Aaron Campbell Orchestra, has just begun a tour thru Western Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma, under the banner of the National Music Service.

Bert Bester, who has been associated with Campbell for the last year, is in charge of the combination. Stan Story and Floyd Le Porin, sax men, recently joined the outfit.

## Frank J. Novak Unit Back at Jockey Club

MIAMI, Feb. 15.—Frank J. Novak, Jr., who for the last seven seasons has directed orchestras of repute in Miami, is back with his band at the Miami Jockey Club. He is surrounded by 14 musicians.

At the termination of Novak's contract with the Miami Jockey Club this season he will again return to New York City, where he may be located in one of the theaters.

## Art Hickman Will Filed

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—Arthur G. (Art) Hickman, one of the creators of jazz music, left an estate worth more than \$125,000, it became known when his will was filed for probate. Hickman died here recently.

Hickman, in a will dated May 4, 1923, left \$20,000 cash to his sister, Pearl Hickman, and the remainder of the estate to his mother, Mrs. Lucinda Hickman.

## "Names" To Be Used At Cincinnati Park

Holman Becraft, who will this summer have charge of booking the bands at Coney Island, Cincinnati's leading amusement resort, in a visit to the orchestra desk last week, stated that "name" bands will be used at Moonlite Gardens, Coney Island, this season on a two-week change policy, instead of keeping one band all season, as heretofore.

Moonlite Gardens, one of the finest ballrooms in the Cincinnati territory, is undergoing many improvements, Becraft announces, and it is likely that Henry Theis and his Victor Recording Orchestra, who have been featured at the place for the last two summer seasons, will open the 1930 season at the popular dancant.

Becraft was formerly a well-known orchestra leader in the Middle West and was the organizer of the Chubb-Steinberg Orchestra, which was a prime favorite in and around Cincinnati four years ago.

## Buddy Burtson Back At Richmond Hostel

RICHMOND, Va., Feb. 15.—Buddy Burtson and his orchestra have returned to the Winter Garden of the Hotel Richmond to remain for the balance of the winter season.

Included in the Burtson aggregation are Ben Tassman, trumpet; Barney Abrams, piano; Jack Abrams, sax; Ralph Dexter, banjo; Max Braun, bass, and Buddy Burtson, violin and leader. Burtson has just placed one of his units on a vaudeville tour.

## Henry's Chicagoans Replace Steffy Unit

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Feb. 15.—J. A. (Hank) Henry and his Chicagoans have replaced Carl Steffy and his band at Fitzer's Dixie Inn. The Henry music makers are carded to remain here indefinitely.

In the roster are J. F. Cody, drums and entertainer; Nick Nixon, piano, voice and arranger; Earl Wilcox, basses; Les Robinson, trumpet, violin and voice; Luella Doree, piano and entertainer, and "Hank" Henry, reeds, leader and manager.

## Golden Gate Girls on 15th Week in Philly

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—Frances Ferguson and her Golden Gate Girls, under the management of Vincent DeGuerre, are now in their 15th week in this city, playing clubs and dances. The outfit is now in its seventh year.

In the Golden Gate personnel are Alice Heath, leader; LaVerne Douglas, Shirley Alley, Everal Williams, Maybird Orman, Edythe Hess and Pauline Faig. The girls play 18 different instruments.

## Jo Astoria Doing Well

MIAMI, Feb. 15.—Jo Astoria and his orchestra are now in their second winter season at the Columbus Hotel here, where the combo is reported to be getting over better than ever.

The Astoria boys are heard from 12 noon to 2 p.m. each day in the main dining room of the Columbus, and at night knock out the dance rhythms in the Biscayne Room atop the hotel. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 3 to 5 p.m., the combination plays for afternoon teas.

Ted Kennedy and Dale Clark are back with the Astoria outfit, and the present lineup includes Ted Kennedy, violin; Walter Singleton, sax and clarinet; Harry Traylor, sax and clarinet; Carlyle Stevenson, baritone sax, trumpet and voice; Ralph Quarrier, piano; Dale Clark, drums and bells; Orville Haynes, bass, and Jo Astoria, banjo and director.

## Chuck Garber Opens At Roseland, Omaha

OMAHA, Neb., Feb. 15.—Chuck Garber and his orchestra, who for the last three months have been on an extended tour thru Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, moved into Roseland Gardens here this week to remain for an unlimited period. Before going on tour, the Garber crowd played a successful engagement at Danceland, Chicago.

In the Garber orchestra are Roy Burlington, reeds; Carl Miller, reeds; Cal Calaway, arranger, banjo and voice; Lewis Beck, drums; Matt Rehm, arranger and piano; DeBolt, arranger and trumpet; H. Hires, trumpet; Perce Bully, trombone and voice; Cecil Avery, bass, and Chuck Garber, reeds.

## Terre Haute Club Robbed

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Feb. 15.—Five unmasked bandits, armed with machine guns, held up Harry Barbour, manager of the Chatterbox night club, and 30 patrons of the place recently. They relieved Barbour of \$1,500 in cash and took cash and jewels from the customers amounting to \$2,000. The robbers escaped in a waiting automobile.

## Isa Foster on Road

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Feb. 15.—Isa Foster and Her Girls have just wound up a nine months' stay in the Spanish Room of the Hotel Ohio, this city, and after a string of one-nighters thru the Middle West, will tour thru Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, beginning February 28. The outfit is set for a location job this summer.

## Beasley Smith For Milwaukee

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Beasley Smith and his orchestra are scheduled to open an extended engagement at the Eagles Ballroom, Milwaukee, March 1, replacing Brady's Singing Band, which has been there for some time. Smith played the ballroom two years ago.

Brady's band has been signed to play at Palmer's Park, Lansing, Mich., for the coming summer season. It carries 11 men, headed by Ralph Webster, as master of ceremonies, and every man is a singer. Both the Brady and Smith engagements were arranged thru the Amusement Service Corporation.

**Melody Mart Notes**

SOL GOLDSTEIN, of Richmond, Va., after his success with his latest song, *Since the Country Has Gone Dry*, is now hard at work on a new number of Spanish tempo.

JACK KNEBEL and Eddie Jones have just finished work on two new ditties, captioned *I Still Remember You* and *Let's Just Stay in Love Forever*.

THE W. C. HANDY Music Company, New York, is planning a revival on *O Death, Where Is Thy Sting*, written by Clarence A. Stout, and originally published in 1917. The song was featured by the late Bert Williams in *Ziegfeld's Follies*.

HENRY M. BURNS, of Nocona, Tex., has just released a new waltz number, entitled *Oleona*. Burns wrote the words and Juree Shivers the music.

BERNARD PRAGER, sales manager of the Robbins Music firm, New York, is at present touring the West Coast in the interest of his company.

EDDY JANIS, formerly with Harms, Inc., is now associated with the new American Music Corporation, which has just established headquarters in the Majestic Building, Los Angeles. Janis is in charge of the office, and is assisted by Joseph Bishop.

GENE McCORMICH, professional manager of the S. L. Cross Music Company, has just returned to his home office in Seattle, Wash., after an extended business trip along the West Coast.

HENRY SULLIVAN is a recent addition to the Pathe music staff.

**Ballroom Notes**

MANCHESTER, N. H., Feb. 17.—The selection of Miss New Hampshire of 1930 will be made at Le Chateau Ballroom Wednesday night. Lieut. Felix Ferdinand's Havana Orchestra is furnishing the dance tunes at Le Chateau.

JACK ROBERTSON, vocalist, of Pittsburgh, has just lined up with the Andrew Johnson Hotel Orchestra, Knoxville, Tenn., of which Maynard Baird is director.

BERT KLAUSON has closed 21 weeks of bangin' the piano at the Roof Garden night club, Sioux City, Ia., and is now located at the Turin Inn, all-night bright spot in that city. Bert states that the Roof Garden is now under new management and is operating on a two-nights-per-week policy. Shipman's Winter Garden, he says, is doing okay with its band and floor show policy.

EVAN S. CUNNINGHAM is leader of the orchestra at the Mandarin Cafe, Fort Wayne, Ind., and has held that position for the last four months. It was recently erroneously stated that Harry Swift was leader at that place.

DON COLEBOURNE and his Louisvillians began a two weeks' run at College Inn, Madison, Wis., February 11. Following the Madison run the outfit will begin a swing thru Iowa.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 15.—The Trianon Ballroom, at Sutter near Van Ness, has been reopened, with Walter Kraugrill and his orchestra as the musical feature.

BIG SPRINGS, Tex., Feb. 15.—Harrison's Texans are now in their 20th week of an indefinite engagement at the Casino Ballroom, this city. The Texans are in their ninth year.

WALTER DAVISON'S Louisville Loons, stage band at the Public Piccadilly Theater, Rochester, N. Y., are now a regular Saturday night feature over Station WHEC. Robert Webb's Sod Busters are heard over the same station earlier in the evening.

JOHNSON CITY, N. Y., Feb. 15.—The Roy Royce Orchestra, under the direction of Frank Whitman, formerly pianist with the Al Katz Band, made its first appearance recently at the George F. Pavilion

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here, and will be heard regularly at the various dance places in this section for the balance of the winter. The aggregation includes several members of the Al Katz Orchestra, which disbanded recently in Scranton, Pa.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 15.—Fred Dexter's Pennsylvanians, who have just concluded a successful stay in Sioux City, Ia., will tonight begin an unlimited engagement at the Winter Garden Ballroom here. The personnel has been the same for the last three years and includes Izzy King, "Jew" Stoetzel, Joe Sobota, Tommy Miller, George Krumm, Fred Stell, Leonard Krumm, Les Beigel, Rex Jenkins and Art Baumgartner.

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 15.—Cole McElroy's Spanish Ballroom has inaugurated a special night for the old-time-modern dance. Its popularity was evidenced by the fact that more than 1,100 attended the mid-week event this week. Lyle Lewis and his Old-Time Orchestra and McElroy's Greater Oregonians, under the direction of Prentice Gross, play alternately. A "Chasing Rainbows" night also went over big, and will be repeated.

**Downie With Lucile Carewe**

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Walter A. Downie, for 12 years head of the home theater department of Western Vaudeville, is now connected with Lucile Carewe, club booking office.

**Musical Musings**

BENNIE MOTEN and his Victor Recording Orchestra have been booked for an unlimited engagement at the Ritz Ballroom, Wichita, Kan.

JIMMY GREEN and his orchestra have been contracted for the Cocoanut Grove, Chicago South Side cafe. They will broadcast over Station WMAQ.

LEROY SHORT, first trumpeter with the Rainbow Ramblers Orchestra, left recently for the South, on a short business trip in the interest of the band.

RUSS BOLIN and his Original Cotton Pickers, who have been touring thru South Carolina and Georgia, will return to North Carolina shortly to play the midwinter dances at Davidson College.

D. G. BARTON, of the Amusement Service Corporation, Chicago, made a business trip to Cincinnati last week and returned to the Windy City by airplane. So enthusiastic was he over air travel, that his associate, B. T. Stevens, is thinking of adopting the same mode of travel on a business trip to the Southwest.

JACK BRUCE and his band are at present playing one-night stands in the Pittsburgh district. In the personnel are Ken O'Toole, piano; Ed Wittig, trumpet; Ed Nicemonger, trumpet; Ed

(See MUSINGS on page 29)

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# Dramatic Stock

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## Stock Clicks In 'Interlude'

**O'Neill play draws capacity for Bainbridge at Shubert, Minneapolis, Minn.**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Feb. 15.—The Bainbridge Players opened a two-week run February 9 of Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude* to a capacity audience. The players handled their lines in their usually expert style and were roundly applauded for their endeavors. The current bill by the Twin Cities' only stock company is one of a list of attractive bills listed for appearance here by them within the next few months. Following the final week of *Strange Interlude* Craven's *The 19th Hole* is programmed.

Other offerings released for appearance at the Shubert, the home of the Bainbridge Players, are Florence Reed in three weeks of repertoire; Blanche Yurka, a like run of repertoire; *All God's Chillen Got Wings*, *Romance*, *Let Us Be Gay*, *Courage*, *Salt Water* and *The Jade God*.

A. G. (Buzz) Bainbridge is President; Al G. Kells, business manager, and Wm. Reuss, treasurer. *Strange Interlude* played at \$1.75 top and 75 cents low.

## Pollock Off to Coast For "Broken Dishes" Cast

NEW YORK, Feb. 16.—Percy Pollock, character actor, has gone to the Pacific Coast to appear with the Henry Duffin Players in *Broken Dishes*, Martin Flavin's comedy, now running on Broadway. Pollock was chosen by the late Frank Bacon to follow him in the title role of *Lightnin'*, and he appeared in the production at the El Capitan, Hollywood, last year, later playing in *Spite Corner* with Viola Dana at the President Theater in San Francisco. In *Broken Dishes*, which will be given its first performance on the circuit at the Dufwin in Oakland following *Let Us Be Gay*, the noted player will be seen as Cyrus Bumpsted, a downtrodden and overworked husband and father.

## Clayton and Solly Stock For Mount Vernon, N. Y.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., Feb. 17.—Frederic Clayton and Joseph Solly have taken a lease on the Westchester Theater and are operating a stock company under the name of the Mount Vernon Players. The cast includes the following: Marianne Risdon, Gene Cleveland, Kittle Cosgriff, Marie Pittman, Alyce Hogan, Stewart Hutchison, Chas. Penman, John Lott, Ted MacLean and John Pote.

The new stock opened with *Jonesy*, with *Nice Women* and *Lulu Belle* following. *My Son* is this week's bill.

## Clyde Elliott Moves Company to Evanston

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Clyde Elliott closed at the National Theater, South Side house, Sunday night and moved his company to the Evanston Theater, Evanston, opening there Monday with Don Dixon.

The National will be dark for about two weeks, it is understood, and its policy when it reopens is as yet undecided.

## Gifford Tries Two-for-One "Holiday" at Goodman

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 15.—As a stimulant for business, management of the Gifford Players, Senate Theater, announced a "\$1 Day" for Monday. Two 75-cent tickets are sold for \$1 that night only. Business continues good. E. G. Gifford appeared in the cast of this week's bill, *Wives Who Cheat*. It was his second appearance here in two years.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Philip Barry's smart comedy, *Holiday*, follows *The Field God* at the Goodman next Tuesday, with Ha'e McKeen and Katherine Krug playing the two young lovers. Others in the cast will be Johnny Case, Julia Seton, Ellen Root, Neal Caldwell, Carl Kroenke, Roman Bohnen, Harry Mervis and Bernard Ostertag. Hubert Osborne will direct.

## Detroit Civic Drops Old Casting System

DETROIT, Feb. 17.—The Detroit Civic Theater is attempting to break away from the star system in casting of parts and went the full length in the production of *Androcles and the Lion* of assigning non-speaking "super" roles to Barbara Willison and Emily Ross, who regularly lead the bill, the latter as ingenue.

Miss Nellie of *N'Orleans* is the attraction opening today for two weeks. Walter Sherwin appears as leading man. Jessie Bonstelle, managing director of the theater, makes her first appearance of the season in the cast of the same play.

## Keating Gets Ovation On Return to Brockton

BROCKTON, Mass., Feb. 15.—In the current production of the Brockton Players, at the City Theater, of *She Got What She Wanted*, the bulk of the broad, farcical comedy is carried by Kenneth Rowland and Lawrence Keating. Mr. Keating's reappearance as a member of the Brockton Players occasioned resounding applause from first nighters, to which he responded in a certain speech. He is enjoying the wide popularity established formerly, as a member of James J. Hayden's Brockton Players. Helena Gregg, second woman, after an absence of 10 days, in which she made a hurried trip to Indianapolis, Ind., to attend the funeral of a relative, returned to the cast of *She Got What She Wanted* Monday night.

The Brockton Players is 100 per cent Equity and Kenneth Rowland has been unanimously chosen deputy of the association for the present season.

Owing to the small cast of characters demanded by the current bill, a single set of scenery and the large number of laughs evoked, it would appear to be an excellent stock vehicle. The first night performance drew the largest audience of this season.

## Utica Groups Pledge Support to Spoken Play

UTICA, Feb. 15.—A symposium on the theater was staged by Brace Conning, director of the Utica Civic Theater, at the Majestic Theater last Sunday night, when representatives of the American Legion, Masonic bodies and Chamber of Commerce pledged their support to the spoken drama. Speakers included Samuel H. Miller, Jr., president of the Chamber of Commerce. The Civic Theater will have Violet Heming for two weeks again as guest star, starting February 24, when she will play *The Green Hat* and *Holiday*. Togo, known for his sliding-wire trick, will play with the company in *Excess Baggage*, starting February 17. Florence Tennant is with the company as Portia this week in *The Merchant of Venice*. Conning, with other members of the cast, is broadcasting bits from the shows over WIBX, local radio station.

## Charlotte Greenwood Back

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 17.—Charlotte Greenwood arrived from the East and started rehearsals for *She Couldn't Say No*, which resumed its engagement, interrupted by her mother's illness, at the Dufwin, in Oakland, yesterday. The same cast appears with Miss Greenwood in the farce comedy. Following her engagement at the Dufwin Miss Greenwood will go eastward. She is booked to open at the Erlanger Theater, Chicago, April 20, with virtually the same supporting cast that was seen here at the President.

## Taking the Cue

By ROBERT GOLDEN

NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of *The Billboard*, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.

SOME weeks ago, Will H. Harder, big chief of the Theatrical Stock Managers' Association, invited all interested to assist him in determining upon a new name for dramatic stock. His call is still echoing in the stock field. The most resourceful individuals among the most resourceful managers and actors in the American theater appear to be stumped. Hence "dramatic stock", it seems, is destined to remain.

The spoken play is neither scoring an advance nor losing ground, merely marking time. Available statistics show that theaters open to road shows are no more numerous than they were a year ago. Meanwhile, the number of stocks operating is about the same. The situation may be attributed in a substantial measure to general business depression and consequent unemployment. The clamor in many cities for the return of spoken drama encouraged some stock producers to make unprofitable investments. After a brief run came the closing. In almost every instance the stock operator gave as the reason for his failure the high pay of stagehands and musicians. In a few cases, notably at Washington, D. C., concessions made by the unions will enable the stock to carry on. Many theaters now dark would be open and giving employment to actors, musicians and stagehands if a better spirit of co-operation existed.

The renaissance of stock, which started in 1926, continued in the ascendancy thru 1927, and extended into the following year. Then the decline became noticeable. Statistics at hand show that in the period of 1926-1929 the number of road shows dropped 27 per cent, and the number of dramatic stocks increased 71 per cent. But a rapid decline of stock came with the talking picture opposition. The stock situation, however, did not become acute until the general business of the country and the attendant extension of unemployment reduced the financial resources of the masses. The talkies got the patronage of hundreds of thousands of amusement seekers thruout the country who prefer the spoken play, but find the cheaper prices of the talking picture houses all they can afford to pay for entertainment. To meet the competition and pay union wages, the stock manager must have houses of large capacity. Given stock drama at the same prices that the talking picture house can offer, patrons of the talkies would flock to the spoken play. Such theaters, however, are not within the reach of the stock producer.

Maybe the mechanical forces of the theater are not well informed as to the economic phases of the stock manager. Lester Al Smith visioned the difficulties ahead when he initiated the movement that resulted in the formation of the present Theatrical Stock Managers' Association. Whatever success the association has achieved, must be credited in part to the efforts expended by Smith. While half a dozen other stock producers who held the same views hesitated, lacking determination, Smith assumed the leadership, and with the aid of George Roberson and one or two others, virtually forced the formation of the T. S. M. A. The prospect was bright until the talking picture opposition sprang up and developed its tremendous strength.

Stagehands, musicians and others to whom the stock theater would offer steady employment should think it over. Here are some cold figures showing the actual conditions in the latter part of 1928: Stocks operating in the United States and Canada, 160, with more than 50 others, not strictly classed as stocks, but assuming the name; number of actors employed in stocks affiliated with Equity, 2,000; number of union stagehands, musicians, etc., employed by these stocks, 2,400; gross receipts of stocks, from \$2,000 for the smaller operations to \$7,000 for the more pretentious companies. These stocks were distributed over a wide area, serving about 150 cities. A few of the larger cities supported two or more stock companies. There is no reason to doubt that a readjustment of the cost of operating stocks would bring back the favorable conditions that existed when the survey was made that yielded the statistics quoted.

Stock Actor: "B-r-r-r-r! That's a blizzardy wind. I need a heavier benny."

George Spelvin: "You and me, both. Look! Do you see the same thing I do, or is that Jorkins, of the McDuffysmith Players, coming down the street with the seal wrapped around his neck?"

S. A.: "That's Jorkins, all right, but not of the McDuffysmiths. He shot his whole bankroll into that \$400 coat, and two weeks later they closed him."

G. S.: "I'm not sorry for the upstage strutter."

S. A.: "Upstage strutter is right. But let him strut in his klondyke. July is going to get him."

### Somerville Players Continue Thru Winter

SOMERVILLE, Mass., Feb. 15.—Business has taken a decided brace here after a season that has been rather ordinary, with the usual good weeks and some that were bad. Managing Director J. H. Doyle is now in a very optimistic mood and feels that the company will successfully continue until nearly the regular closing time.

He has been doing some straight-from-the-shoulder advertising that is getting results and the enthusiasm is increasing each week. General business in this vicinity is not what was expected this year, but the stock house has not felt it as badly as other lines, and the chances are that next season it will again go on to success.

Elinor Reid, beautiful young second woman of the Somerville Players, and Jack Kingston, the second man, went out very quietly after a matinee last week and were married. At the evening performance when they made their first appearance a huge wedding bell was lowered into the set and this gave the audience the glad news. A great demonstration was staged and the couple were in for a lot of good-natured kidding as the evening went on. They are two of the most popular members of the company and have the good wishes of a host of friends.

Before the performance the day following the wedding Gertrude DeMont, the comedienne, had a very bad fall at her apartment. She fell down a short flight of steps onto a tile floor. Her hip was badly hurt and she received a slight concussion of the brain. She insisted on playing her part in the show, altho it included an eccentric dance, and no one in the audience knew that a trained nurse attended her each time she left the stage. She is confined to her home, but is recovering.

### Duffy Players Notes

Tom Moore, picture star, who has just concluded a three months' engagement in *The Boomerang* with the Henry Duffy Players in San Francisco and Hollywood, went to Portland for one week only, starting February 10 to appear with the Duffy company in that city in the comedy. Immediately after the close of the engagement Moore started east by fast train to join John McCormack, the famous singer, and sail with him for Ireland. Moore is going back to his native land for the fox hunting and a holiday.

Leona Powers and Howard Millers, who have been playing the leads in Seattle this season, are winning high favor in Rachel Crother's comedy, *Let Us Be Gay*, with the Henry Duffy Players at the Dufwin in Oakland. Grace Hampton, who played the dowager, Mrs. Boucicault, in the special touring company organized by John Golden, has been brought from the East for the production. Others in the cast are Doris Phillips, Alice Buchanan, Gale Gordon, Helene Allan, Raymond Lawrence, Thomas Chatterton, Thomas L. Brower, Wardell Jennings and Russell Parker.

Hale Hamilton and Alice Joyce, one of the most popular of motion picture actresses, are now costarring with the Henry Duffy Players at the President in San Francisco in *Her Friend the King*, which was produced in New York last autumn. Miss Hamilton, recently at the Hollywood Playhouse in *Dear Me*, is seen as Georges, and Miss Joyce plays Mrs. Hastings, the widow. Flora Bramley is Princess Lydia, Kenneth Daigneau plays Prince Otto and others in the cast are Joseph De Stefani, Jane Morgan, James Durkin, Leo J. Christal, Elizabeth Hiestand, Tom Burke and Jack Rohan.

Edwin Vall, who was stage director here for Duffy during a portion of last season, returns to Portland and can be expected to again inaugurate original ideas and stage productions in his notable careful way. His first work will be to stage *The Boomerang*, in which Tom Moore will be the guest star.



ADAMS T. RICE, technical director of the Detroit Civic Theater, is also head of the dramatic school connected with the organization. He was in charge of the wonderfully equipped tent show with which the Detroit Civic actors toured Michigan last summer, the company and crew numbering 33 people and the transportation equipment consisting of 24 trucks and 22 trailers.

### Frank Craven Guest Star In "Salt Water" for Duffy

HOLLYWOOD, Feb. 16.—Frank Craven, one of the outstanding stars of the American stage, engaged as guest star by Henry Duffy, made his first appearance at the Hollywood Playhouse today in *Salt Water*, the comedy by Dan Jarrett in which he has been starring in New York for the last four months. Mr. Craven's Broadway engagement in *Salt Water* at the John Golden Theater in New York ended February 1. This is the first time the play has been seen outside New York and it marks a record for speed of production of a current comedy on the Coast. As an actor-playwright Mr. Craven has won fame for such comedies as *The First Year*, *New Brooms*, *Spite Corner*, *Too Many Cooks* and *The Nineteenth Hole*, in the last named of which he was seen here last year. In *Salt Water* he will have the role of a chap who longs to sail the sea in ships as had his father before him, but who finally comes down to acting as a pilot on a ferry boat. Pauline MacLean is leading woman.

### Talking Films Drive Stock From Wichita

WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 15.—Due to poor patronage, it was necessary for the Wichita Civic Theater Company, Crawford Theater, to close. Some of the troupe will remain in the city. William Amsdell, director, and Frances Gregg, his wife, have rented a home in the Country Club district. George Barnes and Hazel Whitmore returned to their home in Denver. Other members of the company left for various parts of the country.

Considerable credit is due to the untiring efforts of the business men of the city in giving the company their support in every way possible to make the engagement a success, but the advent of talking pictures sounded the death knell to vaudeville and stock companies in this city.

### "Road to Rome" Big Draw

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Feb. 15.—The most pretentious stock offering of the season, *The Road to Rome*, kept business booming this week at the Lyric Theater, where the Favorite Players have been giving a splendid presentation of the Sherwood play.

### Brown Players Out

GREENWICH, Conn., Feb. 17.—The Chamberlain Brown Players at the Greenwich Theater have closed. The house will reopen on April 1 with the same company.

### Dramatic Stock Notes

ROY HILLIARD has joined the Gordiner Players at Edmonton, Can.

THE KEDZIE THEATER, Chicago, is planning a pretentious production of *Lulu Belle*, with Rhea Diveley playing the Lenore Ulric role.

HOWARD McNEAR returned to the Savoy cast, San Diego, Calif., last week in *White Cargo* and was given a show-stopping welcome on his first entrance.

FRANK LANE, late of the Mae Desmond Players, Philadelphia, who has been in California for some time, is leaving the coast for a vaudeville tour, which ends at the Palace, New York, he advises. Lane traveled to San Francisco from New York with his own act on the RKO Circuit, then made a short Vitaphone picture for Warner Brothers. He has met with some success in pictures, such as parts in *Be Yourself*, with Fanny Brice; *La Marseilles*, with John Bobo and Laura La Plante, and *Mexicola Rose*, with Sam Hardy. Lane has been signed by John Golden for two years.

EDNA ROMANY and Mary Michael, members of the Capitol Stock Players, Capitol Theater, Albany, N. Y., were honor guests at a bridge luncheon given by the Lotus Club at the Hotel De Witt Clinton last week.

HELEN KEERS, favorite character actress at the Alcazar and President, who has been recovering from the severe illness that forced her to retire from the cast of *The Skyrocket* last autumn, is in San Francisco visiting her husband, Joseph De Stefani, now appearing in *Her Friend the King*.

EIGHT MEMBERS of the German Stock Company, Milwaukee, had a narrow escape from death in flames February 7. Fire broke out in the Knapp street boarding house where they were living and they were trapped on an upper floor until firemen opened an avenue of escape for them.

MARY BOLAND, guest star for Henry Duffy in Los Angeles, has received bids from two motion picture producing concerns. She has not decided whether or not she shall accept. Miss Boland is not a stranger to the screen, having appeared in Thomas Ince's *The Edge of the Abyss* and in *Stepping Stones* with the late Frank Keenan.

### Fires and Robberies

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—The Liberty Theater here was robbed last week. The janitor of the house was bound and the office ransacked, but the amount of loss was not ascertained.

NORTH CONWAY, N. H.—Fire destroyed the Masonic Block, housing the

Masonic Theater, February 8. Damage estimated at \$25,000.

COBDEN, Ill.—The Cobden Theater was damaged by fire of unknown origin.

GILLETTE, Wyo.—Fire destroyed the stage and roof of the Rex Theater here. J. T. Morgan, manager, is making arrangements for immediate reconditioning of the building and damaged sound equipment.

NORTH WEYMOUTH, Mass.—Morey Pearl's Duck Tent, dance hall, suffered approximately \$10,000 damage when swept by fire February 5.

DES MOINES, Ia.—The Drake Avenue Theater, Centerville, the oldest legitimate show house in Iowa, was destroyed by fire February 1. Loss estimated at more than \$25,000.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Risking their own lives by shutting themselves in a projection booth with a blazing film, Fred Herrington and George Leavens, operators, saved the Empire Theater, downtown film house, from destruction by fire. The audience of 300 made an orderly exit. Herrington and Leavens shut all openings and fought the blaze with fire extinguishers.

WICHITA, Kan.—The State Theater was damaged by fire to the extent of \$3,000. The house will reopen as soon as repairs are made.

### MUSINGS

(Continued from page 27)  
Bridge, trombone; Al Bahr, drums; "Bo Bo" Miceli, tuba; Ralph Le Grande, reeds; William Eck, reeds; William Lamont, banjo, and Jack Bruce, director and entertainer.

JELLY LEPTWICH and his University Club Orchestra, now playing thru the Carolinas and Virginia, have been booked to play the midwinter dances at the University of North Carolina.

BILLY ARTHUR, the "Yard of Fun", until recently on the RKO Time, is a recent addition to Alex Mendenhall and his Carolina Tar Heels Orchestra.

HENRY KNECHT is leader of the orchestra at the Palace Theater, New Orleans. In the unit are Dave Winstein Kirshberg, reeds; Fred Meeks, piano; Wilson, trombone; Finazzi, tuba; Charles Danna, violin, and P. Ugarte, drums. Hazel Lubowski is solo organist.

ALEXANDER KEESE has returned to the Palace Theater, Dallas, as pit orchestra conductor. Johnny Winter succeeds Billy Muth at the console.

DUDLEY HITTE, violinist, and Karl O. Krebs, pianist and entertainer, began an indefinite engagement at the Peacock Inn, Jacksonville, Ill., recently.

IN THE LINEUP of Bob Warner's Orchestra, holding forth at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines, Ia., are Carl Ellis, Leonard Business, Earle Ferguson, Lloyd Caldwell, Marvin Houghton and Bob Warner.

LEONARD CAMPBELL was elected president of the Rochester (N. Y.) Musicians' Protective Association, Local 86, at the annual meeting last week. Other officers chosen were Nicolis Valerio, vice-president; Samuel E. Bassett, secretary; J. J. Karle, treasurer, and Charles Mason, business agent.

RON AND DON, the "happiness boys of the organ", who have established a long-run record at the Seattle Theater, Seattle, Wash., have opened at the Public house in Portland, Ore., replacing Stanleigh Malotte, who has taken their place in Seattle.

## Broadway Stock Possibilities

PLAY	THEATER	PRODUCER	AUTHOR	Sets	Cast	COMMENT
The Boundary Line.....	48th Street.....	Jones & Green.....	Dana Burnet.....	2	7 Men 5 Women	Unfavorable. Cast, theme and sets difficult for stock.
Rebound .....	Plymouth .....	Arthur Hopkins.....	D. O. Stewart.....	2	7 Men 6 Women	Unfavorable. Theme unsuited for stock.
Dishonored Lady.....	Empire .....	Gilbert Miller.....	Margaret A. Barnes-Edward Sheldon...	2	3 Men 3 Women	Unfavorable. Morbid love and things which stock spurns.
Many a Slip.....	Little .....	Lew Cantor.....	Edith Fitzgerald-Robert Riskin.....	3	4 Men 3 Women	Favorable. A sophisticated thing stock audience might like

NOTE: Detailed reviews of the above productions were published in the previous issue of "The Billboard".

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## Edward Reno Getting Ready

*Funmakers scheduled to move under canvas in March—winter season fair*

MT. HOLLY, N. C., Feb. 17.—Edward A. Reno's Funmakers, who since closing a successful tent season last December have been playing theaters in this section to fairly good business, have two more weeks in houses before beginning a new canvas season. The Reno organization is slated to move under the big top the first week in March.

The boys in the show's winter quarters are busy painting and repairing all equipment from front to back, and the show will again play under a 70 by 170 top. Manager Reno plans to try a number of new ideas this season, and promises to make his show more attractive in every way over past seasons.

Despite the general business depression, the Reno aggregation came thru the winter season in fairly good style. Business was satisfactory, but nothing sensational.

In the present Reno personnel are Edward A. Reno, owner and manager; Sylvia Reno, leads; Pauline Reno, soubrette; Vernie Bishop, general business; Johnnie Bishop, piano leader; "Smoky" Lyle, feature comedian; "Bumps" Dalton, producer and light comedy; Jimmie Braswell, juvenile leads; Dunbar McKenzie, general business and banjo; Francis Hulme, drums, and George Stone, trumpet.

The chorus is made up of Pauline Reno, producer; Geisel Duboise, Naomi Sherkie, Mildred Bryant, Sally Ann Johnson, Agnes Cox and Ida Stone.

## Beers Comedy Players To Start Out in Month

George R. Beers, of the Beers Comedy Players, and his family are still enjoying the sunshine at their winter home in Miami and will remain there for another month, after which things will be placed in readiness for the new tent tour.

The Beers show this season will be equipped with all new canvas and scenery, Manager Beers states. He also is adding two new trucks and trailers and also is planning on enlarging his cast considerably.

## Tom Aiton Closes "Ten Nights" Show

Tom Aiton's *Ten Nights in a Barroom* Company, which left Cincinnati seven weeks ago, is said to have closed Sunday night after a fairly successful run thru the sticks of Kentucky, in addition a few stands in Virginia and West Virginia, all on one and two-night stands.

Aiton, it is said, will again handle the advance and business management of the Earle Newton Players this season. He has given up the idea of framing the 10-people *Girl From Broadway* Company in association with Billy Blythe. Aiton's place in the latter venture has been taken by Lou LaCiede.

THE DEWIEGHT - EVERETT Stock Company is now in its fourth week of an indefinite engagement at the Slegle Theater, West Monroe, La. Verne Dewieght is manager of the organization. The Dewieght-Everett show followed Choate's Comedians into the West Monroe house.



HILA MORGAN, one of the few successful women tent show managers in the business, who is now busy on preparations for her 1930 canvas season, which is slated to get under way near Kansas City, Mo., early in the spring. Miss Morgan has been piloting the Hila Morgan Show since the death of her husband several years ago.

HARRY LLOYD has returned to Cincinnati after a seven weeks' run with Tom Aiton's *Ten Nights* Company thru Kentucky territory.

## In the Spotlight

By BILL SACHS

NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of *The Billboard*, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.

THE secrecy with which many of the tent repertoire shows operate during the summer season, chiefly in regard their whereabouts, was especially noticeable during the past season. In past years *The Billboard* route list carried the names of practically every tent show on the road from week to week, but in the last few seasons the list has dwindled to only a few regulars. The reason for this is generally known.

In territory where competition is rife, many of the show managers have a habit of making long jumps into a town, with a view to getting the cream of the business in that particular town before the other attraction gets there. Frequently the move is profitable for the jumper, and in other cases it proves a flop.

However, in many of the towns the natives are partial to a certain show, and no matter how many attractions jump in ahead the town folks will wait for their favorite. But the latter is not always the case, and as a result the manager is forced to keep his whereabouts a secret to prevent his opposition from pulling the jump act on him, and thus possibly cutting in on the box-office receipts when he hits the particular town. Hence he refrains from sending in his route to *The Billboard* for publication.

Paul Brown, of *Brownie's Comedians*, is one of the managers who feels that the jumping shows do little damage, at least as far as his attraction is concerned. "Many managers will jump a great distance and donate a whole week's earnings to the railroads to beat another tent show to some good spot," Manager Brown writes.

"Last year I had the biggest tent season I have ever had in my 11 years on the road, and I followed closely behind such well-known attractions as the Bud Hawkins Players, the Heffner-Vinson Company, Billroy's Comedians, the Earle Newton Players and others. Did they hurt me? Never. And I didn't have to jump or pay for long hauls, thus saving a couple of weeks' profit, which the long jumper loses. There was never a summer season that my route did not appear in old *Billyboy*."

How about that tent repertoire managers' association? Numerous letters have been received on the subject during the last several weeks, and the "ayes" greatly outnumber the "noes". There seems to be a general feeling that a tent managers' association is a great necessity if the game would continue to prosper. To date, however, nobody has signified the willingness to start the thing a-rolling. What the thing needs to make it a success is a leader. Who will be that person?

## Winter Season Bad, Paul Brown Reports

Paul Brown, who enjoyed the biggest season of his tent-show career with his *Brownie's Comedians* under canvas thru Ohio and Kentucky the past summer, advises that things are not so rosy this winter in the Kentucky territory, where he is playing with his rotary company.

"This is the toughest winter ever," Brown states, "and doggone my buttons I just can't figure out what's the matter. I am now working on something new and if it clicks you will get the story, if not no one will know. It is now in its second week and still too young to make a prediction. Right now I am showing to ordinary business."

## M. L. Kirtley Quits Rep.

M. Lloyd Kirtley, well known in repertoire as a comedian and director, and at various times associated with the Ed Williams, Col. W. I. Swain and Jethro Almond shows, has deserted the tent rep. field to become press agent and superintendent of concessions with Al F. Wheeler's *New Model Shows* this season. Kirtley is a former newspaperman.

## Carlisle Players Set

CANTON, O., Feb. 15.—After having presented vaudeville and pictures for the last several months, the Orpheum Theater management this week installed the Carlisle Players repertoire company for an indefinite engagement. The opening bill this week was *Out of the Past*,

## New Rep. Show In Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 17.—Jack Epperson and Ernie Brown have organized a dramatic repertoire company for an indefinite stock engagement at the Ashland Theater, this city, opening Saturday. Epperson will serve in the capacity of acting manager, and Brown will produce. Herbert Harkleroad will handle the publicity. The opening bill will be Neil Schaffner's *Where's My Teddy*, followed by Schaffner's *Chain Stores*.

The Ashland Theater is located in a thickly populated suburb and has a seating capacity of 2,150. The admissions will be 10 and 20 cents.

In the cast will be Vonceille Elliott and Richard Caldwell, leads; John and Mona Rapier, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Reigle, Ned Wright, the Rainbow Four Quartet and Juliet Brown. There will be a six-piece orchestra and six girls in line.

Musical numbers will be presented at the opening, using the chorus and orchestra.

## Dunbar-Pittman Bookers

DENVER, Feb. 15.—Harry Dunbar and Bert Pittman, both well known in Mid-Western repertoire circles, have opened a booking office in the Tabor Grand Building here. Pittman has charge of the vaudeville bookings, and Dunbar is handling the dramatic end.

Dunbar is slated to begin a tour in the next few weeks with a view to contracting some of the fairs in this territory. He will begin the tent season with his Dunbar's Comedians some time in June.

## L. H. Hooker To Remain In Texas Until March 20

L. H. Hooker informs that his Oklahoma Outlaw Show has been doing big business thru the Rio Grande Valley of Texas for the last 30 days. He will work Texas until about March 20, at which time he will pull out for the Pennsylvania territory for the summer months.

"There are a lot of shows in Texas this winter," Hooker writes, "and most of them report poor business. However, with a real outfit it is still possible to make money on the road today."

## Earle Newton Will Open Season Indoors

Earle Newton, owner and manager of the tent rep. company bearing his name, and his brother, Ralph, who have been spending the greater part of the winter season in the South, have just returned to their home in Medina, O., where Earle is busy on preparations for his 1930 canvas season.

It is reported that Newton will play about three weeks in houses thru the South before opening the tent season at Carrollton, Ga., around April 1.

## Hendersons in South; Show Enters 33d Year

Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Henderson are spending the winter months in the South, but will return to Michigan in time to begin their 33d annual tour with their Henderson Stock Company in houses.

The Henderson organization will again play theaters in its regular North-Eastern Michigan territory this spring and summer. Rehearsals are slated to get underway soon at the Henderson headquarters in Mason, Mich.

**Meta Walsh Players To Hit Road May 19**

COLUMBUS, O., Feb. 17.—The Meta Walsh Players, C. E. Reynolds, manager, will open their 1930 season near here May 19. A band and orchestra will again be featured with the Walsh attractions, and *Politics and the Man* has been selected as the opening bill.

It is the aim of Manager Reynolds to make the show one of the neatest tented attractions playing the Buckeye State. The cast has not yet been selected. Miss Walsh will be featured in two bills out of the week.

**Could Players Will Begin Season May 5**

SHERIDAN, Mich., Feb. 17.—The Gould Players will begin their regular tenting season in this territory on May 5. Lloyd T. Gould, manager announces. The show will be equipped with new canvas, scenery and wardrobe to replace that which was destroyed by fire which hit the Gould Theater here three weeks ago, inflicting \$10,000 damage. Manager Gould also is selecting a new line of plays for this summer.

**Three Big Orchestras For Newspaper Club Ball**

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Leaders of society, stage, screen and art are lending their support to the first ball of the Newspaper Club of New York at the Ritz-Carlton February 28.

Leo Reisman and his Central Park Casino Orchestra, Rudy Vallee and orchestra and Vincent Lopez and orchestra will be features of the ball.

**Rep. Tattles**

HARRY D. HOGAN is now playing with the Wallace Bruce Players, who opened their season last week in Kansas.

DON WILLIAMS, rep., tab. and showboat veteran, has just closed with the Bevans Vaudeville Revue and is now located at his home in Huntington, W. Va. Don reports a pleasant engagement with

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the Bevan outfit and expects to hit the road again with a tent show in the spring.

IT IS REPORTED that the Chase-Lister Show will wind up its house season Saturday at Spencer, Ia.

TOMMY AND THELMA DALE have been engaged to handle the leads with the Tilton-Guthrie Players this coming season. They were formerly with the Hazel Hurd Show.

THE HEFFNER-VINSON COMPANY, Jim Heffner, manager and producer, is headed to usher in the tent season at Valdosta, Ga., about the middle of March.

MRS. EARLE NEWTON and daughter, Madalyn, are visiting with Mrs. Newton's sister in St. Louis.

B. L. BEVANS, who closed his own show recently in Huntington, W. Va., has joined Tom Alton's *Ten Nights in a Barroom* Company, now touring West Virginia territory.

H. MOHLENKAMP is going back with the James Adams Floating Theater in a few weeks. He is at present stationed in Louisville, Ky.

BESSIE MAE SMITH has returned to Columbus, O., after several months' sojourn in Miami. She will remain in Columbus indefinitely, with her old friend, Marie Hayes LaRoy.

OHIC AND ESTELLA PELLETTE, who have been spending the winter months at their home in Lake Helen, Fla., expect to take to the road again around the middle of March.

JIM AND RHEA McIVER recently moved into their new home at 139 N. Newberry street, York, Pa., and will spend the balance of the winter there. They expect to be back with a tent "opry" in the spring.

MRS. ETHEL KIRTLEY, well-known repertoire leading woman, of Albemarle,

N. C., is slowly recovering from a serious operation at the Tally-Brunson Hospital in Albemarle. She would greatly appreciate a line from her many friends in care of the above hospital.

LYONAL LA RAHEE and Lillian Todd are now located in Winnipeg, Man., after a successful tour of the West Coast, where they worked under the billing of the "King and Queen of Harmony". Lyonal and Lillian write that they have been looking for a change in occupation since last June and have finally found it. They have been appointed Canadian distributors for a 300-mile pocket radio. Altho the change is great, they state, there's nothing like the good old theater, whether you get a good break or not. They send regards to all their friends, especially Jimmie Ferguson, "Skinny" and Billy Mack and George and Ruby Corwin.

NOW COMES Harry T. Glick, veteran trouper, with one of those "do you remember" Harry asks: "Who remembers when Sisson, Cawthorn & Adams had out their *Uncle Tom's Cabin* Company, playing under tent, traveling by boat and showing along the Erie and Miami Canal, closing the season at Cincinnati? There were such noted players as Oscar Sisson and wife, Josia; Ella Miller, A. C. Adams and wife and two sons, Herbert Cawthorn, Joseph Cawthorn, Harry F. Keen, Will Swift, Bert Porter and others.

"RED" HARRIS, black-face artiste, was an arrival in Cincinnati last week and this week began an indefinite engagement at Friesland Inn, a road house located in back of Covington, Ky., just across the river from the Queen City. Harris is well known in rep., med. show and tabloid circles.

LOLA E. PAINTER writes in to say that she is conducting an adults popularity contest in connection with the Elks' Auto and Radio Exposition being held at New Kensington, Pa., this week and not a kiddies' contest as previously stated.

**Kansas City Ripples**

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 15.—Reports reaching here state that the Larry Nolan Players, playing circle stock in Colorado, and Micky McNutt's newly organized circle stock, showing in Northern Missouri, are doing a satisfactory business.

ETHEL RAYE is playing vaudeville dates in and around the city.

JACK AND MYRTLE ALBRIGHT, after a visit with the homefolks in St. Louis, have returned to this city.

CHARLES BOOTH, after closing with the Chick Boyes Players in Nebraska, came into the city.

LOUIS OSTRANDER arrived here this week from Ontario, Can.

HAPPY HENRY RAY and the Mrs. arrived here early this week, after closing a stock engagement at the Savoy Theater in Louisville, Ky.

OTHER RECENT ARRIVALS in the city were Mabel Schroder, Jack Little, Micky Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. Joy Davis, Billy Smiley, Gene Hamilton, Paul Leftwick, Katherine Booth, Pete Palmer and Jimmy Malone.

EDDIE McKINNEY, leading man, formerly with Kell's Comedians, is now at his home in Newark, Ark.

FRANK DUNGAN, manager of the Mary-Frank Players, has leased Don Melrose's *One Happy Family* and *Sweet Papa Toby* for use during his coming tent season.

OTHERS heard from are Tom H. Norman, advance and publicity man, now in Oklahoma City; Wayne (Bunker) Hill, at present in Ossawatimie, Kan.; Harley Smith, in Tulsa, Okla.; Mr. and Mrs. Dick Dickinson, in Hillsdale, Mich.; E. C. Pannell, in Fort Worth, Tex.; Hill and Dale, in Victor, Ia.; Wayne Brillhart, in Fort Scott, Kan.; Lee House, in Fort Scott, Kan., and Seldon and LaVelle, in Marion, Ind.

NELL McCOY is a recent arrival in this city, after a winter with her parents in Miami.

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WANTED—Small Dramatic Company already organized, to take charge of one of my tent outfits for 25% of the gross receipts. Outfit complete with Trucks, Piano and all kinds of Seats necessary. Also one of the world's best Calliopes. GRANT F. OWENS, Manager Owens Dramatic Shows, 2835 Hickory St., Dallas, Tex.

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Producing Comedian for Billroy's Comedians. Rehearsals start March 26 in Cordele, Ga. Forty weeks under canvas, then houses. You MUST be sober! You must produce Light and Low Comedy bills, no Dramas. Earl Young, Billy Van Allen, if at liberty, write. In answering state age, if married, reference and preference. For long, sure season in California. All must be young. Write, don't wire, stating all. THE HAROLD PORTER COMEDIANS, Santa Cruz, Calif.

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# Tabloids

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

## 'Honey Time' Begins Date

**Opens in East St. Louis for indefinite stay—Gene Cobb is featured**

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Feb. 15.—The Honey Time Company, with Gene (Honey Gal) Cobb, has just begun an indefinite engagement at the Avenue Theater here, under the supervision of Grover La Rose, of the States Booking Exchange. Cobb is one of the best known black-face artists in the tabloid field, and formerly was teamed for several years with Jack (Smoke) Gray.

Included in the Honey Time cast, besides Cobb, are Leon Goodrich, Hazel O'Leary, George Grofe, Iris Monahan and the Jenkins Sisters. There are 10 girls in line. Otto Gray and his Oklahoma Cowboys, nationally known stage and radio attraction, were the featured attraction this week.

The company will present a two-hour show, three times daily, with a change of bills twice weekly.

## New Show Opens At Flint Theater

FLINT, Mich., Feb. 15.—The Ritz Theater, owned and operated by James Minter and which until recently housed Frank Maley's Smiling Eyes Company, a Hurley attraction, has resumed its stage booking with a new 30-people company headed by Eddie Collins and Dave Burt, both widely known in tabs.

Others in the cast are Helene McCree, prima donna; Babbet Evans, soubrette; Otis Neville, straights; Four Bits of Harmony; Nicely and King, dancers, and Scott Humbert. There are 14 girls in the chorus.

The company is doing three a day, with a special midnight show on Saturdays. Bills are changed twice weekly.

## H. R. Macy Show Ends Spokane Run

SPOKANE, Wash., Feb. 15.—Howard R. Macy and his Merry Makers, musical comedy tab., have closed at the Empress Theater here after a continuous run of nearly two years. The 16-people company operated in conjunction with feature pictures.

The Will Starkey theater interests have taken over the Empress and will operate the house on a straight picture policy. This leaves the Avalon Theater, operated by Wallace A. Brooks, as the only house in town with a stage-film policy with the exception of the local RKO theater. Manager Brooks reports good business.

## Morris Luther Organizing

Morris Luther, who closed his All-Star Revue recently in Youngstown, O., has landed another stock date and is at present busy in Cincinnati framing a 10-people tab. to fill the job. Rehearsals are scheduled to get under way February 24, with the opening set for shortly after March 1.

FRANK MURPHY, dancer, and wife, Bonnie Austin, are now working with a stock show in Akron, O. Frank and Bonnie were married in Indianapolis last August, it has just been learned.

## Frees Leaves Hospital; Firm Framing New Revue

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Feb. 15.—William Frees, manager of the Lehigh Attractions, with headquarters in this city, who suffered a fractured skull and serious cuts and bruises in an auto accident three weeks ago, has just left the hospital.

He announces that the Lehigh firm will move into its new offices and rehearsal hall in this city February 24, at which time work will begin on a new 25-people tab. production to be known as *The Rainbow Revue*.

## Stillwell Show Closes Suddenly

The Limie Stilwell musical comedy company, which moved into the Erlanger Theater, Birmingham, Ala., recently for what was supposed to have been an indefinite engagement, is reported to have closed suddenly early last week after a run of only one week.

It is understood that a benefit performance was given for the stranded performers Tuesday night of last week, the Erlanger management offering the use of the theater gratis and the stagehands and musicians donating their services.

## Irma Raystone Injured

AKRON, O., Feb. 15.—Irma Raystone, soubrette at the Grand Theater here, was badly bruised about the head and shoulders recently when an iron weight fell from the flies of the Grand stage. She was treated at a local hospital and is now confined to her room in the Federal Hotel, this city.

## The Chatterbox

By BILL SACHS

**NOTE**—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of *The Billboard*, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.

**R**ECENTLY we suggested that tab. managers revive the old "black list" system for the purpose of curbing the present show-jumping epidemic and also to put a stop to the practice of certain performers wiring for money to join a show and then failing to show up.

*The necessity for such a system was again demonstrated last week. A well-known tab. manager, whose attraction is at present showing in Lima, O., recently wired a comic in Cincinnati offering him a job. The comic, who now is generally known in the field for his unreliability, and who recently jumped a well-known tab. company without a minute's notice, wired back, asking for money to get out of the hotel. The money was forthcoming, the comic paid his hotel bill and pulled out, but to date has not put in an appearance in Lima. Neither has he been heard from.*

"I should have known better after reading about this fellow's show-jumping habits," the tab. manager writes, "but apparently I have too much faith in my fellow men. If I locate him, I will prosecute him to the fullest extent of the law. That's the only way to teach these birds a lesson."

*If this is not just another idle boast so often made by a manager after he has been victimized by an unreliable performer, it may do much to rid the tab. field of this illicit practice.*

We have in mind a good example of such a case, which took place several months ago in Kansas City. A certain repertoire manager, who had been the victim of such gyp artists on several occasions, tired of being the "goat" and finally decided to let the law take its course. After being victimized for the last time, he swore out a warrant for the erring performer, had him arrested and took the case to court. The performer was tendered a jail sentence and served it, too.

*The effect of this case in abolishing the crooked practice was readily noticeable in the Kansas City territory, and we have not heard of a performer receiving money and failing to join a show in that territory since. If the practice is to be stopped in the tabloid field, something similar will have to be done.*

## Mixed Tab. Opens At Pearl, Philly

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—*The Black and White Revue*, with the tabloid organized recently by Les Sponsler and George (Chick) Barkham constituting the white half of the bill, opened Monday for Sam Steifel, owner of the Pearl Theater here.

The attraction carries 10 girls in each chorus and eight principals in each half of the production, making a total of 37 people with the leader. "Chick" Barkham, formerly with Jimmy Cooper's *Black and White Revue*, is featured with the company. Next week the attraction is booked at the Orpheum, Newark, with the Royal, in Baltimore, to follow. After the Baltimore engagement the troupe is slated to return to the Pearl here for two more weeks.

Included in the white half of the show are George (Chick) Barkham, Les Sponsler, Violet (Cute) Wagner, Joe James, Claire Le Roy, Frank Butler and Grey and White, dancers. The opening week's business was big.

## Shirley Kuhn, Attention

A telegram received by *The Billboard* last week requests that Shirley Kuhn communicate immediately with Bruce Avery, as Bill is dead. The wire was signed Nora.

ROSELLA MEYERS, formerly with the Raynor Lehr Company, is now making and designing costumes for the Joe Hurtig attractions in the East. Miss Meyers was instrumental in returning a missing girl to her home in Brooklyn recently. A description of the missing girl was broadcast and Miss Meyers identified her by a picture in a newspaper and notified the police, who returned the missing girl to her mother.

## Tab. Notes

THERE'S A RUMOR on the Chicago rialto that Milton Schuster may open a New York office.

PAUL H. CAIN, formerly well known in tabs. and vaudeville, is now operating a dance studio in Tulsa, Okla.

RALPH WALLACE—You are requested to communicate immediately with your wife, as your mother-in-law is seriously ill at her home in Kansas City.

FAYE STACKER—Your mother is worried over your whereabouts. You are asked to get in touch with her at once at 508 E. Ninth street, Charlotte, N. C.

IRMA DEAN, chorister with the Dalton Bros.' Company at the Burbank Theater, Los Angeles, is dividing her time between the latter city and a chicken ranch in Huntington Park, Calif.

MILDRED AUSTIN, who for many years was featured with her own attractions, is reported to be seriously ill at her apartment at 410 Sixth street, Terre Haute, Ind. Her husband, J. J. Mussellman, is managing the Liberty and Hippodrome theaters, that city.

AFTER A BRIEF VISIT with friends in Springfield, O., Phil Vardo and Lulu Kinney, until recently in charge of F. L. Abbott's *Musical Dance Shoppe* Company, have gone to Elgin, Ill., for a visit with Lulu's mother. After their visit there they will play several vaudeville dates for the Sun office before heading back east.

LOIS FAIRFIELD, whose husband, Lew Beckridge, is manager of the *Figures and Facts* Company, in stock at the Lyric Theater, Lima, O., departed recently for her home in Los Angeles, where her sister is critically ill. Beckridge will join his wife in Los Angeles at the close of the season.

BARNEY HAGEN'S *Gloom Chasers*, with five girls in line, are now holding forth at the Avalon, formerly the Music Box, Spokane, Wash. The company is appearing in conjunction with talking pictures.

CLAUDE E. ALLEN is now manager of Henry C. Foreman's Studio of Dancing in Pittsburgh, where he will be pleased to hear from old friends in the tab. and vaudeville field. He states that he has given up show business for the time being, at least, or until things look a bit brighter.

CARROLL BAKER, who formerly played the violin with Victor Herbert, stopped off in Pensacola, Fla., last week to catch Jack Du Varney's show at the Belmont Theater there. Baker also did his musical act with the Du Varney company as a guest. "Du Varney's show is the cleanest I have witnessed in a long time," Baker pens. "Nothing objectionable is presented, and if the company had a better house to play in it would soon put the 'octopus' on the run in Pensacola. As it is the best people in the city attend the Du Varney performances. The night I stopped over the Mayor and his family caught the 'opry'."

"SUNSHINE" PRITCHARD, erstwhile tab. blackface, who received a broken kneecap while working with the *Speed Girls* Company on the Mutual Wheel several months ago, has just left the City Hospital, Boston, after eight weeks' confinement there. He is still taking treatment on the knee three times a week and it will be some time before



he will be able to work again. At present he is content with hobbling around on crutches.

JEAN CONLIN has just closed with the Homer Meachum Company in Rock Island, Ill., after an eight weeks' engagement, and is now visiting with his mother in Fort Worth, Tex. During his stay in Rock Island Jean broadcast a series of black-face sketches with Homer Meachum over Station WEFB under the name of Homer and Albert.

WAYNE BARTLETT has just wound up a two months' engagement with Virgil E. Siner's *Syncoated Steppers* Company at the Ada Meade Theater, Lexington, Ky., and last week stopped off at the tab. desk en route to Springfield, O., for a visit with Bill Martin. From Springfield he continued on to Muncie, Ind., to visit Earl Young, producing comedian with Joe Barnett's company, at the Wysor-Grand Theater there.

MARIE MUSSIO, tab. and burlesque prima donna, was seriously injured in an auto crash in San Francisco recently. Miss Mussio is on the road to recovery and is at present located at 2707 21st street, San Francisco, where she would be delighted to hear from old pals.

### Theaters Planned

ATLANTIC, Ia.—O. C. Johnson, theater owner and operator, plans to build a new theater to take the place of the old one destroyed by fire.

FAIR ROCKAWAY, L. I.—The June Theater Corporation, of Manhattan, will build a theater here in the near future.

LOS ANGELES.—New motion picture theaters of modern design and involving a joint expenditure of \$1,000,000 are to be built shortly by Warner Brothers in San Pedro and Huntington Park. The Huntington Park theater will be an 1,800-seat house of Italo-Spanish design with main floor and one balcony. The San Pedro house will seat 2,000 persons.

HAMMOND, Ind.—The new Publix-Grand State Theater, to be known as the Paramount, now under construction, will be opened about April 1.

SPOKANE, Wash.—A theater to seat 2,000 and cost approximately \$750,000 will be constructed here by RKO.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Famous Players Canadian Corporation will erect a theater costing \$400,000 here.

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### THE TAB SHOP

357 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Ill., N. B.—We handle Original Bills on commission.

### Theater Openings

BEEVILLE, Tex.—Hall Industries have opened their Rialto Theater with sound productions.

SAN FRANCISCO.—The New Rialto, formerly known as the Wigwam Theater, opened February 1 with talking pictures. The opening followed the completion of an extensive program of improvements, a new marquee, lobby and grand staircase being added, while the interior of the house was thoroughly remodeled.

VILLISCA, Ia.—A new theater costing \$25,000 and seating 600 has opened here.

### REOPENINGS

CEDARHURST, L. I.—The Playhouse has been undergoing a vast improvement and alteration program the last few weeks. The house will reopen shortly with silent and talking pictures.

CLIFTON SPRINGS, N. Y.—Under reconstruction, since all but the walls were leveled in a fire September 27, the Palace Theater reopened February 3 with sound equipment and a straight film policy. Balcony and loges have been eliminated. Edward G. Williamson is owner and manager.

DERRY, N. H.—The Broadway Theater has reopened following the completion of an extensive improvement program.

HOLYOKE, Mass.—The Playhouse was reopened last week, after being closed for several weeks.

LOWELL, Mass.—The Victory Theater has reopened with talking pictures.

WILMINGTON, O.—The LaMax Theater reopened last week with sound pictures.

### Theater Deals

BROOKLYN.—The Windsor Theater Corporation has taken over the Windsor Theater here.

CANTON, O.—The control of the Palace Theater has been turned over to the Canton Enterprises, Inc., a subsidiary of the Stanley Corporation. Publix formerly directed the house.

CHAGRIN FALLS, O.—The Falls Theater has been sold by John Schleifenheimer to J. B. Cagney and associates.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—The Tompkins Theater Company has taken a 10-year lease on the Strand Theater Building and will open a new theater about April 25. More than \$50,000 will be spent in improvements to the building and installation of the latest Western Electric sound equipment.

DOVER PLAINS, N. Y.—The Best Theater has been bought by F. C. Adams from its former owners, McIntyre & Ferguson.

EATONTON, Ga.—Lease on the Dixie Theater has been obtained by F. C. Rosse from Byron Cooper.

ELKADER, Ia.—Harold H. Hall has purchased a picture house in McGregor and now controls three houses in Clayton County, the theaters being located in Strawberry Point, Elkader and McGregor.

FORT KENT, Me.—H. T. Powers and R. R. Johnson have purchased the Savoy Theater.

LAKELAND, Fla.—J. G. Attanasio, owner of the Columbia and LaBelle theaters, has secured the Franklin Theater and plans to operate his three houses under the name of the Columbia Amusement Circuit.

MILWAUKEE.—L. K. Brin, operator of the Majestic and Garden theaters here, has taken over the Uptown and Capitol theaters at Racine, Wis.

NEW YORK.—The Orient Theater has become the property of Al Gould, who purchased it from Boneltz & Johnson.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—James S. Gladish and associates have purchased the Knights of Columbus Hall here and will convert the building into a theater,

with seating capacity of about 2,000. Policy will be vaudeville and feature pictures.

PAROWAN, Utah.—The ownership of the Aladdin Theater has changed hands. Dr. C. M. Clark taking over the interests of J. B. McLean.

NEW YORK.—The Adswin Corporation took over the Major Theater last week.

SANDUSKY, O.—Arthur Himelein has purchased the Plaza Theater from Sohine Enterprises, Inc.

SEATTLE, Wash.—J. Casal has sold the Royal Theater to John McGill, who plans to reopen the house with talking pictures shortly.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—U. P. Dewes, owner of the Strand Theater, has leased the Pantages Theater

### Theater Alterations

ALBION, Neb.—New leather seats are being installed in the Rex Theater. The walls of the theater are being decorated with felt to improve acoustics.

SIoux FALLS, S. D.—A canopy costing \$3,500 and containing 2,000 lights will be erected in front of the Granada Theater.

TAMPA, Fla.—The work of redecorating and improving the Victory Theater was started last week. Acoustic effects and other alterations will cost about \$20,000.

### Theater Staff Notes

RALPH W. PINKHAM has been named as manager of the Park Theater, Bangor, Me., succeeding Eugene F. Goss.

MORRIS ROSENBERG has been made manager of the Victory Theater, New Haven, Conn.

LEE LEVY has been elected division manager of the MPTO of Maryland, Inc., succeeding his brother, Joel. Levy is located in Baltimore.

JESSE CLARK has been transferred from Jacksonville to manage the Publix district in Miami, Fla. Charles G. Branham succeeded Clark at Jacksonville.

RAY FELKER is now manager of the Columbia Theater, Seattle, for Sterling Theaters. For the same circuit, Don Geddes has been made manager of the Capitol Theater; Burton Jones the Winter Garden; Tex Whetzel, the Colonial, and Glenn Genoway has been named assistant at the Capitol and Johnny Fall at the Colonial.

MAX MELINCOFF, formerly manager of the Capitol, Pawtucket, R. I., has been appointed manager of two houses in Torrington, Conn.

SAM GILMAN, formerly a theater manager in Cleveland, has been appointed manager of Loew's Parkway Theater there.

BILL PICKETTS was named as art director for the Paris Theaters, Inc., Paris, Tex., last week.

F. C. CROSSON, former manager of the Fremont Theater, Fremont, Neb., will go to the Princess, Sioux Falls, Ia., as manager.

CHARLES ELLIS, who has been branch manager at Jacksonville Fla., for RKO film exchange for some years, has been transferred to Atlanta, where he has been made manager of the Southeast for RKO. Hubert Lyons succeeds Ellis as manager at Jacksonville.

MARK KEMPENICH succeeded William M. Brown as manager of the Moorhead Theater, Fargo, N. D.

FRED LEE, formerly advertising manager for the Florida Theater, Jacksonville, is now front-house supervisor for Public houses in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama.

MARGURETE E. KISH, formerly assistant manager and director of publicity of the Majestic Theater, Hartford, Conn., and later connected with the Fathe Ex-

## Theatrical Mutual Assn.

By DAVID L. DONALDSON  
Grand Secretary-Treasurer

NEW YORK LODGE No. 1—Regular meeting was held Sunday, February 2, with a very large attendance, due to the first installation of the officers of the Pride of New York Lodge No. 3.

Brother Charles F. Eichhorn, second grand vice-president, acted as installing officer, assisted by Brother Edward W. Otto, third grand vice-president. The following officers were installed: Beth Bender, president; Emma Ruland, vice-president; Mae Mulvihill, treasurer; Theresa Bauer, financial secretary; Katherine Kell, recording secretary; Florence Schmidtke, chaplain; Lillian Stoney, sergeant at arms; Margaret Boylan, marshal; Mae Wagner, Mary Gray and Bellinda Cribbon, trustees; charter members: Albina Flynn, Edith Rice, M. McCarthy, Anna Weil, M. Quinn and Valerie Otersen; honorary charter members: Austin Cribbon, Fred Kell and Edward W. Otto.

The ladies were attired in evening gowns of white silk and satin, with opera cloaks, and made quite an impressive appearance. Mrs. Bender, the first president, was the recipient of a mammoth basket of flowers and a beautiful pin. Mrs. Ruland, vice-president, was presented with a huge bouquet of flowers by the family of the grand president.

All of the officers of the Pride of Long Island Lodge were in attendance, as were many of the members of Long Island Lodge No. 67. Mrs. Meconnahey, wife, and Cecelia, daughter, of the grand president, attended the ceremony. There were also present many from Brooklyn and Bronx lodges.

Preparations are under way for the annual get-together dinner of the Greater New York lodges to be held Saturday night, April 26, at K. of C. Hall.

ST. LOUIS LODGE No. 5—With deep regret this local reports the passing of one of its oldest members, Brother William J. Horn, details of whose death appear in the Obituary department of this issue. Horn was well known to hundreds of theatrical people, and during his many years of back-stage work in St. Louis he collected more than 1,500 photographs of persons on the stage, nearly all of them being autographed. He delighted to relate his personal experiences with the many stage folks he knew and who knew him as "Billy", a name that was familiar to all connected with St. Louis theaters. He will be greatly missed.

WHEELING LODGE No. 51—This lodge on January 19 installed the following officers for 1930: Henry R. Fitton, past president; A. C. Scroggins, president; William Dixon, vice-president; S. M. Mellor, recording secretary; Calvin Bassett, financial secretary; Henry R. Fitton, treasurer; Thomas Bowers, chaplain; Dr. J. J. Osburn, physician; George Hickman, marshal; Milton Hoefler, sergeant at arms, and George Spanos, George Beitz and Walter Schnew, trustees.

change, Inc., of New Haven, Conn., has been appointed manager of the Devon Theater, Devon, Conn., which recently reopened.

RALPH PHILLIPS, formerly manager of the Arcade Theater, Jacksonville, Fla., has gone to the Tivoli, Chattanooga, Tenn., as manager.

ARTHUR WERTHEIMER, formerly manager of the Milwaukee Theater Circuit's Juneau Theater, has been named manager of the circuit's State Theater. He succeeds Frank Dau.

W. A. HARTUNG has been appointed managing director of the Publix Seattle Theater, Seattle, Wash. He takes the place of Robert Blair, who has been elevated to the position of district manager for Publix in the Pacific Northwest.

GEORGE APPLEBY has been named as manager of Hamrick's Blue Mound Theater, Portland, Ore.

CARL MAHNE has been appointed manager of both the Egyptian and Neptune theaters, Seattle, Wash.

# Burlesque

Conducted by ALFRED NELSON—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

## Burlesque Ball Pleasing, Profitable Presentation

*Charles Allen commended for his co-operation in providing a meritorious stage performance for club's sixth annual function—attendance above expectations*

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The sixth annual ball and entertainment of the Burlesque Club was given at the New Palm Garden last Sunday evening. Considering current conditions and the attendant closing of houses and shows on the Mutual Circuit and the recurring cuts in salaries of house attaches, stage crews and players, the attendance was far greater than anyone had any reason to expect. Meyer Harris, chairman of all arrangements, and his associate committeemen are to be highly commended for their conscientious efforts and untiring energy in planning and putting into effect the many and varied preparations that tended to the ultimate success of what has always been conceded the social event of the burlesque season.

Active members with the best interests of the club always uppermost fulfilled their duties exceptionally well, but in our personal opinion the space allotted to us for this particular review should be given to those that contributed their time, labor and personal expense to the maintenance of the Burlesque Club and its Benevolent Fund without fear, favor or hope of remuneration, other than the knowledge that their contributions were for a worthy cause.

As we entered the garden we were greeted by William (Biff) Clark, chairman of the reception committee, and his able aids, who passed us along to an ensemble of personally attractive evening-gowned girls in the persons of Vilma Jopzy, Joan Lee, Ruth Keeler and Alice Jay, who did their bit and did it exceptionally well in getting many dollars for programs.

Considering the fact that the program ads are the chief source of revenue in financing the ball we personally feel that they should receive our first commendation and if space were available we would make mention of all advertisers in the program and their contributions individually and collectively. Suffice it to say, that they are worthy of the patronage of everyone in any way allied with burlesque in reciprocation for their contributions, for without the ads, there would have been more pain than profit to the club and its promoters of the ball.

Hughy Shubert and his orchestra as usual provided the music for most of the acts and floor dancing.

Tom Phillips, former straight man, producer and more recently a censoring doctor of circuit shows, enacted the role of master of ceremonies in introducing the respective acts, and his method of doing so evidenced the indisputable fact that Tom has the best interests of burlesque at heart, likewise a Celtic's sense of humor.

The opening presentation by courtesy of Hon Nickels, operator, and Bill Trueheart, manager of the *Hello Paree* circuit company, included most of the principals and all of the choristers, and considering the fact that they had jumped from Reading, Pa., arriving at the garden at 8 p.m. with all their costumes, their contribution is to be highly commended.

Jack LaMont and Frank O'Rourke of the Playhouse Theater Stock Company, Paterson; the Courtney Sisters, formerly of burlesque, more recently en tour Europe; Drena Beach, the original leopard interpretive dancer of *Padlocks*; Lester Allen, of *Top Speed*; Ritchie Craig, Jr., of vaudeville, who canceled an indefinite (See *BURLESQUE BALL* on page 95)

## Watson Plans 12-Week Stock Run at Paterson

PATERSON, N. J., Feb. 15.—Billy (Beef Trust) Watson, owner and directing manager of the Orpheum Theater, presenting Mutual Circuit shows, is evidently impressed with the familiar saying, "It won't be long now," re circuit houses and shows closing.

Watson is planning a 12-week run of stock subsequent to the closing of the circuit season at the Orpheum.

The Orpheum Theater Stock Company will include 11 principals, featured acts each and every week, and a chorus of 40 carefully selected girls who will strut their stuff on an illuminated glass runway.

## Changes in Casts

Star and Garter Theater (Stock), Chicago—Eleanor Cody opened February 15. Garrick Theater (Stock), St. Louis—Loretta opens with the newly organized cast February 22.

Dauphine Theater (Stock), New Orleans—Eddie (Nut) Kaplan opened February 8. Byron Wolfe and "Red-Hot" Norma Noel closed Saturday.

Rilato Theater (Stock), Chicago—Johanna Slade closed February 14, to open the next day with the State-Congress Theater Stock Company, Chicago. Palace Theater (Stock), Buffalo—Fay Norman opened February 17.

State-Congress Theater (Stock), Chicago—Lou Devine succeeded Jimmie Rose Saturday, Rose closing to return to San Diego to succeed Left LeVine, LeVine's wife closing at same time.

Irving Place Theater (Stock), New York—Helen Morgan added to the cast for its opening Monday.

City Theater (Stock), New York—George Carroll closed Friday.

## Changes on Circuit

Mutual route sheet revised for February 17-22 indicates 37 shows en tour; five shows laying off, viz.: *Broadway Scandals*, out of the Star, Brooklyn; *Laffin' Thru*, out of the Apollo, New York; *Bowery Burlesquers*, out of Buffalo; *Speed Girls*, out of St. Louis, and *Ginger Girls*, out of Montreal.

*Sugar Babies*, Harry ("Hello Jake") Fields, operator; Morris Wainstock, manager, closes its season February 22 at the Apollo Theater, New York.

Schenectady—Wedgeway Theater does not appear on the route sheet for week of February 17-22, therefore it's a foregone conclusion that it closed its Mutual season Saturday night with *Mischief Makers*, thereby leaving *Sugar Babies* to jump from the Columbia Theater to the Apollo, New York, in place of Schenectady.

Route sheet for February 24-March 1 indicates 36 shows en tour; five shows laying off, viz.: *Girls From Happyland*, out of Cincinnati; *Big Revue*, out of Gayety, Brooklyn; *Sporty Widows*, out of Providence; *Dainty Dolls*, out of Springfield; *Social Maids*, out of Buffalo.

Detroit—Gayety Theater, Issy Seidenberg, manager, is scheduled on M. B. A. route sheet to present *Moulin Rouge* Girls week of February 17-22, and *Harry Steppie Show* week of February 24-March 1, but a report from our Detroit correspondent alleges that a company is now being organized in that city for the presentation of stock at the Gayety.

## Liberty Music Hall Stock Company Augmented

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 15. — The Liberty Music Hall Stock Company, under the directing management of Oscar Dane and J. F. Christophel, resident manager, is making a strong bid for patronage by offering three shows nightly a la burlesque, spoken drama and an all-colored company in a *Jazz Jamboree*, supplemented by six Indians in their native songs and dances.

Sid Fields is producing the comedy; Marie Devoe, ensemble numbers, and Hugo Schlick, musical director.

Musical Director Schlick staged a party for Producer Fields on his 30th birthday, which was attended by Schlick and family, Mrs. Fields, Dorothy Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Billy McCoy, Ben Goodman and several members of the company.

SIGN DALEY, Mrs. Daley and the Dollar Dog, have been conspicuous for the last three weeks among the celebrities in San Francisco, where Sign is doing some novel exploitation work with his Dollar Dog.

## Current Comment

By NELSE

*NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.*

AS OUR allotted space in our last issue would not permit the continuance of our discourse in reply to Beverly Keller's letter to the editor, we herein publish our discourse, viz.:

*"If amateurs were given a chance to show what they could do (and don't think there aren't plenty of good-looking girties with talent who would be tickled to death to join a burlesque show), burlesque would be a big success, but without even a tryout they tell you: 'What? No experience? Couldn't use you.'"*

Several years ago we induced Sam A. Scribner, general manager of the Columbia Amusement Company, to finance a training school for burlesque choristers. Scribner and his associates appropriated thousands of dollars in equipping a school, with all the essentials. Ads for amateurs were run in newspapers and theatrical magazines, and the response was beyond the fondest hopes of the promoters of the plan.

*These girls were given free tuition until they were fully qualified to make good in ensemble numbers prior to the usual fall opening of the Columbia Circuit season, and they repaid their benefactors by going into Broadway shows, leaving Scribner and his associates to stand the monetary loss, and take the more matured, fully experienced choristers for their shows on the circuit.*

That's one side of the amateur story, and here's another: In the days of the former Empire, Columbia and American circuits, when women in general wore street-sweeping gowns, it was the custom of many men to go to leg shows, as burlesque was termed in those days.

*With the advent of short skirts on the street, leg shows lost their sex appeal, and in self-defense the operators of burlesque shows introduced the strutting strips, spot-lighted parades of slender, symmetrical personalities, as far as the police permitted.*

These strutting strippers have youth and beauty, but lack talent and ability.

*During the current season we have warned these featured fems frequently that their STRUTTING-STRIPS days were numbered, and to protect their future by the study of music, singing and dancing, or they would eventually go back into the chorus or the discards of burlesque.*

When an exceptionally attractive chorister of apparent talent and ability is given the opportunity to step out of line, lead a number, do a specialty, or work in scenes, it oftentimes happens that her less attractive and less able competitors say "She has a pull with the manager." Maybe it's the comics. Sometimes there are justifiable grounds for their claims, and this contention has a tendency to offset the ambition of some choristers for self-advancement.

*When a chorister for any reason whatsoever is advanced to a principal role, makes good in the role, and after a week is put back in line, there must be some reason for her advancement, and return to the chorus, and the reason given by Sally Swan, of the American Theater Stock Company, New York, for her sudden rise from the chorus as a successor to Mary Lee Tucker, featured fem. of the runway, and her return to the chorus, and her subsequent notice to the management of her intention to close, is apparently logical, and, if proven, warrants wide publicity.*

Sally says that subsequent to her exit from the American and her appearance as featured fem. with Charlie Burns' Irving Place Stock Company, New York, she will open up the works, and if she does, it will provide us with the material for a CURRENT COMMENT that will prove interesting and instructive to our burlesque readers.



### Neighborhood Players Of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Brooklyn Neighborhood Players deserve much credit for their first Shakespearean venture, February 6 and 7. Their production of *King Lear* was excellent. The work of C. Corey Mills, in the title role, stands out in marked distinction. Cedric Fox made an excellent Earl of Kent, and the same may be said of F. Stanley Babington in the part of the Earl of Gloucester. The Neighborhood Players are to be congratulated on having an entire cast so good that it is difficult to decide on the best individual performance. We regret that space does not permit a comment on the good work of all the players in *King Lear*.

It is really too bad that this organization lacks a full-sized theater, but this handicap was considerably overcome by the good work of the players, fine direction and authentic costuming. Settings and stage lighting were good, considering the circumstances.

Just a little distraction was felt during the portrayal of the elements in the storm scene. This, we think, was caused by the thunder effect on the tympani being a trifle too loud, thus drowning out some of the dialog in this scene.

Smooth direction in the fine performance of this classic was under the guidance of H. M. Claney. J. M. B.

### Little Theater Tourney May 5

The date for the annual National Little Theater Tournament, popularly known as the Belasco Cup Match, has been definitely set for the week of May 5.

Walter Hartwig, who has managed the previous seven tournaments, and who will manage this eighth event in the series, reports that there is a heavy registration among the Little Theater groups, notwithstanding the fact that the closing date for entries is not until April 1.

### Passion Play To Be Given

*Veronica's Veil*, a passion play, will be presented for the 16th consecutive season, beginning March 9, at St. Joseph's Church, Union City, N. J., under the sponsorship of the Passionist Fathers. The play will continue thru Lent, the performance to be on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings and afternoons.

The play was written by Father Bernardine, C. P., and is derived from the tradition of the woman, Veronica, who comforted the Saviour on His way to Calvary. There are five acts and many tableaux.

### Denver Holding

#### Membership Campaign

An intensive membership campaign is being waged by the Civic Theater of Denver, Colo. Circulars are being mailed and advertisements are being run in the daily press in an effort to interest the general public. Patron memberships are \$100, sustaining \$25, active \$3, and junior ages 5 to 15, \$2. Mrs. Harry C. James, chairman of the membership committee, issued a statement, parts of which follow:

"For years various groups have been trying to give Denver the advantage of a Civic Theater. But without a playhouse of their own and without any guaranty that responsible management would hold over from year to year, these undertakings have never been able to command the popular support they deserved.

"Now, however, a real Civic Theater has emerged—an organization under the management of the University of Denver; an organization which owns its playhouse, stage equipment, elaborate lighting system and scenic and costume studios, with a salaried full-time director."

Maurice Gnesin, former director of the Little Theater at Syracuse, N. Y.; also Duluth, Minn., is now the director of the Denver Civic Theater. The theater is governed by a board composed of the following: James H. Causey, chairman; Allen T. True, vice-chairman; Mrs. Jean Allen Cranmer, Mrs. Harry C. James, Helen Bonifis, Ann Evans, Mrs. Morrison Shafroth, Mrs. Will Shafroth and Charles E. Lounsbury. Chancellor Frederick M. Hunter, of Denver University, and Maurice Gnesin will serve as ex-officio members of the board.

# Little Theaters

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT

(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

## Among Our Junior Players



A SCENE FROM "CINDERELLA", played at the Town Theater, Columbia, S. C., by the Junior Stage Society.

Junior theaters, springing up in all parts of the country, are noticeably increasing. Many Little Theater groups are adding Junior sections, and children are taking a new and awakened interest in amateur theatricals.

Children's groups, attempting only the simpler and shorter plays heretofore, are now aspiring to full-length plays, requiring elaborate costumes and scenic effects. An outstanding group is the Junior Stage Society of Columbia, S. C. These diminutive players, known as *The Scalawags*, are all children under 13 years of age, and they stage four big productions during a season. *Wappin' Wharf* is now in rehearsal, also *Meet the Wife*.

The most recent production was *Cinderella*, given at the Town Theater. This full-length play, elaborately costumed, was dramatized and directed by Harry Davis. The production was so popular that *The Scalawags* have been invited to bring it to several other cities thruout the State.

The Henry Players, of New York City, boast a popular member of their cast who is only four years old. This gifted young actor is Lionel Ziprin, who recently made his theatrical debut in J. M. Barrie's *A Kiss for Cinderella*. Lionel took the part of the German baby, and his blue eyes, golden hair and merry little face made him ideally suited to the part.

### New Playhouse In San Antonio, Tex.

*The Swan*, a three-act romantic comedy of the Hungarian playwright, Ferenc Molnar, officially opened the San Antonio Little Theater. The San Pedro Playhouse, as the new Little Theater building is called, is the city's new \$103,000 home of drama and the arts.

A brilliant and large audience attended the recent production of *The Swan*. The stage sets were beautiful, and the lighting facilities offered by the new theater were undoubtedly a great aid in the sweeping success of the play.

Zay Smith, as Father Hyacinth; Joe

Eva Fry, who directs the Henry Street Settlement, reports a large increase in the membership and interest. "They help make costumes and scenery, as well as act, and they are always willing to help with any of the odd jobs," says Miss Fry, who is simply bubbling with enthusiasm over her work.

The Little Players of the Heckscher Theater, New York City, are a unique repertoire company of skilled and experienced young artists between 7 and 13 years of age. This group of young Theatricals is now firmly and prosperously established in the hearts of several thousand families, and is making new friends, both parents and youngsters, every week.

The Heckscher Players are planning to present a Shakespeare comedy, if you please, and it will be the first in their history. The Saturday afternoon matinees presented by this Junior Guild are extremely popular in New York.

Children respond naturally and quickly to mimicry, and the earlier they can start in the pleasurable art of stagecraft, the better. Theatrical training and public appearances will help to overcome the serious handicap of self-consciousness, and it cannot help but instill in the minds and bodies of children a simple grace and ease of deportment which could be gained in no more fitting or enjoyable way. It is a pleasant, interesting education.

Shane, as Dr. Nicholas Agi, tutor to the royal family; Judy Drought, as Princess Beatrice, and Lois Lasfer, as Princess Alexandra, presented convincing characterizations. Melvin Williamson, as Prince Albert, and Mrs. Leo Tynan, as Princess Dominica, gave splendid performances in difficult roles.

### New York Dept. Store Presents Its Own Satire

Life as it is lived in a big New York department store formed the basis for a burlesque done by R. H. Macy & Company at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, February 8. Satire was shown under the title of *Red Star Revue of 1930*,

with the entire cast composed of employees of the big New York store. The newest Macy play was the most pretentious and elaborate of any put on by the department store, which yearly offers a production of its own. Various departments in the store were involved in the material making up the revue, noteworthy for comedy being *The Section Manager's Christmas Eve*, which related the story of the well-bred employee, who came home to the wife and kiddies after a busy day, attempting to be his most courteous possible self, and murdered the family. One of the largest scenes in the production depicted the old ship that Capt. Rowland H. Macy had before he founded the great store now bearing his name.

### An Inter-Collegiate Little Theater

Nineteen universities, colleges and associated institutions of higher education thruout New York are co-operating thru alumni and student representatives in the formation of The Playshop, an inter-collegiate Little Theater, which will combine the best amateur theatrical talent with representative members of the professional stage.

### Women, 68 to 83, In Playlet

A cast of women, the oldest is 83 and the youngest is 68, from the Home for the Aged of the Church Charity Foundation of Brooklyn, presented *The Strike of the Ladies' Aid*, a play by Edna L. Mackensie. The performance was given before an audience of about 1,500.

Most of the women were brought to the theater in busses and automobiles, but a few of the more modern and adventuresome rode on the rattling subway.

An attempt to obtain an accurate census of the age of the players was frustrated by the bashfulness of some of the cast, who felt that a woman's age is her own business, no matter how old she may be.

All of which proves that "Youth Never Dies."

Sixty student representatives of the participating institutions held a joint session recently, and laid plans for the ultimate representation in the new movement of every college and university in the city of New York. Already participating in the organization of The Playshop are Adelphi College, the College of the City of New York, including five branches of the evening session; Fordham University Law School, Columbia University, Brooklyn Law School, St. John's College and Law School, Long Island Medical College; Hunter College, day and evening sessions; New York University, and Pratt Institute.

In addition to the production of plays, classes in the history of the theater and in pantomime, diction and makeup will be offered to members.

The plays will be directed by A. Montague Ash, formerly of the Neighborhood Playhouse and New Playwrights Theater; The Provincetown Playhouse and the English stage, and Mona Lewis, who appeared in the recent English version of *The Dybbuk*, and who was also formerly connected with the New Playwrights Theater and the Neighborhood Playhouse.



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## New NBC Bureau

**New artists' bureau is announced by officials of National Broadcasting**

Merlin H. Aylesworth, president of the National Broadcasting System, has announced the new chain subsidiary, stating that a number of leading operatic and concert stars have been contracted under the new Service Bureau. George Eagles, vice-president of the chain in charge of programs, will direct the activities of the Artists' Service.

Reinald Werrenrath is among the stars representing the baritone unit. This new program service includes some of the best known names in the musical world. In the soprano group are Dusolina Giannini, Claudia Muzio, Margherita Salvi, Hallie Stiles and Olga Albani.

In the contralto group are Mme. Ernestine Schumann-Heink and Gladys Swarthout.

Walter Mills and Theodore Webb are also represented in the baritone unit, and the tenor group includes Giacomo Lauri-Volpi, Louis Graveure, Charles Hackett and Jose Mojica. Violin soloists signed with the new service are Paul Kochanski and Renee Chemet. Pianists: Rudolph Ganz, Mischa Levitski, Josef Lhevinne, Maler and Pattison and Winifred Macbride.

### Reinald Werrenrath's 1926 Radio Views

With the announcement of Reinald Werrenrath in the baritone unit of the new Artists' Bureau at NBC, we came upon a 1926 report of his radio views. Werrenrath, when approached with the question as to whether or not he thought radio had hurt him, is reported as stating at that time that he was confident radio had not hurt him. In fact, he expressed himself with the belief that his appearances on the air had brought a number of new people into his audience.

"Radio," stated Werrenrath then, "has brought music into many homes where it has never been before. The phonograph accomplished this to a certain degree, but as the radio is a much more intimate medium than the phonograph it has been even a greater factor. Like every new invention, radio has hurt the sale of phonograph records. The inroads at first were considerable, as I can tell from my own experience. But in the long run I really feel that radio will help the sale of records. People hear a new artist on the air, and if they like the voice they will undoubtedly buy records of the singer."

### Radio Progress Indicated By Invention Applications

The patent office at Washington is simply swamped with applications, there being more than 2,000 patent applications covering radio developments in the United States patent office. The progress of the radio is indicated by this ever-increasing demand.

### Come All You Chi'N If You Want To Hear

All about Casey Jones. The brave rouser's name has fallen before the microphone. Immortal Casey has been resurrected and made over into a radio drama. Jack Maish, at WLW, Cincinnati, turned Casey over into his new form, and included in the drama is the great train ride, a fight with a tricky fireman in the swaying cab and the fatal wreck that made Mrs. Casey Jones the most sung-about widow in musical Americana.

Fiddle, harmonica and musical saw furnish appropriate musical background.

Now, writers, how about *Lady Lou*, the gal who slew *Dangerous Dan McGrew*?

## Radio Entertainers

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT

(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

## Dramatic, Musical Comedy Stage To Use Radio To Boost Grosses

Radio is on the verge of conquering the opposition it has encountered from the legit, winning the last of representative allied amusements over to the ether medium as a stimulating force to the box office. Ever since radio inception the legitimate stage has forcefully and unquestionably resisted the competition it represented to that field, some of its leaders having even arisen to decry the dangers that lurked in the mechanized entertainment.

According to lights in theatricals and radio now, however, dramatic and musical comedy producers are becoming more and more convinced that radio can help if applied properly rather than harm, and in the meantime radio is stepping ahead as a popular form of amusement while the high-priced legit. shows, unless of outstanding value, are suffering from lack of patronage.

Motion pictures and vaudeville evidenced a determined apathy toward radio when in its early stages, but with its development both branches of the theatrical industry have found it can be utilized to their own interests more effectively than if resisted as a hybrid and competitive medium of entertainment. So far as the legitimate stage is concerned the handwriting, it is indicated, is on the wall and something must be done to use the radio the same as pictures and vaudeville do now.

Motion pictures attempted to avoid radio at the outset, and vaudeville ordered its acts to keep off the air under penalty of cancellation of contracts, RKO, then Keith-Albee-Orpheum, ruling it tantamount to blacklisting to broadcast during the life of a contract with that circuit.

Now both motion pictures and vaudeville realize and recognize radio as a

valuable stimulant to the box office, and legit. observers view the "opposition" as a means of enriching dramatic and musical comedy show values under similar principles.

If people hear songs from pictures and are influenced in seeing those attractions as a result, and if after listening to headline vaudeville acts they are curious to see them at the theaters where they are booked, the argument is advanced that the public would also be piqued to see the plays of which perhaps a part was broadcast, possibly the first act. Advance trailers from the pictures can stimulate a desire to see the entire production in almost the complete audience. The radio broadcast of parts of a play would arouse interest, it is maintained, in the seeing of plays and would immediately determine prospective plans due to revelation of the type of material in which the play consists.

In the case of musicals song numbers or comedy bits would achieve a similar "advertising" purpose for such shows.

The nearest step toward bringing legit. closer to the radio is being undertaken by Play Choice, Inc., which will pick the representative play each month and attempt to arrange for its star or featured players to be heard on the air.

Recently Phillip Merivale, star of *Death Takes a Holiday*, Play Choice's selection for January, introduced the plan. Merivale made his radio appearance thru Station WABC on the Columbia chain. Semi-monthly broadcasts are being planned by Play Choice.

Radio is fast proving itself to be an effective advertising medium for its own profession, entertainment, as well as for commercial and industrial enterprises.

### Radio Audiences Like Poetry

It has been proven by some of the broadcasting studios that radio audiences like poetry. George Elliston for five years has broadcast her "Everyday Poems" to the audiences of Station WSAI, Cincinnati. Her poems represent romances of the newspaper world, and fan letters reflect the great amount of interest from the radio listeners-in.

New York stations have broadcast poems from which they have received very favorable reports.

An anonymous poem salvaged from an ash can, reprinted, and later read over the air from Station WENR, Chicago, caused radio listeners from 10 States to write in requesting more than 6,000 copies. This, with other similar experiences with inspirational poetry, has caused station directors and announcers to conclude that this form of reading attracts considerable attention among radio listeners. More than 49 different businesses and professions were represented among those who sent in requests for copies of the "Ash Can" poem. These ranged from high school principals, policemen, Rotary clubs, washing machine companies, politicians, a mushroom grower, traveling salesmen, college fraternities newspapers, automobile dealers to ministers, soap manufacturers, coal dealers, lawyers and college deans.

### Jack Sheavington Birmingham's New Announcer

Jack Sheavington, formerly of WHAS, Louisville, recently joined the WBRB staff at Birmingham, Ala., and will succeed John Connolly, who resigned to accept the assistant managership of Station WOOD, Chattanooga. Jack has had considerable experience announcing sports as well as other broadcasting.



Ablee Stewart, dramatic soprano, was born in Nashville, Tenn., and with the exception of a few months spent in Cincinnati during her early girlhood she has received her entire musical education in Nashville. Last spring Miss Stewart sang for the officials of the Metropolitan Opera Company and received much encouragement from the great vocal authorities of that source.

Since that time she has appeared as assisting artist to Giuseppe de Luca, baritone of the Metropolitan Opera Company. A brilliant future is predicted for Miss Stewart.

In addition to her operatic and concert activities she is also singing regularly over Station WYNT, Nashville. Miss Stewart is planning a visit to New York in the near future and her golden voice will surely attract attention via the radio there.

## WENR Given More Air Time

**Court mandate puts station on equal basis with WLS—WCBD petition is refused**

A court order to the Federal Radio Commission assigns one-half broadcasting time on the 870-kilocycle channel to Station WENR, Chicago, operated by the Great Lakes Broadcasting Company, which now uses two-sevenths time. The mandate was issued by the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia and reversed the previous decision of the court denying the station increased broadcasting time.

At the same time the court refused to grant the rehearing petitions of Stations WLS at Chicago and WCBD at Zion City, Ill., both of which were involved in the 870-kilocycle channel case, but were denied outright their applications by the Commission and by the court on appeal.

Station WLS up to the present has broadcast on the 870-kilocycle channel five-sevenths time, with WENR using the remainder of the time. Station WCBD prior to November, 1928, had broadcast on the frequency, but under the allocation was shifted to another frequency and restricted to daylight hours only. It sought return to the frequency with operation during evening hours, while WLS applied for full time on the frequency.

The effect of the court's mandate is that WLS and WENR divide equally the broadcasting time on the frequency.

### New Talent Aid Opens Offices

The Radio Music Company, affiliated with the National Broadcasting Company, and recently organized, has officially opened its offices and started operations.

This new company proposes to publish music of a higher level and ordinary jazz. It seeks to aid the unidentified composer in an effort to have good music published by new talent. The firm now has 500 manuscripts under consideration and a dozen songs all ready for publication, it was stated by E. C. Mills, president of the company.

The executive corps of the organization was announced simultaneously with the opening of new headquarters. It includes S. L. Ross, Rocco Vocco, Franklin Dunham and Nathan Felst.

### Hotels! Ahoy! Also Orchestras

Why do hotels—great in every other way—spend considerable money on radio broadcasting, and permit themselves to be represented by mediocre orchestras upon the ether? It certainly is a mystery. There are altogether too many orchestras upon the air as it is, and the good ones can be counted upon the fingers of one hand. Some of our immense hoteliers ought to try putting on a feature—other than an orchestra—that would bring in the tourists when they came to town. Radio and the hotel business seems to be sadly in need of a few enterprising spirits.—*New York Daily Mirror*.

ED. NOTE: Musicians and band leaders have complained and explained to us the difficulty they have in getting on the air. One band that we know of in particular is most unusual and a distinct novelty, playing native music from its own land, entirely new to America. This band would certainly be a distinct hit for the "hoteliers in need of a few enterprising spirits."

## THE FILM WEEKLY AUSTRALIA

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## Danish Mystic Heading South

**Great Ruisselle finds Michigan territory good—King Baile has 15-people show**

HOLLAND, Mich., Feb. 15.—The Great Ruisselle, Danish mystic, and his company of 15 people are at present meeting with success in their tour of theaters and auditoriums thru Michigan. The attraction, piloted by King Baile, is heading southward, and is, incidentally, the largest magical show in the Michigan territory at the present time.

The Ruisselle show is now in its 23d consecutive season, 10 years of which were spent in Europe. Besides a series of mental effects and escapes, Ruisselle features a string of entertaining illusions, including Burning a Woman Alive, Instanto Transformation, Floating and Disappearing Woman, the Scandinavian Torture Cage and Walking Away From Your Shadow. He does a two-and-a-half-hour show. The attraction is heavily billed with a line of special paper.

## Boston Assembly Hears Dr. Prince

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—Boston Assembly No. 9, S. A. M., held its February meeting last Friday, and in spite of the current cold snap it was well attended. Two new members were welcomed in Dr. Walter Franklin Prince and Jules Van Scheit, who has rejoined after an absence of several years.

On the entertainment program were Drs. Boyd and Walker, Leland C. Wyman, Al Keller, Harold Smith, Frank Cole, Arthur Monroe, Vic Miller, Bert Adams and Compeer Zirsch. The Sam Bailey prize for the best effect of the evening went to Bert Adams.

Dr. Prince, research officer of the Boston Society for Psychic Research and a prominent investigator in psychic matters, spoke on the mistakes and disadvantages encountered by the magician in attempting to imitate or expose the methods used by mediums in producing fraudulent physical phenomena. He also demonstrated some of the holds or controls used by fraudulent mediums, and recounted some of his personal experiences in investigating mediums. Dr. Prince emphasized some of the fundamental principles of the psychology of deception, which the magician is likely to lose sight of. He pointed out that most imitations of fraudulent physical phenomena as given on the stage are inaccurate, in that the magician either does not or cannot use the same methods that mediums do use. There never can be elaborate machinery in an actual seance, and the tendency of most magicians who attempt to expose such things on the platform is to use methods which are far more complicated than those actually used by mediums, he stated. Mediums can take plenty of time, sometimes hours, in producing their effects, while the public performer must do his work in the short time allotted for his act. Dr. Prince said, "The darkness at a seance adds a glamour to the performance as well as giving opportunity for trickery," he stated. "Take away the darkness and you spoil the effect." Dr. Prince said he felt it would be better for magicians to reproduce mediumistic effects, admitting that they are done by trickery, but not to expose them, thereby spoiling the effects. He pointed out the fundamental psychological fact that those who want to believe will not change their minds even if you do show them how the tricks are done.

Fred Keating, who played here with the *Nine-Fifteen Revue*, was a visitor after the show.

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## Magic and Magicians

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS  
Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.



PRINCESS KARATAKA (Mrs. A. A. Button), featured artiste with Prince Vantine and Company, European illusionists, now enjoying a successful run along the Pacific Coast.

## Smith Opens 30th Season

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Mysterious Smith, who has been laying off for two weeks, will reopen his magic show tomorrow at Waukesha, Wis. This will mark the beginning of Smith's 30th season on the road, and his new show is said to be the best he has ever had. The spring season will be played thru Wisconsin, then the show will jump into Canada for the summer.

James Feltz is in advance of the show, and Elmer Harris is master mechanic back with it.

## Magic Notes

SPRINGSTON reports business okay in theaters thru Ohio.

DR. PAUL KARA, mindreader, and Hugh Johnson, magician, are back on the West Coast.

DE ROCROY, the Magician, is being featured for the month of February at the Bobino Music Hall in Paris.

ANDY YOUNG, formerly assistant to Ralph Richards, the magician, is now working backstage at the E. F. Albee Theater, Cincinnati.

STEWART JUDAH and Leslie Guest are being kept fairly busy with club dates in and around Cincinnati. Last week, Guest entertained several hundred Boy Scouts at the Gibson Hotel in the Queen City.

AL BAKER, of New York, dropped off in Cincinnati last week for a few hours visit with his Queen City magic friends, en route to St. Louis where he was booked to entertain at a convention.

HARRY OPEL informs that there hasn't been much doing in the way of magic in Toledo, O., since Blackstone played the Rivoli Theater there recently. He states that the Great Krandall, who

## Nicola in India

The Great Nicola, one of America's highest ranking magicians, who left the States more than a year ago for an extended tour of Australia, has recently invaded India for a tour of that country.

In a communication to the magic desk, Nicola advises that he has been meeting with a hearty reception in the latter country, and that he is breaking records everywhere. He also turned in a big winner on his tour of the Antipodes.

## Kenny Playing New Territory

DELMAR, Del., Feb. 15.—Kenny, the Magician, who began his new tour several weeks ago, has just arrived here, and will make Delmar his headquarters for the next several weeks. This section is all new territory for Kenny, and the company is lined up for a string of good dates thru here.

In the Kenny repertoire are Burning a Woman Alive, A Trip to Spookville, The Master Mind, Princess Lorraine, The Girl With the Penetrating Eyes, Vanishing a Girl in Midair, and others. The Musical Turners have been engaged as a special feature with the Kenny show.

## DeBarrie Returning To Sparks Side Show

W. E. DeBarrie, Punch artiste and magician, and for many seasons associated with the Sparks Circus side show, will again be back with that show this coming season.

He has just completed a three weeks' engagement at the Miracle Museum, Pittsburgh, and is now working a two-week engagement at the Baltimore Museum, Baltimore. Following the latter date, he will return to Pittsburgh for a return engagement, and will remain in the latter city until the circus season opens.

was slated to leave Toledo for the Pacific Coast and then to Australia, has not yet left the city, and is still in his spacious (?) winter quarters in that city.

AL ZOZO tells us that Bob Gysel, of Toledo, O., recently issued and accepted a challenge to permit a police officer to shoot at him with a new gas gun at a distance of 10 feet. And Zozo says Gysel won, too.

PRINCE VANTINE reports that business is good along the West Coast, and that he is booked far ahead on a series of conventions. Prince Vantine formerly worked under the title of the Great Rajah. Curley Burns, RKO artiste, and members of his company were guests at the Vantine home in Oakland, Calif., recently.

HERMAN HOMAR, the "Wizard of the West", who is touring the Southwest under the direction of H. H. Davis, informs that he is meeting with good luck in that territory, despite the inclement weather conditions of the last several months.

JOHN MULHOLLAND, magician-lecturer, in a recent statement to the press, said that New Yorkers pay \$255,000,000 annually to fortune tellers. Paris, he

## Graystoke In Schools

**Will tour Ohio and Pennsylvania under personal direction of C. W. Hesson**

R. Temple Graystoke, magician and mentalist, is playing the public and parochial schools in and around Cincinnati. He is now in his third week in Cincinnati, and has one more week to run. In a visit to the magic desk, he stated that business is good, altho not up to the standard of other years. This is his third season in the Cincinnati schools, and before coming here he did three months of school and radio work in Youngstown, O.

After concluding his Cincinnati run, Graystoke will go on tour thru Ohio and Pennsylvania, under the direction of C. W. Hesson, former president of the Continental Lyceum Bureau, playing both schoolhouses and theaters. Graystoke, who formerly was billed as Rah Mona, the Magician, is giving a 45-minute presentation, featuring magic, mental effects and a trained dog turn.

## Buffalo Magi Meet

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 15.—The Harry Kellar Assembly of Magicians held its bimonthly meeting at the home of Raymond E. Hartman here this week. Charles Pender, president of the group, and who has been associated with magic for the last 35 years, presided.

New stunts were exhibited by Ray Hartman, Guy Stanley, John W. Wilson and Joseph O. Orson. The latter has been a magician for the last 42 years.

## New S. A. M. Members

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—At the 291st regular meeting of the Parent Assembly, Society of American Magicians, the following new members were taken in: Arthur S. Otis, Yonkers, N. Y.; Walter Sealteit, Berlin, Germany, and Arthur Stanton Hunt, Brooklyn. Jack Trepel, of Brooklyn, who resigned from the Parent group in 1911, was reinstated. President B. M. L. Ernst presided at the meeting.

says, pays \$6,000,000 a year to learn what the future holds.

GENE BRANDON, who formerly assisted R. Temple Graystoke, is now in the play-writing business in Youngstown, O. He recently produced 10 one-act plays, one each week, for Station WKBN, that city.

EDWARD BLUM, one of the first members of the Colorado Conjurers' Club, Denver, is now presenting a handkerchief routine in theaters in and around Kansas City, Mo.

R. A. (WHITEY) PETERS, magician and human ostrich, advises that he is coming along fairly well, following a long sick spell. He has been located all winter at 848 Sixth street, Port Arthur, Tex., where he is anxious to hear from all old friends.



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Minstrelsy

By BOB EMMET  
Communications to 25 Opera  
Place, Cincinnati

MONK WHITE IS STAGING a semi-pro minstrel show to be given by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Jacksonville, Fla., March 12 and 13. The principal comedians are Monk White, Frank Hague, Al Koonsberg and George Kirkpatrick. The Florida Four will be featured in the vocal department. W. B. Lamb, of the Chamber of Commerce, is production manager.

"IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE to read in *The Billboard* the announcement that Eddie Leonard, that grand old man, is going to lead a minstrel troupe again," Mrs. Charles F. Schlegel writes from Indianapolis, Ind. "Let us hope we may soon have the good old minstrel days back. The minstrels certainly provide a wonderful evening of entertainment. Many will be glad to welcome them back. To Mr. Leonard we extend our wishes for a prosperous season. A good minstrel show far surpasses the big musicals as wholesome entertainment. We ought to know, because we have been in the business 35 years. My husband is now stage manager in a theater here and I am on the wardrobe end."

JIMMY (RED) GRUNDY, one time wow drummer of the J. A. Coburn Minstrels, is nominated by Lloyd Williams for place among the entries in the world's championship bass-drum contest. He allows Red can do blindfold anything any other welder of the booferoom stick can do with his eyes open.

LLOYD (SUGARFOOT) WILLIAMS, last season with the John R. Van Arnam Minstrels, has reorganized his American Productions Company and writes that he is arranging to produce the annual Shrine Minstrels at El Dorado, Ark., and a minstrel show for the American Legion at Ruston, La., late in February. Williams went into producing home-

talent shows with Karl B. Minch after leaving the Van Arnam Minstrels last September. Minch returned to vaudeville shortly afterward and Sugarfoot organized a dance orchestra, "Sugarfoot and his Six Sugars", for the Christmas holidays season. The orchestra is going yet, jobbing in Arkansas and Louisiana. The tunetooters go into Wild Wood, dance hall at El Dorado, February 15, for an indefinite stay.

THE 1930 SEASON of the Birmingham Bertha Minstrels opened at Gonzales, Tex., February 6, to a packed house, a report from the show relates. The minstrels played Lulling, Tex., February 7 and 8 to big business. Charles C. Richards is owner and manager of this show. Al Bundick is business manager and handling the advance. The troupe travels in its own special car.

TOMMY COLLINS, for some years a conspicuous figure on the minstrel stage, is now with the *Hanks Revue*. Tommy is a minstrel of the old school and keeps in touch with the cork opry boys. Just now he is interested in the world's championship bass-drum contest and wants to know what it is all about. Writing from Springfield, O., Tommy reminisces: "It has been 28 years this summer since myself and partner, Jimmy Castle, joined Quinlan and Wall's Minstrels and 26 years since we were on the Fred E. Faust Minstrels. Quite a number of those old boys have passed on, including my old pal, Castle. It sure does me good to read some of the sayings of the old boys

like Joe McGee and Happy Benway. I hear Hap is on the sick list. Well, here's hoping he will soon be well and able to beat 'em all in that brass 'trum derby. And here's hoping Eddie Leonard puts it over and shows the world that minstrelsy is not dead. If anyone can do it he is the man. Don't give up, boys. I never will as long as they sell grease paint and cork. I am at the Band Box Theater, Springfield, O., for four weeks and would like to hear from the boys. What has become of Pete Detzel? Let's hear from you, Pete."

AS MILT BOYER HEARS IT, J. A. Coburn is planning to put out a minstrel show of the Mississippi River and its tributaries this spring. Uncle Milt has been informed that Coburn is busying himself with preparations for launching a big showboat troupe, but details are not obtainable at this time.

"ON MINSTRELSY'S PAGE in *The Billboard* of February 8 date you say that 'Eddie Leonard is to lead not only the biggest minstrel parade of the last 25 years, but a walloping comeback of minstrelsy.'" J. F. Paige writes from Chicago, adding: "Leonard's troupe, you say, will be 70 strong. The Haverly Minstrels, years ago, boasted of '40, count 'em, 40'. Several minstrel companies later—like Primrose & West's, George H. Evans' Honeyboy Minstrels, Nell O'Brien's and Al G. Field's outfits—went Haverly some better. If Leonard has 70 he has not only the biggest company in 25 years, but the biggest ever. Who knows of a

# Auditoriums

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

ATLANTIC CITY.—Plans were laid for the foundation of a powerful sports organization at a meeting of the newly organized Auditorium Athletic Club, which will sponsor sports at Atlantic City's municipal hall. Cgroll Brown, well known in sports circles here, was elected president.

The committee have the following chairmen: Aquatics, Dr. Charles Bossert; baseball, Paul Farley; basketball, Thomas Barker; bicycle racing, Charles Van Doran; boxing, E. L. Johnson; football, Rae McGraw; hockey, Joseph Hewitt; horse show, Robert Leeds; polo, Fred Patzowsky; soccer, James Idler; squash, Jack Lippincott; tennis, Ed Dreher; tickets, Clifton Shinn; track, Spencer Bennett; wrestling, Tom Wotton.

Executive committee: President, Carroll Brown; vice-presidents, William Banks, Harold Bond, Martin Harris, Joseph Hewitt, Lou Journet, Robert Leeds, Jack Lippincott, Dr. Maroney, Sol Metzger, Fred Patzowsky, Sidney Scull and John Siappe.

EAST LIVERPOOL, O. — Designed to meet community and district requirements in the way of conventions, industrial expositions, musicals, theatricals, as well as athletic needs, a \$150,000 auditorium is the goal of a campaign which has been launched here by business men. A site has been selected and architects' plans have been completed. It is expected sufficient stock will be sold to insure start of the project in the spring.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—The city council has ordered the collection of \$12,250 in back rental from the American Transfer Co., present tenant of the Music Hall. Steps to renew the lease on the hall to the highest bidder have also been suggested by the council. Formal bids are now being received.

LOS ANGELES—A vast program of alterations will be started shortly on the Coliseum and the cost of improvements will total \$225,000. The city and county are to work in collaboration in financing the project and it is expected that when completed the Coliseum will seat 100,000. The Olympic Games in 1932 will be held at the Coliseum.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Contract has been awarded for building the amphitheater at the University of Arkansas. The structure is to be built by the Chi

Omega Sorority as a gift to the university. The winning bid was \$31,225. Theatrical productions, both amateur and professional, will be presented at the amphitheater when completed.

MINNEAPOLIS — The council auditorium committee recommended the building of a wing to the Auditorium, as a factor in the five-year bond program which is now being prepared. The addition is estimated to cost \$700,000.

TORONTO, Can.—An outstanding contribution to the amusement life of this city is to be brought about by the erection of an eight-story auditorium on Bloor street, the leading street in the up-town section. An application has been made for incorporation of the Music and Arts Association of Ontario with the following names attached: H. J. H. Shorse, Sydney Appleton, Bryan Chadwick and Walter A. Green. The special feature of the building is a fully equipped theater, seating 1,000 people, which is to be erected within the building. This theater is to be available for traveling companies, orchestras and concert parties and can be booked independently. The upper floors of the building are to be devoted to studios and on the second floor are the offices of the association and management. A booking department is to be operated with publicity and advertising adjuncts. The undertaking has for its underlying purpose the welding together of all organizations of artistic tastes and vocations and the provision of a general gathering place for its members. The erection of the theater is a sign of the times in Canada, where the drama is still flourishing.

DALLAS—The State Fair Auditorium has closed its season with *The Connecticut Yankee*. The building, however, will continue to be leased for concert presentations, opera and any other amusement events. Road-show attractions appearing at the auditorium this season have failed to draw and have shown no strength. A number of attractions presented with Broadway casts were considered flops in Dallas. *The Connecticut Yankee*, the last attraction appearing at the auditorium, drew only 3,000 people for five performances. Roy Rupard, secretary of the State Fair, states the future of the auditorium depends largely upon the success of the new auditorium circuit being organized throught the country.

troupe bigger than 70?" Jack Haverly answers the question in his *Brief History of the J. H. Haverly Minstrels*, written and published by him in 1900. Read the following excerpts: "Haverly's Minstrels were first organized in 1862. . . . In those days 16 or 18 people were considered a large company. . . . I organized Haverly's New Orleans Minstrels, Haverly's Georgia Minstrels, Haverly's California Minstrels and Haverly's Chicago Minstrels and consolidated them into Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels—40, count 'em, 40—and for three years played the United States. . . . I arranged to play at Her Majesty's Opera House, London, and taking over a magnificent company, increasing the number to 80, I played for a long season. . . . Meanwhile, I had organized Haverly's New Mastodon Minstrels, and while the company crowded London's leading theater, the New Mastodons were repeating the success of their predecessors here in America. After my season in London expired I brought the original company back to New York, and consolidating it with the New Mastodons, formed Haverly's Consolidated Mastodon Minstrels, a company of 100, and made another triumphal tour of America to larger houses than ever."

SEEING HIS NAME in a recent issue as a proposed entrant in the Gossans-Leslie bass-drum championship contest, Happy Allen, who is in Frisco, says he sure will show his stuff. He states that Rue Enos is practicing for the event and can play a mean bass drum (according to Hoyle), do back bends and never miss a beat. It may be of interest to all of these famous bass drummers that Hap Allen claims the ownership of a bass-drum stick that he carried and used in France. He says that in time to come it will be as famous as Happy Benway's wig.

TO SUSTAIN INTEREST in the hoofing marathon which has been shuffling along at Eagles' Auditorium, Dayton, O., since December 27, minstrel talent has been enlisted by the promoters. Last week Doc Samson and Harris Webster were featured on the entertainment program and played to big houses thru the first four days for which the act was engaged, according to report. The big dance started with 33 couples. Six were holding the floor at last accounts and had danced 1,170 hours at the end of the day, February 5. During his stay in Dayton Doc was visited by Bill Barabee, who is running the stage at the Victory Theater.

WHEN TROUT & HEFF opened the first season of the new minstrel company little more than a week ago they were showered with telegrams of congratulation and good wishes from managers, agents and performers in all parts of the country. "These messages were certainly appreciated," says Drane Walters. "They indicated the widespread interest in the old cork opry's revival."

SINCE LEAVING CHICAGO, where the show was organized, the Trout & Heff Minstrels have been reinforced by the following additions: Joe Smith, veteran bone soloist, one of the few minstrel men giving bone solos, an art that had become almost extinct until revived in the last year in minstrel acts; Rudy Powell, endman, vocalist and dancer; Buster Rice, vocalist; Oscar Chapleau, band leader, and Sidney Sheppard, advance agent. The olio of specialties has been enlarged to eight acts. Drane Walters, comedian, is working thru the entire bill as master of ceremonies. The show is routed thru Illinois for the remainder of this week, after which the minstrel boys invade the Middle Western States.

HI TOM WARD, minstrel tenor soloist and dancer, is meeting with great success with the *Old Timers' Jubilee*, which is headed by the original Coreen. In the act are Lizzie Wilson, German comedienne, and Harry Smith, featuring a handkerchief pickup with his teeth while doing a forward somersault. Hank Brown is master of ceremonies. The act is booked solid over the Fox Circuit by Jack Loeb.

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Colored Musicians. Performers. Help in all Departments. Long season. Opens in March. Rehearsals start March 1. Write. State what you do and lowest salary in first letter. CORKY WILLIAMS, Central City Hotel, Macon, Ga.

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## Beauty Box

### If You Are a Golden Blonde

And your eyes are blue or gray, you can make them even lovelier and more alluring with slightly bluish eye shadow. If your eyes are hazel, if your eyes are brown, use eye shadow in the brown tones for daytime and green for witchery at night. Eye shadow costs \$1, and is worth ransoms to your charm and beauty.

### Daintiness Is a Part Of Personality

There is never a time when personal daintiness may be neglected, and the careful girl will never fail to make a deodorant a part of the day's necessities. We are glad to tell you about an excellent one that will insure protection against any odors, absolutely and completely. It is a brand-new kind and a big improvement. Ten cents will bring you a sample of this new and fine deodorant, one that you will want to use forever after.

### What's New?

Almost every day we hear this expression, and the trite, it never becomes tiresome, because it reflects just what it says, "something new." It's refreshing, this interest in what's new—it calls up refreshing new things, like a budding flower, the soul of a baby, or the first touch of dawn. One of the very newest things we have seen is

### Stick Cosmetique

It's so new that you are going to ask right away: What is it? It is a cosmetique used for darkening eyelashes and eyebrows, and comes in a handy stick form that can be applied as quickly and easily as lipstick. This type of stick cosmetique is very popular in Europe, and is used almost exclusively in the Orient. One big advantage: it can be carried conveniently in your purse, and used instantly when needed.

Can also be used for coloring the hair, but it is not a permanent dye. You will be very pleased with this new cosmetique, girls. The price is \$1.50.

### Treatment for Oily Skin

One of our readers asks for a daily treatment for oily skin. To begin with, the skin should retain a certain amount of oils to be normal and healthy, but an excessive or unusual oily condition is annoying, as well as being an indication of an abnormal skin condition. If allowed to continue, the relaxed or open pores become clogged, and blackheads result, and when they become irritated or infected they cause pimples and often stubborn cases of acne. To correct this condition the skin must be thoroughly cleansed and refined daily. The following treatment will be found effective in clearing up a too oily skin state:

Before retiring, cleanse the face and neck with a pure, good cleansing cream. This not only carries off all surface dirt and makeup, but it also flushes the pores of impurities. Follow with a brisk patting, using a cotton pad moistened with a soothing skin tonic. Be sure to pat the face for about five minutes every night to stimulate the circulation and bring the healthy blood supply to the skin surface.

Remove the cream with the soft tissues. If you haven't a supply of these tissues, samples will be mailed to you upon request. We have mentioned these cleansing tissues frequently in these columns, because we cannot impress you too strongly with the importance of sanitary methods in cleansing your skin. Ask your own beauty doctor, too.

If you would like to know of a good cleansing cream, one made expressly for this treatment costs \$1. An excellent skin tonic, which is also a mild astringent, costs \$1.50.

### When Ordering

All articles mentioned in this column and in the Beauty Box may be ordered thru *The Billboard Shopping Service*. Remittances should be in the form of money orders or certified checks. Please do not send personal checks or stamps. Address correspondence to *The Billboard Shopping Service*, 1560 Broadway.

# Feminine Frills

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT  
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

## New in the Shops

WHOOOP-EE! . . . There she goes, the little charmer in the saddle, who can ride a bronco with as much ease and grace as the Governor's lady out for a canter on



the parkway. There she goes . . . waving her 10-gallon hat with its fancy horsehair braid, her gay scarf fluttering in the breeze. That flying scarf vies for honors with her colorful silk shirt of contrasting shade.

Does she wear chic riding breeches tucked into slim, high-heeled boots? And are those boots themselves works of art with their embroidered hearts, diamonds, spades and whatnots? Does she wear her chaps or chinks like a thoroughbred? We'll say she does, and, what's more, she is a picture in equestrienne smartness wherever she goes.

We know just where she can find the very finest in all she needs, whether it be a wondrously carved saddle, an attractively designed pair of boots or colorful chaps made to any order. *The Billboard Shopping Service* is at YOUR service, girl and boy riders everywhere.

SPECIAL PRICES now on rompers and dance sets in dozen quantities. For instance, two-piece dance sets of saten, trunks, in black, navy, lavender, red and green, with white blouse, with collar trimmed to match trunks, are \$1.95 for the single set. In dozen quantities there is a special price of \$18.50. This means a saving for teachers, instructors and directors of dancing schools or groups. To assure perfect fit, send dress size.

Lenore paid me a visit this morning. Perhaps you do not know Lenore, at least not by that name. She is the daughter of a well-known character man, and has been on the stage since she was five years old. She is, by the way, a clever little actress, sings and dances beautifully, and she has that other priceless ingredient—personality.

Like many other talented girls, Lenore has been in New York for some time now, hoping for an engagement. About once a week she has tripped in to see me, her clear, brave eyes smiling out at a future that looks none too rosy. What a little soldier she has seemed to me! No one would ever suspect, just glancing at that slim, girlish figure, clad in a smart two-piece jersey frock, with sports coat and tight little felt hat, that Lenore is the sole provider for Nancy, aged nine, and Richard, four. When they lost their daddy a peach of vaudeville act was split.

No one would ever detect the tears that lie dangerously near the beautiful, blue eyes, eyes that sometimes dance as merrily as the wind-blown ringlets about Lenore's heart-shaped little face. She has a way of hiding troubles with a glorious, pearly smile.

There was, this morning, a trace of recent tears about those brave eyes, a slight quiver about the lips, and nervous hands fumbled with a wispy handkerchief. I knew that something was wrong. "Things looking up?" I asked as a leadoff.

"No, and I'm terribly discouraged," she answered. "Just disgusted with everything. No use trying to do anything or be anything. . . . And then Lenore told me this story:

CORINNE GRIFFITH, lovely picture star, wears one of the newest sports ensembles. It is all white, with a white leather jacket and a white beret perked jauntily on one side. Wouldn't you like a white velvet or flannel beret to match your sports ensemble? They come in all colors, too, to match any attire, and are made to your measure to fit perfectly. All for \$3.95. Please state head size when ordering.

HERE IT IS! A scientifically perfected deodorizer and disinfectant, which is used and recommended by physicians, nurses, hospitals, theaters, sanitariums, railroads and steamship lines. It is non-poisonous, noninflammable, refreshing. Instantly destroys all cooking odors, absorbs tobacco and stale odors, and prevents any odors in furniture, closets and lockers. Makes the air as fresh as the ocean breeze. A pint size costs 50 cents.

DO YOU KNOW that there is now a preparation on the market which takes every vestige of color out of a garment or draperies? It is used for preparing material's for redyeing. The makers claim that this preparation is as harmless to fabric as boiling water, and it will remove even deep colors. Costs only 15 cents a package.

A MOST UNUSUAL bargain is offered to readers of *The Billboard*. A beautiful 2½-karat Egyptian (imitation) diamond ring, with flashing, lustrous diamond set in sterling silver mounting, is shown in the illustration.

This ring is really very beautiful, especially for stage or evening wear. The jeweler is offering it now at the wholesale price of \$2, plus 15 cents postage. When ordering please be sure to give size of finger, or a piece of string indicating size.



## Just a Little Story

"I got tired of tramping up and down Broadway, up the 40s and down again, in and out of booking offices and agencies, with no results. I'm not blaming anyone, of course; it's no one's fault—it's simply conditions as they are today. And I'm not the only girl, or man, either, who doesn't know which way to turn, and who would sincerely like to settle down to business in New York.

"I tried to figure out a way so that I could work and be here with the children—I've simply got to keep working, you know—so I have been studying beauty culture at night. I just finished about a week ago, and I was so enthusiastic and happy about it—but—it's no use now."

"No use?" I asked, pretending to be angry with Lenore, "and I always thought you were such a good soldier."

"Wait," she interrupted, "listen to this. The other day I answered an advertisement for an assistant in a beauty parlor. It was located in a hotel, and I thought that was fine, as I was used to hotels and it seemed sort of like home. The woman who owned the shop interviewed me, and she was very, very nice. We liked each other right away. She could see that I understood the work and that I was eager and anxious. We agreed on everything—salary, hours (which were long, but I didn't mind). She showed me all around the place, and say, but it was cute, too. I would have just loved that job."

"Well, what happened?" I questioned, impatiently.

"Nothing, until she said they had a lot of fine theatrical trade, and I said

## Footlight Fashions

### Pauline Frederick Tells How To Escape Being Bored

"Every woman," said Pauline Frederick, star of the stage and now a Warner Bros. screen star, "experiences those dreadful days when nothing seems right. Life is a bore, and what can we do about it?"

"Well, there are many things to be done about it," stated Miss Frederick. "Never let boredom get the upper hand. It takes the sparkle from your eyes and hastens the process of those tiny wrinkles that seem ever ready to take possession of a woman's face and play havoc with her soul.

"Just stop and think of all the interesting things you can do. If the constant and tiresome routine of looking after your home and family is the cause of an occasional fit of boredom, throw it all aside for a day. Put yourself in the hands of a competent beautician and enjoy a few luxurious hours being fussed about as tho you were a queen. Then eat a dainty luncheon cooked by somebody else and attend a gay matinee. What if it is an extravagance? It is well worth it. Suppose a few household duties are neglected? You will return to them refreshed and with new enthusiasm and accomplish twice as much the following day.

"Or, if boredom is the result of too much leisure and taking care of yourself—turn to your own fireside for the remedy. A tremendous kick can be derived from spending a day or two in rearranging the rooms in your home and adding a fresh touch of color here and there. A modern lamp, an interesting etching or a colorful vase will revive your spirits.

"Anything new—anything that is a delightful change from your usual routine—is a sure cure for the blues."

### Bright Reds in Theater Audiences

We have seen many lately, high and brilliant red sheer velvet wraps trimmed with ermine, Kolinsky and mink. Red frocks of light and dark tones in lustrous satins and dull flat crepes. Reds, oranges and hennas are extremely in demand just now.

that was great, as I knew show people had been in the show business. I was fool enough to tell her the truth about everything . . . my plans for the future, which were to settle down to this beauty business and be with the kiddies. She began to look undecided like, then after a while she said: "Listen, honey; we better forget all about it. I'm sorry, really, you seem like such a nice girl, but I'm afraid to take a chance. Maybe after I had taken the time to break you in you might decide to go back in the show business. . . . You see, I want someone who will be steady and stay."

Lenore shook her head dolefully. "No amount of talking or coaxing," she said, "would change that woman or convince her. And after I had begged her just to give me a chance, and that I would prove I was in earnest, she said: 'Once in the show business, always in the show business.' So what can I do?"

Lenore's little story is only one of many I have listened to lately. Every so often some fine person, either a man or a woman, comes into the office and relates a similar experience. The theatrical person who decides to disconnect from show business, for reasons of his own, is just as valuable an asset to the commercial or professional world as the broker who quits Wall street after a panic, and decides he will go into the clothing business. Very often he or she is more in earnest, as quite likely the performer is tired of the road and glad of the opportunity to settle down in one place.

This statement is made advisedly, since the writer of this article spent most of her life in the show business before entering upon a commercial career. She can say then, from actual experience, that a performer can also be a good business man or woman. Show people gain a knowledge of human nature, and human interest, which is of limitless value to good business, and they should be given the opportunity to express themselves when they do decide to join the ranks of commercial and industrial endeavor.



## Scenic Artists

By CHARLES CROUCH  
Communications to 1560  
Broadway, New York

SHAFFNER & SWEET are completing sets for H. H. Frazee's production of the comedy *She's No Lady*.

CHARLES LESSING, president of the United Scenic Artists, has returned from a business sojourn in Cleveland, where he adjusted various organization matters.

CIRKER & ROBBINS are completing sets for the forthcoming George Jessel production, *This Man's Town*.

ALEXANDER CHERTOV has completed scenic and decorative work for Nathan Goldberg's Prospect Theater in the Bronx.

SETS FOR the Shubert revival of *The Count of Luxembourg* are the work of Rollo Wayne.

JOSEPH URBAN has been commissioned by George White to design special additional sets for the musical comedy *Flying High*.

WALTER STREET is designing additional sets for Lew Leslie's *International Revue*.

TONY CONTINARI is designing additional sets for J. J. Leventhal's production, *You Don't Say*.

GLEON THROCKMORTON is completing sets for *Penny Arcade*, which is being produced by Wm. P. Tanner and Wm. Keigley.

WATSON BARROTT designed sets for Lee Shubert's production of *The Matriarch*.

WILLIAM LOVEJOY, actor, is also a designer. He recently designed the interior of a studio-bungalow for Mary Pickford at Hollywood. He contemplates

entering the designing field in New York.

HUGH FERRIS, architect, assisted in designing sets for the Neighborhood Playhouse production of *New Year's Eve in New York*.

JUAN PABLO, Spanish artist, has completed a portrait study of Mona Moray, dancer, which will be placed on exhibit at the Jolson Theater.

## Costumers

By CHARLES CROUCH  
Communications to 1560  
Broadway, New York

SCHNEIDER-ANDERSON are completing additional costumes for Ziegfeld's *Simple Simon*. An entire set of costumes is being rushed thru for a special gypsy number.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, produced by the Utica Civic Theater, Utica, N. Y., displays costumes furnished by Charles Christie.

COSTUMES for the Shubert revivals of *The Merry Widow* and *The Chocolate Soldier* were furnished by Eaves Costume Company.

MME. BERTHE is executing costumes designed by A. Vasilchikov for the new revue at the Cotton Club.

THE TIN TYPE REVUE at the Paramount Theater displays costumes by Schneider-Anderson.

CHARLES CHRISDIE supplied costumes for the following productions: *The Road to Rome*, Lyric Theater, Birmingham, Ala.; *Trial of Mary Dugan*, Empire Theater, Syracuse, N. Y.; *The Spider*, Jefferson Theater, Portland, Me., and *Smilin' Thru*, the Playhouse, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

COSTUMES for the production of *Quality Street* at Miss Nightingale's school and for the production of *Arms and the Man* at the Stray Shot School were furnished by Eaves Costume Company.

## Stage Employees and Projectionists

By CHARLES CROUCH  
Communications to 1560  
Broadway, New York

HEROISM during a fire in the projection room of the Acme Theater, San Francisco, a few days ago may cost H. A. Olson, motion picture operator, his life. A reel of film caught fire, routing the patrons, but before the flames could spread Olson extinguished them. He staggered from the projection room critically burned and was taken to a hospital.

WALTER S. CROFT has settled the difficulty between Local 368, Hutchinson, Kan., and the Fox Midland Circuit.

ROAD CALLS: Marvin Theater, Findlay, O., and the Daytona Beach Auditorium, Daytona Beach, Fla.

DEATHS: W. T. O'Brien, of Locals 40 and 23; William H. Kelly, financial secretary of Local 370; Frank Harrison, 30 years a member of Local 31, and Carlington Ross, of Local 547.

WILLIAM A. DILLON has been assigned to Portland, Me., Local 114, to negotiate contracts between the local union and the Keith Theater, which recently changed its policy.

WILLIAM P. COVERT has adjusted the controversy between the management of the Grand Opera House, Hamilton, Canada, and Local 129.

ED TINNEY recently addressed a mass meeting in Zanesville, O., at the request of Local 104. He outlined to his audience the union's side of the existing theater strike.

CLEVE BECK, vice-president, recently secured contracts with the Publix management at Boise, Ida., which awarded back salary to members of Local 91. The new contracts will remain in effect until September 1, 1931.

LOCAL 618 at Bloomington, Ind., will be visited by Representative Ed Tinney, who goes there to assist in adjusting local matters.

CLYDE WESTON visited Local 477, Green Bay, Wis., where he effected a settlement in the dispute between the Fox-Midwest management and the local union.

WILLIAM C. ELLIOTT, vice-president, has settled a controversy between Local 163, Louisville, Ky., and a local management which recently changed to sound policy on five suburban theaters.

A NEW LOCAL has been installed at Beatrice, Neb., with Representative Walter S. Croft officiating. The local is No. 687. Officers are as follows: L. B. Colgrove, president, who will also serve as business representative; B. G. Witulski, vice-president; E. M. Lewis, treasurer, and K. M. Beach, recording secretary.

LOCAL 67, Des Moines, Ia., will receive a visit from Clyde Weston, who will assist the local to put an end to difficulties with the State Fair Association.

JOE CAMPBELL is scheduled to spend considerable time in Texas in the near future. He will journey to Lubbock to negotiate contracts between the Publix management and Local 673, and then proceed to San Antonio to assist in settling a dispute between the management of the Aztec Theater and Local 407.

RANDOM NOTES—By Wesley Trout  
DEACON PHILLIPS and Charley Peck are in charge of the screen results at the Uptown Theater, Wichita, Kan.

LOCAL 126, stage employees, Fort Worth, were successful in signing contracts with the Hippodrome Theater.

CONVENTION HALL, Atez and the New Mecca have been placed on the unfair list of Local No. 312, Enid, Okla.

THE PALACE, Regent, Plaza and New Rivoli theaters, Blackwell, Okla., have been placed on the unfair list of Local No. 641, Arkansas City, Kan.

THE GEM THEATER, Texarkana, Tex., has signed a contract with Local No. 383 to employ union projectionists.



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Chiffon Opera Lengths, \$3.50 pair, 3 Pairs for \$10. Service Weight, \$3.75 Pair, 3 Pairs \$10.50. Flesh, Pink, French Nude, Light Gunmetal, Black and White. Other colors dyed to match sample, \$1 extra. Special prices on quantity lots, including dyeing. Ask for new Catalog. Latest price list of Shoes, Girdles, Practice Costumes, Taps, Jingles, etc.

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**"HANDY" RHINESTONE MACHINE**

10 Gross, Size 20 or 21, Brilliant White Rhinestones and Settings, \$4.50. Colors—Size 20 and Settings, 55c Gross, 5 Cts. to Pkg. White—Size 30 and Settings, Special, \$1 Gross, 2 1/2 Gross to Pkg. MODERN-HANDY SUTTON MACHINE CO., 2489 West Ohio Street, Chicago, Ill.

**\$3.50**  
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THEATRICAL DEPT.

1578B. Broadway, New York



in the same bill: The Three Whirlwinds and the Nathano Brothers.

The Wintergarten has engaged the following bill for February: The Nine Allisons, Wulff and Jerome, Terkas, Casi Family, Harry Holt Trio, Vivian and Darewsky, Maritha Roekk, Kurien Troupe, Two Ellietts, Presco and Campo and Young China.

Paul Remos and Midgets have sailed for New York to open on the Loew Circuit. The act has a return month for the Wintergarten at increased salary.

Winston's Seals and Diving Nymphs arrived from a long tour in Spain and Portugal en route for Prag, where the act opens February 1. In March Winston comes to the Scala, Berlin, in his fourth return date.

Tambo and Tambo are at the Tivoli, Hanover, the current month.

A number of German acts booked for a tour in England have been badly inconvenienced by having their labor permits refused on the ground that their salary is below the standard set for foreign acts in the British Isles, which is now \$75 weekly for each single member of troupes. This is exactly double the amount stipulated formerly for foreign acts and is naturally aimed to keep them away, knowing well that British managers would hardly agree to pay such an amount for troupes.

Frank and Eugenie are featured at the Plaza currently.

Sarrasani, who opens shortly on Tempelhofer Field, quotes *The Billboard* in his large advertisements in the Berlin dailies as having been pronounced by this "greatest of all theatrical papers in the world" as the finest circus in Europe. Sarrasani plays here in a transportable and heatable building that holds 12,000.

In view of an acute shortness of comedy acts in Germany top money is paid willingly at standard houses. Jules Marx has just signed Erich Carow, a local comedian of the low-brow type who has his own vaudeville theater in the basement of the Walhalla Theater, at a figure that approaches Grock's record salary. Carow's fame as a real comedian has attracted such people as Einstein, Jannings, Max Reinhardt, Thomas Mann, Ekener, etc. Yet the Wintergarten hesitated to book him, claiming his type of comedy was too rough for their audience.

Bobbe Hind's London Sonora Band is the main attraction at the Lichtburg Cinema.

Scamp and Scamp have left for a tour in England, starting at the Palladium, London.

Erik Charell, noted producer of the Grosse Schauspielhaus, is under contract to the new Ufa house in Hamburg, commencing May, to stage *The Merry Widow* and *Madame Pompadour*. Charell's current production at the Grosse Schauspielhaus, *The Three Musketeers*, is a smash hit.

Elmar Rice's *Street Scene*, here called *Die Strasse*, is fortunate in having a fine cast and a splendid producer at the Berliner, otherwise a doubtful offering for this country.

Tom Belling goes for the whole season with Circus Staniewsky touring Poland.

Jules Marx is away on a booking trip looking over acts at Paris and London. He will open the Olympia, Dortmund, August 16, and the Apollo, Mannheim, September 1. The Drei Linden, Leipzig, taken over recently by Marx, is doing big business on popular lines.

## AUSTRALIA

By MARTIN C. BRENNAN  
198 Pitt Street, Sydney

SYDNEY, Jan. 11.—*Journey's End* had its Sydney premiere Saturday last. Press and public greeted it most enthusiastically and business has been capacity since opening despite very hot weather. The cast includes Reginald Tate, Lewis Shaw, Harvey Adams, Alan Lawrence, Vincent Lawson, Reginald Dane, Ambrose Flower, Reginald Wickham and John Fernside.

*New Moon* also made its appearance Saturday last and made a picturesque showing. Marie Bremner plays the leading role, with Lance Fairfax the hero of the play. Frederic Bentley, Vera Spaul, Marie Le Varre and Bernard Manning are the comedy section, with tuneful numbers and good dressing making the show a particularly bright one. George A. Highland is producer, with ballets by Minnie Everett.

There will be no further performers from overseas for Union Theaters Cir-

cuit, the talkies having pushed them off the bill as it were. Stage presentations with an augmented ballet are presented by the orchestras, with lavish back-grounds, but the talkies provide the bulk of the programs.

Martyn Hagan and Lucy Fraser are still taking things easy around Sydney. Bookings are out of the question for most performers and these oldtimers are content to enjoy a little vacation.

*The Smart Set Diggers* are playing the Luxor Theater, Perth, for a short season. Freddie Whitlow, Charles Holt, Tiki Carpenter, Lewola Bros., Ray Kemble and Beulah Berson are included in the show.

Yvonne Banvard is heading a company at the Theater Royal, Brisbane. *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* is the current production. Weekly changes of program are being given.

The Gayle Wyer Revue Company has closed at the Cremorne Theater, Brisbane, after an indifferent season of some five weeks.

Ann Penn, star of *Clowns in Clover* at the King Theater, Melbourne, is also presenting her act, *The Stars of the Stage World*, at the Victory Theater, St. Kilda (Melbourne).

The Humphrey Bishop Musical Comedy Company is at present in Melbourne after an interstate tour and broadcasting from 3 LO.

*The Murder on the Second Floor* is being presented by Leon Gordon at the Comedy Theater, Melbourne. Ada Reeve is appearing in the supporting cast.

E. J. Carroll, after a brief stay in Australia, is returning to London via America, accompanied by Mrs. Carroll and son.

The St. James Building has been officially opened, the ceremony being performed by Civic Commissioner John Garlick. This building is the property of the Fullers—Sir Benjamin and John—and is an adjunct to the St. James Theater, with frontage to Elizabeth and Castlereagh streets. The St. James Theater was originally constructed with a view to subsequently building a roof garden theater, but this has now been converted into offices, the average space on each floor being 12,000 square feet. It is the intention of the Fuller firm to later devote the space below the ground-floor level to a ballroom, restaurant and private dining rooms.

Sir Benjamin Fuller left for New Zealand yesterday to attend the opening of the new Majestic Theater, Christchurch.

Three hundred employees of J. C. Williamson, Ltd., were dismissed in Melbourne recently, as the result of a depression in theatrical business, due mainly to the competition of the talkies. It is stated that His Majesty's Theater, Melbourne, if not sold as a business site will probably be utilized for talkies. Negotiations are also proceeding for the sale of the Theater Royal, another Williamson house in the same city.

Leo Carrillo had a farewell performance at the Criterion Theater last Thursday, this marking the 142d performance of *Lombardi, Ltd.* Even at that the production was good for several more weeks, but the theater was booked for the production of *Journey's End*. Carrillo will play a New Zealand season, coming back for a Melbourne season later.

A performance of massed bands, held at Manly some two weeks ago in aid of unemployed musicians, proved so successful that a further recital has been arranged for Bondi, another seaside suburb. On this occasion also Will Prior, musical director of the State Theater, Sydney, will conduct.

Ernest Löttinga and Company are in the second week of the season at the Fuller Theater, Sydney. They present a show somewhat of the farcical comedy order rather than revues. Kathleen Barbor, Jack Frost, Harold Wilkinson and Arnold Bell are among the supporting cast.

Allan Wilkie is organizing his company for a Melbourne season, commencing next month, playing old English plays and Shakespearean productions.

Muriel Starr is doing fair business with her company in the mystery drama, *In the Next Room*.

Australia is fast becoming the most heavily taxed nation in the world. Its amusements have been given particular attention by both Federal and State Parliaments; so much so that vigorous protests, which were brought to bear by motion picture and theater owners some months ago, were expected to carry some weight when the Federal Parliament members were elected. Instead, however, a double tax has now been imposed and this became operative January 1. The

effect on the picture houses will not be so great, but the legitimate theaters, already down to the lowest ebb in history, will be hard hit. Already the Williamson firm announces some 300 dismissals, with more to come, due to the closing down of a big majority of its holdings. This drastic move came into being before the recent tax, but the latter imposition has just aggravated things.

Auckland has just opened its biggest theater—the Civic. As a matter of fact it is easily the most pretentious house in the whole of New Zealand. Long the dream of T. A. O'Brien, the materialization came last week when the most representative group of theatrical people ever gathered under one roof in the Dominion paid homage to the courage and initiative of "Tom" O'Brien. Opposition in Auckland is trembling at the knees, for the comparatively limited patronage is all going to the new house, which latter edifice will have to go some to maintain the very large upkeep.

Roy Rene, inimitable Jewish comedian, is at present an inmate of a Melbourne hospital, where he was hurriedly taken yesterday. Peritonitis has him in very low way.

Gardiner and Dunham, bar performers, well known in America and Great Britain, are having a layoff, the first since their last return to Australia several months ago. They recently finished a successful season in pantomime.

Walter Richardson, colored American tenor, who came out here for *Show Boat*, under engagement to J. C. Williamson, Ltd., but was not used in the production, left on his return to the States yesterday. He was accompanied by Mrs. Richardson. The tenor filled his contract in vaudeville and at the picture houses, being very successful.

Bert Le Blanc, American comedian, who first came to this country with the Grafters some 17 years ago, marrying Australian beauty Winnie Knight, and since filling in engagements all over this country, is at present doing principal comedy with a small company at the Galety Theater. In the daytime he is successfully running a delicatessen shop in the vicinity of Bondi Beach.

Sir Benjamin Fuller, theatrical entrepreneur, severely criticized the State Government in stepping in and taxing entertainments where the Federal Government had given certain considerations to theater owners. It was emphasized that the State tax was believed to be invalid and that the picture and theatrical interests would probably challenge the Bavin-Stevens act in the courts.

Seb Metz, dancer, the last American act imported by Union Theaters, Ltd., leaves Australia by the same boat that carries this letter over. It will be remembered that following a decision by Williamson, Ltd., to cut out overseas acts for the time being, U. T. followed suit. As a result, over £20,000 of contracts were canceled.

## Dallas

*Sunny Side Up* at the Majestic Theater was held over for a second week's run. It is the first time in the 25 years of operation of the Majestic that such a thing has been done. All box office and attendance records have been broken by this attraction.

Frederick Kisingbury has been appointed manager of the Melba, succeeding Floyd Smith, who was transferred to the Aztec, San Antonio. Kisingbury was the first manager of the Paramount Theater in Paris, France.

Adolph Fassnacht is in Dallas to inspect preparations for the presentation of the *Passion Play* March 31-February 5.

Harve Holland's Comedians have opened at the Rialto Theater, a neighborhood house.

Ginger Rogers, Dallas girl, now appearing in *Top Speed*, Broadway musical hit, has been assigned a feature role in *Young Man of Manhattan* for Paramount.

## Regina

The Rex Theater, under the management of H. A. Bercovitch, opened February 12 with talkies, which leaves this city without a silent picture house.

The Robert Simpson Western Company chartered the Metropolitan Theater for the evening of February 7 and gave an entertainment for the staff members. Manager Borland acted as master of ceremonies.

Brandon witnessed its first talking picture performances when the Strand Theater opened February 3 under the management of A. L. Ritchie.

## Around the Loop

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—*Showboat*, which is being shown at the Roosevelt Theater here six months after all the rest of the country has seen it, is being ballyhooed with a calliope located on the canopy over the front of the house.

The Motion Picture Operators Union will hold its annual ball May 6. Place not yet announced.

The first "damn" heard on the air from a local station in a long time was interjected by Sophie Tucker this week while singing one of her "hot" songs in the Balaban & Katz broadcast.

May 31 to June 7, inclusive, are the dates set for the 1930 Own Your Home Exposition, which, as last year, will be held at the Home Port site on East Chicago avenue.

George H. Lauer, member of the N. A. A. P., the New England Amusement Association and numerous clubs and lodges, has been made secretary of the Coliseum Company.

"Orphans of the Storm", the canine refuge maintained by Irene Castle McLaughlin, former dancer, burned this week. Mrs. McLaughlin also got a couple of stickpins in all the papers on her tiff with the Anti-Cruelty Society and the Chicago Humane Education Society.

The Chicago Censor Board chooses not to let the public know what films it bans or what cuts it makes, it so informed a *Billboard* representative who requested some information along that line.

Up and down the rialto: John Humbert, principal of *Street Scene*, host to Judge Francis Borelli and members of the *Street Scene* cast at a dinner Wednesday evening. . . . W. B. (Bill) Naylor, Pond Bureau representative, temporarily absent from his accustomed haunts. . . . Francine Larrimore and the cast of *Let Us Be Gay* celebrated the first anniversary of the play Wednesday night with a birthday party at the Blackstone. . . . Leo Salkin, manager of the made-over Century Theater, tickled pink over the reception accorded the house on its reopening as a straight talkie. . . . Jacques Gordon, for many years concert master of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, announces his intention of retiring from the cast. . . . Thomas W. Ross has made a big personal hit in *Your Uncle Dudley* at the Cort. . . . Jack Laughlin, B. & K. unit producer, leaving Public March 1 to direct for Universal.

## Atlantic City

The Steel Pier here was reopened Friday evening for the anniversary celebration of the Atlantic City Scout Council, part of which was broadcast over WPG.

Word has been received here from Vernon D. Somers, former manager of the Earle Theater, that he now is installed in the Garde Theater, New London, Conn. This house is the largest in that thriving town and has recently been taken over by the Warner Brothers from Cameo corporation control. The Garde has a combined program of pictures and vaudeville.

The Steel Pier management has announced several early Sunday afternoon musicals from the front hall of the pier. A well-known local orchestra presides. Ike Neveling's Serenaders are now being featured at the Garden Pier on Sunday evenings. The front part of this pier is being demolished to make way for a large hotel to be erected there next year.

## San Antonio

Edwin Carewe, famous motion picture director and producer, was a visitor in the Alamo City last week.

Lou B. Remy, general manager of the Interstate Amusement Company, a vaudeville circuit, was in this city for a conference with local Majestic Theater officials.

The Palace has reopened for a two weeks' run of a picture entitled *Pitfalls of Passion*.

## Buffalo

William H. Raynor, managing director of the Lafayette, has recovered from a throat infection.

William Sahner has returned to this city for a brief visit with his mother, after two seasons on Broadway in the musical comedy, *Follow Thru*.



# Actors Equity Association

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ETHEL BARRYMORE  
Vice-President

BERTON CHURCHILL  
Second Vice-Pres.

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Executive Sec'y-Treas.

CHARLES DOW CLARK  
Recording Secretary

PAUL N. TURNER  
Counsel

## A Reminder to the Producers

A letter from the Council of the Actors' Equity Association to each of the legitimate producing managers of New York City and its environs reminds them of the obligation imposed upon each Equity member by the Equity Shop Policy.

In particular the Council's letter calls to the producers' attention the situation created by the agency rulings, together with the court decisions which affirm Equity's right to take that step.

It is clearly to the managers' own interests, as well as those of the members involved, that the latter should not be brought into conflict with the association's requirements thru being asked to work in casts with actors engaged thru agents who do not hold permits from the association.

## As to Salary Cuts

For the benefit of members who may not have heard it, the Council has ruled that no salary cuts may be put into effect for the current week after Monday night. That is, the management may not decide about Thursday or Friday night that in view of the week's receipts it might be a good idea to ask the company to take a salary cut.

## Our Albany Heroine

With practical unanimity the newspaper correspondents who covered the appearance of Equity's delegation before the Assembly Codes Committee in support of the Post Amendment to the Wales Act, picked Genevieve Rubelle, representative of the Chorus Equity Association, as the heroine of the occasion. It may be partly due to the fact that Miss Rubelle had not been expected to say anything, but very largely it was because she said what she had to say concisely and well. She really deserved the mention.

Genevieve Rubelle is the daughter of a physician in Phoenix, Ariz., whose interest is eventually in the dramatic stage. Also she lived for a while in Hollywood, she made no attempt to break into motion pictures.

Since coming to New York she has appeared in several musical comedies, the last one being *Broadway Nights*, as a show girl.

At Chorus Equity headquarters they had already noticed her and the good impression she made in presenting her case. So it was that when Chorus Equity was asked to supply a representa-

tive for the Albany expedition, the choice fell on Miss Rubelle.

And so well did she do at Albany and so enthusiastic were the newspapers over the way she handled herself and the lines she had to deliver that it may well be that some producing manager may give her the chance to play a dramatic part, for which she has been desirous.

## Curtain Falls on Dr. Lane

Equity learns with much regret of the death of Dr. Frank C. Lane, a dentist whose office was at 1560 Broadway. Although only 31, he had made a place for himself and was well known to members of the theatrical profession. His brother, Howard Lane, an Equity member, is at present in Hollywood, to whom Equity offers its most sincere condolences.

## An Outlet for Chorus Aspirants

Louis Hallett writes to Equity that in the programs put on by the Three Arts Players one sketch is manned entirely by members of the dramatic class of the Chorus Equity Association. Gene Francois, coach of the chorus dramatic class, is associated with Hallett in the venture.

## Delmaine as a Speaker

Advices from our Kansas City office indicate that W. Frank Delmaine, our traveling representative, is getting to be well known as a speaker. His latest appearance, of which we are informed, was before the Round Table Luncheon Club, of Kansas City, February 3.

## Actual Death on the Stage

It was a newspaper inquiry which started Equity to checking up, as far as time permitted, on the query: "What actor has actually died on the stage?" And so far Equity has only discovered one authentic instance, tho it is sure that there must have been others.

There are many cases in which actors have managed to go thru a performance and have died in the wings or an instant after the curtain fell, but this inquiry was to discover whether an actor had ever died on the stage before the audience, and as far as can be ascertained this is the only time it has happened.

It was at the Brighton Hippodrome, England, January 23, 1831. August Van Blene, an actor in a dramatic sketch, *The Broken Melody*, was supposed to collapse from hunger and fatigue into a big chair. On this occasion he did so and actually died before the audience's eyes, but because of the circumstances those who saw him left the theater with-

out knowing that they had witnessed a tragedy.

There must be other ases, but can you supply names and dates and places?

## Rehearsal or Performance?

Not long ago Equity heard that one of our best known producers, who specializes in appropriate revivals, was holding a "dress rehearsal" for which tickets were being sold.

Equity does not consider any performance for which tickets were sold as a rehearsal and so it instructed the members of that company to file claims as soon as the first salaries (which did not include pay for the performance) were given them.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION.

## Chorus Equity Assn.

DOROTHY BRYANT, Executive Secretary

Doris Griffen and Chester Bennett are playing parts in *Mlle. Modiste*.

Wally Crisham is a recent transfer to the Actors' Equity.

Twenty-four new members joined the Chorus Equity in the last week.

We are holding checks in settlement of claims for Ivan Alexis, Charles Coleman, Billie Fanning, Elizabeth Huyler, Hilda Knight, Eva Lewis, Peggy McGowan, Sol Perla, Hazel St. Amant, Ellen Speeler, Florence Sterling, Aylne Thompson and Gwilyn Williams.

On February 1 the pupils of Madam Hudak's ballet class at the Chorus Equity gave a recital for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund of the Wildermann Institute of Music and Allied Arts at the Staten Island Academy.

On February 7 a number of the pupils of Chorus Equity dramatic class appeared in a performance under the direction of Miss Gene Francois at the Y. M. C. A. Auditorium, Bowery Branch.

Appearances of this kind give the pupils of our classes excellent practical experience. Every member of Chorus Equity who is in New York should be registered in one or more of our classes. Nowhere else can you get the instruction that is given here at 50 cents an hour. The classes are open to Equity members only and we are constantly refusing amateurs who are anxious to study here. The city has many dancing and dramatic schools in which amateurs study—that is the way in which a great many of them get on the stage. Don't let them

go ahead of you because they are willing to study. Only thru hard work will you reach the top.

In answer to numerous inquiries, a chorus member giving notice while on the road pays his own fare back to New York, but not the fare of his successor.

Chorus members working out a two weeks' notice must attend all rehearsals called unless these rehearsals conflict with those of a new engagement.

On February 24 all mail that has been held in this office prior to July 1, 1929, will be returned to the post office. If we have passed your initial before you see the list write to the office and ask to have any mail that may be here for you forwarded. We are holding mail for Kendall Northrup, James Notarro, Billy Neeley, Jill Northrup, Joseph Norris, Vera Noda, Nondas North, L. Niles, Dolores Nito, Jack Neilan, Billy Newsome, Nina Norman, William Neeley, A. Nito, Petra Olsen, Blanche O'Donohue, Dan O'Brien, Virginia Otis, Charlotte Otis, Peggy O'Neil, Gladys O'Neil, Winifred O'Donnell, Raleigh Orbit, Vera O'Brien, Betty O'Rourke, Florence O'Neil, Peggy O'Reilly, Mabel O'Brien, Miss O'Dell, Louise Polk, Ruth Porter, Charles Pittinger, Lillian Page, Hazel Perner, Peggy Pitou, Louise Perkins, Radiana Pasmore, Georgia Payne, Bee Powers, Ken Pulsifer, Peggy Parlette, Leona Pennington, Mabel Phelps, Marie Peterson, W. B. U. Paul, Patricia Pursley, Claudia Papineau, Ann Phelan, Maxine Pettit, Ruby Poe, Phyllis Paige, Cleona B. Qulett, Kathleen Quest, Helen Quinn, Norma Robinson, Joseph Reilly, Bill Reilly, Naida Reynolds, Bernice Roberts, Wallace Royce, Robertina Robinson, Walter Russell, Patricia Ross, Dimple Reide, Bob Richards, June Ray, Charles Knox Robinson, Vera Riekche, Helen Rogers, Jack Charles Reilly, Betty Ross, Albert Ross, Wilma Roelof, Wallace Royce, Natalie Raynor and Edna May Reed.

We are holding packages for Mrs. Howard Deighton, Shirley Gustin, Betty Davis (Nanette Dewstrop), Sylvia Ulrich and A. Thompson.

Be sure to report at the Chorus Equity office the day that you begin rehearsals.

Members who are leaving the profession should apply for an honorable withdrawal card immediately on leaving. This card is issued to members in good standing at the date of making application only.

DOROTHY BRYANT,  
Executive Secretary.

## NEW PLAYS

(Continued from opposite page)

presence in the pit of Don Voorhees' orchestra and the stage occupied with a fast-stepping Berkeley trained chorus.

Like the contribution of the material suppliers, the costumes are somewhat tried, altho they are new and flashy. The designs possess little initiative and all of them have been seen in one show or another at some time or other.

There are several well-known troupers in the cast, not the least of whom is Fred Keating, the suave magician, who folds canary cages up his sleeve or in his vest or wherever the darn thing goes. In fact, it might be said that in the calmer moments of Mrs. Selwyn's production she would do much better to scrap a couple of the ordinary songs injected into the proceedings, and just give the spot over to Mr. Keating to talk or conjure, or both. Either is pleasant. Ruth Etting sings a few songs impressively and Frances Shelley tries to do her stuff, unsuccessfully with a bad number. A newcomer named Helen Grey meets this company and walks away with the honors, for, in addition to possessing a mild, likable voice, she dances well. The

Lovey Sisters, two hoop-o-hoop singers and tap dancers, add a youthful fast note to the principals, and two male dancers, Wally Crisham and Michael Tripp, prove their mettle convincingly. Lynne Dore, who has been known as Demaris Dore in another show, is here and aids very little. A new coon shouter, Nan Blackstone, has small qualification for the time awarded her. Her delivery is strictly vaudeville and not hers at that, but a conglomeration of the manner in which a half dozen two-a-day headliners sell their stuff.

The highest spot in the entire program is the specialty of Joe and Pete Michon, who perform their mad acrobatics near the end of the show, and the impression that a good show has been seen is the result.

Altho somewhat loose in places, because the numbers are tiresome, it can be said that the numbers are well spotted.

Mrs. Selwyn need never be ashamed of this production as an introductory number to the list of Broadway managers. It has its moments and will provide many with medium-priced entertainment at least until the present season is over. CHARLES MORAN.

## Atlanta

Manager Marty Semon, of Keith's Georgia, has started something new here by adding Lindy Coons, personality master of ceremonies from the West Coast, to the regular staff of the theater. He will act as the Georgia's host at Thursday teas, from 3 until 5, in the main lounge, also helping to put over the acts.

The new Fox Theater is the home of the Fanchon & Marco *Idea* shows, and is being visited this week by Gay Foster, associate producer of the shows, and Bonnie Cashion, costume designer for the company.

Charles B. Ellis, for the past seven years manager of the Jacksonville RKO branch, has been appointed in the same capacity at the Atlanta office, succeeding C. L. Peavey, who resigned.

Robert B. Strickland, head of the Strickland Industrial Film Corporation, has joined the Paramount Business Pictures, Inc., a subsidiary company of Paramount, as Southeastern sales representative.

H. R. Kistler, manager of the Memphis branch of Pathe for the past year, has succeeded W. W. Anderson, who resigned to assume his new position as Southern

district representative of Electrical Research Products, Inc., as manager of the Atlanta office.

Paul Wilson, for the past several years booker in the Atlanta office of Paramount, is the new manager of the Memphis office, succeeding Phil London, who has been transferred to Charlotte. London succeeds Reynold B. Wilbanks, who resigned to accept a post with Paramount in Texas.

## Hartford

Capacity audiences saw William Gillette in his farewell engagement in *Sherlock Holmes* at Parsons' Theater. He first played the role at the same theater 30 years ago, during October, 1900.

Moving picture equipment has been installed at the Horace Bushnell Auditorium.

Charter Oak Park, at Hartford, Conn., the home of the National Trotting Association for years, has been placed on the market to be sold for building lots for dwellings. It is a large tract of land, now close to the city, and many streets will be in it.

36TH YEAR

# The Billboard

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Vol. XLII.

FEBRUARY 22.

No. 8

## The Hollywood Actor and The New Academy Contract

WE fail to see any reason why the film actors should be jubilant over the new contract proposed by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Unquestionably it is an improvement over the previous contract, but when all is said and done it is not an equitable agreement.

No matter how one may look at the proposition the fact remains that in the last analysis the Academy is a "company union" and is under the domination of the producers. In describing it as such we are not casting any reflections on the motion picture producers, for in promoting such an organization they are following what to them is a policy of self-protection and assured security.

Organization of the Hollywood actors is purely a matter for the players. They, like the producers, should be working independently and along lines of self-preservation. As far as we can see, the latest pact with the Academy shows very clearly that they are not.

How can the actors hope to get a fair break out of the Academy contract when they are not organized to enforce it? It appears to us that any contract, no matter how ideal it may appear on paper, is worthless unless the contracting parties have the power to back it up. In this case the producers have the power; the actors have not.

Equity is still the one and only solution for the Hollywood actors and it is certain that it will eventually control that sector. The Academy may cover the situation temporarily, but it can never be a permanent remedy. Indeed, the film players can thank Equity for the few new reforms contained in the new Academy contract; most of them formed the basis for Equity's demands last summer.

There are three clauses in the new contract that show the weakness of the pact as it relates to the actor. Among the most flagrant is that covering appeals from arbitrations to the Conciliation Com-

mittee, or court of last resort. The clause states that this committee is to be composed of an actor, a producer, a writer, a director and a technician. Certainly the actor stands a very poor chance here with the ratio decidedly against him—the very best being three to two with the possibility of it being four to one.

With the Academy under producer domination it is clearly seen that the clause which allows "further revisions in the contract as they may become desirable" is an obvious joker and a way out in times of emergency. There is also a clause which includes an agreement from the actor members to refuse to support a strike—which is fine for everyone but the actor.

The motion picture producers, we believe, are all wrong in assuming that Equity would be a bad influence from their angle. All they have to do is turn their eyes toward the legitimate theater. Equity, despite all the opposition it encountered at the time of its entrance into that field, is now considered by producer, player and public to be the most constructive influence in the theater. Indeed, it has been its salvation. We believe that if the motion picture magnates wish letters of recommendation concerning Equity they will get the best ones not from Equity members but from the theatrical producers.

## Selling the Auditorium To the Local Business Men

AS is chronicled elsewhere in this issue, Charles A. McElravy, managing director of the Auditorium, Memphis, and former president of the Auditorium Managers' Association, is leading a movement to form a circuit of auditoriums to book road shows. In so doing, McElravy, one of the shrewdest auditorium men in the country, is contributing a great service not only to the auditorium field but to the legitimate theater.

The auditorium from the standpoint of the road producer holds several advantages not to be found elsewhere. For some time now it has been evident that if the road is to compete with the talking pictures it must do so on a price basis. This can be affected only if legitimate attractions can play houses of sufficiently large seating capacity to allow for low prices. Plainly, under existing circumstances, the auditorium is the one and only means of effecting this.

Most of the auditoriums equipped to handle touring attractions are sufficiently large to allow for a top price of \$2. This means that the road producer can reach a far greater potential public than has been possible during the last few years.

The next problem is to gain local distribution of tickets and support for the productions that play these auditoriums. In most cities it has been a long time since a touring attraction hit town and consequently a program of education must be carried on.

McElravy wisely hit upon a plan of interesting the local business men in the theater. First of all, as we have pointed out time and time again, touring attractions have a strong sales argument to give the community. They mean dollars in the pockets of the local business men. By following this course, McElravy was able to gain their interest and good will. The next step was to gain their actual support. He found that this was not difficult, as is evidenced by the following excerpt from a letter received from him:

"I did not do so until I was convinced myself that we could do it in Memphis. It was surprising to find out how easily it could be done. It is not a guarantee nor is it a plan of underwriting. It is simply an assurance of advance sale. The local manager secures a written agreement from 300 to 500 local business men to take at least two tickets for each show that is booked into the city during the season. He guarantees nothing but that he will take the two tickets and get what he pays for. He underwrites nothing.

"This, of course, is going to eliminate mediocre

shows, but from expressions that I have received from producers and managers they will be perfectly willing to bring the big productions out on the road under the above conditions.

"I am also of the opinion that the producers under this plan could find some inducement to lower prices. For instance, IF I CAN SELL 500 BUSINESS MEN IN MEMPHIS THE PROPOSITION OF TAKING TWO \$3 TICKETS FOR EACH SHOW BROUGHT INTO THE CITY, I CAN SELL 1,000 BUSINESS MEN THE PROPOSITION OF TAKING TWO AT \$2, and I believe the situation is identical in every other city insofar as good shows are concerned. No doubt there will be managers who will say this plan will not work, but in answer I will say that I can do it in Memphis in one day's time—and it doesn't even take a salesman."

The possibilities offered by the auditoriums of the country are only beginning to be realized. The next year will see great progress made in that field, especially in the matter of road-show bookings. More power to McElravy, he deserves the whole-hearted support of every auditorium manager and every legitimate producer.

## We Hope That Cohan's Decision Was Based on More Than Sentiment

GEORGE M. COHAN'S cancellation of his lucrative talking picture contract with United

Artists is a great feather in the cap of the legitimate theater and shows that leaders in that field are beginning to awaken to the vast possibilities offered by the road. Altho we note that Cohan has stated that he felt an alliance with the films would be a violation of principle and sentiment we have an idea that his decision was in a measure prompted by less abstract influences.

We believe, as we have said time and time again, that the legitimate theater and all "in the flesh" attractions are on the eve of what can be made the most prosperous era in recent stage history. The public is daily offering new evidence that it is hungry for touring companies and, indeed, many of the productions now en tour are finding ready response.

To no one in the theater did the talking pictures offer greater possibilities, both from the standpoint of financial gain and personal prestige, than they did to Cohan. Why, then, did the "Yankee Doodle Boy" suddenly decide to pass up such a golden opportunity? Unquestionably sentiment and principle had a great deal to do with it, but we hope that his decision came first of all because he realized the vast possibilities offered in the legitimate theater itself—not as it is known to Broadway alone, but to the country at large.

There is every indication that the leading producers and the booking syndicates are beginning to have a change of heart. Optimism is slowly but surely replacing pessimism.

In the first place, public interest is being awakened in the cause. Producers are beginning to turn their eyes to the several hundred well-equipped auditoriums of the country as a booking outlet in cities not having a regular legitimate house. The booking syndicates are showing increased interest in road productions.

We are willing to wager that next season will find far more productions on tour than were offered this year. The Shuberts are planning a greatly increased list of attractions for the road next year and A. L. Erlanger already has displayed more than a passing interest in the possibilities of the auditoriums.

George M. Cohan has led the way, but it is certain that others will soon follow in his footsteps. The legitimate theater is in a far stronger position than it was six months ago, and a year hence will find it even more firmly entrenched. If Cohan's action has been prompted by a renewed hope in the economic security of the American commercial theater then he will be doing a great service to the cause if he will come out and say so.

**"Kritics" Again**

Editor *The Billboard*:

Answering your explanation regarding my comments on your critics ("Kritics" is better), you sidestep the issue entirely, as I especially referred to *Billboard* January 11, page 7, Broadway Play Reviews.

Your comments in part follow: "Play Boy"—"A generally poor company, not another one in the cast resembles another better than a rank amateur."

"City Haul"—"To the average theatergoer the material, however possible, is ridiculous, etc."

"Ginger Snaps"—"The worst musical of the season. Lacks practically every essential." If this is not panning shows, then "school is out" for me.

My contention is that most critics are grossly incompetent, lacking education and experience for such important work, and therefore are a menace to the theater. New York. BILLIEE MACK.

While we do not intend to carry on any argument with the writer of the above, we still must insist that of the seven productions reviewed in *The Billboard* (issue of January 11) three were anything but panned. That Mr. Mack confines his remarks to one page of that issue is, we think, beside the point. While he quotes an excerpt from the review of *City Haul*, a reading of the entire review will show that it was anything but harsh. *Ginger Snaps* and *Play Boy* were generally panned and were obviously bad. Mr. Mack is, of course, entitled to his own views concerning the competence of critics. We have found that in most cases they just about hit the nail on the head. We see no reason for being lenient with a production that is obviously below par, either from the standpoint of being honest with the actors or fair with the public. We reiterate that most of the shows that are flops deserve to be just that. Certainly the welfare of the theater cannot be promoted by giving a "break" to productions that do not deserve it.—ED.

**NVA Booster**

Editor *The Billboard*:

I read "The Forum" every week in your magazine and usually below each letter sent I see a very fair-written comment. Seems your staff in general is very fair, but there is one article in your issue of January 25 of which I do not in any way approve.

I refer to the article about the NVA, its financial condition and the statement that whether it lasts or not no one cares.

In this day we need an NVA Club if we ever needed one. I have heard numerous knocks against the NVA. I have tried to find them true, only to find they were very much wrong.

In my years of show business I have followed many cases, and those that were needy, whether members or not, received aid thru the NVA.

The article about the NVA could have been written, but when you say "Who cares?", I, for one, do. I have never had to ask aid of it, and hope I never will. My little m. o. will be sent in every six months and hope I'll never see the day when I'll not be able to mail it in because of no more club.

We need all the boosting possible for everything connected with vaudeville in its present bad state and I am surprised to see such an article slammung such a good cause.

I sincerely hope that if the NVA is in such financial difficulty as you describe it will get out of it some way. I think *The Billboard* should write an article boosting the NVA instead of the sarcasm it presented. J. R. SCHABLEY.

It is obvious that Mr. Schabley must have hurriedly read the NVA story in question. We quote from the item: "The greater proportion of vaudeville actors care little about the NVA, and less about its management. Despite propaganda to the contrary, the trade feels the same way. BUT ALL ARE VITALLY CONCERNED WITH THE SAVING GRACE OF THE NVA—ITS WELFARE ACTIVITIES." We fail to see where the article was sarcastic. On the contrary we believe it was a forceful, fearless and constructive analysis of the true conditions. There is no more charitable member of the profession than the NVA president, Eddie Cantor, and *The Billboard* is 100 per cent in supporting him. He must be given full reign if the organization is to be what it claims—an actor group. It is obvious, from the tone of the above letter that Mr. Schabley is not interested in the NVA other than in its charitable work—so where's the complaint?—ED.

**No Shows**

Editor *The Billboard*:

The shoe-string producer must quit and



Address communications: "The Open Forum", *The Billboard*, Box 872, Cincinnati, O.

the other producers must wake up if the legitimate theater is to be revived, which is a very easy matter if the producers will produce good, clean dramatic and musical attractions which can be presented in theaters thruout the United States at 50 cents, 75 cents and \$1.50. They would soon have the legitimate theater back where it was 20 years ago. At the present time there are 3,293 legitimate theaters in the United States in which shows can be booked, but there are no shows. That is the reason for this slump. The fact of the matter is that the house managers do not care to close their theaters because there are no shows to be had, and rather than do this they have their theaters wired and play talking pictures, for which they cannot be blamed.

There are over 150 theatrical producers in New York alone, of which 72 are shoestringers, leaving a balance of 78 producing managers. Let the shoestringers quit and the other 78 get together and produce shows of quality for the road. It is not necessary that the show carry a lot of scenery, as there are plenty of good plays to be had that require only one or two sets, such as one exterior and one interior set, and with casts of 8 and 10 people.

I am asking the producers to wake up and produce at least one good dramatic or musical show piece, which would be 78 shows for the road, and I can honestly say that in less than six months there would be theaters playing road shows that are now playing talking pictures; the only thing needed is the shows. In addition to the 3,293 legitimate theaters there are 827 vaudeville theaters, 23,473 motion picture theaters, 651 theatrical booking agencies, 440 theatrical costumers and 78 theatrical producing managers, so you see there is no other cause for the present condition of the legitimate theater but the lack of shows to play, and there is no one to blame but the producing manager himself. Logansport, Ind. FRANK KAVANAGH.

We agree with Mr. Kavanagh that there is a profitable road public for touring attractions, and we believe that the producers are beginning to wake up to that fact. If 30 of the leading legitimate producers would send out one good production per season, being careful in the routing to have a proper variety in the bookings, we believe the first step toward bringing back the road would be taken. Present indications are that next season will see double the road activity that is evident this season.—ED.

**Juggling Records**

Editor *The Billboard*:

Sometime ago in this column there appeared some very interesting letters concerning juggling records. I am anxious to find out who holds the record for bouncing the greatest number of balls on a floor or bouncing board without the use of side boards or walls.

One of the Juggling Nelsons juggles seven hoops and claims to hold the world's record for hoops. Does anyone know of any other person doing seven hoops or better? Who was the first juggler to combine talking with juggling on the stage? Come on you jugglers. I am a juggling fan looking for information. Please send it into "The Forum". BERT HANLEY.

Honolulu, T. H., January 18, 1930.

**"Cold Facts"**

Editor *The Billboard*:

In "The Forum" column for the past several weeks a considerable amount of space has been devoted to the question, "What is the matter with vaudeville?", and many reasons have been offered. May I, therefore, ask for a little space in order to state a few "cold facts" that may prove of interest in reaching a satisfactory answer?

The Hennepin (RKO) reopened as a vaudeville house last Saturday after having straight talking pictures for some time. Each night at 8:30 there is such a line outside the theater for the 7 o'clock show that it blocks traffic on the sidewalk for two or three blocks, and the condition at the Pantages house, one block on the other

side of me, is somewhat similar, which goes to prove that there is nothing the matter with vaudeville.

But there is something the matter with independent vaudeville, and that something is the stagehand—in other words, organized labor—and to prove what I say, let me quote you a concrete case:

A friend of mine with a proven act, an act that has played all the big-time stages, had a disagreement with her agent, with the result that he refused to give her any more time. The only thing left was independent houses, and with the assistance of an advance agent she started in. The houses won't book the act because they have to use a union stagehand or the operator will walk out.

One theater did book the act for one night and the stagehand drew in salary three-quarters of the combined salary of the act, which was a double. If the act had played two nights the stagehand would have drawn an equal salary as the double act, which played four shows of a half hour each.

The act makes it possible for the stagehand to live, while the stagehand today makes it quite impossible for the act to get work because of their exorbitant charges, and if the house uses non-union help the operator walks out and the house is branded as a "scab" house. MARIE ABBOTT. Minneapolis.

Public demand for the return of vaudeville is growing stronger each day and the Minneapolis situation is similar to that found elsewhere. As far as the stagehands' situation is concerned, we must say that we have always found William F. Canavan, president of the I. A. T. S. E., a most reasonable man and we believe that as soon as an equitable and sound argument is presented to him by the vaudeville "powers that be" he will make concessions. We believe that no attempt has been made to approach Mr. Canavan on a reasonable, economic basis.—ED.

**What Ails Burlesque**

Editor *The Billboard*:

As I have been asked by a former burlesque manager if I were the one who wrote the unsigned letter of criticism regarding producers and players in burlesque today, I want to state right here that I am not the DISGRUNTLED LEADER. I never was fired—so that's that! But I believe I might be able to throw a little light on what ails burlesque today.

Those people who are taking cuts in their salaries to help the wheel are showing that their hearts are in the right place, but it won't help for very long. I saw the handwriting on the wall several years ago when I was in the business. The Mutual Wheel will be no more within a few years unless the president and his associates will realize that the public (even those that go to burlesque theaters) want to see something for their money.

A chorus that can sing and dance in rhythm and has a clean appearance, soubrettes who don't have to strip or grind to get a hand, comics who can get laughs without using filth, and at least one good singer or more among the principals. If I. H. Herk believes that business is bad all along the wheel because the times are slow, how come the other theaters are doing big business, at least here in Cleveland?

What a marvelous opportunity for someone to organize a real honest-to-goodness burlesque wheel right now. SYD SAMPLINER. Cleveland.

We agree. The fact that burlesque chorus members are the wives of stagehands, or related to anyone else in the company, is a weak reason for giving them first consideration or for justifying their place as chorus members. The public is the final judge and it is obvious from the public's response to burlesque the past few seasons that it considers that form of entertainment inadequate under the present method of presentation. We believe that there is a tremendous public for burlesque and that the opportunities for promoting

that branch of the business are great, but they will never be realized as long as politics and favoritism are given consideration over the demands of the public.—ED.

**Clean Shows**

Editor *The Billboard*:

There has been much discussion since you revived "The Forum" as to what is wrong with the show business in general, the legitimate stage, vaudeville, etc.

I am not a prude, have spent 30 years as a professional entertainer, and have perhaps played what you might call some of the "worst dumps" in the country and some that were exceptionally high class and my experience has been that people prefer clean shows.

I am enclosing the advertisement from a city in Pennsylvania just to show you the underhanded methods motion picture theater managers will go to in trying to rope in the unsuspecting public by pretending something is which is not. I have witnessed "Show Boat" many times and there is one scene which takes place in Joppen's dive in Chicago where an Oriental dancer puts on her dance. Now here is a wide-awake manager running a theater that we suppose caters to women and children, and yet out of the many beautiful scenes in "Show Boat" film he selects the only scene in the picture that one might say was anywhere "off color" and puts it in his advertisements merely to have the people believe that the picture is rich, rare and racy. It is laughable—the managers and many acts cry that the public wants smut. It doesn't give them clean amusement. Cut out fraud advertising and watch the results.

In my wildest imagination I could not call "Show Boat" anything but an old-fashioned story beautifully told, and it's a shame we do not have more pictures of this quality, but why do managers try to disgrace them? HARRY OPEL. Toledo, O.

In the above letter Mr. Opel touches upon one of the worst evils of show business. Managers who employ such unintelligent methods are wrecking good will that the better element in the business has spent years in time and millions in money to build up. There is no doubt that 80 per cent of the public wants clean amusements, and yet many managers will insist on catering to the 20 per cent.—ED.

**Colonel Henry**

Editor *The Billboard*:

One of our very good friends, having read the article on "Press Agenting the Circus" in the Christmas number of *The Billboard*, courteously and smilingly calls our attention to the fact that The Duluth Herald was not mentioned in the list of newspapers which accord the modern circus unusual courtesies.

Please let me assure the gentleman that there is no paper in America more gracious and courteous to press agents of a circus than is The Duluth Herald. Colonel William F. Henry is the host supreme. From the moment a press agent arrives in Duluth until the show leaves the city the paper belongs to the circus and nothing is too good for it in the columns of The Herald. Probably nowhere is a more kindly host to be found.

It was manifestly impossible to mention all the papers which are so uniformly kind to press agents of a circus. To have done so would have been almost to take a directory of the newspapers and print it verbatim.

But no tribute fine enough could be paid Colonel Henry and his associates. They are the salt of the earth and a circus press agent always welcomes an assignment to Duluth if for no other reason than the pleasure of the annual visit with this delightful gentleman—and the others of The Herald. TAMPA, Fla. FLOYD L. BELL.

**Minstrelsy**

Editor *The Billboard*:

Being a blackface comedian for the last 13 years of my life, I am naturally interested in show business, especially minstrelsy. I believe that blackface comedians and minstrelsy are coming back stronger than ever. When those interested in blackface and minstrelsy wake up to the fact that old moth-eaten gags, songs and patter don't pay; when the minstrel managers wake up and quit hiring novices that think they know blackface and minstrelsy just because they can put on burnt cork and sing a few blackface songs; when we get blackface boys again, like Johnny Healy, Bob Emmet, George Primrose, Nell O'Brien, Frank Dumont, "Honey Boy" Evans, "Sugarfoot" Gaffney, Lassie White, minstrelsy will come back. CLAUDE C. BROWN. Joplin, Mo.













Paris Fashions (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 22-28.
Pat. Ethel (Natl.) New York.
Patricia (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.
Paula, Paquita & Chisita (Proctor) New Rochelle.

Vincent, Claire, Co. (Imperial) Montreal.
Vox & Walters (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.
Wager, The (Golden Gate) San Francisco.
Wall, Walter Dare (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.

Red Rhythm (Stanley) Jersey City.
Rench, Jim (Denver) Denver.
Riando, Renie (Paramount) New York.
Rio Brothers (Uptown) Chicago.

MUTUAL BURLESQUE
Bare Fats: (Empire) Newark, N. J. 17-22;
(Orph) Paterson, N. J. 24-March 1.
Best Show in Town: (Hudson) Union City, N. J. 17-22; (Gayety) Brooklyn 24-March 1.

M. P. PRESENTATIONS

Ace High (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Addin's Revel (Paramount) New York.
Allen & Canfield (Met.) Boston.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL

Animal Crackers: (Grand) Chicago.
Apple Cart: (Ford) Empire 17-22.
Babes in Toyland: (Maj.) Brooklyn 17-22.

T. O. B. A. CIRCUIT

Brownskin Models (Grand) Chicago 17-22.
Butterbeans & Susie (Globe) Cleveland 17-22.
Drake & Walker (Walker) Indianapolis 17-22.

TABLOIDS

Figures & Facts, Lew Beckridge, mgr.:
(Lyric) Lima, O., 17-22.
Synchronized (Lynx) New York 17-22.

REPERTOIRE

Bragg, George M., Co.: Barstow, Calif., 17-22.
Needs 24-March 1.
Rhoads, John, Players: (O. H.) Stevensville, Md., 17-22.

MINSTRELS

Arnte's, Billy, Happy Days in Dixieland, Leon Long, mgr.: (Beach) Long Beach, Calif., 17-22.
Trout & Heff: Moline, Ill., 19-20; Princeton, 21-22.

MISCELLANEOUS

Becker, Magician: Haltown, Mo., 19; Calena 20.
Coffeyville, Kan., 17-22; Columbus 24.
Parsons 25; Cherokee 26; Independence 27; Chanute 28.

(See ROUTES on page 96)

CONVENTIONS

ALABAMA
Birmingham-Rotary Clubs. Apr. 14-15. J. M. Richards, Selma, Ala.
Birmingham-State Medical Assn. Apr. 15. Dr. B. S. Simms, Talladega, Ala.

ARIZONA
Mesa-Order of Odd Fellows. April 21-23. R. C. Gloano, Box 873, Phoenix, Ariz.
Mesa-Rebekah Assembly. April 21-22. Mrs. N. Scott, 140 N. 11th ave. Phoenix, Ariz.

ARKANSAS
Hot Springs-S. Western Elec. Light Assn. May 6-9. S. J. Ballinger, San Antonio, Tex.
Little Rock-Knights of Pythias. May 1. J. A. Blakeney, 308 1/2 W. 3d st.

CALIFORNIA
Bakersfield-Order of Amaranth. March 5-7. Miss L. B. Taylor, 1911 Shell ave., Venice, Calif.
Del Monte-State Medical Assn. April 28-30. Dr. E. Pope, 1018 Balboa Bldg., San Francisco.

FLORIDA
Bartow-Knights Templar. March 18-19. W. P. Webster, Jacksonville, Fla.
Bradenton-Master Plumbers Assn. May 5-6. C. B. Perkins, Box 1165, Lakeland, Fla.

GEORGIA
Athens-State C. E. Union. April 1. Miss H. Stephens, 362 S. McDonough st., Decatur, Ga.
Atlanta-Retail Shoe Dirs. Assn. March 2-4. H. M. Steele, Mortgage Guaranty Bldg.

ILLINOIS
Chicago-Natl. Ry. Appliances Assn. March 10-13. C. W. Kelly, 1014 S. Michigan ave.
Chicago-Amer. Hy. Assn., Eng. Div. March 11-12. E. H. Fritch, 431 S. Dearborn st.

INDIANA
Ft. Wayne-State Assn. Sanitary Engrs. March 1-12. A. E. Werkhoff, Jr., La Fayette, Ind.
Ft. Wayne-Bowling Assn. of Indiana. April 5-6. R. J. Strick.

IOWA
Burlington-Teachers Assn. April 3-4. Miss R. Green, Mt. Pleasant, Ia.
Cedar Rapids-Royal Arcanum. April 14-15. A. E. Snyder, Box 285, Waterloo, Ia.

DELAWARE
Millsboro-Order Un. Amer. Men. March 6. W. T. Moore.
Wilmington-Order Eastern Star. May 21. Mrs. M. Keys, 824 N. Van Buren st.

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KANSAS
Chanute-G. A. R. Encampment. May 13-14. C. H. King, Memorial Hall, Topeka, Kan.
Coffeyville-Knights Templar. May 13-14. E. F. Strain, Topeka, Kan.

MAINE
Augusta-Order of Protection. April 2. F. E. Ludden, Auburn, Me.
Augusta-Pythian Sisters. May 14. Miss L. Haskell, Auburn, Me.

MASSACHUSETTS
Boston-Assn. Retail Clothiers. Feb. 25-26. J. S. Spellman, 8 Winter st.
Boston-Hardware Dirs. Assn. of N. E. Feb. 22. G. A. Fiel, 80 Federal st.

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Johnson City—State Lumber Supply Dirs. Assn. Feb. 26-27. J. A. Minnich, 310 Times Bldg., Chattanooga.

Dallas—Asso. Gen'l Contractors. April 1-2. F. N. Watson. Dallas—State Ret. Furniture Assn. April —. H. E. Dill.

Lynchburg—Order of Odd Fellows. May 27-28. T. W. Davis, Jr., Lyric Bldg., Richmond.

Calgary, Alta.—Rotary Clubs. May 26-27. C. Brown, care Y. M. C. A. Calgary, Alta.—Hereford Breeders' Assn. April 2-3. J. Wilson, Innisfail, Van.

CIRCUSES AND WILD WEST SHOWS Allen Bros.' Wild West, Allen Bros., mgrs.: Big Flats, N. Y.; mail address, Box 4039, Houston, Tex.

WINTER QUARTERS LaRue & Renfrow Circus, Frank N. Renfrow, owner: Villa Park, Ill.

Canada Brantford, Ont.—Order Black Knights. March 10. E. A. Fennell, 347 Howland ave., Toronto.

Colley, J. J. Shows, J. J. Colley, mgr.: 291 Jefferson ave.; office, 800 Poplar blvd., Memphis, Tenn.



Coming Events

Hansen Shows, Al C. Hansen, mgr.: 2486 S. Florida st., Memphis, Tenn. Harris & Mitchell Shows, Ben Harris, mgr.: Box 349, New Glasgow, S. C., Can.; mail address, Billboards, New York.

Rubin & Cherry Model Shows, Rubin Gruberg, mgr.: Montgomery, Ala. Rubin & Cherry Shows, Rubin Gruberg, mgr.: Montgomery, Ala. Sandys Shows, Sandy Tarmago, mgr.: Mail address, 858 E. 156th st., Bronx, New York City.

Hensley Bros. Amusement Co., Orville Hensley, mgr.: Puckett, Miss.; offices, McLeansboro, Mo. Hibbard One-Ring Show, C. A. Hibbard, mgr.: Albion, Ia. (417 4th ave. E.).

ALABAMA

Mobile-Mardi Gras, March 1-4. CALIFORNIA Anaheim-Fairfield Orange Show, May 22-June 1. Fairfield-Fairfield Expo, May 24-June 1.

COLORADO

Denver-Dog Show, April 4-5. H. H. Hunt, 1447 Tremont st. CONNECTICUT Bridgeport-Elks Show, Feb. 22-March 4.

FLORIDA

Jacksonville-Expo, at the Tropics, March 19-22. Harry Dagmar, dir. Miami-Bathing Beauty Pageant, March 7-10.

GEORGIA

Atlanta-Horse Show, April 17-19. J. E. Ottley, mgr. ILLINOIS Chicago-Coin Machine Operators' Expo. in Hotel Sherman, Feb. 24-27.

INDIANA

Pt. Wayne-Dog Show, March 24-25. Indianapolis-Auto Races, May 30. Indianapolis-Home Show, April 5-12.

LOUISIANA

New Orleans-Dog Show, March 22-23. R. C. Duncan, secy. New Orleans-Mardi Gras, Feb. 18-March 4.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston-Dog Show, Feb. 20-22. Boston-Tri-Texile Exhn., April 28-May 3. Boston-Art & Gift Show, March 10-14.

MICHIGAN

Bay City-Water Carnival, July 28-August 2. Detroit-Builders' Show in Conv. Hall, Feb. 19-March 2.

MISSISSIPPI

Corinth-Free Fair, Week of April 14. M. R. Striplin, secy. MISSOURI Diggins-Picnic, August 12-14.

NEBRASKA

Omaha-Auto Show, Feb. 17-22. A. B. Waugh, secy. NEW YORK Buffalo-Old Home Week, ausp. Order of Menelicks, July 14-20.



# Advertisers *to the* Amusement World

The Big 1930 Show

*"Outdoor Amusements"*

Is About To Start!



*...as usual, it will be inaugurated by THE BILLBOARD'S*

## Annual Spring Special Number

◀ DATED MARCH 29 -- ISSUED MARCH 25 ▶

With the publication of The Billboard's Spring Special the Outdoor Amusement World enters its first phase of activity this season.

Amusement Parks, Fairs, Circuses, Carnivals, Summer Resorts and Summer Theatricals—all thoroughly represented in The Billboard for many years—are now announcing their "opening dates" and 1930 routes. Turnstiles and ticket choppers will soon start to record an endless stream of pleasure seekers.

*Yet there is much preparation—much purchasing—to be done. And much of it will be done after consulting the advertising columns of the Spring Special.*

'ADVERTISERS TO THE AMUSEMENT WORLD' are making reservations NOW in the Spring Special Number of The Billboard. Years of experience has taught them the value of good position in this big extra-circulation issue.

Making it of even greater importance—the Spring Special is also the first big list number of the new season. It contains complete lists of Amusement Parks, Conventions, Fairs, etc.

Regular advertising rates prevail. Reservations made in the order they are received.

### THE BILLBOARD PUBLISHING CO.

Publication Office: 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, Ohio  
 1560 Broadway -- -- -- New York City  
 Chicago — St. Louis — Kansas City — Philadelphia — San Francisco

# Circus and Side Show

Conducted by CHAS. WIRTH—Communications to: 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

## Barnett Show Signing Acts

**W. D. Kerr will manage side show — the Peasleys engaged for big show**

YORK, S. C., Feb. 15.—The E. J. Larow Family of glassblowers, musicians and all-round side-show entertainers has signed contract with the Barnett Bros.' Circus. The Peasleys have been engaged for the big show program. Doc W. D. Kerr, old-time circus side-show manager, will take charge of side show. Jimmy Connors, boss property man, has been laid up all winter with rheumatism and is now able to be around without crutches.

The Rogers-Gaudet Troupe of wire walkers was engaged by the Charlotte, N. C. American Legion to present its act as part of the Legion Circus, February 8 to 15, in the old City Auditorium.

Charles Bowen, boss electrician, arrived from Hot Springs, where he was visiting his parents since the closing of the show last fall. Art Lewis, boss canvasman, also arrived in quarters from a similar visit. Hellaine Rogers has completely recovered from her recent illness, which was very serious. At one time her chances for recovery were very slim.

Ryerson Gaudet, gymnast, is expected shortly from Moncton, N. B., Can., where he spent the holidays with his relatives. Toby Tyler and partner will be producing clowns and will present a few specialties in high-stilt walking.

## Wheeler to Albemarle

Al F. Wheeler will close his office at Oxford, Pa., February 20, and return to the winter quarters of the Wheeler Shows at Albemarle, N. C., to attend to the final details of launching that show which will open early in April.

## Willard's Crew With Downie Show

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md., Feb. 15.—Clyde H. Willard, advertising car manager of Downie Bros.' Circus, has signed up his billposters and billers for the big truck outfit. There will be four country route trucks and one big supply car fitted with an office for the car manager, paper lockers, a small boiler for making paste, etc. Glen H. Engle will be the boss billposter, with the following billers: Howard Mitchell, Charles E. Hughes, Clyde H. Halstead, Ed Russell, William J. Wedge, Jack Rhodes, J. M. Jacobs, Stanley Fulton, F. Carlton Hyde, Hoyt Carter, Fred Hudgins, William Zinke, Joseph Marthage, Charles O'Brien, Del Rivers, Robert Hiatt and James R. Ramsey.

A truck mechanic will be part of the advance crew, which will carry a complete stock of replacement parts, grease, tools, etc., for the repairing of the advance trucks. Joe Bossler, who has been back on the show for two seasons, has been contracted as mechanic for the advance trucks. All the advance trucks have been thru the carpenter and paint shop and have 1930 tags already placed on them, ready to go. Willard will report here the last of March to load and assort his paper, booklets, banners, wait paper and country heralds.

Downie Bros.' Circus will have one of the biggest advance departments of any truck circus. As the show will play the larger cities much more paper will be put out this year than formerly.

## Acts Engaged by L. & Z.

The acts engaged by Lewis & Zimmerman for the K. of C. Circus in Music Hall, Cincinnati, February 20-22, include Taylor and Moore, Upton-Whiteside Troupe, Rowland Sisters; Devon Trio, clowns; Ross Trio, acrobats and clowns; Taylor's bears; Billy Lindemann's elephants, ponies and monkeys; Professor Drako's dogs; Mr. and Mrs. Harry LaPearl, clowns; Silvers Johnson, clown; Mrs. Silvers Johnson, swinging ladder; Chief Eagle Point and his Indians, Mayme Ward and the Nine Flying Wards, the Manelos, Albert Hodgini Troupe, Micky Blue, Rube Walters, Tommy Whiteside, Johnny Kirk and George Wisecarver, clowns.

## Lester Playing Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 15.—Lester Bros.' Midget Circus is rehearsing here preparatory to its opening, which will be February 20, for one week. Harry Lester states the show will play Florida for the remainder of the winter. There are 15 midgets in the circus, it is understood, in addition to 10 head of ponies and other stock, including one elephant. The show will be augmented by adult acts. The Martin Tent and Duck Company, New York, supplied the canvas. The big top is 80 by 120 and seats 2,100. Two and three-day stands will be played on the tour.

## Atkinson Buys Animals

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Tom Atkinson has purchased dog, pony, goat and monkey acts, also a rosinback, from Stick Davenport for the coming season.

## Riding Walleets Again With Hunt

The Riding Walleets will again be a feature of Hunt's Motorized Circus, making their fourth season with the show. The features of the act are Charley, riding clown, and Miss Hazel, equestrienne. William F. Walleet, Jr., will again be equestrian director and will leave Havre de Grace for Pikesville, Md., shortly to break some new stock.

The Hunt Circus will be greatly enlarged over last season, carrying more stock, people and trucks. Walleet, Jr., says that Manager Charles T. Hunt is to be congratulated on the fine circus he has at the present time, due to his untiring efforts and showmanship.

## DeBarries Again With Sparks

BALTIMORE, Feb. 15.—Mr. and Mrs. W. E. DeBarrie will again be in the side show of the Sparks Circus under the management of George V. Connor, making their 11th season with the show and the 15th year with Connor. DeBarrie handles the inside and presents Punch and magic and his wife has a cockatoo act.

## Delmore Back in N. Y.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Lou C. Delmore has returned from Peru and Chicago in the interests of the Sells-Floto Side Show, which will have an excellent array of attractions this season in addition to an attractive banner front and other features.

## Sawdust and Spangles

By CHARLES WIRTH

*NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.*

THE legislative committee of the Circus Fans' Association, of which Melvin D. Hildreth is chairman, has taken up the matter of the prohibitive circus license in Savannah, Ga., with the Mayor, and also has appealed to the newspapers of that city to give the children an opportunity to see a circus performance. This is a fine spirit and deserves commendation.

Speaking for the CFA, Hildreth says: "We believe that a steady diet of mechanical amusement, based for the most part upon stories which give a false view of life, are detrimental to the growing boy and girl. We believe that the average healthy-minded boy is benefited by watching a capable trapeze performer, and that the average young girl gains a real conception of grace and beauty when she watches a lovely performer dancing on the back of a beautiful white horse. The children of today, if they are restricted to a diet of moving pictures, with their cynical, sordid stories, are bound to get a false view of life. The circus remains the one clean form of amusement. The officials of Savannah certainly ought to hesitate long before they keep the circus from the children."

The CFA did a fine piece of work when its committee was able to defeat in the Legislature of Virginia a bill recently introduced which required circuses to take out county licenses. There are a number of good small shows that visit Virginia each year, and many of them only show one day in a county. Had this bill passed, it would have added greatly to the burden which the small circus must carry.

Hildreth informs us that the legislative committee of the CFA is constantly on the watch for adverse legislation, and will appreciate their attention being called to any bills contemplated which will hurt the circus.

We cannot help wondering whether all the rolling stock of the shows under the ownership of John Ringling will be of a uniform color, or if each outfit will have an individual decorative scheme. If the color scheme of all his shows will be the same, it will be following the ideas of the chain stores, which have been in vogue for some years now. One gets to know a certain chain store by its color, and it is just as reasonable to presume that we will learn to know a certain chain circus by its color.

Here's an idea for some genius with an inventive turn of mind—give the circus something to keep the white tops WHITE. Perhaps it can be done. The white tops appear to be a misnomer after the shows have been on the road a few weeks—they soon become gray tops.

## Geo. Engesser Buys Three More Trucks

HYNES, Calif., Feb. 15.—Much progress is being made at the quarters of the Schell Bros.' Circus. Twenty-five men are here, overhauling motors, doing carpenter work and training animals. Manager George E. Engesser bought three more new trucks (sixes) and three trailers to handle the extra canvas, six new horses and two more elephants.

Trainer Herriott is breaking four elephant and three camel acts. Ed Oates and crew are making a set of poles for the new spread of canvas. The big show will have a six-pole top; menagerie, four poles, and the kid show, three. The Caldwell Scenic Studios are turning out a set of new banners. Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Gross, of Minneapolis; Mr. and Mrs. Elder, Missoula, Mont.; and Mr. and Mrs. Westmoreland, Los Angeles.

## Barrows With Wheeler Shows

The Barrows, Harry and Bobbie, will be with the Al F. Wheeler New Model Shows, presenting their novelty aerial numbers and comedy trampoline act. They are at present at home in Beaver Falls, Pa., awaiting the completion of a new housecar they are having built at that place.

## Harr Bros.' Activities

BLOOMFIELD, Ia., Feb. 15.—Joe Mohler and four assistants are busy in the workshop of the Harr Bros.' Show. Mrs. Mohler has returned from Hinton, Okla., where she visited relatives, and is now making wardrobe for her aerial acts. She also will work a domestic animal turn. The Howe-Cook Company of gymnasts, who will present two acts on the stage, will be a feature of the show. Sidney Rink is kept stepping with the groups of ponies, mules and menage horses which he is breaking for the show and for himself. Piez Mohler has the baggage horses in good condition. Another truck has been added to the outfit.

## Dutton Society Circus Making Improvements

SARASOTA, Fla., Feb. 15.—Many improvements are being made at the winter quarters of the Dutton Society Circus. A new concrete roadway has been built into the quarters and the main building has been painted and decorated attractively. Mrs. Dutton plans next season to have a tea garden operated in connection with the quarters, which adjoin those of the Ringling Circus.

Mr. and Mrs. John Meck will leave soon for New York to prepare for the opening of the season there. Cy Cleveland has placed Lido Beach on a paying basis and has attracted thousands of bathers to the place with his programs.

Robert Ringling returned last week and will spend the remainder of the winter here. Victor Roselli, of the Robinson Show, spent last week at the winter quarters of the Ringling Circus.

Johnny Agee, who has been at Miami Beach, is expected here soon. Ollie Webb and James Malone motored from Miami to spend several days at the big show quarters. Webb is greatly improved in health. Cy Compton and his Wild West riders have been engaged to furnish rodeo attractions here during the Pageant of Sara de Sota.

MARY WILLIAMS will again be with the Christy Bros.' Circus, making her third season with the show. She will do iron-jaw, single traps, ladder and menage.

**New Salvage Khaki Side Wall**  
 7 ft. side wall \$20.00 per C. ft.  
 8 ft. side wall \$25.00 per C. ft.  
 9 ft. side wall \$28.00 per C. ft.  
 10 ft. side wall \$35.00 per C. ft.

**Tucker for Tents**  
 Whether it's a concession tent, carnival tent, merry-go-round top tent, circus tent or what-not—if it's a tent, write **TUCKER, THE TENT MAKER**. We have them in all sizes, for all uses. Let us know your tent needs—send for our tent prices.

**TUCKER DUCK & RUBBER CO.**  
 Fort Smith, Arkansas

**With the Circus Fans**

By **JOHN R. SHEPARD**  
 609 Fulton St., Chicago  
 Secretary C. F. A.

THRU the efforts of Marshall L. King, Melvin D. Hildreth, Parke P. Deans and Harry D. Baugh, all members of the CFA, a bill to allow counties to levy a license tax on circuses and carnivals was recently defeated in the Virginia Legislature. Let the CFA members in other States do likewise when bills of this type are proposed in their several commonwealths.

H. M. CARMICHAEL, CFA, of Red Oak, Ia., appeared before the City Council of that municipality recently and at his request the council offered free license and free water to circuses exhibiting in Red Oak this season.

SECRETARY SHEPARD visited the winter quarters of the Seils-Sterling Motorized Circus at Plano, Ill., February 5. This is a fine and clean-appearing outfit and the secretary was given a very cordial welcome by Manager William Lindemann, with whom he had a long visit. The show will open at Plano April 25.

NATIONAL DIRECTOR L. A. GROSS, who has been on the Pacific Coast since last fall, writes that he will be in Chicago in March.

HARRY D. BAUGH, State chairman, of Petersburg, Va., who has been ill with the grippe, has recovered and is at his usual duties as steward of Hotel Petersburg.

NEW MEMBERS, taken in since last reported in *The Billboard*, are: Cornelia Otis Skinner; Andrew Berger, Atlantic Hotel, Bridgeport, Conn.; C. R. Larson, 333 North Michigan avenue, Chicago; J. Harry Shearer, 1200 Eleventh avenue, Altoona, Pa.; Mrs. F. W. McIntosh, 10219 Prospect avenue, Chicago; Sims A. Potts, 111 West Euclid avenue, San Antonio, Tex.; Harry L. Johnston, managing editor of *Altoona Mirror*, Altoona, Pa.; F. Beverly Ke'ley, writer of circus and other stories, 40 W. Winter street, Delaware, O.; James W. Walker, M. D., 1504 E. 53d street, Chicago; Porter Loring, 1601 Belknap street, San Antonio, Tex.

**Fine Program Presented At Coliseum, Tulsa, Okla.**

Harry LaPearl writes that the Shrine Circus at the Coliseum, Tulsa, Okla., opened Thursday night, February 13, to a capacity house and with an excellent program presented under the personal direction of Fred Moulton, who deserves much credit for making the promotion a big success. Moulton was assisted by Billy Cronin and George Cutshaw.

The performance was under the direction of Albert Hodgini, the writer producing clown, and the Akdar Shrine band played the numbers in real circus style. The acts follow: A spec., in which four sinners were on the elephants and Harriet Hodgini did her toe dance on the back of another elephant; O'Neil Trio, comedy acrobats; swinging ladders; Three Rowland Sisters; Martha Large and Billy Silverlake, and menage act by Ruth Mendryx and Laura Hodgini; burlesque bullfight, LaPearl and clowns; the Manellos, equilibrist; Roberto, famous German clown; the Merrills, wire act; Otto and LaPearl, clown number; rings and web, Stella and Ruth Rowland; Hodgini Troupe, comedy riding act; O'Neil Trio, comedy bar act; Otto Greibling, clown act; Merrill Bros. and Sister, hand balancing; Rex Dog and Pony Circus; Three Rowland Sisters, iron-jaw; Indian riding act, Hodgini Troupe; Merrill Bros., perch act; Harry and Loretta LaPearl, in their famous long show dance; the Silverlakes, double trapeze; LaPearl and his clown band; the Manellos, balancing ladder marvels, and five elephants from the 101 Ranch Show.

**Dill on Buying Trip**

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 15.—Sam Dill, manager of the Gentry Bros' Circus, stopped a few hours in Kansas City en route from Indiana to Lancaster, Mo., to purchase animals. While in the city Dill purchased new equipment for his motorized show.



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 ALL FEATURE SHOWS  
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 Gentlemen:  
 The top you made for me two years ago is one of the best tops I ever had and it will easily run me this season, making three seasons of 37 weeks, each playing one day stands. Heretofore tops that I have had made by other cooperatives have only lasted two seasons. I think the famous Shuredry preserves the canvas and makes it last that much longer. I have always recommended your tops as they have given me the best service and lasted longest. My big tops as well as small tops have been made by the Fulton Bag and Cotton Mills for the past several years.  
 Very truly yours,  
 E. H. JONES,  
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 From concession tents to big tops, "Fulton Quality" Tents are recommended by the showmen themselves. Tell us what you want. Prices and samples will be sent you at once.

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**ORDER NOW—DELIVERY GUARANTEED**  
**TENTS** OUR NEW AND USED LIST IS READY. CONTAINS OVER 200 TENTS. YOURS FOR THE ASKING.  
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 Established 1864.  
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**MANUFACTURERS OF THE BIGGEST CIRCUS TENTS OF EUROPE**  
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**AT LIBERTY FOR COMING SEASON FRANCIS FRANLETTE**  
**THE SEXUAL ENIGMA—PART MAN, PART WOMAN**  
 Prefer Circus Side Show. Last two seasons with Sparks Circus. State best terms, with Picture-Selling Privilege. Now playing Hubert's Museum, 228 W. 42d St., New York, N. Y.

**QUICK SET-UP & SEAT MADE WITH IDEAL SEAT ENDS**  
  
 This 12" SEAT USES 3 SEAT ENDS & COMMON 1" BOARDS  
 BOARDS NOT CUT OR NAILED—SIMPLY CLAMPED ON.  
 Above seat uses stock widths (12, 8 and 4-in.). SEAT ENDS made of galvanized steel, weight, 7½ lbs. Seats can be any length to 16 feet. Unsurpassed for tent seating. Endorsed by leading managers. MORE ECONOMICAL TO BUY AND USE. MORE COMFORTABLE. MORE CONVENIENT TO TRANSPORT THAN CHAIRS. Eastern orders filled from stock at Philadelphia, Pa. IDEAL MFG. CO., 6825 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood, Calif.  
**AT LIBERTY** AIR CALLIOPHE PLAYER, circus experience, playing with Band, show program of alone. GUS SAUERWEIN, 207 Toledo St., San Antonio, Tex.

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**WANTED Information**  
 As to the present whereabouts of **GEORGE W. CURREN**  
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 Chain broke and acclimated. Two Females, one extra large Male. \$70.00 takes the lot. HECTOR, 1014 S. Vandeventer Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

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Dept. 5 PORT HURON, MICH.



### Under the Marquee

L. F. (PEGGY) STOLTZ, of the Russell Bros. Circus, received more than 200 answers to his advertisement in *The Billboard* for musicians.

HARRY AND BILL LIPPMAN, formerly with the Gentry Bros. Circus, are now established in a luncheon and sandwich shop in New York City.

THE WIFE of Ben Voorheis, press agent of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, has been spending a few weeks at home in Portsmouth, O.

J. H. SIMPSON, circus trouper, who is confined to the U. S. Veterans' Hospital, Alexandria, La., would appreciate letters from friends.

THE KALAMAS will not be with a circus this season. Ed E. James, of the James Bros. Attractions, have contracted them and they are playing around Altoona, Pa., their home town.

JOHNNIE REILLY advises that he is leaving Chicago for New York and will sail from that port on the S. S. Dominica with Shipp's Circus for a three-year tour of South America.

MR. AND MRS. TERRELL JACOBS were among the visitors at the Shrine Circus at Minneapolis. Jacobs says that Capt. John Kittelson is now in New Orleans with a string of race horses.

JOCKEY E. DAY writes that Harry Davis and MacClery will have the pit show on the Best Bros. Circus, featuring a 20-foot snake; also that four more trucks have been purchased for the show.

FRANK KONOPKA has left the Four Haas Bros. act, finishing at the St. Paul Shrine Circus, and will do cabinet work in Evansville until spring. He says that he and his wife will probably have two acts to play fairs this fall.

DALLIE JULIAN ANDREW, former noted equestrienne, and her daughter, Anna Ledgett, of Monticello, Ind., were in Chicago last week visiting Mrs. Andrew's other daughter, Margaret Ledgett, who is convalescing from an operation.

JOHN G. ROBINSON left Cincinnati last Monday for Ft. Wayne, Ind., and then to Detroit, to look over the Shrine Circuses to see if they have any new or novelty acts which he can put on at the Cincinnati Shrine Circus.

M. C. (DOC) COOKSTON, who has been with Major C. F. Rhodes at the Miami, Fla., Exposition and Amusement Park all winter, will leave for the North April 1 and will be with a circus the coming season.

PROF. J. P. HART, of Locust Grove, Ark., has purchased 160 acres of land on top of Brock Mountain on Highway 5 and is rebuilding his animal academy. He has several acts in training and will soon start on others.

SEVERAL HUNDRED confined children, who were unable to attend the Shrine Circus in Los Angeles, were entertained February 6 by a selected group of troupers at the Children's Hospital. The entertainment was under the supervision of Cliff McDougall, circus educational director for the Shriners. He has been re-engaged for the Al G. Barnes Circus, making his third season.

LEW D. NICHOLS, veteran circus man, now living at Woodland Park, Ill., near

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AMERICA'S BIG TENT HOUSE

Chicago, was saying hello to the boys in the Windy City last week. Says the call of the road is stirring within him again and he may accept one of several offers he has received for the coming season.

PAUL SCHUMACKER, an old trouper who has been with the Ringling Bros., Sparks and 101 Ranch shows, is in the Carbon County Hospital, Rawlins, Wyo., recovering from an operation. We would appreciate hearing from friends, especially Spot Griffin, James Colgate and Deafy Covert.

PHIL KING, stilt walker, is back in Chicago after a successful engagement at the Shrine circuses in Minneapolis and St. Paul. He states that the two events, under the management of Dennie Curtis, went over big. Louis Flamond and Arthur Borella, clowns, who also played the two dates, returned to Chicago. Borella left at once for Flint, Mich., where he was to play a three-day engagement with the Shrine Circus, then expected to go on to Detroit to give the circus there the o. o.

### Notes From Petland

ACCOTINK, Va., Feb. 15. — Norris Rowland, carnival owner, was a recent visitor. He has his outfit in storage and has been making some indoor doings. Says business has been just fair. Next came Bill Trueman, of carnival cookhouse fame, on his way from Jacksonville to Philadelphia. With him were four of his people. Trueman will be with the Al F. Wheeler Circus this season. Mrs. Trueman is ill in Philadelphia and may have to undergo another operation.

Al Porter, head of the American Producing Company, has a big promotion in Washington in May under the Grotto. He has another indoor circus in Washington for next month. J. W. Walker was here from High Point, N. C., to see Rex Ingham on business. Walker has five pit shows mounted on trucks which he is sending to Petland to be put on the road under the management of Ingham. Trucks have a nice flash and each has a good feature animal attraction in pit. Ingham and Jerry Woods will go to High Point in the near future to bring the show to Petland.

Dr. J. S. C. Boswell, noted writer on wild animal life, was a recent visitor. A letter to Ingham from W. H. Blackburn, former Barnum trouper and now head of the Washington, D. C. Zoo, says that the zoo recently lost one of its most prized exhibits, a female hippopotamus which had been in the zoo for a number of years. The hippo was the mother of a number of "babes", some of which are today with various circuses.

Whitey and Mrs. Turnquist were here on their way south. They have a monkey circus. John Reynolds has left West Frankfort, Ill., and is on his way to Petland to take charge of the zoo for

the coming season. John was with Ingham when he had out the Berry Bros. Jesse James one-nighter.

### Wells Hawks in Hospital

BROOKLYN, Feb. 15.—Wells Hawks is undergoing treatment here in the United States Naval Hospital. It is expected that he will be able to leave in a few weeks.

### Freaks of Nature

By GEO. H. IRVING

Recalling the death of Charles Tripp who passed away recently and whom I knew for many years, having been associated with him (a fine fellow) with the Barnum Show in 1880, causes me to recall the many strange freaks of nature that have, notwithstanding their deformities, been self-supporting and not depending on anyone for a living.

Tripp was a wonder and could do most anything with his feet and toes that a person could do with his hands, he being born without arms. I saw a young girl with the Sells-Floto Circus last summer that could also do the same—sew, thread a needle, comb her hair, write, make lace work and many other things. Then there were Walter Stewart and Alfred Pilgrun, both born without hands or feet, yet could take care of themselves without assistance, wash and clothe themselves, shave, whittle, write and make fancy articles. Both wonderful entertainers.

Chaney and Eng, the original Siamese twins, born together, were most remarkable. They visited this country many years ago and after acquiring a competence returned to their native land. Both, altho joined together, married, had children and were independent. Eli Bowen was another, born without lower limbs, his feet growing from the hips, who could do most anything and get around almost as well as anyone.

Millie-Christine, the two-bodied girl (colored), was another, could sing and dance and amassed a fortune. George Brown, born blind, was a truly remarkable person, and notwithstanding he could not see he learned the carpenter's trade, could build tables, chairs, chests, book cases, etc., write, play ball, wrestle and box. He was never on exhibition, studied law and was admitted to the bar. He passed away years ago. Admiral Dot, famous midget with the Barnum Show more than 50 years ago, after retiring from show business, opened a hotel, became sheriff and made good.

I saw a man the other day, who had lost one of his feet, selling lead pencils on a street corner. He looked as if he could drive eight horses on a band wagon. But most all the people who were unfortunate in being born with some deformity seem to be very bright and self-supporting. Wish I could say this of some others I have seen, rich and poor.

### Circus Saints and Sinners

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—This week was Aviation Week in the P. T. Barnum Tent, the primary cause being a visitor who represented one of the important aviation publications. President Frohman reported that the Barnum Productions were prospering. And then Uncle Bob and Freddie Benham and the rest went into flights of fancy and did a few tall spins. Benham knows his planes and, of course, the P. T. Barnum Tent has on its rolls such famous air men as Col. Kerwood, Col. Fitzmaurice of Bremen fame and the great Clarence Chamberlain. The Barnum Tent finally decided to admit women members and by the time the vote was taken Jane Perkins, eminent stylist and publicist, had her check for admission right in Frank Baldwin's hands. *Short Hauls*, the new OSSCA publication, made a great hit.

Chalmers L. Pancoast, of the Barnum Tent, eminent commander of Coeur de Lion Commandery No. 23, K. T., New York City, has accepted the appointment as chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the Shelter Harbor Temple Recreational Memorial.

It looks now as if the 101 Ranch Show is going to play Richmond, Va., as guests of the W. W. Workman Tent, at which time Zack Miller, in person, will present the club with a buffalo.

Fred Pitzer, circus history magnate, has got himself a partner. Pancoast has joined out with the circus scrap book. Watch their P. & P. show train move.

Shipp Chats. The Edward D. Shipp Tent mourns its first loss, Brother Bert W. Earles, who passed on to the Great Beyond. He was one of the greatest showmen on the Pacific Coast and an outstanding figure in the show world. Here are some real circus bluebloods among the newest Saints—Stanley A. Bruner, president of the S. A. Bruner Marble and Tile Corporation; Joseph Antonger, prominent showman, now a "whale show" magnate, having a dozen of them going; Thomas V. Dalton, owner of the Burbank and Follies theaters in Los Angeles; George H. Hines, in circuses for 36 years. Now we're on the air. Station KMTR, Hollywood, every Saturday night. Feature called Circus Night. Band plays "real" circus pieces. Harry B. Chipman arranged for the feature, and last time talked about the new OSSCA on the Coast. Chipman is looking forward to using the P. T. Barnum Club Productions (under arrangement with Gustave Frohman) on the Coast. Arrangements to be made to help out local treasury. Chipman also is planning a "Circus Saints and Sinners Ball."

HUGH GRANT ROWELL (Nat'l Secy.).

## MUSICIANS WANTED

FOR

## Best Bros. Circus

On all instruments. State age, weight and experience. No boozers or agitators. Want to hear from Men with me last year. Address all wires and letters BENNIE FOWLER, Bandmaster Best Bros. Circus, General Delivery, Nashville, Tenn.

### SIDE SHOW ACTS

WANTED—Strong Feature Freaks and other Side-Show Acts of merit. Punch and Judy, Magic, Midges, Half Man-Half Woman, Strong Man Act, Glass Blower. Long season and all winter's work for real people. State salaries in first letter. Address MILO ANTHONY, Gen. Del., Fort Worth, Tex.

Advertise in *The Billboard*—you'll be satisfied with Results.

# The Corral

Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

THE RODEO season is already open.

THE SOUTHWESTERN events are drawing contestants heavily.

SOME INNOVATIONS were sprung at rodeos last year. Let there be many new features in 1930.

YOU WILD WEST showfolks seem mighty silent these days. What outfits will you be with this year?

BUFF JONES, trick roper, trick rider and calf roper, is in Los Angeles this winter, playing events in that section.

THERE was much local newspaper publicity given the Rodeo at Phoenix, Ariz., staged the last four days of last week.

PRAIRIE LILLIE ALLEN, formerly of California, is wintering in Fort Worth, and it is said she will have some rodeo promotions in the East this year.

LOOKS like the folks at Fort Worth are expecting very heavy attendance at the forthcoming Fat Stock Show and Rodeo. The advance sale of tickets is already functioning promisingly.

SAM GARRETT, Bonnie Grey, Rulan Slaughter and Ed Wright were among the rodeo folk who went to the Phoenix and Tucson rodeos from Los Angeles and vicinity.

PETE GANET returned to Hollywood, Calif., from Shellville, February 10, for a few days' visit while en route to Phoenix, where he was entered as a contestant.

SEVERAL have asked regarding their old friend, Harry Hill. Last heard of him, he was somewhere in the Northwest, and doing nicely. Let's hear from you, Harry.

THE CORRAL has received three letters, stating that Wild West folks were sick, giving details. One of them bore no signature and the other two were signed "A Friend". Hence, none of them has had representation in print.

WALTER LESSERT, well-known roper, now residing in California, accompanied by George Pines, another contestant, has been in Oklahoma for a few weeks on business. Lessert has a large ranch near Hominy, Okla.

WELL-KNOWN girl riders entered in the annual girls' handicap race at the Tijuana, Mexico, track, February 16, included Mabel Strickland, Vera McGinnis, Donna Cowen, Reba Perry, Paris Williams and Winnie Brown.

TEX SHERMAN, of Weyoka, Okla., who had spent the last few months in Hollywood, left February 11 for Phoenix, Ariz., to attend the annual rodeo there. He informed that he will be one of the press members of Miller's 101 Ranch Wild West the coming season.

LON L. BLANSCETT, having had the misfortune of losing his right arm last October 5, regrets that he must remain out of the rodeo business. However, Del seems to be sitting pretty at Pampa, Tex., where he is treasurer of a film producing company.

MR. AND MRS. ORVILLE BROWN are wintering in Kansas, near the Pottawatomie Indian reservation, and Orville is reported arranging a group of Indian dancers as an attraction at rodeos and fairs this year. The Indians will be under the direction of Chief Bull Narrows.

VIOLET CLEMENT SALTER (formerly Violet Clement, recently married to Coleman Salter, nonprofessional), steer and bronk rider and in other lines of Wild West attractions, is in Florida, with her husband, and expects to be back with Hagenbeck-Wallace the coming season.

MIKE HASTINGS, it is said, has added a couple of dozen more bucking horses to the W. T. Johnson string, which is now one of the biggest bucking strings in the country. 'Tis said that Mike has

become so obsessed with the bucking horse idea that he has become subject to "nightmares".

INDIAN CHIEF KEYS infos that he and his wife and daughter are on their little ranch in Oklahoma, and Chief is getting ready for the coming season, with his knives and ropes, and will feature a seven-horse catch. His wife and daughter will not troupe this year, instead will look after their stock and poultry interests.

THE CORRAL editor doesn't write any special persons to send in news for publication—this policy in order to be "even-keeven" with everybody. Many times it has been stated in the "column" that voluntary contributions are appreciated, and will be used if consistent and the communications bear signature. It is very seldom that long ones can be used, therefore lots of brief ones are just the ticket.

FROM FORT WORTH.—Contestants, who are usually thick around the Stockyards Hotel, made the hotel lobby look like mid-rodeo season in the North, by their absence, when dozens of them left for the Phoenix and Tucson, Ariz., shows. When those shows are over the great spring gathering will take place here, when the hands meet for the rodeo of the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show in March.

HUGH STRICKLAND, of Burbank, Calif., acted as one of the judges at Phoenix. Hugh is busy this winter looking after the interests of his ranch at Burbank. Mabel Strickland, while resting between seasons at the Strickland home (finding it a pleasure to try out her new recipes occasionally on Hugh and her young daughter), was scheduled to take last Sunday "off" and go to Tijuana, where she was entered in the girls' handicap race.

JULES VERNE ALLEN, the "singing cowboy", after a year's residence in Hollywood, Calif., in company with Harry Drackert, bronk rider and roper (who was wintering in Hollywood), left by automobile a couple of weeks ago to make the rodeos at Phoenix and Tucson this month, then play dude ranches, and then the Fort Worth show, after which Jules, who is still suffering from the broken leg and arm he sustained when struck by an automobile last December, will motor to South Dakota to visit his daughter. He made a new singing contract with the Victor company while in Hollywood.

HAVANA, Cuba.—The well-known screen artist and now circus performer, Tom Mix, and his charming wife are in Havana. Their appearance had been known to the boys of the town who were in force at the wharf to see them come in. Mix's manager, Arthur Forde, accompanies him. It appears that when Mix came here about 32 years ago, in the Rough Riders, he had another mission to perform, but now is only on pleasure bent. The police department had a special squad of mounted men to keep back the crowd that congregated in front of his hotel. Instead of his horse, "Tony",

he brought over a nice automobile. Mix was a member of Grimes Battery, 2d U. S. Field Artillery, and served with this outfit in Cuba till the close of the war with Spain. The Mixes expect to visit Santiago de Cuba, where Tom did his work and fighting in 1898.

FROM NEW YORK.—E. C. Hornbrook is back on the Rialto after visiting William Hayward and wife for three weeks in Boston, where he combined pleasure with business. He inspected several locations at Revere Beach for Gus Hornbrook's Cheyenne Days company and found two favorable spots, which will be decided on at a later date. The Hornbrook company will put on this season its old Arizona Joe act at fairs. The last this was operated was during the years 1912-14.

FOG HORN CLANCY, who was in ill health the greater portion of last season, has had plenty of exercise this winter, having been engaged with a surveying crew of the Tarrant County Engineering department and is in better shape physically than he has been for years. Fog Horn will arrive this week in Oklahoma City, where he will handle the office and publicity for Henry (Jack) Gladden's Rodeo, which will be staged there March 17-22, opening the day after the close of the rodeo at Fort Worth. Floyd Randolph, of Ardmore, well-known rodeo judge and arena director, will plan and direct the arena.

ON THE OFFICIAL minutes of the recent annual convention of the Rodeo Association of America, at San Francisco, appear the following: "(WHEREAS) *The Billboard*, published in Cincinnati, O., has been of great assistance to the R. A. of A., and to rodeos generally." . . . "(RESOLVED) and that the Association extend to *The Billboard* and the editor of the Corral page, Mr. Blue, its expression of appreciation." This publication, particularly this editor, likewise appreciates the sentiment expressed in the foregoing quotation from the minute files. *The Corral* has long fought for the mutual interests of rodeos, etc., of any consistent nature, and will continue to do so. Incidentally, the following also appears on the minutes of the meetings, and might be information to many folks: "A copy of all the winners of the 1929 R. A. of A. points are shown in *The Billboard* of January 18, a copy of which can be obtained by writing *The Billboard* at Cincinnati, O." In explanation, the point awards (which governed the championships for the year) appeared on the Corral page of the issue mentioned, copies of which edition may be obtained by inclosing the regular price (15 cents) in a letter addressed to Circulation Manager, *The Billboard* Publishing Company, Cincinnati, O.

## Old-Time Showmen

By CHARLES BERNARD

P. T. Barnum has been quoted and written about to such an extent that seemingly there is nothing new on the subject of his circus experience to offer

as human interest news. But Thomas A. Fullerton, a New England oldtimer who was on the Barnum roster back in the '80s, reminds me of some events during his trouping days that serve as really fresh news of "The Greatest Show on Earth" when the managerial staff read "P. T. Barnum and J. A. Bailey, equal owners." The season of 1890 was one particularly eventful in its opening date, and the original production of that stupendous historical spectacle, *Nero, or The Destruction of Rome*, as a circus feature.

But a limited number of present-day *Billboard* readers know that in 1872 P. T. Barnum converted the old N. Y. & H. Railroad depot, at 27th street and Madison avenue, into an amusement building suitable for presentation of his great Roman Hippodrome. Thus it became "Madison Square Garden", and with the exception of one or two years, each spring it was used by the famous showman for the opening engagement of the season. In 1889, the amusement company formed for that purpose, purchased the old building and began the erection of the magnificent edifice which took its place. Completion of the new building was delayed too late for the 1890 opening date. Great difficulties were experienced by Barnum and his associates in perfecting arrangements to give New York patrons their annual circus. All preparations had been made for presenting Imre Kiralfy's spectacle, *Nero, or The Destruction of Rome*, as the outstanding innovation of circudom up to that time. The expense had been enormous, the advertising all contracted, and the introduction of the colossal production must be given in New York.

The resourceful James H. Bailey solved the problem. Grounds were secured at 110th street and Fifth avenue, a license to exhibit under canvas was finally issued, although there was a law still in effect preventing any show under canvas within the city limits, and that law had been sustained by the courts in January, 1890. The location was a long ways uptown, compared with Madison Square Garden, and the opening date fixed for April 12 and under canvas, instead of indoors, as had been the custom. There was much diversity of opinion, when the advertising on a more gigantic scale than ever before, announced the date, the far uptown location, and under canvas at a time when snow was a serious possibility. But all doubt and criticism faded away, when from April 12 until May 3 inclusive, "The Greatest Show on Earth" under canvas, 73 blocks from its accustomed location, did even greater business than it had done in previous years in its Madison Square Garden engagements.

The program for the three weeks in New York was so arranged that a Grand Entree opened the show, and nine displays constituting the entire circus performance, were given in regular routine, including the Hippodrome races, the great Kiralfy spectacle being held as the closing number. The show moved across the Brooklyn Bridge to the City of Churches for a six-day engagement, Monday to Saturday, May 5 to 10—and for that week did big business, and had that hated rival, the Adam Forepaugh Circus, across the river in Jersey City, as opposition.



SECOND ANNUAL BANQUET of the Rodeo Association of America during the association's convention at the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, January 27 and 28.

# Fairs and Expositions

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

## 48 Fairs Represented At Eastern Pa. Meeting

**Increase of 25 per cent in attendance over last year—much uncertainty in 1930 fair dates—speech by Dr. Waters big feature—many showmen were present**

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—The 17th annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs, held in the Adelphia Hotel Wednesday and Thursday, was the largest attended in the history of the association. Forty-eight fairs were represented, in addition to the presence of many carnival owners and their representatives and other allied branches of the trade, which made the meeting teem with interest. There was not a dull moment during the two-day period. Secretary J. F. Seldomridge stated the attendance represented an increase of 25 per cent over last year. More out-of-the-State fair delegates were conspicuous for their presence than formerly.

The highlights of the meeting centered on many interesting subjects which were discussed by able and well-informed fair executives who scored decisively. This was particularly true of the address delivered by Dr. H. W. Waters, managing director of the Canadian National Exhibition, who electrified his auditors with many well-chosen remarks appertaining to fairdom.

There was plenty of contention brewing during the two-day session regarding the 1930 fair dates. Seldomridge stated he never remembers seeing so much uncertainty in this respect, which naturally had the outdoor attraction managers in the middle, which handicapped the sale of acts, fireworks and other features.

On the surface, there seemed to be the customary rivalry for business in all lines. Carnival owners and their representatives maintained Sphinx-like silence, altho many of the Pennsylvania fairs were booked well in advance of the annual conclave. Showmen admitted that they had many vexing problems to iron out this season, which caused them heavy monetary losses in the past.

### Opening-Day Meeting

The Wednesday morning session got away to a late start. President White's address was followed by the announcement of the nominating committee. Allen C. Madden, secretary of Orange County Fair, Middletown, N. Y., was unable to attend. He was one of the scheduled speakers. Dr. Turner, of the Doylestown Fair, stressed the advisability of curbing unnecessary gambling at fairs in this State. He thought conditions were improving in this regard, which was shared by President White.

White and Seldomridge then paid a fine compliment to the memory of O. D. Stark, Wyoming, Pa., who was the secretary of that fair for many years. The following resolution was drafted: "That while we bow to the will of an all-wise father, we cherish the memory of him whom we have known, emulate his virtue, life, character and citizenship and remember him as ever ready to lend a hand in every worthy project."

Abner E. Deysher, president of the Reading Fair, discussed at length the tax situation affecting his fair. He stated that the Reading Fair has invested in its plant \$450,000 and that its taxes were prohibitory. If it built a building costing \$20,000 it would be assessed for \$10,000. For every person paying admission to its fairsgrounds, the Reading Fair paid approximately one mill tax. While this contention comes under the head of the appropriation bill, it proved interesting nevertheless. The showmen are not alone in their trials and tribulations.

Seldomridge then gave a recapitulation of the data of operation of the county fairs in this State, which re-

vealed that the total number in attendance was 1,874,762; number of paid admissions, 1,274,448; amount of paid admissions, \$577,930.41; amount received from concessions, \$324,700.18; amount of receipts from all sources, \$1,306,356.50; amount of premiums paid, \$274,626.09; amount of expenses paid, \$1,059,118.55; amount covered by State aid premiums paid, \$195,609.20.

The afternoon session opened with a bang and found the spacious room filled to overflowing. Seldomridge read his 1930 report, which was a voluminous one and packed with plenty of interest.

C. W. Ross, attraction manager of the Canadian National Exhibition, was called upon for a speech, but stated he was unprepared to talk on any subject that would interest the delegates, but promised to do better the next time.

White then introduced Dr. H. W. Waters, managing director of the Canadian National Exhibition, who was given the glad hand of welcome and delivered in turn an instructive address covering (See EASTERN PA. FAIRS on page 73)

## Two Minn. Fairs Again On Split-Week Basis

KASSON, Minn., Feb. 15.—The Dodge County Agricultural Society will hold its 1930 fair from September 8 to 10. It was again decided to play a split week with the Wabasha County Fair, Plainview, Minn., this combination of dates having worked out very successfully the last two seasons, the Wabasha Fair falling on the 11th, 12th and 13th. This gives shows, concessionaires and exhibitors a complete week's work, opening in Kasson Monday night and closing at Plainview Saturday night.

Free attractions have been booked thru the Barnes-Carruthers office and include the Three Allison Girls, gymnasts; Barger Miller Trio, roller-skating act; Ed Holder and his mule Ebenezer; Taketa Japs., barrel kicking, perch and wire act; Four Eastons, acrobats, and the Five Fearless Flyers, sensational aerialists. Thearle-Duffield will furnish the fireworks, including both day and night displays.

Present improvement plans of the Dodge County Agricultural Society include the erection of a new dance pavilion and the installation of a modern loud-speaking system.

## Bluehill, Me., Fair Dates

FAIRVILLE, N. B. Can., Feb. 15.—The 39th annual Hancock Fair will be held this year beginning Labor Day, September 1, and closing September 3 at Bluehill, Me. Free attractions will again be supplied by Wirth & Hamid. The Eastern Amusement Company, which furnished the midway features last year, has been re-engaged. It was decided to have three fast trotting and pacing races on the track each day. The I. O. O. F. has been invited to use the fairgrounds for its annual parade and picnic Labor Day.

## Ammon Lands Big Position

**Becomes chief of fairs and state development for Wis., including s. f. management**

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 22.—Ralph E. Ammon has been appointed to the post of chief of fairs and State development for Wisconsin. The new position, which is the result of combining three divisions of the department of agriculture and markets, includes the management of the State fair, supervision of county fairs, immigration and publicity for the department of agriculture and markets.

For the last six years Ammon has been the agricultural editor of *The Wisconsin State Journal*, a Madison daily, and for the last year has been also secretary of the Dane County Fair, Madison. He grew up on a farm in that part of Illinois known as "Little Egypt". He is a graduate of the University of Illinois, with advanced degrees at the University of Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin State Fair is held at Milwaukee and the dates for 1930 are August 25-30.

## Second Fat-Stock Show in Tenn. Set

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Feb. 15.—The first annual "Tri-State Fat-Stock Show and Sale" will be held at the fairgrounds here October 2-3, according to definite plans arranged this week at a meeting of county agents, State representatives, live-stock breeders and representatives of *The Johnson City Chronicle*, which will sponsor the show.

This will be the only fat-stock show in Tennessee besides the State fat-stock show held annually at Nashville. Due to the long haul from East Tennessee to Nashville, breeders in this region have for some time desired a show nearer home. The proximity of North Carolina and Virginia interested the breeders in the near-by sections of those States and as Johnson City is the chief city in Upper East Tennessee, it was selected as the location. This selection was given marked impetus by the fact that the present movement was inaugurated by *The Johnson City Chronicle*, the same newspaper that sponsors and finances the Appalachian District Fair, also held here.

The two big agricultural and live-stock events will be held less than a month apart, as the dates for the Appalachian District Fair are September 8-13.

## Northeast Texas Fair Men Organize

MT. PLEASANT, Tex., Feb. 15.—Fair men of Northeast Texas have just formed an organization known as the Northeast Texas Fair Circuit. C. A. Pickett, secretary of the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce and also secretary of the Titus County Fair Association of this city, has been made chairman of the association.

The members, besides Pickett, consist of John Erickson, secretary of the Marion County Fair, Jefferson; H. L. Smith, secretary of the fair association at Atlanta; J. O. Douglass, secretary of the Franklin County Fair Association, Mt. Vernon, and C. E. Newland and F. B. Sullivan, secretaries of the Cass County Fair, Linden.

## Fair Breaks and Fair Shakes

By AL HARTMANN

*NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.*

**O**UT in Topeka, Kan., a firm of attorneys has been sending letters to fair associations of that State, threatening legal action against them if they fail to pay a \$25 license fee required to have copyrighted music rendered on their fair programs. The subject came "under fire" at the annual meeting of the State Association of Kansas Fairs at Topeka recently, and it was decided by that body to have the secretary take up the matter with the Attorney-General for decision. Whether or not this has been done, we are unable to say.

*To our knowledge, Kansas is the only State in the Union where such a license fee is required of fair associations using copyrighted music. It strikes us that instead of consulting the Attorney-General, the logical thing for the officers of the State Association of Kansas Fairs to do would be to thrash out the matter with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers direct. Possibly there is a misunderstanding between the society and its Topeka attorneys, and that the action taken by the legal firm is without authorization.*

The International Association of Fairs and Expositions got a decision on the music license fee last year, and W. R. Hirsch, retiring president of the association, at the December meeting in Chicago, treated on the matter in his annual report submitted to the convention. For the benefit of the Kansas fair men, we quote Mr. Hirsch:

"During the year your officers conferred with E. H. Hartman, counsel for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, with reference to fees requested of fairs and expositions for using copyrighted music. We found Mr. Hartman very considerate of the fairs and expositions, and after some correspondence carried on by our secretary we were advised by letter from J. C. Rosenthal, general manager, under date of August 22, a report of which has been mailed to all members of our association, as follows: 'So far as I have been able to gather, the fairs are operated by governmental agencies, and as the basis upon which the society functions is the exercise of the right of "public performance for profit" of the works of our members, no effort will be made to require our usual license.' It will, therefore, be noticed that fairs and expositions are not required to pay the license fee that was originally requested by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers."



# Larger Grant Asked in Can.

Ontario Fairs and Exhibitions' Assn. seeks increase of \$40,000 for 360 fairs

TORONTO, Feb. 15.—With an attendance of 350 members the 30th annual convention of the Ontario Fairs and Exhibitions' Association was held here last week. The high spot of the session was a resolution asking the provincial government for an increase of the government grant from \$85,000 to \$125,000. This money is divided among the 360 annual fairs on a percentage basis to be spent for agricultural purposes. Another interesting resolution was passed, asking for a school for judges in order that those who are appointed as adjudicators may be endowed with certain standards to make uniform awards. The school would be located in Guelph for those who live in the western part of the country and in Ottawa for those in the eastern, the teachers to be chosen from the Ontario College of Agriculture.

War was declared on fakers and gamblers who obtain concessions at fairs and prey upon the credulity of visitors. Glaring breaches of the law governing fairs were observed by J. Lockie Wilson, superintendent of the association. He said he visited fairs when the police officers were supposed to be in charge and in their presence the breakers of the law were plying their illegal operations. He stated that the officers of each fair were responsible for the conduct of the concessionaires and not the connoisseurs they employ. "Is it your desire," he said, "that boards of directors should sell the rights to fakers and gamblers to operate on your grounds and steal money from your patrons? It is said that without these particular attractions you cannot finance your fair. If this is the case I think you will agree that you had better go out of business." The association assured the superintendent of its co-operation to do away with anything bordering on such practices.

Too general application of the word "Amusements" in arranging the program of fall fairs was scored by W. L. Graham of Britannia Bay. In his opinion the main attraction of a fair should be drawn from the varied activities of the district. In other words the fair should be the show window of the community. "A fair's program should interest all elements of the local community organizations," he said. "That would include live-stock associations, junior farm societies, sport leagues and urban clubs."

J. M. Musson, Niagara-on-the-Lake, took exception to a lengthy program of horse racing on the grounds that the prizes offered depleted the gate receipts and that they were too often carried away by non-local horses. A. B. Cameron of Owen Sound received a warm ovation when he put in a good word for horse racing. "Nothing gives a greater thrill than a good horse race," he announced. He, however, criticized the importing of professional race horses.

County fairs attained a higher grade of efficiency and better pleased exhibitors by using the judges sent out by the Department of Agriculture rather than local judges and that the junior exhibitors should be given more encouragement were among the outstanding reports presented.

The World's Grain Exhibition and Conference with \$200,000 in prizes was announced from July 25 to August 6 in Regina, Sask., for 1932.

Officers elected were as follows: R. H. Crosby, Markham, president; D. D. Gray, Ottawa, first vice-president; Dr. J. J. Willson, Burks Falls, second vice-president; J. Lockie Wilson, Toronto, secretary; J. E. Peart, Hamilton, treasurer; honorary director, A. E. Culver, Sincro. Directors: District No. 1, W. L. Graham, Britannia Bay; No. 2, J. J. Tierney, Brockville; No. 3, W. L. Hill, Madoc; No. 4, W. M. Graham, Lindsay; No. 5, R. J. Kerr, Acton; No. 6, W. T. Wood, Rockton; No. 7, W. A. Cockburn, Richwood; No. 8, J. T. Malcolm, Dublin; No. 9, Burwell Wygle, Leamington; No. 10, John Wright, Chesley; No. 11, W. Boyer, Bracebridge; No. 12, Mrs. H. Peterson, Englehart, A.

# FAIR! SECRETARIES COMMITTEES

RODEOS, COMPLETE CIRCUSES, REVUES, PRESENTATIONS AND ALL KINDS OF HIGH-CLASS NOVELTY GRAND STAND ATTRACTIONS.

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# COIN MACHINE OPERATORS

The Largest Exhibit of Coin Operated Machines ever staged in America will be open Feb. 24th to 27th, 1930, Sherman Hotel, Chicago,

DURING THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF COIN MACHINE OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA. EVERYBODY INTERESTED IN THE COIN MACHINE INDUSTRY IS INVITED TO ATTEND BOTH CONVENTION AND EXPOSITION. 15,000 SQUARE FEET DISPLAY SPACE FILLED WITH LATEST INVENTIONS. WHEN PURCHASING TICKET SECURE CERTIFICATE FOR HALF FARE RETURNING.

RALPH T. YOUNG, President; F. E. TURNER, Secretary-Treasurer. 1213 Lafayette Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

BOOKING DIRECT—FAIRS, CELEBRATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS, ETC.

I AIN'T GOT A BIT OF SENSE, THAT'S THE REASON I ADVERTISE.

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One Man Producer  
5 DIFFERENT CLOWN ACTS

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Carrying a Truck Load of  
Novelty Musical Instruments.

Bond furnished. ADDRESS CARE THE BILLBOARD, Cincinnati, O.

## 1905 - THAVIU'S SILVER JUBILEE YEAR - 1930

### THAVIU, his BAND and PRESENTATION UNITS

Offering the Most Elaborate and Diversified Entertainment of His Successful Career.

FOR INDOOR OR OUTDOOR.

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AUDITORIUM BLDG., CHICAGO.



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## Creatore and His Band

PAULINE TALMA—Soprano Soloist

1425 Broadway -- New York City

Chalfou, Sturgeon Falls, Norman Campbell, Providence Bay, and S. Prince, Port Arthur.

## Race Program Arranged For Florida State Fair

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 15.—The race program for the Florida State Fair has finally been agreed upon by the appointment of J. L. Croissant as speed superintendent by General Manager G. R. Lewis. This important part of the program of events has necessarily been held in abeyance pending the disposition of the old grand stand condemned a year ago. This has been completely removed and the new grand stand has sufficiently progressed to insure its readiness for the fair dates, March 15-22. It will have to be of a temporary nature because of lack of time. Superintendent Croissant announces that there will be a speed program on five nights of the seven days, consisting of two harness races in heats and two running races. The other two days of the fair will be utilized for auto races. These

are in addition to the regular program of grand-stand acts.

The free-act program has not been completed yet, but the following well-known artists will appear: The Flying Melzers, Sensational Meredith, the Imperial Japanese Troupe, Groth and Groth, Famous Russells, Marvelous Melville, and Ezra and Elnora (Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Smith) in a new "hay-wire" act.

The Earthquake will be the feature of the fireworks program, depicting an ancient city, first shaken by the temblors and finally consumed with flames, staged by Florida Fireworks, Orlando, and personally directed by George B. Jackson.

## Ind. State Fair Budget

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 15.—Members of the State board of agriculture have approved a budget of \$238,550 for the 1930 Indiana State fair.

The board also voted to employ Bohumir Kryl's Band, an Indianapolis union musicians' band and six others for one day each from other cities in the State.

## Change in Program At Mason, Ia., Fair

DES MOINES, Ia., Feb. 15.—A radical departure in the North Iowa fair program for 1930 from those of former years has been announced by F. G. Mitchell, secretary of the fair association, Mason City, Ia. Rodeo performances and a big pageant will be substituted for the harness races and fireworks of previous fairs. There will also be two afternoons of automobile races.

According to Mitchell, the elimination of horse racing is the latest trend among the larger fairs.

The policy of a free outside gate, established at the 1929 fair, will be followed again at this year's exhibition, he said.

## De Land, Fla., Fair Draws Good Crowds Thruout Week

DE LAND, Fla., Feb. 15.—The Volusia County Fair, under the management of Earl W. Brown, opened February 11 and ran during the entire week with attendance very good.

Ten acts were played in front of the grand stand, featuring Nagles' Dogs, Cook and Wizzell's Funny Ford act, Chief Shee Noo, Helen Sube's Seals, the Conleys, the Steiners and others. The majority of the acts came here direct from the South Florida Fair at Tampa.

Exhibits this year were larger than in the past and the beautiful grounds of the fair were in shipshape for the opening.

Attractions on the big midway were furnished by Johnny J. Jones. Jack Foley was equestrian director and handled the acts in a snappy style.

## South Louisiana State Fair Budget Reduced

DONALDSONVILLE, La., Feb. 15.—A policy of strict economy has been adopted by the directors of the South Louisiana State Fair for 1930 without in any manner affecting the high standard set by previous fairs either in the line of education or entertainment. More than \$3,000 was lopped off the expenditure side of the budget and between \$4,000 and \$5,000 was added to the probable income. The budget is now fixed at \$42,050.

The 18th annual fair will be held for eight days this year, from September 28 to October 5. A full program of high-class acts will be furnished by Barnes-Carruthers, and these will include the Flying Millers, California Popples, Will Morris and Carl Manello and Company. It was decided to pass up the carnival this year and instead engage independent shows and rides. An appropriation has been made for five nights of fireworks.

**WIRTH & HAMID INC**  
1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY.  
FOR BETTER ATTRACTIONS

**CALL BOARD**

Awarded Toronto Shrine Convention contract "On the Road to Mecca". Biggest free act program ever put together.

**LEGITIMATE CONCESSIONS and SHOWS**  
WANTED FOR THE  
**PLATTE COUNTY FAIR**  
PLATTE CITY, MO., AUGUST 26, 27, 28, 29.  
Apply to T. C. MILLER, Supt. of Concessions,  
Platte City, Mo. J. D. SEXTON, Secy.

**WANTED**

Rides, Shows, Attractions, Clown, Announcer, Band, etc. for the Bienville Parish Fair, September 30 to October 4

**BIENVILLE PARISH FAIR**  
JOE S. ANDREWS, Secy. ARCADIA, LA.

**WANT COLORED QUARTETTE**

For Fairs. Must play some instruments and put on a good program. Write WILLIAMS & LEE, 464 Holly Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

# Drop in Tampa Fair Crowds

Five days of rain reduces figures 40,000 compared with 1929—three big days

TAMPA, Fla., Feb. 15.—Five days of the 11 scheduled for the South Florida Fair rained down. Yet with this terrific handicap the attendance was 403,456 as compared with 443,788 last year.

Three really "big" days demonstrated what would have been the result had the weather been the usual Florida brand. In the 14 years of its existence the fair has never before lost more than a single day and even such a loss was considered extraordinary. Truly the conditions this year were "unusual." On Gasparilla Day the crowds were more than 74,000, on Children's Day they reached the new high total of 93,487, while on the final day of the fair when the auto races were staged the turnstiles clicked in 58,978 and the grand stand was filled to capacity.

All of the exhibitors and concessionaires were loud in their praises of General Manager Strieder and his staff. So impressed were they with the splendid treatment given all of them that they generously offered services free if the fair remained open on Sunday, the day following the scheduled close. But after much debate the directors decided not to take a chance on antagonizing the ministerial association and tho at the outset it seemed certain there would be a one-day extension this plan was finally abandoned.

The majority of the grand-stand acts went at once either to De Land or Fort Myers to play the fairs in those two cities. Johnny J. Jones sent a 30-car show to each of these places. The Dutton Attractions went to Fort Myers to furnish the grand-stand acts for the Lee County Fair. Cy Compton and his rodeo riders went again to Sarasota and will furnish a rodeo during the Pageant of Sara De Sota there March 6-8.

Several of the acts also were signed for the Dade County Fair, to be held at Miami in March.

The Tampa Daily Times of last Saturday had an editorial calling attention to the publicity given the South Florida Fair in *The Billboard* and stated this was the best publicity received. Publicity in all Florida papers was great this season and a huge scrapbook 18 inches thick and a yard wide was filled with State press clippings. Many national trade papers also gave the fair good space this year.

The midway did exceptionally well, even with the rain. In fact that factor at times aided the shows on the midway, as it prevented grand-stand showings which might otherwise have kept many away from the lighted "pike".

Hardly had the gates closed when Manager Strieder announced that plans for next year's exposition were under way and that the 1931 fair would be much larger than any in the past. No contract was signed with the midway shows for next season. Two bidders are in the field, the Johnny J. Jones Shows, which have played here during the existence of the fair itself, and Rubin & Cherry Shows, which are making a serious effort this time to land the 1931 contract. Rubin Gruberg arrived here the day before the closing to talk over matters with the officials of the fair.

Charles Duffield said that despite the rain the Thearle-Duffield Company was well pleased with the engagement at the big fair. The spectacle, *The Battle of Fort McHenry*, was staged each night of the fair and attracted thousands. It was one of the snappiest spectacles ever put on here.

Alex Sloan was here, together with his business agent, Roy Repp, to supervise the auto races, and both were happy over the big grand stand and bleacher crowds on the closing day. One slight accident occurred when Roy Green, of Daytona Beach, drove his car into the concrete wall around the track, but fortunately escaped without serious injury to himself. His car was wrecked. Shorty Ginrich, of Tampa, established a new track record and also defeated Sig Haugdahl in their match race.

A splendid job of directing the acts

## Boy, Page "Believe It or Not" Ripley!

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—If there is anything in the old belief in seven being a lucky number, Edward F. Carruthers, of the Barnes-Carruthers Fair Booking Association, is a "lucky guy". A few days ago Carruthers discovered a foundling three-week-old baby boy on his doorstep. Nothing particularly lucky in that, apparently. Nevertheless, Carruthers and his wife took the child in, cared for it, and took a liking to it. So much of a liking that they decided to adopt it. The necessary legal formalities were gone thru with, and the child in now Edward Vanvalsen Carruthers, the middle name being Mrs. Carruthers' maiden name.

Now for the "lucky" angle. Carruthers is a firm believer in the potency of the number seven, and here is how it works out in the present instance: The baby was found at 7 o'clock on the evening of February 7, and Mr. and Mrs. Carruthers live in Apartment 7, at 707 Junior Terrace.

in front of the grand stand was done by Jack Foley of the Ringling Shows and he was at once signed for next year, his third at the fair. Harvey Keddy also won honors with his announcing and signed for next year's fair. The Merle Evans Band under the leadership here of Henry Kyes was also signed for the 1931 fair.

## New Grounds at Chillicothe

CHILICOTHE, O., Feb. 15. — Sixty acres of Rennick's Grove just east of the city have been obtained as a county fairgrounds site, the Ross County Fair Association announces. Exhibit buildings and a race track will be constructed.

## Vail Motor-Race Director At N. Y. State Fair Again

Ira Vail will again serve as director of the automobile and motorcycle races for the New York State Fair at Syracuse this season, making his fourth year there. He also will handle a number of other high-class automobile races for other Eastern fairs.

Vail for more than 10 years has been a dirt-track champion, holding practically all of the Eastern dirt-track records. He does but very little driving now, devoting most of his time to promoting races.

## Fair Elections

DAVENPORT, Ia.—Officers and directors of the Mississippi Valley Fair and Exposition were re-elected at the annual meeting of the stockholders and the board held February 12. The 16 directors re-elected are: P. F. McCarthy, L. J. Dougherty, P. N. Jacobsen, William H. Voss, Frank D. Throop, Howard W. Power, E. P. Adler, W. L. Mueller, Rudolph Koch, S. T. Yocum, M. H. Calderwood, Adolph P. Arp, H. B. Moorhead, Adolph Moeller, Harry J. LeBuhn and Emil Kroeger. Of these 16 directors 11 are starting their 11th year, having served since the first fair in 1920.

The following officers were re-elected at the annual meeting of the board which was held after the stockholders' meeting: President, M. H. Calderwood; vice-president, P. F. McCarthy; treasurer, P. N. Jacobsen; secretary of corporation, Adolph P. Arp; general manager and secretary of fair, M. E. Bacon.

DONALDSONVILLE, La.—At a recent meeting of the directors of the South Louisiana State Fair the following officers were re-elected for 1930: L. A. Borne, Bowie, president; W. A. Mackie, St. Francisville, vice-president; S. Farnbacher, Baton Rouge, vice-president; E. C. Hanson, Donaldsonville, treasurer; R. S. Vickers, Donaldsonville, secretary-manager.

KASSON, Minn.—At the annual meeting of the Dodge County Agricultural Society all officers were re-elected for the ensuing year as follows: C. G. Palmer, president; P. Bielenberg, vice-president; O. A. Erickson, secretary; G.

Skogsmark, treasurer; A. D. Mastenbrook, comptroller of tickets.

POMONA, Calif.—All directors were re-elected at the annual meeting of the Los Angeles County Fair Association with the exception of Hugh A. Thatcher, who was named to succeed Anson C. Thomas, who has moved his residence to New York State. Those re-elected include Charles P. Curran, W. A. Kennedy, R. A. Condee, Merrill E. Fellows, Fred C. Froehde, B. Chaffey Shepherd, Fred T. Beaty and C. B. Afferbaugh.

Attention will now be directed to the building of a new 12,000 seating capacity, fireproof grand stand to augment the present grand-stand equipment, it was announced by Manager Afferbaugh. The new agricultural building, being erected by the county, is practically completed, he stated.

NASHVILLE, Ark.—A district fair association has been formed here to conduct a fair next September—probably the first week. The officers are Pat W. Murphy, president; Bert Johnson, vice-president; A. M. O'Quinn, vice-president, and Alger Merrell, secretary-treasurer. These officers and the following men will form the board of directors: Paul C. Van Zandt, Jesse Hill and Ollie Wakefield.

## Among the Free Acts

ANNA DE KOVEN writes from Biddle, Mont., where she is spending the winter, that she will be back in Chicago with her trained pets, Buffer and Ferdinand, to start work in the spring.

FLORENCE ELETA BARLOW, of Mme. Florence and Company, contortionists, writes that she is glad to be back in the States, altho she had a very pleasant engagement at the Montmartre Club in Havana, Cuba. Rainy and cold weather was plentiful at the South Florida Fair, Tampa, she says. After several more Florida fairs she and the members of her act will go to Sarasota for a short rest before beginning the summer with the Dutton Attractions.

BETTY DANCE is doing her contortionistic turn in and around cities on the Gulf Coast of Texas this winter. In addition to the pair of white spitz dogs used in her free act at fairs last year, Miss Dance will have a black toy spitz, which is now in training, for her 1930 dates.

## Fair "Grounds"

SIDELIGHTS of the Louisiana Association of Fairs meeting at Eunice, La.: Noble and Viola Fairly made their first Louisiana meeting and swear from now on they will never miss one. Fred Kressman registered from "Everywhere". Hon. Harry D. Wilson had such a cold that he had to make motions instead of talk, but seemed to boss things just as thoroughly as tho his pipes were hitting on all four. Somebody made a motion to make Eunice the permanent meeting place of the organization, and there was not a dissenting voice. Byron P. Belisle was the busiest man at the meeting, as he was the secretary of two different fairs and also sales manager for a fireworks company. "Bill" Hirsch, as usual, took the floor for the carnival managers every time it looked as tho they needed a champion. *The Eunice New Era*, one of the leading newspapers of the town and district, put out a special edition to greet the visitors. Bookings included Oakdale and Ruston, for C. W. Nail Shows; Oak Grove, for Noble C. Fairly Shows; Coushatta, for Snodgrass Shows; Leesville, Many, Eunice and Sulphur, for C. R. Leggett Shows. Other carnival companies said to have secured several dates were Felice Bernard Shows, Miller Midway Shows and Ralph Miller Shows. Byron P. Belisle and Fred Kressman were also busy signing contracts.

JULIUS CAHN, secretary of the fair at Luxemburg, Wis., postcards from Tampa, Fla., where he is vacationing, that he is having a wonderful time. "Was royally received at the South Florida Fair," he writes.

COMPTON-BOUNDS Producing Company, thru John P. Bounds, its manager, takes exception to a paragraph in the story of the annual meeting of the Texas Association of Fairs at Dallas, issue of February 8, where it said: "Much argument was heard among the

## Winter Fairs

ARIZONA  
Tucson—Pima Co. Fair & Rodeo. Feb. 20-23  
CALIFORNIA  
Imperial—Imperial Co. Fair. Feb. 28-March 1  
FLORIDA  
Ft. Lauderdale—Broward Co. Fair. March 11-15. C. E. Matthews, mgr.  
Homestead—Fair & Fruit Festival. Feb. 17-22  
Jacksonville—Florida State Fair. March 15-22  
G. R. Lewis.  
Miami—Dade Co. Fair Assn. Feb. 24-March 1  
J. S. Rainey.  
Orlando—Central Florida Expo. Feb. 18-22  
Karl Lehmann.  
Sebring—Highlands Co. Fair. Feb. 26-March 2  
Louis H. Alsmeyer.  
Stuart—Martin Co. Fair. March 3-8  
Titusville—Brevard Co. Fair Assn. March 18-22. B. W. Bras.  
VERO BEACH  
Vero Beach—Indian River District Fair. March 10-15.  
West Palm Beach—Palm Beach Co. Fair Assn. March 1-8. S. W. Platt.  
TEXAS  
Fort Worth—Southwestern Expo. & Fat Stock Show. March 8-16. John E. Davis.  
CANADA  
Brandon, Man.—Winter Fair. March 17-21. J. E. Rettle, secy.

## Rubin & Cherry Shows Get Kankakee Contract

KANKAKEE, Ill., Feb. 15.—Len Small, secretary-treasurer of the Kankakee Inter-State Fair, has just signed a contract with the Rubin & Cherry Shows to supply the midway features at this year's fair, which will be held the week of August 10. The company will come here following its Dakota dates, and after the Kankakee fair will jump to Toronto for the Canadian National Exhibition.

Kankakee was one of the first fairs in the country to introduce high-class outdoor vaudeville and carnival attractions. From a small, financially unsuccessful fair it has advanced gradually, and since it came under the present management 35 years ago it has always had a substantial balance in the treasury. It has become noted for its policy of paying all bills and premiums before the fair is over, as well as for its many sensational amusement features, old-fashioned country agricultural exhibits and harness and running races. Even during the eight years that he was governor of Illinois Small continued with the secretary-treasurership of the fair.

## Receivership Terminated

CANTON, O., Feb. 15.—Receivership for the Stark County Agricultural Society was terminated this week by Court of Appeals journal entry holding that common pleas court was without authority to name a receiver last summer.

Members of the society which operates the county fair asked for receivership, to prevent attachment of the gate receipts on a \$35,000 judgment previous returned in favor of Thomas Brenner, nine-year-old boy, who was hurt badly by the explosion of an aerial bomb which he found on the fairgrounds.

Ed S. Wilson, secretary of the fair, was the receiver. The court previously had affirmed the verdict in favor of the boy against the agricultural society and the Hudson Fireworks Company.

## Praise for Bylander

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 15.—A resolution of congratulations to E. G. Bylander, secretary of the Arkansas State Fair Association, upon his election as president of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, was adopted by the State fair association this week.

delegates as to whether the acts were furnished by Fred Kressman or Ernie Young. "From unknown cause," writes Bounds, "your representative down here has got his lines crossed. From the clipping we are pinning hereto your paper has stated that entertainment for the fair secretaries' meeting at Dallas was furnished by either Fred Kressman or Ernie Young. Will please ask you to make it clear that the Compton-Bounds Producing Company furnished all the acts and entertainment." If Bounds will read the paragraph in question again he should agree that *The Billboard* story did not say Kressman or Young furnished the acts, but that there was much argument among delegates as to whether either one did, merely reporting the situation as it was.

# RINK MGRS. Increase Your Receipts

**The Calliophone**  
PRONOUNCE IT KA-LI-A-PHONE

**Costs Less**

**Use Music That's Different-- it attracts**

Skaters, like dancers, want good music. If your business is bad no doubt the skaters are tired of the old-style music. The beautiful Calliophone music resembles a massive pipe organ, with a volume that carries over all noises. Plays automatically without attention, using 10-tune rolls, costing only \$2.50 per roll. Low music expense—better music—larger crowds. Easy time payments.

Muscatine **TANGLEY CO.** Iowa

**10 TUNE  
LATEST  
ROLLS  
\$2.50**



## Rinks ~ Skaters

By A. C. HARTMANN  
 Communications to 25 Opera  
 Place, Cincinnati.

A GRAND CIRCUIT is being built up for professional roller-skating racers as a result of the success of the 25-mile and the more recent 50-mile pro. derbies staged at Ridgewood Grove, Ridgewood, New York. The six teams that competed at the Grove will be augmented by several other international stars who have been holding out for guarantees, but who have abandoned this demand in view of the big box-office receipts. Among the holdouts who have capitulated are Art Launey and Cliff Howard and Al Cookson and Arthur Eglington, the latter two disputing the British championship. In the grand circuit will be Ridgewood Grove; Dreamland Park, Newark, N. J.; Carman Rink, Philadelphia, and auditoriums in Detroit and Chicago. On Monday night, February 24, the teams will compete in a 25-mile event at Dreamland Park, Newark.

AFTER CLOSING his season at Brady Lake Park Roller Rink William Scholle, who has managed same for the past three seasons, built a new portable rink in Kent, O., which he claims is one of the largest and most up-to-date outfits of its kind. The size is 56x110. There are no center poles, the rink being arched over the top. The skating surface is 50x100. Two furnaces with electric-blowing systems have kept the rink warm all winter. "Business," writes Scholle, "has been good here with the endorsement of Martin L. Davey, last year's candidate for governor of Ohio, whose home is here. The Davey Free School boys have taken to roller skating. Will move this rink to West Side of Cleveland in the spring, as the park season will soon be under way and expect to have rink open there in April."

THE GLENDALE Palace Roller Club, of Glendale, L. I., N. Y., will hold a masquerade roller-skating party and dance February 22 (Washington's birthday anniversary). The members are working to make this the outstanding event of the year in Glendale. There will be prizes for the best costumes; merry makers, paper caps and whistles. The manager has secured the services of Albert Cookson, English speed skater, who will do some tricks and fancy skating.

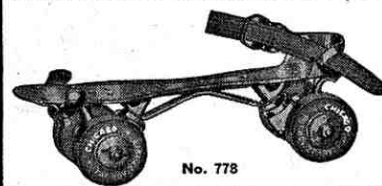
In the weekly hockey game the Flying Dutchmen played the Rolling Rangers, the former winning 3 to 0.

INQUIRY for them thru these columns has brought word from Brandt and Audrey. From Coshocton, O., where they reside, they write: "We all love *The Billboard*. When things are tough we read it over and it cheers us up. We have played some fine dates and are doing better than ever."

ROSEMARY DOGE, American exhibition skater, was unable to appear at Saint Moritz, Switzerland, as scheduled due to a slight accident to her eyes. Word from *The Billboard's* Paris correspondent, under date of January 29, was that it would be a few weeks before she would be able to skate.

LAND O' DANCE, erected at Canton, O., several years ago at a cost of \$100,000, and one of the most beautiful dance places in Eastern Ohio, which in the next three weeks will house three indoor promotions, will soon after March 1 be converted into a roller rink.

## It Is a PLEASURE To ROLLER SKATE on



No. 778

### "CHICAGO" RINK SKATES

They're true and easy with a wide range of action. Try them!

**CHICAGO ROLLER SKATE CO.**  
 4427 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

Owners have decided to withdraw from the dance promotion and hereafter the place will be available for indoor shows and roller skating. Located near the downtown section of the city, it is ideal for roller skating.

IN THE REGULAR weekly Friday night races at the Van Cortlandt Olympia Rink, New York, February 7, two features were held, a three-mile team race and a half-mile miss-and-out race, both professional events. The three-mile team thriller was taken by Murray Gorman and Billy Yale. Their time of 8 minutes, 59 3-5 seconds was a record for a 20-lap track to the mile. Arthur Eglington, paired with Matty Ritter, came in second, a half lap behind. The teams of Red Hoover and Bill Jameison and Eddie Krahn and Jimmy Cooper were lapped. Gorman and Yale executed a rally when Eglington took a fall in the ending of two miles, and so anxious were the victors to take advantage of the latter's spill that they never gave the rest of the field a chance to recover with their ding-dong speed. The miss-and-out half-mile race was captured by Hoover in 1:31 1/2. Gorman managed to horn in second. The skaters who were in the above team race took part in the miss-and-out. Steve Donegan, former world's amateur champion, was introduced with tremendous applause as he took charge as official starter.

THE ROSE KRESS TRIO, roller skaters, after playing Hamilton and Toronto, Can., for Pantages, are enjoying a short vacation in Chicago. Following a 10-day stay there Miss Kress will go to New York and leave February 22 for Europe. She, with Charles Leibcap and Kathryn Benfield, opens at the Circo Medrano, Paris, in March, and will play Italy; the Wintergarten, Berlin; Oslo, Norway; Hamburg, Germany; Copenhagen, Denmark, and other principal cities of Europe. One month will be played in each city.

VAN HORN AND INEZ, sensational roller-skating duo, who have played Europe the last year, filmed well in the Pathe talkie news.

JESSE CAREY and E. M. Moorar have succeeded in putting across considerable publicity in the Philadelphia papers and convinced the sport writers that roller-skating news is just as interesting to their readers as the ice news. "Pop" Carey says it's all in the knowing how to do it.

MANAGER HAMER, of the Ridgewood Grove Rink, Ridgewood, New York, a former newspaper man, is making things hum around New York newspaper offices and is putting over plenty of publicity for the business. *The New York Journal* recently carried four cuts and a column writeup of four leading skaters.

J. WESLEY HAMER, who is doing much to put roller skating back in the limelight, has issued strict orders to Roland Cloni, his manager of Ridgewood Grove Rink, Ridgewood, New York, to make immediate plans to run off a full-

regulation skate-racing marathon. The distance of 26 miles and 385 yards will be traversed by two men to a team. On top of that there will be a 100-mile two-man-team roller derby. Both professional classics will take place at the Grove in the near future. The former will be the first to be staged. The 100-mile will follow shortly thereafter.

That long-distance indoor racing is becoming popular and worth while is evidenced by the fact that the Dreamland Park Rink, Newark, N. J., as stated above, has just set February 24 as the date for a 25-mile two-man-team race Victor J. Brown, general manager, is now making preparations for his derby. There is a likelihood of Nick Brad-dock, of Cleveland, joining up in the coming distance rolls.

MANY STAR skating acts now playing vaudeville are composed of members of the White City Roller Park, Chicago. Some of the acts which have White City members are The Thrillers, "A Skating Classic", the Robbins Trio, Rose Kress Three, Beege and Quepee, Three Whirlwinds, International Four and Steele and Winslow. The club is said to have more than 12,000 members.

The staff for 1930 consists of Bill Raison, president; Kathryn Dap, vice-president; Ella Heisterman, Art Klein and Ed Swanson, entertainment committee; Florence McCahill, Hank Appleman and Mildred Colvin, reception committee; Minnie Wiggins, grand matron; Marge Dinnerville, hostess; Al Luken, club reporter, and Whitey Stark, athletic director.

THE SENIOR CANADIAN FOUR, from the Toronto Skating Club, took part in the ice pageant at Quebec February 12-13, held under the auspices of the Frontenac Winter Sports Club. The quartet consists of Margaret Henry, Stewart Reburn, Louise Bertram and John Machado. With the exception of Miss Bertram, they are winners of Dominion and international championships.

IN THEIR search for new holds the wrestlers appear to have invaded the skating realm. Their latest hold, the airplane spin, has for its objective the rendering of an opponent helpless by causing him to become dizzy. This should give new hope to pro. skate "swingers" who have been left in the lurch by the decline of vaudeville, as they can now turn to the lucrative sport of "muscle pulling" for a livelihood.

MANAGER VICTOR J. (BUDDY) BROWN, of the Dreamland Park Rink, Newark, N. J., has under contract some of the fastest professional skaters in the world. Among these are Oliver Walters, Midge Reiff, Malcolm Carey, Steve Donegan, Ernie Meler, Johnny Litowchak, Bob (Red) Ringwald and Jimmy Priff. Walters won the world's championship at Chicago in 1924, and Reiff the same honors at Reading, Pa., in 1926. Carey is without doubt one of the fastest sprinters in the skating world today. Donegan held the world's amateur championship for five consecutive years, is now a professional and since competing in the professional

ranks is looked upon as one of the fastest skaters therein. The same can be said about Meler. The team of Donegan and Meier won the six-day, one-hour-a-night race, defeating such stars as West, Yale, Carey, Krahn, Gorman, Walters and several other stars by seven laps.

MANAGER AL FLATH, of the Brooklyn Rink, is staging a series of amateur races. He has the distinction of developing one of the greatest amateur skaters in the world—William Robinson, of Chicago—who defended his title from coast to coast and retired undefeated.

SURPLUS football profits at the University of Illinois are being saved for the construction of a \$300,000 artificial ice-skating rink at Urbana, to be used by all students.

THE ROLLER-SKATING RINK re-established at Congress Hall, Juneau, Wis., recently, was short-lived—opened and closed the same day. Congress Hall was a roller-skating rink many years ago.

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THE FIRST BEST SKATE—THE BEST SKATE TODAY.

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Complete with Top. Also Calliope and Skates. 500 pair. Have cash for all. FRED E. LEISER'S CIRCUIT OF RINKS, Auditorium, Janesville, Wis.

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40x90; new Tent and Side Walls; 200 Pairs Skates. Priced to sell. RALPH DOUGLAS, Mooresville, Ind.

# Parks, Piers and Beaches

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

## NAAP Sets Meeting Date

*Members will gather Aug. 14 at Euclid Beach, Cleveland, as Humphrey's guests*

CLEVELAND, Feb. 15.—The 1930 summer meeting of the National Association of Amusement Parks will be held at Euclid Beach here Thursday, August 14, with the D. S. Humphrey Company, which operates the park, acting as host. The date has just been decided upon, altho D. S. Humphrey, president of the company, extended the invitation to spend a day at Euclid Beach to the members of the association, thru the board of directors, at the annual convention last December in Chicago. The Humphrey company will be host only so far as the entertainment is concerned, the meals being supplied by the association.

This will be the third summer meeting for NAAP. Two years ago it was held at Kennywood Park, Pittsburgh, and last year at Playland, Rye, N. Y.

## Work Is Started On New Ind. Park

LA FAYETTE, Ind., Feb. 15.—A new company has been formed, known as the La Fayette White City Amusement Enterprise, Inc., to construct an amusement park in the eastern part of this city called the La Fayette White City. The promoters of the project are La Fayette men, consisting of M. R. Doran, president; F. C. Emmert, vice-president, and F. C. Smith, secretary-treasurer.

The park will consist of 80 acres, including part of the Great Crouch Stock Farm. Contract for a fence costing \$10,000 to inclose the grounds has been let and work will be started as soon as the weather permits. It is understood the park has contracted for four rides, will play big bands and free attractions, and that already about \$20,000 worth of space has been sold or contracted for. It is further understood that the promoters are working on plans for a \$60,000 dance hall.

Every effort is being made to open the park early in May with a 10-cent gate. A down-town office has been opened in the Schultz Building.

## Wash. Resorts Ass'n Elects Officers

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 15.—The Washington Outing Resort Association last week held its first election meeting. The following were elected: O. G. Campbell, Lake Killarney, president; S. G. Fisher, Angle Lake, secretary; directors, Ole Benson, Clay Smith, J. H. Monaghan, L. L. Benbow, William Gaffney, L. L. Forbes, W. Lochow, O. Ingebrigt, Robert Neal, J. M. Kuhn, C. D. Raymer and W. C. Scholl.

At present the following resorts are represented in the membership: Angle Lake, Plunge, Benbow Inn, Camp Mount Vista, Deep Lake Resort, Evergreen Park, Forest Grove, Hanna Waterfront Park, Juanita Beach, Lake Killarney, Lake Lucerne, Lake Glendown Park, Lake Sawyer Grove, Lake Sawyer Paradise; Lake Wilderness, Inc.; La Pine Camp, McKinney's Beach, North Lake Park, Raymer's Retreat, Redondo Beach Park, Shady Beach Juanita, Shamrock Park, Spanaway Park, Clay Smith Camping Club and Sunset Grove. It is planned to increase this list.

## Many New Ideas Promised For Carlin's, Baltimore

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 15.—When Carlin's Joyland is ready for the opening early in April Owner J. J. Carlin expects to have the prettiest park in America. Harry Van Hoven, manager of the park, has many new ideas to put into execution. Several new buildings will be constructed, and many free attractions will be offered during the season. Excursions on Sundays and picnics during the week will be arranged.

Preparations are also under way for side shows at the park. John T. McCaslin, who provides the attractions, will decorate the inside of these buildings with sateen cays. He expects this season to surpass last year, which was the most successful one in the history of the park.

## Former Park Man Goes Radio

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 15.—Fred L. Rowe, for several seasons assistant general manager of Pleasure Beach Park here, and who resigned to become assistant manager of the local Fox-Poll Palace Theater, has been elected vice-president of Radio Station WICC, of Bridgeport.

## Labreque Succeeds Roe At Galveston Beach, Tex.

GALVESTON, Tex., Feb. 15.—Harry Labreque, well known in amusement circles on the West Coast, has become general manager of the Galveston Beach Association and managing director of the International Pageant of Pulchritude. This is the position which was occupied by Willett L. Roe for quite a number of years. Roe resigned to accept a position as publicity director for Port Aransas Properties, Inc., development of Gall Borden Mansil.

The season at Galveston Beach opens April 13 with Splash Day. The International Pageant of Pulchritude dates are August 2-6.

## Gets Riding Concession At Belle Isle Park

DETROIT, Feb. 15.—The riding concession at Belle Isle Park has been awarded for two years to George F. Higgins by Henry W. Bursch, Detroit commissioner of parks and boulevards.

The award was made as the result of open bidding, in which Higgins paid \$2,800 for the two-year privilege. A bond of \$5,000 was required for performance of contract.

## Milwaukee Gets New Park

*Blue Mound Amusement Park Co. to start in March on \$1,000,000 project*

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Feb. 15.—Construction is expected to start about March 1 on a \$1,000,000 amusement park on the Blue Mound road several miles west of the city on the site formerly occupied by the Blue Mound Kennel Club.

The enterprise is headed by Edward R. Buer, who announced that he has purchased the 23-acre site and work of razing the buildings, with the exception of the grand stand, will begin immediately. The company is known as the Blue Mound Amusement Park Company. Buer's wife, Mary, and secretary, C. L. Hopf, are named as incorporators.

Eastern capital is interested in the project, it was stated, and the latest in roller coasters, toboggans, dance halls, swimming pools and other amusement devices are to be installed. Buer said it was planned to open the park late in May.

## Eltich Gardens Company Pays Tribute to Mulvihill

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 15.—The board of directors and stockholders of the Eltich Gardens Company, which operates Eltich Gardens, this week passed a resolution in which a beautiful tribute was paid to the memory of John M. Mulvihill, president and general manager of the organization, who died January 14 last.

"Mr. Mulvihill," reads the resolution, "took hold of Eltich Gardens at a time when the amusement resort business was greatly depressed, the grounds in a dilapidated condition and the company heavily involved in debt. He was untiring in his efforts and expenditure of his energy to build up the institution and improve it. His personal sacrifices in behalf of the company were many and frequent. His devotion to the best interests of the company was at all times unwavering and unselfish. His whole thought and heart and mind were centered upon the success of the company. His sound judgment and business acumen in the management of the Gardens is now evident because of the high place occupied by Eltich's Gardens in our community and by the amusement public generally thruout the country. He was respected by all classes in the community and was regarded not only by us, but by our citizens generally as an executive of great business capacity. He was of upright character, unimpeachable integrity, kindly dispositioned, generous and charitable by nature. We mourn his passing greatly, both as an officer of the company and as a citizen and benefactor to the community. We tender to his bereaved widow and daughter our deepest sympathy in this great affliction, and order that this small tribute of esteem and affection be spread upon our minutes, and a copy thereof sent to Mrs. Mulvihill and that a copy thereof be given to the public press."

## Judge Wilson Back to Duty

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 15.—Judge Chas. A. Wilson, manager of Fontaine Ferry Park, has returned to his duties after a stay of a couple of weeks in a local hospital.

## Amusement Resortorials

By AL HARTMANN

NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of The Billboard, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED.

TO the seasoned park man, every detail of the "chase" for business is exciting. His blood tingles at the first suggestion of the new season, warms as he makes his improvements, courses thru his veins as the gates are opened, and fairly boils when the crowds pour into the park. Patrons experience the same satisfaction from a well-arranged and well-managed park. With them it is clean and wholesome amusement, not to forget "something different" they seek, accompanied by courteous treatment and good service. Parks that provide this will be well rewarded in the end by an excellent "killing".

A good park should not be thought of as high-priced. In fact, a good park is always moderate in its admission price. A good park is one that "fits its job", and if it "fits its job" it is bound to succeed.

Park managers as a rule are good business men, but they, generally speaking, seem to overlook an important thing, and that is keeping the park, thru the daily newspapers, in the public eye during the winter months. Just contrast this situation with the fair managers. The newspapers will give park managers just as much space in the winter as the fair managers receive. The fault is that the average park manager thinks of publicity only shortly before his park is to open. Let the public know what you are doing during the winter months, the same as the fairs do, and you will find it will be to your advantage.

To encourage repeat patronage, the wise park manager changes his bands frequently.

Big amusement parks are going to be constructed far out into the country, because of increasing real estate values of close-to-town locations, the automobile, etc. Oh, what a night! Oh, what a pipe!! Oh, what a dream!!!!

In this connection we recall the address made by D. S. Humphrey, past president of the National Association of Amusement Parks, at the last convention of that organization. Touching upon this very subject, the dean of amusement park managers said forward-looking park men, realizing stability in the business, will establish permanent parks in locations NEAR CENTERS OF CONGESTED AREAS.

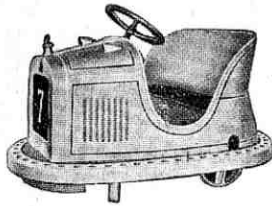
Get the children interested in the amusement park, and the adults will fall in line. That has been the policy of Judge Charles A. Wilson since taking over the management of Fontaine Ferry Park, Louisville, Ky., more than a dozen years ago, and immediately establishing a free kiddieland. That the policy is a mighty good one, there is no gainsaying. One glance at Fontaine Ferry, and one knows why children are the most persistent boosters of Judge Wilson and the park. If there is a man who is interested in things affecting child life more than Judge Wilson, we would like to meet him. He was one of the first members of the National Association of Amusement Parks to stress the importance of kiddie patronage. Of course, there is an abundance of amusement at the park for the grownups also. Fontaine Ferry is advertised as "The Park Beautiful", and it fully justifies that billing. It is one of the most beautiful inland parks in the country.

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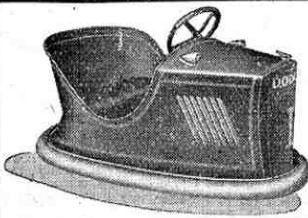
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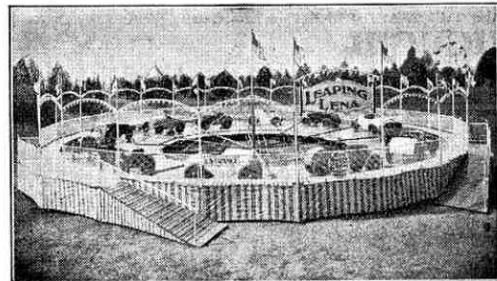


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FEATURES A  
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Permits greater degree of individual control—no lost motion—accomplishes what is impossible with rear drive. More fun and excitement means larger returns.

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SEAPLANE DE LUXE  
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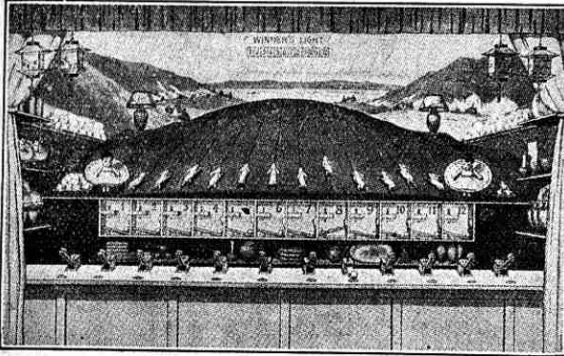


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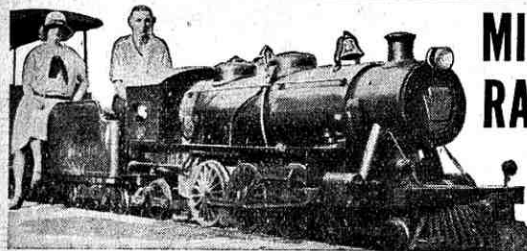
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Be on the Safe Side.  
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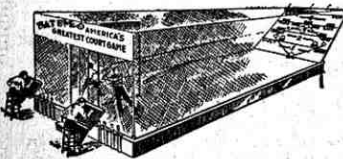


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"The Most Beautiful Natural Amusement Park in the World"

on the Hudson River, Poughkeepsie, New York, has opening for a few high-class Concessions and Attractions of merit. Old Mill or Water Ride wanted; Ferris Wheel, Canoeing and Boating Concession in Lake or River. Clam Bake Man Wanted, good Operators on Rides and American Palmistry. Photo Studio in connection with Sand Beach at Pool. Any financially responsible Concessionaires who are interested in getting in the best park proposition in this country get in touch with **FRED H. PONTY,** Woodcliff Pleasure Park, Poughkeepsie, New York.

References, the two Greatest Excursion Carriers in the World: The Hudson River Day Line, Mr. James Kenyon, Supt., 303 West 42nd St., New York City.; New York Central Railroad Co., Mr. Garrett Wilson, Supt., 466 Lexington Ave., New York City.

The New Vehicular at Poughkeepsie, New York, will open in July. One Quarter Mile from Park.

## THE WORLD'S PANORAMA

Patent Applied For.  
The Queen of the Midway. Flashiest and only two-story International Show on the market today. Built and designed by **E. HOPPE,** 888 Westfield Ave., Elizabeth, N. J.

## Big Winter Season For White City

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Winter activities at White City have set a new record during the months since the 1929 summer season ended. Dancing in the two White City ballrooms was never before quite so well attended or the features offered so generously well received. The highlight of the present winter season was marked on New Year's Eve when the dancing and roller skating crowds increased about 15 per cent over last year, which had registered a red-letter attendance. Since the inception of dancing at White City more than 20 years ago there had not been a turnout equal to that of last New Year's Eve. Too, the attendance at the roller rink has been the largest in a long time.

Notwithstanding the depression reported generally among local amusements, the general trend has been better at White City since last September 15. In addition to the dancing and roller skating there has been an extraordinary season in the basket ball arena, with six sessions a week since November 15. Bowling and billiards also have been more than usually good, and the professional boxing shows have proved profitable, due to Jim Mullen's fortunate acquisition of Art Shires at the height of his popularity.

In three months another summer season will be starting at the park and there are now being considered at least four or five new attractions. White City's board of directors is weighing these innovations and will announce its selections in a few weeks. President Herbert A. Byfield reports the satisfaction of his associates with the recent showing made by the institution.

Steps have lately been taken to publicize White City nationally and the reaction is expected to be felt not only in the approaching summer months but more so during the next two or three years, reaching its peak during the 1933 Chicago Centennial. The White City radio programs have been a potent factor in building up a nation-wide reputation for the resort. On the air at times for the last several years, they have been a nightly feature since last Labor Day, and have brought expressions of approval from all parts of the country. Exceptional dance music has been picked up and sent out, with novelty studio offerings interspersed.

### Starts Rabbit Farm

UTICA, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Howard Wallace, manager of Forest Park, has started a rabbit farm here where he will raise gray chinchillas and New Zealand white rabbits for prize display. He plans to turn 100 of the giant whites loose in the park here this summer. Recently, under a two-column cut of himself holding a prize rabbit, Manager Wallace was quoted for a half column in *The Utica Observer-Dispatch* on his views on the rabbit industry.

### In Charge of French Pool

PARIS. — Guy de Villeplon, former swimming champion of the Olympic Club of San Francisco, is in charge of the swimming pool at the Hotel Sextius in Aix-en-Provence, France.

### Park Notes

RIVERVIEW AMUSEMENT COMPANY, Sioux City, Ia., is adding attractions valued at \$28,000 to its park for the coming season.

Norman Alexander: "There's a delicious sense of luxury when one is lying on one's bed and ringing one's bell for one's valet."

Leonard Schloss: "Have you a valet?" Norman Alexander: "No, but I have a bell." —Play.

## WANTED Pretzel or Other Dark Ride

Excellent location on concession basis, situated Capitol Park, Hartford, Conn.  
Inquiries to **AMUSEMENT OPERATING CORP.,** 300 Madison Ave., New York City, Murray Hill 4917.

RIDES WANTED  
For season 1930. Park opens May 1. Address MGR. ATTRACTIONS, Circle Park, Hamilton Lake, Hamilton, Ind.

**FLIER FOR SALE**  
In first-class condition, cheap for cash. P. LICARI, INC. Keansburg, N. J.

**Cash In With Whirl-O-Ball**  
C. N. Andrews took in \$935.65 in one month.  
**New Automatic "Loop-the-Loop" Ball Game**  
For Parks and all Amusement Places. Automatic nickel collector and scoring device, 9 balls for 5c. Thrilling sport! Everybody plays—men, women and children! Each Whirl-O-Ball Game is 4x30 ft. Earning capacity, \$3 an hour; 2 to 12 Games go in any ordinary room. Take in \$15 to \$50 per day. Price, \$700 Each. Terms to responsible parties. Write for catalog.  
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New 1930 Model is a big flash. Simple to operate. Very fast. Big money getter. Moderate cost. The most accurate horoscope device on the market. **PENNY BASEBALL GAME**—Newest thing in Penny Boards. Fastest money maker you ever saw. Write for information and prices.  
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For Parks and Carnivals. A Fast Money Maker. Can get ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS AN HOUR. Ten players. Requires 24 front feet of space. Nothing so interesting as ten Monkeys racing up trees. Each player controls his own Monkey. Very attractive. Get in now. Be the first to have this new concession.  
**AMUSEMENTS EQUIPMENT CO.,** 4698 St. John Avenue, KANSAS CITY, MO.  
**LOCATION**  
REVERE BEACH. Lot adjoining Cyclone Ride. Front, 45; depth, 112. Percentage or flat. D. E. SULLIVAN, 89 Broad St., Boston, Mass.  
Advertise in The Billboard—you'll be satisfied with Result.

**OH! IT'S SO DIFFERENT!**  
Newest and Quickest Money Maker!

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MAGIC LIGHTS AND BELL.



**\$85.00 Per Unit**

Size, 2x4 ft. Send for Illustrated Circulars.

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**FOR SALE**  
**6 CUSTER CARS**

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**Third New Detroit Park Is Forecast**

DETROIT, Feb. 15.—Opening of a third new amusement park in the vicinity of Detroit this season is forecast in the plans of a group headed by Dr. M. B. Landers, veteran showman and present house physician of the Clamage and Rothstein theaters in this city. The park development is contingent upon the plans for the new park on West Warren road being built by C. L. Worthington and associates. The recent proceedings before the township board of supervisors have left the issue of permission for the site rather clouded.

Landers' park will be located nearly opposite the park being sponsored by Worthington, according to report, and should promote the development of a large new amusement center similar to the famous old Riverview Park sector at Belle Isle Bridge, which was demolished two years ago.

The concern will probably be known as the Luna Park Concession Company. A group of Eastern park men is understood to be interested in the project. A bridle path, tennis court and baseball diamond will be unusual features of the park. Construction is proposed to start as soon as possible legal difficulties are cleared up.

**Zoo Notes**

CANTON, O. — Purchased by Canton Lodge B. P. O. Elks No. 68, two elk arrived here last week from the West and have been added to the animal collection at the Nimisilla Park zoo. The local lodge took care of all expense in shipping. It is planned to augment the zoo family further in the next several months.

OKLAHOMA CITY. — Frank Buttram, oil man and Democratic gubernatorial candidate, probably will head the Oklahoma City Zoological Society's spring membership drive. Buttram is considering acceptance, but has not notified the committee whether he can serve. Goal of the campaign this year is \$25,000, the first installment of a \$200,000 improvement program outlined for the Lincoln Park Zoo. Funds obtained from memberships will be used for purchase of animals.

SAN FRANCISCO.—In search of wild animals, Omer Lilly arrived here last week from California Hot Springs, near Bakersfield, of which he is manager. He stated that he is establishing a zoo and that San Francisco is the best market for imported animals.

DAYTON, O.—Zoola, the lioness at Forest Park and Zoological Gardens here, which animal was recently named by George Wiesman, has given birth to two cubs. The babies will not be shown to the public until the opening day at the park. The news of the birth is being withheld from the local public until shortly before the opening.

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## Eagles' Spring Circus At Anderson, Ind.

ANDERSON, Ind., Feb. 15.—Plans are going forward for the Eagles' Spring Circus, which will be sponsored by Anderson (Ind.) Aerie, No. 174, week of March 17.

The preliminary work started last Monday and next week all the promoters connected with the enterprise will be in full swing. Jack Washburn and the writer, Harry Logan, are working on the souvenir program and year book. Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Wallace are due to arrive Monday, Wallace to work on program and Mrs. Wallace to handle the Baby Show promotion. The popularity contest, which has started "with a bang", will probably be picked up Monday by Art Hull and crew, who are just finishing at Fort Wayne. The circus, which will be an old-fashioned one-ring circus, will present a two-hour program of circus acts and novelties. The contract for supplying the circus program has been awarded to Best Bros' Circus. The Eagles are exceptionally strong in Anderson, having an active membership of 1,400, and have just completed a magnificent new \$250,000 clubhouse. Receipts of the promotion will go to swell the building fund of the new building.

## Setting the Dates Right

Edward Vaughn Richardson, Indianapolis, explains in a letter to this publication that a somewhat erroneous report appeared in the issue of February 15, relative to King Bros' Rodeo being engaged by him for the annual Police and Firemen's Circus at Indianapolis.

The King Bros' Rodeo has been contracted for by Richardson, for May 20-25, in affiliation with the Junior League Horse Show, which league is composed of approximately 200 society women, their affair being an annual event. The Horse Show, composed of 23 classes showy horses, will be held preceding the rodeo each evening.

The Police and Firemen's Circus, again this year under Richardson's direction, will be held in June. Last year this affair conflicted with that of the Junior League, and the new arranging of dates will avoid conflict.

## Builders and Homes Expo.

TOLEDO, O., Feb. 15.—The Toledo Real Estate Board, having sponsored and managed three very successful Builders and Homes Expositions, will hold their fourth annual exposition, March 24-29, at Toledo's Municipal Exhibition Hall. Prospects for an active building program here are bright for this year and the display of all commodities that make the home complete stimulates the public to action.

The management, as usual, is engaging high-class orchestras and entertainment features, which it realizes is a necessity in any exhibition. Last year's attendance figures were 22,000 people and it is hoped to increase the interest and attendance this year. The press of the city has promised liberal space in publicity. Billboards, posters and radio will also be local mediums of advertising.

## Celebration Draws Attention

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Feb. 15.—The Sesquicentennial Celebration to be held next July 4-5 at Jonesboro, oldest town in Tennessee and formerly capital of the State of Franklin, is already attracting marked attention. Members of various civic and fraternal organizations will serve on the committees. The next meeting of the commission, appointed by the county court of Washington, will be held on March 3, during which plans will be discussed and adopted. Among the historical features of the celebration will be the unveiling of a large fountain and marker in front of the Washington County Court House.

## Utica Moose Preparing

UTICA, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Preparations are being made here for the New York State Convention of the Loyal Order of Moose June 12-14. William J. Downes, Newark, N. Y., State president, claims the convention will draw 30,000 delegates and their wives and friends to Utica. Dates for the convention were set Sunday, when 150 delegates from towns of the State and representatives from the National Mooseheart Home conferred here and were entertained by the Utica lodge.

# Special Events

TRADE SHOWS, CELEBRATIONS, BENEFITS, ETC.  
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

## Gastonia Legion Expo. Held Additional Week

GASTONIA, N. C., Feb. 15.—The American Legion Exposition here has been playing to packed houses and will hold over for next week, with a change in the program of all acts.

The acts working this week are Harold Crider and Bab Crider, Bernice and Williams, Colonel Baker and Company, Clark's Dogs and Pigs, Black and White Revue, Cotter and Cotter and Todd's Orchestra. The first turnaway attendance was registered Thursday night, and during rain.

## Shrine Circus at Springfield

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Feb. 15.—The Melba Temple Shrine here has been preparing a big Indoor Circus to be held in the Eastern States Coliseum Building April 21-26. It is the first time that this large arena has been used for an event of this nature. An expensive program of circus acts has already been booked, which is headed by May Wirth. Other equestrian acts and two troupes of performing elephants are on the program.

A Wild West contingent will be used for the concert, to which much attention will be given, as in the "big tops". Gordon Wrighter, formerly manager of Pol's Theater in this city and who also has many years' circus experience, has been engaged to direct the entire project and is already upon the scene.

## Bridgeport Shrine Circus

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 15.—Pyramid Temple Shriners will run a mammoth Indoor Circus in the Connecticut State Armory here March 11-15. Announcement has been made that 15 regular circus acts will comprise the show. The large committee of arrangements is headed by Potentate Otto F. Burghart, Secretary E. M. Davies and a detail of 122 members. It was announced that approximately \$20,000 will be expended for the four-day performance of the circus troupes. Sufficient seats to accommodate 3,000 persons will be erected in the armory. Two performances will be given daily, matinee and night.

## Legion Affair at Holley

HOLLEY, N. Y., Feb. 15.—The American Legion Celebration and Old Home Week will be held under the auspices of Jewell Buckman Post, July 2-5. The proceeds will be used for the Legion Building Fund. Arrangements are being made to hold a fraternal night on July 3. Invitations will be extended to all fraternal and civic organizations in Holley to take active part that night. July 4 will be American Legion Day, and plans are being made to hold a parade consisting of the various Legion posts in Orleans County and local civic organizations.

## Roseville Winter Carnival

ROSEVILLE, Calif., Feb. 15.—Plans for Roseville's Winter Carnival, to be held February 27-March 1, are rapidly being developed. The booth space is being leased and plans for the program are being advanced. The opening night will feature a street parade, and during the three evenings of the carnival dancing will be held each night. Vaudeville, band concerts and Fashion Shows also will be given. The Woman's Improvement Club and the American Legion are co-operating in presenting the carnival.

## Plans Expanding

SARASOTA, Fla., Feb. 15.—Samuel W. Gumpertz, director general of the Pageant of Sara De Sota, has contracted for more than 15,000 electric lights on the water front for the big pageant and Venetian water festival held in connection with it. James Trotta, of Tampa, who has had the contract for the lighting for the past three years, has again been placed in charge of this feature. Plans for the affair are expanding, as announcement was also made this week of a rodeo to be held in connection with the pageant, this to be presented by Cy Compton and his Wild West riders. Exhibition baseball games between major league clubs and the Indianapolis American Association team, which trains here, will also be on the program each day of the pageant, March 6-8. Scores of boats will be entered in the big water festival the opening night of the pageant, all gaily illuminated. The Thearle-Duffield Fireworks Company will furnish a "Battle in the Clouds" and pyrotechnic display each night. Street dancing will also be featured each night, two principal business streets being roped off for this purpose. The crowning of the queen will take place at the Coronation Ball the final night of the pageant, on which night will be held the magnificent street parade.

## Toronto Shrine Convention An International Affair

In connection with the Shriners' Convention, Ancient Arabic Orders of the Mystic Shrine, to be held in Toronto, Ont., Can., June 9-12, a letter to *The Billboard* from Edward J. Luttrell, captain-general of parades and pageants of the affair, explains that this will be one of the outstanding events in the history of the Shrine, as it is international in its character, scope, its aims and its objectives.

Luttrell further stated in his letter that the committee had booked Wirth & Hamid for the staging of the Shrine's pageant in front of the grand stand, on the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition, entitled *On the Road to Mecca*, and Ralph A. Hankerson to preside over the automobile racing.

## Festivity Slated for Dunn

DUNN, N. C., Feb. 15.—An Indoor Carnival and Circus will be staged here February 20-27. The Florida Amusement Company has been given the contract for the circus feature of the event. An automobile exhibit, dancing and festivities to promote a real carnival spirit will be included in the plans of entertainment.

The affair will be held in the old armory here and will be under the auspices of the Boy Scouts, represented by A. B. Bethune. Performances will be given afternoons and nights, dancing being on the program at the conclusion of the night shows.

## Dunsmuir Planning 'Fourth'

DUNSMUIR, Calif., Feb. 15.—Plans for a monster Fourth of July Celebration in Dunsmuir, to which residents of Siskiyou and parts of Modoc and Shasta counties will be invited, are being discussed by business and professional men here. It is suggested by some that arrangements be made for a three-day celebration, with airplane rides, fishing contests, athletic contests, baseball games, swimming and a parade of horrors.

## Ft. Wayne Shrine Circus Presents Nice Program

FT. WAYNE, Ind., Feb. 15.—The program of the annual Shrine Indoor Circus, which members of Mizpah Shrine Temple sponsored here in their auditorium on West Berry street, included the following acts: The Three Laronians, Aerial Kellys, Miss Hollis and Horses, Edna Curtis and Animals; Prince DeHosle, Jap. acrobat; Robinson's Military Elephants, the Upton-Whiteside Troupe, Bert Clinton, Shannon Trio, Shubert and Keya-Bamba Troupe and the Six Ben Tahar Troupe. Billy Lorette, clown policeman, was also there.

Two performances were given each evening, with matinees on Wednesday and Saturday. Throughs attended the shows, with special parties arranged for orphans and other groups. Frank Blemer, manager of the Shrine Auditorium, handled the event. In the basement a merchant's display was held, with more than 50 booths arranged around the hall.

## Marysville Trails Fete Makes Money

MARYSVILLE, Calif., Feb. 15.—Marysville entertained 30,000 at a "Trails of '49" celebration last Saturday and Sunday, paid the bills and this week found there was approximately \$2,000 left. No subscriptions were taken. From the profits of the celebration may rise a museum of relics of the gold rush. The committee which staged the affair will consider plans to make the organization permanent and, possibly, to construct a fireproof building in which the thousands of historic articles will be preserved.

## Combined Show at Enid

WICHITA, Kan., Feb. 15.—Everything will soon be in readiness for this city's Spring Fashion and Builders' Show at the Forum, March 10-15. E. W. Wingo will have charge of the entertainment at the combined shows. Some of the features presented will be acts by old-time comedians, vaudeville numbers and a big revue. There will be 160 exhibit booths.

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## Miami and Its Carnival

P. A. (SCOTTY) MacGREGOR, former director of publicity of Luna Park, Coney Island, writes as follows from the Magic City: "Miami and vicinity have witnessed the alluring carnival this winter. The ever-enchanted midway has taken hold slowly, but noticeably. Showmen had visions of a banner season which has been late in materializing. The native sons and the influx of tourists seem to enjoy the carnival atmosphere which is rampant in the center of the city—along North Miami avenue—the popular-priced shopping district. The outdoor showmen have not been asleep on the job and have leased a number of storerooms. Only a few doors from the Capitol Theater is a four-range shooting gallery. A tattoo booth occupies a corner of the big store. Next in line is a baseball game, where a lively assemblage of fans swat away energetically behind two nets. Further down the street is a corn game, while opposite is a milk-bottle game. You've got to take your hat off to the outdoor showmen who have invaded this resort—some are here pleasure bent; others for business. Some of the latter look outwardly disappointed. Hamda Ben had 'em guessing with his fine automobile. Then there's Frank J. Murphy and John E. Wallace, who swear by Florida's sunshine as the 'Fountain of Youth.' 'Scotty', by the way, piloted Sir Harry Lauder during his two-day appearance at the Coliseum, Coral Gables, thru a tour of Miami Beach, accompanied by Tom Wallace, the comedian's brother-in-law, and Gretta Lauder, his niece."

## Has Had Meteoric Career

THE CAREER of Joseph L. Heffernan, Mayor of Youngstown, O., reads like a chapter from *Arabian Nights*. From a low pitchman to the Mayor of the greatest steel city in America is something to conjure over. When Joe was a rolicking youth between the ages of 14 and 23 and craved adventure he tramped thru 48 States, doing odd jobs, including work in the oil fields, the steel mills, and bell-hopped in the Sherman Hotel, Chicago—in Denver he operated an elevator and worked along the water front of San

# Out in the Open

By W. D. VAN VOLKENBERG  
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

Francisco. He covered Mexico and Canada by foot. Then he worked his way thru the Ohio State University. By this time he developed a penchant to become a newspaper reporter, and secured a cub's job on *The Ohio State Journal*, Columbus, and worked on other papers. In 1913 he made an extensive tour of Europe for various newspapers and magazines. He participated in the World War. In 1923 he was appointed Judge of the Municipal Court of Youngstown, and was later re-elected. In 1927 he was elected to the mayoralty, where he has served with honor. He is a friend of outdoor showmen, especially the parks. He was a former member of the Association of Hoboes, of which Jeff Davis was president.

## Look to Him as an "Angel"

FRED FANSHER, New York ride operator and distributor, states: "Inventors, so-called, who are obsessed with the idea that their inventions will set the world on fire seldom, if ever, fail to submit their ideas to me. The worst of it," emphasized Fred, "they expect me to finance their ideas. My advice to the embryo inventor can be summed up in a few words: He should try to interest the nearest park to him in his invention. Every new riding device should be carefully tested for one year at least before it is offered. If this rule was adhered to, it would save a lot of grief. Or, if inventors would go to Coney Island and have W. F. Mangels escort them thru the NAAF Museum, which is replete with many working models of the various rides, both real and imaginary, it would be a revelation to the amateur inventor.

Very few of their ideas ever get beyond the dream stage."

## Closed 40 Contracts

STUART KOLLINS, wide-awake outdoor booking representative of Boston, has closed 40 contracts in the New England territory to provide fairs with Wirth & Hamid attractions. He reports that St. Johns, N. E., will have the biggest collection of acts ever presented there. Skowhegan and South Paris, Me., the principal fairs of that State, will feature attractive bills. Vermont fairs, including Rutland, Barton, Morrisville, Middlebury, Sheldon Junction and Essex Junction, will have a fine array of grand-stand attractions.

## Revamping Water Circus

BILLY RITCHEY writes from Cumberland, Md., that his water circus will go out this season more attractive than ever. The illumination will be improved. A new body has been built for the truck, which transports the outfit. The show made 24 jumps last season, most of which were over 500 miles. Capt. Jack Hoover, featured high diver, is appearing this winter at the Roman Poo's, Miami. Ray Richards has recovered from her accident at the Brockton Fair. Isabelle Ward is wintering with her father in Pittsburgh. J. F. (Shorty) Dignan, clown, is much in evidence at Cumberland. Harry A. Manley, general manager of the Cumberland Fair, has booked the water circus for the 1930 fair.

## Returning to Old Job

ERVIN FRANK MORTON, the magic wizard, who is filling an engagement at Hubert's Museum, is smiling the smile

that won't come off, for this summer he will be connected with Bill McGinniss' Palace of Wonders, Revere Beach, after an absence of 10 years. His son will make the front openings.

## Plans Number of Changes

A NUMBER of changes are planned by the Brockton Fair in creating a new and different atmosphere. The midway will be widened from 10 to 14 feet, which will permit of handling the crowds to better advantage. The fair officials found that the old dates came at a time of the year when the weather is usually inclement and the nights cold. It is believed the new dates, September 9-13, will be a great boon to business.

## Had a Fine Engagement

BLUCH LANDOLF speaks in the highest praise of his engagement with the Gran Circo Codona. He says: "The show did not go broke, as erroneously reported. Alfredo Codona and James Evans, who sponsored the show, treated their performers with all the fairness and kindness possible, and paid all salaries to date. The only obvious reason for the show closing prematurely was the adverse weather conditions."

## Had Losing Engagement

S. SEMEL, who was associated with Wagner Bros. in the Strand Museum, Coney Island, for three years, states that during that period he lost \$3,000, and the Wagners made \$20,000. They shared the profits on a percentage basis; Semel derived 65 per cent of the proceeds, and the Wagners 35 per cent. The Wagners paid the nut out of the gross, and Semel paid the rent. Semel is out of the freak show business and is concentrating his energies on the photomovette, which is going over big, both in this country and abroad.

## Had Fine Tour

ALFRED HONEY, of the Honey Family, has returned to the metropolises after a 40 weeks' coast-to-coast vaudeville tour. He states the managers of the Interstate houses went out of their way to make it pleasant for performers, which added to the pleasure of the trip.

## EASTERN PA. FAIRS

(Continued from page 64)

many of the departments of the CNE. He hit the nail on the head when he stated the Toronto warehouses were well stocked with alcoholic beverages in connection with the forthcoming Shrine Convention, which will be held next June on the exhibition grounds. He cited that he had traveled over 10,000 miles this year trying to secure new and worth-while ideas. "Nothing gets success like success," he emphasized, "and the important part of the CNE is its well-functioned organization, which we pay strict attention to." Politics are never permitted for a single instance to enter their well-mustered forces. He explained that he had seen a number of county fairs ruined by injecting politics and by lack of proper co-operation among its members. The Doctor finished his interesting discourse by saying that he noticed a lack of paint everywhere in this State, and gently reminded the delegates that every fair should use a copious application of paint if they wanted to survive. He urged the delegates of the necessity of keeping faith with the public and not to betray that confidence. He was given a rising vote of thanks and proved to be the star talker of the session. C. G. Jordon, secretary of agriculture of Pennsylvania, like Dr. Waters, is a Presbyterian preacher, and injected plenty of interest in his remarks, especially when he stated his department was donating to the fairs \$125,000 annually, which he considered well expended.

The nominating committee then reported the selection of the following officers for the current year: President, Harry White, Indiana; vice-presidents, William Buechley, Jr., Pottsville; A. S. Deysher, Reading; S. B. Russell, Lewisport; J. J. Koeber, Waynesburg. Secretary-treasurer, J. F. Seldomridge, Lancaster. Executive committee, Robert B. Light, Lebanon; J. H. Rutter, York; J. H. Maust, Bloomsburg; E. W. Gammel, Honesdale; E. H. Scholl, Allentown; E. E. Frontz, Hughesville; C. E. Mills, Athens; F. E. Brown, Lewisburg; D. J. Fike, Meyersdale; B. C. Seeds, Ebensburg; W. A. Boyd, Stoneboro; R. L. Munce, Washington; Charles Callahan, Clearfield; W. C. Brice, Bedford; J. T. Anderson, Beaver. The foregoing names will be held over and voted on at the Harrisburg meeting, which will be held the second Tuesday in March.

## Visiting Delegates

The increase in the attendance of the eastern half of the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs at the Philadelphia meeting was gratifying to the officers. The following delegates were registered: A. H. Morris, Fawn Grove; Max W. Reck, Philadelphia; Carl Fleckenstein, Bloomsburg; A. L. Dethhof, Reading; H. L. Hoffer, Reading; W. E. Hartzell, Souderton; H. H. Becker, Hatfield; Dr. W. H. Ivens, Philadelphia; William D. Brown, Lewisburg; Howard Gundy, Lewisburg; A. S. Deysher, A. L. Frame, C. W. Swoyer, Dr. H. B. Rosson, of Reading; H. W. Kelly, Doylestown; Herbert Beary, Allentown; H. Waboss, J. H. Rutter and Herbert D. Mmyser, York; Harry B. Correll, J. H. Maust and Carl Fleckstein, Bloomsburg; D. C. Pomeroy and J. H. Book, Port Royal; Charles E. Mills, Athens; P. H. Brunges, Tunkhannock; E. E. Fronz, Hughesville; E. W. Gammel, Honesdale; R. H. Engart, Doylestown; W. F. Palmer and H. D. Holcomb, Troy; Herbert Marsh, Nazareth; H. L. Mitchell, Doylestown; W. K. Hartzell, Souderton; H. M. Turner, New Hope; J. A. Gardy, Doylestown; S. A. Geiselman, R. L. Ehrhart, E. M. Laird and William House, Hanover; W. R. Miller, Pennbrook; E. W. Clay, Harrisburg; J. P. Haines, Harrisburg; W. D. Lenker, Harrisburg; W. B. Zimmerman, Lingletown; W. Buechley, Jr., F. F. Bausman, C. H. Heine and T. A. McCarthy, Pottsville; J. J. Green and Frank Gallagher, Holmesburg; F. E. Brown, Lewisburg; Z. K. Slumer, Nazareth; G. W. Snyder, Harrisburg; W. A. Dries, A. L. Dietthoff and W. Willtrout, Kutztown; M. L. Ritter, Newport; Andrew Lombardi, Minersville; R. C. Willtrout, Kutztown; H. F. Dorr, Ebensburg; C. B. Hassler, Harrisburg; R. M. Spangler, Red Lion; Harry White, Indiana; George Henigan and W. J. Zahm, Lehighton; A. B. Mulgrove, Doylestown; J. F. Seldomridge, J. H. Myer and J. D. Hermitsk, Lancaster; S. H. Brombach, Reading.

Visiting delegates from out of the State included Evans C. Lare, Newport, N. J.; J. A. Brandt, Bridgeton, N. J.; R. G. Love, Newport, N. J.; B. H. Turner, Newport, N. J.; C. S. Elliott, Bridgeville, Del.; H. Amoss, Bel Air, Md.; A. Saunders, Trenton, N. J.; Maj. E. B. Allen, Flemington, N. J.; John T. Best, Frederick, Md.; H. M. Cramer, Frederick, Md.; T. Roy Brooks, Bel Air, Md.; Harry A. Manley, Cumberland, Md.

## Shows Represented

Cetlin & Wilson, Dave Endy, general representative, and M. E. Nutting, Glick's Shows, William Glick, general manager; Herbert Tisdale and C. W. Cracker, Bernard Greater Shows, Max Linderman, general manager; Bill Holland, general agent, and Whifey Turnquist, Bruce Greater Shows, J. H. Bruce, manager, and R. F. McLendon, West's World's Wonder Shows, Jack V. Lyles, general agent; Frank West, owner and manager. Endy Shows, H. N. Endy, manager; Jerry Gerard and Jack Gallagher, Otis L. Smith Shows, Otis L. Smith, general manager; Mabel J. Smith, secretary; George S. Marr, general representative. Gruberg's Famous Shows, Max Gruberg. Broadway Shows, Billie Clark. Marks Shows, John Marks; Harry Ramsh, general representative. Harry Copping Shows, Harry Dunkel, general representative; Harry Copping, general manager. Sheesley Greater Shows, Capt. John R. Sheesley, general manager; Matthew J. Riley, general representative. Meiville-Reiss Shows, J. F. Murphy, general manager; J. D. Wright, Jr., general representative. Ketchum Shows.

Edward P. Rahm was present, but stated he was unattached. Lee Schaefer, promoter, was in jovial spirits.

International Shows, represented by Mrs. Tom Hasson and daughter, Hazel. M. B. (Duke) Golden was noncommittal about his future plans.

## Concessionaires

Among the concessionaires present were Ben Wells, Charles Ross, Eddie Davis, Joe Baker, Frank Ingram, Elmer Bailey, Tom Fayre, Ski Potalesky, Jerry Gerard, Eddie Brenner, Jack Gallagher, Sammy Applebaum, Bobby Gilbricht, Louie Kaufman, Al Kitson, Joe Payne, Louise Kane, George Lauther, George Ingraham, Joe Hizer, Sam Grimson, Morris Michaels, George Spiker, Bill Lauther, Nick Roman, Herbert Stein and wife, Rose Gallagher, Joseph Rose, Barney Miller, Phil Cook, Marty Jaffe, O. V. Brinkler, Al Saunders, M. J. Kelly, Thomas McFarlan, Albert Kline, Harry Kelly, George Leiter, Charlie Cress, Sam Russell, Harry Goodhart, H. Saunders, Johnny Hartman, Will Speaker, E. K. Johnston, George W. Spieler.

C. Gilmore Tait, representing Auerbach Candy Company, of New York, had a fine display of over 70 samples.

## Fireworks and Free Acts

June Reede, the Dixie girl, booking independent and offering 10 horses and six different acts.

John C. Jackel claims he got his share of the business.

Collins Amusement Service, presided over by H. D. Collins and Tom W. Shore, closed some contracts.

Other firms represented included John B. Rogers Productions; W. E. Senior, of the Gus Sun Attractions; Wirth & Hamid and Ralph Hankinson's auto races.

Harry Bentum represented the International Fireworks; A. L. Striano and H. L. Rapp, American Fireworks, Boston, and others.

## Stray Bits

W. E. Bretnitz, manager of the fair department of the Donaldson Lithograph Company, reported good business.

Fred Fansher attended the meeting in the interest of the portable riding devices he is handling in the eastern territory.

Arthur Campfield, of the Martin Tent & Duck Company, New York, was on hand taking orders.

Hugh Gibson is specializing on fair and horse show publicity.

Carleton Collins, carnival publicity purveyor, who is wintering in the Quaker City, was among those present.

H. C. Corbin, of Haines Park, York, could not pass up the meeting.

B. H. Patrick attended the opening day festivities.

Cowboy Jack Miller is playing clubs around Philadelphia and breezed into the gathering.

## The Banquet

The banquet lived up to its tradition as a whirlwind hit on Wednesday evening, produced under the capable direction of A. Lincoln Frame, of the Reading Fair, who gave the delegates and visitors a whale of a show that had excellent clicking qualities. Wirth & Hamid and the Reading Fair donated the attractions jointly, which made the first day's activities one grand round of pleasure.

There were a number of prominent speakers present, who pepped up the evening's gayeties in no unmistakable manner.

# Carnivals

Conducted by CHAS. C. BLUE (FOLTZ)—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

## NVSA Holds Annual Meet

*Election of officers is hotly contested affair — Murphy re-elected pres.*

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 15.—The annual election of the Mississippi Valley Showmen's Association was held Thursday and will go down in the history of that organization as the most hotly contested ever held in its clubrooms.

The polls were open from 1 p.m. until 9 p.m. and during that time 136 votes were cast. Quite a number of the members were out of town, which accounted for the small number of votes cast. The final outcome was in doubt until the count was read off, as each side thought its presidential candidate would win the election. When the count was read off by the election judges at the business meeting it showed that D. D. Murphy was re-elected president for 1930 over A. C. (Duke) Pohl by the small majority of 16 votes. Other officers elected were E. S. Gerety, first vice-president; Col. H. M. Morgan, second vice-president; Harold Barlow, third vice-president; Frank B. Joerling, secretary; Robert Walker, treasurer, and William Dolezal, sergeant at arms. Robert E. Walker, who was elected treasurer, "nosed out" Matt Dawson, his opponent for this office, by the small margin of two votes.

There were 30 names on the ballot for Board of Governors, of which 12 were to be elected. The 12 successful candidates were Eddie Vaughan, John O'Shea, George Heller, Arthur H. Dally, Mike Fitzgerald, George Davis, John Brophy, L. S. (Larry) Hogan, Herman Aarons, Sam Feinberg and Morris (Boots) Feldman, who gathered the number of votes in the order named. A coincidence of the election was the fact that Eddie Vaughan, legal adjuster of Miller Bros., 101 Ranch Wild West, received exactly 101 votes. Vaughan led the ticket in number of votes cast for any one of these candidates and automatically becomes chairman of the board.

On account of the "heat" in the election and due to the fact that everyone was "steamed up" to learn of the outcome, the biggest attended business meeting in the history of the organization was the result. Approximately 125 members were present.

Among those noted at the meeting Thursday night were D. D. Murphy, A. (See NVSA MEET on page 79)

## Relatives of R. A. Josselyn Express Their Appreciation

In a letter from Mrs. D. F. Newton and Mrs. John Johnson, sisters, and F. S. Josselyn, father of the late Robert A. (Whitey) Josselyn, from 9409 Figueroa street, Los Angeles, Calif., these relatives of the departed showman request *The Billboard* to express their sincere appreciation of services and attention given by Josselyn's friends at his death, funeral and the laying to rest of his remains in Showmen's Rest, the S. L. of A. burial plot at Chicago.

Their appreciation is especially expressed to the Showmen's League of America, including the offices of Harry G. Melville; Leo Albert and all others who showed themselves appreciative of their departed fellow showman's memory, whose death the relatives mentioned were not aware of until they read his obituary in this publication—their local addresses not being known to inform them.

## H. C. Hill in Cincy

Hugh C. Hill, veteran showman and concessionaire with many carnivals, including the Barfield Metropolitan Shows, was a visitor to Cincinnati and *The Billboard* last week while on a business trip from his home in Russellville, Ky., where he operates the Palace Billiard Parlor and has other business interests. Last two seasons he was a part of the time with the Hugh W. Hill Attractions in a managerial capacity. Because of a death in his family he will not be on the road this year unless it be to play a few dates next fall.

## McCaffery on Business Trip

J. C. McCaffery, general manager of the Rubin & Cherry Model Shows, stopped off in Cincinnati last week while on a business trip and was a caller at *The Billboard*. He expressed his optimism relative to the 1930 outdoor amusement season and satisfaction of the itinerary of the Rubin & Cherry interests so far attained. In his customarily thoughtful, interesting manner he discussed the pro and con of carnival needs and gave as his opinion that gradually increasing interest, favorable to this field of amusement, in the future need be swayed thru increased and featured entertainment value of shows and rides over the atmosphere of concessions.

## Rubin & Cherry To Be In Pittsburgh Two Weeks

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 15.—William Jennings O'Brien, general agent, was in the city early this week and arranged for the exhibiting of Rubin & Cherry Shows here in Exposition Park for a two weeks' engagement, May 12-24.

O'Brien came here direct from Jackson, Miss., where he executed contract for the Rubin & Cherry Shows at the 1930 Mississippi State Fair.

## Melville-Reiss at York Fair

The managers of the Melville-Reiss Shows wired *The Billboard* early last week, too late for an addition to the shows' ad in last issue, stating that the York (Pa.) Fair, week of October 6, had been omitted by them in their list of fairs announced in the advertisement.

## C. G. Buton in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 15.—C. G. Buton, general agent the W. A. Gibbs Shows, passed thru Kansas City the latter part of this week while on a business trip. He reports that the show will open April 1 in Parsons, Kan., with Independence, Kan., to follow, and will carry six rides and eight shows.

## Current Reflections

By CHARLES C. BLUE

NOTE—The opinions stated in this column are those of the writer and need not reflect the policies of *The Billboard*, which are expressed on the editorial page.—ED

**PERSONS**, in their judgment of how smart others are, should first decide on what application, or definition, they wish to apply to the term—"smart". One definition of the word is "painful". Quite a number of show, ride and concession folks are just that in their over-worked chatter and otherwise forced appearances. The would-be "know-it-alls" who delight in being seen and heard in the company of the "big boss" really forcing opportunities—to the disgust of the "boss", altho he may not disclose it. The would-be "big-shot" stutters and talkers on the midways—nauseating to the remainder of the show company.

*These should ever have in mind the quotation from the writings of Robert Burns: "Oh, wad some power the giftie gie us to see oursels as others see us!"*

Report has it that the Board of Public Works at Seymour, Ind., recently passed a resolution (to be presented to the City Council) toward having the local license tax on carnivals increased to \$100 per day. It seems that the increase pluggers, for whatever reason, attended in force, since other members of the board urged that the fees be not more than \$15 or \$25 per day. According to report, one member of the board declared that a woman was not "safe" in the Third Ward (location of a grounds) when a carnival was in the city. If this sentiment was expressed and intended as laying the blame for such a condition directly to the habits of showfolks, the fact of it is herewith impressively questioned. The term "a woman" isn't very specific. If women of Seymour have not been safe in that ward, or any other ward of the city, when a representative carnival was exhibiting there, it doesn't require two guesses of any experienced showman or other close observer of such conditions to deduce that the situation was far less caused by showfolks than a HOODLUM ELEMENT residing in or in the vicinity of Seymour.

*It has been this writer's privilege to be directly associated with carnivals many years, and in practically all parts of the United States, including Seymour. He has given close study to carnivals and their people; also, he has closely observed the townspeople, and he found that in approximately 95 per cent of cases wherein women were insulted, fights started, etc., the blame could be DIRECTLY laid to the talk or actions of DRUNKS, SMART-ALECKS, WOULD-BE MASHERS or other HOODLUMS residing in or near THE TOWNS where the disturbances occurred.*

Of course, there are "bad fellows" in any vocation—even in so-called "society"—even in church circles there are many who are outwardly religious, but in their hearts hypocrites. There is also fact in the statement that while real carnival folks do not "fourflush" as "goody-goody" so much as many of their otherwise fellowmen, a large majority of them will analyze far above, morally, the narrow-minded, prejudiced or unjust of their reputation attackers—who are self-accusing thru their attacks, even tho they do not realize it. Every locality has its "bad actors". Are ALL the other citizens condemned because of them?

## Impressive Services

*Hundreds attend funeral services for late Bert W. Earles at Glendale, Calif.*

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Hundreds of showfolks and executives of other business came to Los Angeles by rail, air, steamship and motor vehicles to attend the funeral services for Bert W. Earles. In sorrow they were found trudging the city streets Monday making their way to the clubrooms of the P. C. S. A., and at noon they left for Forest Lawn, Glendale, Calif., to gather in the chapel of the Church of the Heathers, where they for the last time saw the last of their friend "Bert". Chaplain John S. Lyon, altho weighed down with grief, delivered an eulogy. Altho deeply affected, he expressed the last tribute to this noted showman and worthy man. The grounds stilled to a brooding quietude as these last sad rites were said, while the hundreds of grief-stricken friends bowed their heads and murmured prayers.

The sun, throwing its mighty rays downward upon the plot, situated on the side of a hill overlooking the valley, expressed "peace" for this mighty man, who during his career carried on in spite of conditions that sometimes showed defeat as inevitable. The grounds, banked with hundreds of beautiful floral tributes, attested more than mere words the high esteem in which he was held.

The pallbearers who carried out their sad but honorable duty were Joe Rogers, Zebbie Fisher, J. W. (Paddy) Conklin, John Miller, J. Sky Clark, Harry Pink, Harry Seber and Ed Foley. All these had been in close association with Earles. The floral tributes sent from organizations were as follows: A large white wheel, with one spoke missing, signifying the loss of its third vice-president, was sent by the Pacific Coast Showmen's Association; a blanket of roses, sent by Zebbie Fisher in behalf of the Showmen's League of America; a floral piece, representing a broken center pole, by Joe Rogers; a huge floral tribute of "Gates Ajar", with a white dove hovering, from Zebbie Fisher; Harry Pink, a floral (See SERVICES on page 79)

## Capt. Siderberg Engaged

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—Capt. Charles Siderberg, high diver, has been engaged as free attraction with Conklin & Garrett Shows for the coming season, consummated by Owner-Manager J. W. Conklin during his stay in this city.

## George S. Marr Engaged

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 15.—Otis L. Smith informs that George S. Marr has replaced Tom J. Singleton as general representative of the Otis L. Smith Shows.

## Palace of Wonders Show

READING, Pa., Feb. 15.—Neil (Whitey) Austin's Palace of Wonders Show has been playing a centrally located store-room here for the last four weeks to a reported good business. The show is booked for York to follow for two weeks.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Feb. 15.—George W. Popwell, manager the Southeast Georgia Fair, held annually at Waycross, Ga., has announced that a contract for this year's fair has been signed with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition.

**Heart of America Showmen's Club**

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Feb. 15.—A delegation of approximately 40 members of the club and auxiliary left for the big doings in St. Louis by plane, auto and train. The regular meeting scheduled for Friday night was postponed until the following week, due to the fact so many members were leaving for St. Louis.

Louis Torti, president of the Wisconsin De Luxe Doll and Dress Company, was a visitor to the clubrooms several times during the week.

Jake Vetter, chairman of the club's entertainment committee, gave a farewell dance on Friday of last week in honor of Elsie Calvert, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Sedlmayr and Col. Dan McGugin, who left the city to take up their duties with their respective shows.

Capt. and Mrs. E. H. Hugo and daughter arrived in the city after an automobile tour thru the South. They will remain here for the remainder of the winter.

Dick Stewart, last season with the Royal American Shows, is spending a few weeks here, coming from Southern Texas.

Carl J. Sedlmayr, of the Royal American Shows, left for the winter quarters of the show in South Jacksonville, Fla., accompanied by Mrs. Sedlmayr and Elsie Calvert.

Col. Dan McGugin left for the winter quarters of Leslie Kell's Comedians, where he will take over the duties of the office.

Word reaches here that J. T. McClellan will open his show on the fairgrounds at Macon, Ga., March 15.

Until the return of the folks from St. Louis, everything will be quiet around the clubrooms.

**Hot Springs "Pickups"**

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Feb. 15.—Dave Stephens after a month here returned to Kansas City.

Noble Fairly is out bright and early on an 18-hole golf course, while his wife, Viola, is keeping herself busy with her reducing exercises.

Tony Carston, concessionaire, late of the McClellan Shows, is here for a short rest.

Micky McCloud, assistant manager Siebrand Bros.' Shows, has thrown all cares and worries aside now that he is at this resort.

Harry Billick, manager the Gold Medal Shows, accompanied by Jackie Clark, of the same shows, motored over recently to attend one of the weekly fights held at the Auditorium Theater. They must have misjudged the distance from Little Rock to this city, as they arrived too late, and got their money back—maybe.

"Red" Shirley, late of the Sheesley and the Rubin & Cherry shows, has been a guest at the Chappel Hotel.

Jack O'Day, with his wrestling bears, last season one of the free acts at Midwest fairs, is in for a visit. He, like several other trouper here, has a wonderful house car, and is accompanied by his wife and young son. Readers will no doubt recall that his daughter met with a fatal automobile accident last season at one of the Wisconsin fairs.

Jake Poe, co-owner with Claude Poe of the Giant Pythons, is here and connected with a collection agency for the winter months. They are having a new exhibition truck constructed for the coming season.

Dollie Edwards is sporting a new car and manages to take her friends out for a whiz once in a while. She caused the writer (Hi Tom Long) to say "gee-whiz" on a recent trip that he made with her.

Plain Dave Morris, of the Morris & Castle Shows, is making his annual visit and looks forward to a good season.

**"Long" and "Short" United**

William J. Hilliar has been busy himself with "big publicity" promotions, his latest being a public marriage, one that will be shown in newsreels thruout the country as per the following, which appeared in *The Fort Myers* (Fla.) Press of February 11, Thomas A. Edison's birthday:

"Eight foot six became the bashful bridegroom of five foot two today on the steps of the Lee County Courthouse.

"While hundreds of persons looked on a real, honest-to-goodness giant took unto himself a wife, a slip of a girl five

**SAVE MONEY! ▲ BUY NOW!**

We now have available Rebuilt Wurlitzer Band Organs suitable for Merry-Go-Rounds, Carouselles, Skating Rinks and Ballyhoo Purposes, all of which are Wurlitzer guaranteed. By buying a Rebuilt Wurlitzer Organ you can save from 20 to 30% on your purchase. Write or wire us for details on our special offer on instruments purchased during the month of March.

**THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER MFG. CO.**  
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK

**BAND ORGAN FOR SALE**

Wurlitzer No. 156. Recently overhauled by factory and not used since repaired. Good as new. Cost \$1,400.00. Will sell for \$400.00 spot cash. Address BOX D-736, The Billboard, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**MR. CONCESSIONAIRE:**

You are no doubt planning for a SUCCESSFUL YEAR—We likewise are planning Numbers that will help you. Let us know your requirements in advance of opening dates. Our many live-wire distributors will be ready to serve you. They are conveniently located from Coast to Coast.

**IRELAND CANDY COMPANY**

MAIN AND VINE STREETS, ST. LOUIS, MO.  
WEST COAST FACTORY: 525 West Washington Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

**R. L. WADE SHOWS**

WANT FOR THE COMING SEASON:

FUN HOUSE, TILT-A-WHIRL, LEAPING LENA, or any Ride that does not conflict with Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and Chairplane. WANT PENNY ARCADE. Dad Pickell, write. WANT ILLUSION SHOW, BIG SNAKE. Gully Gully Mike, Doc Hall, Scottish Giant, write. Frank Blankenship wants COLORED MUSICIANS, PERFORMERS, CHORUS GIRLS for Minstrel. WANT GOOD MAN to take over Side Show. Frank Rose, write R. L. Wade. WANT STOCK CONCESSIONS of all kinds. No Tracks, Skilors or Grift of any kind will be tolerated. WANT RIDE HELPS of all kinds, including Foremen for Merry-Go-Round and Chairplane. We open here March 15. We will play at least 12 fairs in Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina and Georgia, starting in July. Get with one of the best shows on the road this year. Address 1026 State St., Pine Bluff, Ark.

**Want—ISLER GREATER SHOWS—Want**

RIDES—Will book Lindy-Loop, Tilt-a-Whirl or Leaping Lena and furnish wagons for same. SHOWS—Will furnish complete outfits for capable Showmen with meritorious Attractions for same. Will book and furnish complete outfit for Hawaiian Show. Must have no less than six people and put on clean show. Will furnish complete outfit for good single Fair Show Attractions. We can place you or not. WILL BUY FOR CASH full-length Glass Laughing Mirrors. Give description of Mirrors and Condition. CAN PLACE useful Carnival People in all lines. Write. FOR SALE—One Coach, one Stock Car and Wooden Flat. Show opens CHAPMAN, KAN., APRIL 19. Have a string of fairs in Iowa, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and then South. Long season. This is a 20-car show and will jump to get in the money. Address all communications LOUIS ISLER, Manager, Chapman, Kan.

feet two inches tall. The giant towers well over eight feet.

"It was probably the most remarkable wedding ceremony ever performed in Fort Myers. Clifford Thompson, of Scandinavia, Wis., aged 25, was united in marriage to Harriet Bryan, of Fort Worth, Tex., 23 years old. County Judge L. Y. Redwine performed the ceremony. The couple obtained their license here yesterday afternoon.

"The blushing bride was very nervous, but the mammoth frame of the giant could plainly be seen to tremble as he answered the necessary questions propounded by Judge Redwine. At the finish the giant grabbed his Lilliputian mate and kissed her vigorously, glad that the trying ordeal was over.

"All of the movie and sound reel photographers in town were present and pictures were taken of the ceremony.

"Thompson is one of the big features in the Johnny J. Jones Circus Side Show on the midway at the Lee County Fair. In his tent he and his bride will hold receptions thruout the week."

**Merchandise Fairs, Inc.**

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Robert T. Furman and George D. Zahm, of New York, and Burnett F. Walker, of Flushing, N. Y., are the principal stockholders of Merchandise Fairs, Inc., a new enterprise, which was granted a charter of incorporation Wednesday by the Secretary of State.

Its purposes are to promote and operate fairs, exhibitions and provide various kinds of amusement attractions. The company has a capitalization consisting of 200 shares of stock and no stated par valuation. The principal office of the corporation will be located in New York.

**Erroneously Reported**

In the February 8 issue it was stated that the Capital Amusement Company, as successor of Swain's Service Exchange, contracted for the Red River Valley circuit of fairs. It should have read that the Capital people succeeded in booking these fairs thru the Swain Service Exchange. The Exchange people advise that they are still in business and very much alive.

**J. T. Wortham Shows Have Very Promising Opening**

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., Feb. 15.—The John T. Wortham Shows opened here Thursday at the 20th national Orange Show, which outstanding event closes February 23. The midway presents a blaze of light and a riot of color and is the largest collection of amusements John T. Wortham has ever assembled. There are 12 riding devices, including late creations, as named in last issue of *The Billboard*, in which comment an almost complete list of the shows was presented. By actual count there are 25 shows on the midway. Fowser's Whale, Lew Dufour's Unborn Show, Ted Metz's side show and Danville's Wax Museum led the list in the first day's gross business.

This is John T. Wortham's third engagement here and with a continuance of the ideal weather that prevailed for the opening record business is anticipated. Wortham has received many congratulatory telegrams from prominent showmen and heads of other business branches thruout the country.

**Pacific Coast Showmen's Notes**

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15.—The regular Monday meeting of the P. C. S. A. was called to order at 8 p.m. by President J. W. Conklin, who called upon the various committees for their weekly reports and put thru the regular routine of business with lightninglike rapidity. New applications were received and voted upon and there is evidence of a record year for new membership. The prizes are an inducement to all individuals, as well as circuses and carnivals, to get new members. Combined with that President Conklin is out to make this year a banner one for the association. He has been instrumental in putting thru many features that will be to its benefit, materially as well as socially.

President Conklin realized that this would not be an opportune time for any lengthy discussions, as the membership had just returned from the services of the departed third vice-president, Bert Earles, and none was in mood to carry on with the minor details. He called upon a distinguished visitor, Joe Rogers, who left Chicago last Saturday and taking the airline from Kansas City arrived in Los Angeles Sunday at 7:03 p.m. Rogers, who had been connected with Bert Earles as Canadian representative, was deeply affected by his sudden death.

Many visitors have been seen around the clubrooms in the last week, including Ed Foley, of the Foley & Burk Shows; Vic Levitt, Levitt-Brown-Huggins, and A. H. Barkley, the widely known general agent. George Hines, John Miller, J. Sky Clark and Felix Burk have been making preparations for the annual visit of the members of the P. C. S. A. to the National Orange Show at San Bernardino as guests of John T. Wortham, of the Wortham Shows, and Roy Mack and Joe Wilson, who have been responsible for the success of this annual event. The members will meet at Lincoln Park and proceed in a procession led by the calliopes of the Venice amusement men and Walt Hunsaker. Chicken dinners will be awaiting the boys on their arrival, and after being escorted thruout the exhibits they will proceed to Aguascalientes, then use their own discretion as to where they will go.

JOE GLACEY.



**\$29.75 Complete**

**GENUINE TALCO POPPER**

A genuine Talco Kettle Popper at Lowest Price ever made for a quality machine. Big capacity. Best materials and construction. Pressure Gasoline, Gas or Electric heat. Write for descriptive circular. Order direct from this ad. TALBOT MFG. CO., Dept. CP 10, ST. LOUIS, MO.

**SHIVE and CHRIST FAMOUS DIME CIRCUS WANT**

Tilt-a-Whirl, Lindy-Loop, Ten-in-one with own outfit, Midget Show or Congress of Fat People, Legitimate Concessions. WANT SCOTIC Artist, Frank Brady, write at once. Permanent address, Owensboro, Ky.

**MERRY-GO-ROUND FOR SALE**

Two-Abreast Little Beauty, Spillman Eng. complete, including Universal 4-Cylinder Gasoline Engine, Organ, Style 104, Machine wired for 144 Lights, and all necessary Tools to operate. Will sacrifice same for cash, \$1,900, as am going out of business. Machine stored near Erie, Pa. Write or wire MRS. BENNY LEWIS, 52 Berlin St., Wollaston, Mass.


**P. J. SPERONI SHOWS**

WANT sober and reliable Ride Men for new Parker Merry-Go-Round and Ell Wheel. Must be able to drive truck. WILL BUY OR BOOK Mix-Up. Athletic and Side-Show People, write. WILL BOOK two more Shows with own outfits. Concessions all open except Corn Game, High Striker and Popcorn. Will sell X on Cook House and Mill Camp. No snift. Address BOX 34, Rock Falls, Ill.

**SOUTHERN TIER SHOWS WANT**

Shows with or without outfit. Very reasonable terms for good Shows. Several Concessions open yet. Show opens last part of April. Write BOX 494, Elmira, N. Y.

### THEY GET THE PUBLIC FAVOR



Which is indispensable to your trade. Armadillo products have that desired appeal all the year around. When buying be sure it's "Apelt's". This name is a trade-mark in itself.

Lamps, Baskets, Smoking Sets, etc. Be wise, and get our quotations before replacing your stock. Write immediately.

**THE APELT ARMADILLO FARM**  
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### TALCO - Everything for COOK HOUSES

**STRONG BOY STOVES - BURNERS - HAMBURGER TRUNKS - GRIDDLES**

4 in. \$4.25	5 in. \$5.50
Pressure Tank	3 gallon.....\$5.50
5 gallon.....\$6.00	10 gallon.....\$8.50
Big Pump.....\$2.50	Gasoline Lantern.....\$6.00
Hollow wire, 5 cent foot	

**Strong Boy Stove - Pressure Gasoline:**  
 4 Burner.....\$19.50 3 Burner.....\$25.50 4 Burner.....\$34.50  
 Griddles, Heavy Boiler Plate Steel 1/2 inch thick,  
 24 x 18.....\$5.00 30 x 18.....\$6.50 36 x 18.....\$10.00  
 Concession Men everywhere depend on Talco Quality and Service. Order from this ad. Send one-fourth deposit. Write for illustrated catalog on anything you want, TALBOT MFG. CO., Dept. M-6, St. Louis, Mo.

### CALLIOPES

National's are the BEST

These Managers have switched to National Calliopes: Johnny J. Jones, Rubin Gruberg, C. A. Wortham, Eli Bridge Co.

There must be a reason. Ask any prominent Carnival Manager.

**NATIONAL CALLIOPE CORPORATION**  
816 Bank Street  
Kansas City, Missouri

### Monkey Family for Ball Racks



1930 Catalogue of new Ball Throwing Equipments, Tents, Hoods, Dolls, Cate, Monkeys, ready to mail.

Improved Six-Cat Rack.

### TAYLOR'S GAME SHOP

Columbia City, Ind.

### WANTED FREAKS AND NOVELTY ACTS

AT ALL TIMES.

**HUBERT'S MUSEUM**  
228 W. 42d Street, NEW YORK CITY.

### BUDDHA PAPERS

Outfits and Costumes. Horoscopes—unusual. Send 4c for full info.

**S. BOWER, Bower Bldg.,**  
430-2 W. 19th St., New York  
See our ad in M. F. Section.

### CANDY FLOSS MACHINES

All Electric, \$135;  
Hand, \$125; Dual  
Electric, \$300.  
Catalog Free.

**NAT'L FLOSS MCHN. CO., 605-A 2d Av., New York.**

### GUM a pack

SPEARMINT GUM  
Full size 5c packs—also other favors. Flashy boxes. All Streetmen. Concession a and Premium Men use our dandy brands. Double your money. Deposit required. Order today.

**HELMET GUM SHOPS, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

### HOROSCOPES

**FUTURE PHOTOS**  
Magic Wand and Buddha Papers. Send 4c for Samples.

**JOS. LEDOUX,**  
169 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

### WANTED WANTED O. J. BACH SHOWS, Inc.

Will Open the Last of April in Syracuse, N. Y.

WANTED—Flat Ride, Feature Show, Motordrome Cook House, Corn Game and Concessions. Cattle Games sold. Gaff Stores and Merchandise Wheels not carried. Address O. J. BACH, Box 293, Ormond, Fla.

### CALIFORNIA SHOWS, Inc.

Now booking Shows, Rides and Concessions. Address SAM ANDERSON, 35 Concord Ave., Belmont, Mass.

# Midway Confab

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

HERE is a copy of one of the letters received last week and is a fair sample of a very encouraging number of them already received relative to the boxed biographical form that appears in the center of the Midway Confab title page—this one from one of the well-known showmen: "Inclosed find biography of the undersigned. Was much impressed to see this in last issue and really believe it is a wonderful thing for *The Billboard* to do. Really shows that you are interested in showfolks. Thank you." The blank form appears on this page, this issue. Every troupier is invited to provide this publication with the information to be filled in. Fill it out and mail as "NOTE" at the bottom explains. If you haven't sufficient blanks to meet

again booked their cookhouse and grab stand with Howard Bros.' Shows.

DURING various fair men's meetings this winter carnival men have decidedly "backed away" from high prices held out for by secretaries for their events.

**THEO. DELLAHOUSAYE**, a veteran showman, is residing at New Iberia, La., and is reported as not in very good health.

**W. E. ALEXANDER** advises that he will have several flea circuses this year, including one booked at Revere Beach, Mass., under H. W. McGeary, and one at Carlin's Park, Baltimore, under management of James Turman.

### As Information in Case of Severe Sickness, Injury or Death (Otherwise to be held in confidence by The Billboard)

Name .....

Where and when born .....

Names and addresses of living relatives .....

When and with what entered show business .....

Later affiliations, including now and last year .....

Address of nearest relative, or relatives, to inform of critical illness, or injury, or death .....

**NOTE:** In hundreds of instances *The Billboard* has been telegraphed, or otherwise communicated with, to provide addresses of relatives of showfolks who died suddenly, or were severely injured, and many times this very needed information could not be given. There have been no less than a dozen such cases during the last few months. Also, notices of deaths have often been necessarily brief in the Obituaries columns because of lack of information. No one knows at what time the data to be filled in above may be needed. When these are "clipped" from this page, filled in and mailed to the Cincinnati office of *The Billboard*, they will be filled among the other biographies now in the special alphabetically arranged cabinet for that purpose. Each showman should have this data with this publication, and attend to it at once. Address it to Biographical Editor, The Billboard Publishing Company, Cincinnati, O.

the demand just copy it in ink on a sheet of paper and send it. Remember, all information will be held in confidence, as explained at the top of the printed form.

**NOW'S** the time to think, remuneratively.

**GOOD THINKING** gets no place without action!

**WITHIN** a few weeks the northward trek of shows south.

"**SHOW LETTERS**" are supposed to be written as news instead of advertising.

**TROUPING** northward will probably encounter "tough sledding" this spring.

**AN ANTONYM** for a certain well-known carnival owner's name would be "Tight"—which he isn't.

**MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR WOODS** have

A **PROFESSIONAL "MOOCHER"** handled for the twentieth time a showman who was earnestly working in wind and rain to keep his tent in the air. "Stake me to a sleep!" pleaded the moocher. "Sure," said the showman, and he did so—dropping his sledge and swinging the "stob" he was starting into the ground.

**FRANK CONLEY**, of Chicago, has contracted with the Lipka Amusement Company to place a one-ring circus, including novelty comedy acts, with that caravan for its 1930 tour.

**MR. AND MRS. THEO. (TED) CHESTER**, veteran showfolks, are now settled all comfy in Richmond, Ind. To intimate friends they are known as Teddy and Billy Chester.

**ON THEIR WAY** eastward from California, where they have been spending the winter, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Pounds stopped over in Shreveport, La., for a visit with "Spot" Ragland and

### THE "OLD-RELIABLE"



Many a Ride Man can thank the No. 12 **BIG ELI** Wheel for keeping the Show on the road and making the money to pay the bills to keep things moving.

The **BIG ELI** Wheel is known as a Money-Getter, which pays a net return on the investment that is equalled by no other large ride.

Write for information on the "Old Reliable" No. 12 **BIG ELI** Wheel.

**ELI BRIDGE COMPANY**  
Builders of Dependable Products,  
800 Case Avenue, Jacksonville, Illinois

### THE NEW CHAIRPLANE



The Latest Invention. The Most Sensational Ride Out for Parks, Fairs and Carnivals. Portable and Stationary. Write today and let us tell you all about it. Weight, 6,500 lbs.

**SMITH & SMITH, Springville, Erie Co., New York.**

### GATERPILLAR TOPS and SPECIALTY CANVAS GOODS

Fanara Awning Co.  
59 Central Park, Rochester, N. Y.

**GUERRINI COMPANY**  
P. Petromilli, Proprietor,  
HIGH-GRADE ACCOSSIONS.  
Gold Medal P.-P. I. E.  
277-279 Columbus Avenue,  
San Francisco.

### WANTED

For coming season on account of enlarging show, Freaks, Working Acts and Talker. Can also use you now until season opens in real Museum. Has been open all winter here. Don't want Half and Half. Have Frances-Francis, original, with me now. Write or wire

**FRANK FOREST,**  
Georgian Hotel, Seattle, Wash.

### RIDES FOR SALE

1 PARKER CAROUSSELLE.  
1 ELI NO. 12 FERRIS WHEEL.  
1 MANGELS WHIP.

**S. H. EMSWEILER**  
2237 Greenwood St.  
Harrisburg, Pa.

### WHIP

PORTABLE

### For Lease, Sale or Book

Stored Portland, Ore. Completely overhauled and painted. Will lease to reliable show or Park, or book same, or will sell at low price. Write, wire or phone.

**6715 Neptune Street, La Jolla, Calif.**  
Phone, La Jolla, 1233.

### IDEAL LOCATION

For Amusement Park: Six acres, with Lake Bathing, Cass Lake, four miles from Fontaine, fronts on pavement. Heart resort section. Twenty-eight miles from Detroit.

**JOE SERBINOFF, Keego Harbor, Mich.**

### AJAX UNITED SHOWS

Concessions all open. Will sell X on Corn Game, Palmistry, Cook House and Stock Wheels. SHOWS—CAN USE two more Shows with own outfits. We open near Richmond, Va., early in April. Committees get in touch with us. Everybody write or wire. **JACK M. BLUM**, Manager, 634 High St., Newark, N. J. Phone, Market 991. Concessions with me last year write. Joe Strayhorn, write.

### BUTLER BROS.' SHOWS

Open Walnut Ridge, Ark., March 29. WANT Free Acts. Concessions of all kind. Shows that don't conflict. BOX 34, Brookhaven, Ga.

**HI-STRIKER WILL MAKE \$100 WEEKLY.** "MooreMade" at lowest price in over 20 years. Bargains in 1930 Model ready. Write **LAFER STRIKER WORE**, Lapeer, Mich.

Louis Korte, of the Ragland & Korte Shows. Mrs. Pounds is a sister of Louis Korte.

EDDIE PEDEN is working in a men's wear store at Hempstead, L. I. N. Y., this winter. Says he will probably be with one of the caravans in the Middle West next summer.

THE SIDE SHOW on Dodson's World's Fair Shows will be operated as an office attraction this year, rearranged from the former announcement that C. W. Pickell would have that attraction.

DICK DICKERSON advises that he has booked his Circus Side Show with the Bill H. Hames Shows for the coming season. He reports having a good season with the Francis Shows last year.

JOE MILLER and Thomas P. White this winter have concessions at Sulphur Springs Park, Tampa, Fla. Last season they were with the Gold Medal Shows. Will again with troupe in the spring.

JAMES R. SHIPMAN, ride operator, last season with the Dehnert Exposition Shows, spent a few days in Cincinnati last week. He was formerly for about 12 seasons with various caravans.

Concessionaire "Hornor" Always has a corner. Each week he gets the "pie". He "offices" his thumb. Thereby gets the "plum"— Says: "What a smart boy am I!"

JACK BARR postcards from Louisiana that he has placed his Circus Side Show with the C. R. Leggette Shows for 1930 and that as in the past "Doc" Lewis will be affiliated with it.

WORD FROM BOSTON was that Eddie Gross, concessionaire, has returned from the South after closing with the Bunts Shows and was expected to be back with the Rogers Shows the coming season.

LOVEY SAUNDERS, colored minstrel man, with various caravans, recently returned from Florida and with a company of entertainers has been playing colored-patronage theaters in and around Cincinnati. Lovey visited the Confab editor's desk last week.

KIT P. CARLOS is now busy with his brushes at the Melville-Reiss Shows' quarters. Prior to his taking up his duties there he visited Jacksonville and visited C. F. Senyard and his Senyard Amusement Park there. Carlos opines it will be a nifty amusement place.

HELEN CARSON, dancer with various shows, last season with the West Shows, has returned to wrestling under the management of "Young Gotch". She was scheduled for a match last week with Betty Bushey at the Grand Theater in Akron, O.

ACCORDING to local press comment, Columbus, Ind., Mad Cody Fleming had received a letter just the size of a 2-cent postage stamp and about an eighth of an inch in thickness, sent him by a friend in Indianapolis and bearing "the regular postal canceling stamp".

MR. AND MRS. BEN HOLLIDAY have been spending the winter with Ben's mother in Fountain Inn, S. C., the first opportunity they have had to do so in several years. They will have their candy floss with the W. J. Bunts Amusement Company this year.

MAYOR CHAMBERS, San Antonio, Tex., recently instructed City Clerk Fries to write a letter to the Fiesta Association notifying that body that the city commission had decided not to allow it to use the city plazas for amusement pay attractions during the Fiesta Week celebration next April.

BENNIE SMITH, one of the smilingest little gazabos that ever talked on a front and specialized on fancy snare drumming on bally and in bands, says he isn't "painting any rides or box cars", but is getting his drum appropriately fitted up with things new for this year's trouping. A veteran showman is Bennie.

"RED" ROGERS, over Indiana way, thought he heard a bluebird chirp, got excited and while turning to investigate got his finger caught in the steering apparatus of his car and the digit was nearly severed. Doctors at the Maine Hospital, Louisville, saved the finger for him. "Red" intends hitting the road again this year with a flashy 10-in-1, with a four-piece stringed band for bally.

## WHEELS AND GAMES!!

**"To Make You Smile"**

WHEEL WORKERS—Inquire about our new 36-in. diameter Paramount Wheel. If you wish, we will send you a sample piece of wood so that you will see for yourself of what material a fine Wheel is built. You will see the reason why this Wheel cannot warp or get out of balance.

GAME WORKERS—"Don't stall." There is plenty of money awaiting you. Get the latest Airplane Games, sure money makers. They are the most attractive, flashiest and fascinating games for your store and midway. They hold the crowd and get the play. They will make your coming season worth while. WRITE FOR COMPLETE CATALOGUE.

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467 Sixteenth Street, - - - - - Milwaukee, Wis.

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**Our 160-Page Catalog. 400 illustrations of the Greatest Line of Merchandise ever offered! New Ideas, New Designs, New Games! Write today! IT'S FREE!**

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## FLYING AIRPLANES

NEW PRICES

On 24-inch Sticks, assorted color spirals and strings. Assorted color bodies. A KNOCKOUT FOR STREETMEN, PARK MEN, CONCESSIONAIRES. The 1929 novelty. Sells on sight. Outlets Flying Birds on Sticks ten to one. Size, 10x15 inches. Per Gross, \$4.50; in Full Case Lots of 25 Gross, \$4.00 per Gross. Send 35c for samples (three sizes) and circular.

**KINDEL & GRAHAM, 782-784 Mission St., San Francisco, Cal.**

### COOK HOUSE MEN — Here's What You Want!!

Gasoline Stoves, Griddles, Waste Outfits, Hot-Dog, Out-Fits, Coffee Urns, Juice Juices, Juice Powders, Circus Lemonade Glasses, Tanks, Pumps, Hollow Wire, Gasoline Lanterns, Mantles, Urn Burners, Jumbo Burners. Order from this ad. Write for complete Catalog.

**Waxham Light & Heat Company**

Dept. 15, 550 West 42d Street, NEW YORK CITY.

URN BURNER (Like Cut), Pressure Only.	3-Gallon Tank.....\$5.50
No. 04—4-Inch.....\$4.25	6-Gallon Tank.....6.50
No. 08—6-Inch.....6.50	Large Pump.....2.00
	Hollow Wire, per Ft......10
	Connection Braided On.....19
	Tees for Hollow Wire.....25

### Better Boxes Flash Pictures

**Quality Chocolates**

SEE OUR NEW CHERRY PACKAGES. GET CATALOG No. 17.

*Dolly Varden and* EVERY OUNCE *Chocolates*

PURE

**THE W. C. JOHNSON CANDY CO.**

STA. F. CINCINNATI

### BARGAINS

Spillman Three-Abreast, in best of shape. Stored in Boston, Mass. Price, \$1,800.00. Monkey Speedway, Detroit make. Tracks, Banners and Cars in good shape. Price, \$350.00. Fun House, Jiggs Bungalow, portable, all panel front. A buy for \$300.00. Monkey Show, complete, Banners, Tracks, Loop, High Dive, Trapeze, new Wall, Cars. A bargain, complete, for \$200.00. 30x30 White Top, no Wall, Price, \$100.00. 30x30 Khaki Top, no Wall, Price, \$100.00. Both Tops in best of shape. 18x24 Stripe Top, in fair shape, 7-ft. Wall, \$15.00. Exhibit Supply Co. High Striker and Knockout Taster, almost new, \$100.00 Each. Cost \$75.00 Each. Address:

**CARNIVAL & BAZAAR SUPPLY CO., 3 E. 17th St., New York City**

LESTER M. (ABE) BASS and the missus, who a few weeks ago motored to Florida from St. Louis to play winter fairs with the Jones Exposition, have decided to return to Waco, Tex., to prepare for another season with Dodson's World's Fair Shows. Mrs. Bass was formerly Florence Fischer, of Fischer Sisters' Revue, with the Dodson caravan.

TWO SHOWBOYS, James L. Bloom, Jr., and Elmer Micheletti, of mechanical and electrical departments of shows and carnivals and both of inventive turn of mind, lay claim to having perfected an improvement on electric radio receiving sets not requiring outside antennae. Bloom was with the Sandy Shows last season.

JOE TESKA and family, at Pine Bluff, Ark., are busily preparing their attraction for the coming season with the R. L. Wade Shows, also building in some new features. Warren Harrell is residing with the Teskas and visits are being exchanged between them and Mr. and Mrs. Wade and R. L. Davis, who are living but a few blocks apart.

IKE ROSE, whose Lilliputians, 25 in number, headed the bill at the Albee Theater, Cincinnati, last week, visited *Billboard* folks several times during his stay in the city. It is needless to state, except for the information of those not intimately acquainted with Ike, that each visit his jovial spirit and interesting chatter radiated "sunshine".

THE TAMPA DAILY TIMES of February 8 editorially expressed appreciation of news-column mention in The

*Billboard* relative to the recent fair and other amusement events in that city. The editorial started thus: "The last issue of *The Billboard*, a publication with a larger circulation than that of all others of its character combined," etc.

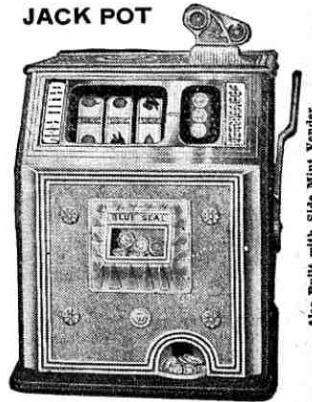
AMONG corner carnival folks now in other business is the proprietor of Jack's Fruit and Vegetable Market store, Broadway street, Augusta, Ga. He is Jack Rainey, formerly on the executive staff of Veal Bros.' Shows, Dave Wise Shows and others. Incidentally, Jack's big ad in local newspapers compares favorably with those of big chain-store concerns. Bennie Smith praises the place highly.

EDWARD M. RUSSELL and his associate entertainers have been on the broadcasting program of Station WICC, Bridgeport. Russell, side-show talker and pitchman, acts in the capacity of "barker" and they "put it on" in side-show style, mentioning some well-known freaks and showmen. They use Jerry Fryer's Harmonica Band, all boys of 12 to 17 years, and offer some specialty numbers. Russell writes that they have received many commendatory fan letters.

RADIO LISTENERS-IN among carnival folk on the evening programs broadcast February 7 and 12 heard the names of the juvenile entertainers, Harry and Billy Corey, announced and doubtless were pleased with their duet singing. Comparatively few, however, realized that they were hearing vocalizing by the sons of Harry Corey, the auctioneer—with S. Miles Jones, Morris Kahntrouf,

## 1930 Model

### JACK POT



Also Built with Side Mint Vender.

No. 40 for Nickel Play, \$80.00  
No. 50 for Quarter Play, \$90.00

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**WATLING MFG. COMPANY**  
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## BEANO or CORN GAME

THE BEST ON THE MARKET.

**35 Player Outfit, \$5.00**  
**70 Player Outfit, \$10.00**

**ALUMINUM CENTER WHEELS**

25 inches in diameter, numbered on both sides, any combinations.

**SPECIAL PRICE, \$20.00**  
**SHOOTING GALLERIES**

SEND FOR CATALOG.

Also send for our new Catalogue No. 129, full of new Games, Dolls, Blankets, Lamps, Aluminum Ware, Bathrobes, Candy, Pillow Tops, Balloons, Paper Hats, Favors, Confetti, Artificial Flowers, Novelties, etc.

**SLACK MFG. CO.**

124-126 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

Sheesley Shows, Conklin & Carrett and others. Harry is 10 years of age and Billy 8, and the radio announcer publicly requested their return to the air in the near future. Their daddy is still at the jewelry auction store on Walnut street, Clincy.

C. G. BUTON, general agent of W. A. Gibbs' Attractions, will have three shows with that caravan this year. For his large dog and small horse attraction he recently purchased a mammoth Great Dane weighing about 170 pounds. Another is his 109-year-old snapping turtle, "Neosho", show—Says the "snapper" hasn't eaten since last October, putting in the winter sleeping. The other attraction, he says, will be absolutely new to midways.

"TWAS about 15 years ago at Chesterfield, S. C. No fair at night. Nearly all caravan folks patronized a local theater, which was packed to the doors each performance.

As the jam of people was exiting from the playhouse Montana Belle (Wild West shows) turned to some showfolks near her and "kiddingly" remarked as follows: "Gee whiz, but we turned a good one that time—let's bally right away an' trytu get in another 'n'!"

SHOWMEN attending the recent Arkansas Federation of Fairs meeting at Hotel Marion, Little Rock, included R. L. Hill, of Vernon Bros.' Shows; Mr. and Mrs. Noble C. Fairly, of their own shows; C. L. Doyle, Mimic World Shows; J. E. Strayer and Jack Foster, Strayer Amusement Company; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Laughlin and Walter (Doc) Clark, Laughlin Shows; T. Barker, Barker Amusement Company; Dave Lachman, Lachman-Carson Shows; Mrs. Charles Oliver, Oliver Amusement Company, and Harry Billick, Gold Medal Shows.

AMONG TROUPERS recently seen at W. O. (Eph) Gettman's Oliver Hotel at Miami, Fla.: Frank Murphy, of the show bearing his name; Clarence Lauther, A. T. Wright, veteran agent; Eddie Owens (winter day clerk) and wife; "Irish Jack" Lynch, who will be with Carl Lauther

for his sixth season; "Doc" Brennan and his two brothers; W. N. Scoot, circus painter; Bob Moore, Sam McGowen, Harry Hernal, Bob Hunter, Charlie Rose, in advance of a whale show, and others. The "boys" have been enjoying fishing trips in "Eph's" seagling boat.

AN ATMOSPHERIC "short-order" cookhouse is slated for the Al Hansen Shows this year, the principals of which have been wintering in North Little Rock, Ark. E. E. Farrow, standing 5 feet 2 (with his shoes on), and William (Wally) Wallace, who is two inches taller than Farrow, are partners in the cookhouse and grab stands and have engaged M. M. (Mack) McMinnahan to help them—Mack also goes by moniker "Shorty", being 5 feet 3. Farrow and Wallace left February 10 for Memphis to get things in shape for the show's opening next month.

THOMAS P. LITTLEJOHN recently fell victim to "itchy feet", but partly recovered after going to his show outfit storage on the fairgrounds at Troy, Ala., awakened his Trip to Mars from a 10 years' "sleep", setting it up and giving it the once over—found not a piece missing. Thomas advises this scribe that in order to realize a complete cure, however, he will have to troupe with it, and adds: "You see, the weather has been fine down here this week and I suppose I will, using the vernacular, 'go crazy' if I don't also take my Crazy House out too and line up with the other midway-attraction boys."

SOME SQUIBS from the W. G. Wade Shows: R. V. Ritz leaves for Connersville (Ind.) winter quarters to start work on his Motordrome. Now that "Red the Plumber" (Sobel) is married, guess he will put on two blanket wheels this season. W. W. (Chicago Slim) Potts is building a new fishpond with all new flash. Harry Benjamin is not saying much these days; all one can get out of him is, "It won't be long now." Sam Wilson and wife have arrived in Detroit waiting for the opening. In the meantime Sammy is setting type in one of the printing shops. It looks like things won't be so bad after all around Detroit, as Henry Ford has put back thousands of men and working five days a week. Joe (Kid) Bennett has a tryout at the Columbia Theater here. Joe may spring a brand-new show this season. The act made a hit, even tho he didn't knock the customers out of their seats. Steve Shink, once a concessionaire, now a showman, has been out getting plenty of talent together for his new show.

### Johnny J. Jones Exposition

William J. Hilliar's Midway Mutterings: Until midnight Tuesday at Tampa, receipts ahead of last year. Then came three days' rain and cold. Put terrible crimp in business, but Saturday proved bigger by far than Saturday last year. Mrs. Hyla F. Maynes, with her niece, Juanita Rhinewold, and nephew, Stanley Smith, enjoying the festivities. Then along came Margaret Ekdahl, winner of Florida State beauty contest; had picture taken with "Silver King", took in the shows and rides, then picture with J. J. J. While away from publicity office, following note was penned: "Was here to see you, but nobody home." Signed by Roy Feltus, Fred De Wolf and Chas. Rawles. Caught up with them later, and how! Up the steps came George Smith with party. Many other folks from the Ringling Sarasota headquarters took in the midway. Al Painter, accompanied by his wife, made a flying trip from Los Angeles to visit his mother at Tampa. And Chief of Police McGibbon, of Winter Haven, came to visit with Joe Redding. Manager Matthews, of the Broward County Fair, Ft. Lauderdale, to say how rosy everything looked there this year. Dr. Sesard had birthday party Saturday night, in Tampa; also celebrated successful opening of his new "Museum of Fakes" show. The doctor is now known as "Scientific Debunker". Yes! Yes! Earl Chambers has new idea in monkey shows. Going strong. Splitting up of show caused little delay in loading Saturday night. Fort Myers unit reached destination early afternoon Sunday. Tuesday, Thos. A. Edison's birthday. Town crowded. Representatives from every movie and press association in America were here. The Lee County Fair opened just fair. Attendance falling off somewhat from last year. This due, probably, to the big Edison doings downtown. Bernie Smuckler appearing "in person" with Leaping Lena, with Mrs. Smuckler making change. Mrs. Vernon

## SIXTEENTH SEASON TRAVER CHAUTAUQUA CORPORATION, Inc. FORMERLY Traver Exposition Shows

12 RIDES

TANGLEY CALLIOPE  
(Successful Thru Cleanliness)

2 FREE ACTS

### WANT

#### SHOWS

Animal Platform or any clean intelligent shows that are capable of handling big business, as we play territory that is closed to ordinary carnivals. Will furnish outfits to real Showmen. 10-in-1, Novelty Animal Platform, etc.

#### CONCESSIONS

Have few excellent openings for a few first-class Concessions. Must work legitimate. No concessions considered unless they have clean appearance; will not tolerate any tip ups, roll downs, swingers or skillos.

#### HELP

Foreman on Tilt-a-Whirl, Foreman on Whip. Best of pay. Must be thoroughly experienced by Foreman with reliable references. Write all in first letter. Foreman on Leaping Lena, Foreman on Carouelle, etc.

### TRAVER CHAUTAUQUA CORP., Inc.

1547 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK

## S. B. WILLIAMS SHOWS

NOW BOOKING SHOWS AND CONCESSIONS FOR 1930. OPEN MARCH 15.

Will furnish complete outfit for any Show of merit that does not conflict. WANT Wrestlers to take charge of Athletic Show, Hawaiian Dancers, Pit Show open. Must have something to put in. Musical Show Performers, write. Musicians, write. WANT Ride Help of all kinds. CONCESSIONS: Cook House open. Must be first-class. All other Concessions open except Corn Game. WANT Lady Ball Game Workers. We carry five Rides and six Shows. Fair Secretaries and Celebrations, we have some open time.  
S. B. WILLIAMS SHOWS, Grande Courts, Waco, Tex.

### Wanted—Coleman Bros. Show—Wanted

OPENS AT MIDDLETOWN, CONN., APRIL 24

Ten-in-One Side Show, Man to take charge of Wax Show. All Wheels open except Sugar. Grind Concessions open: Fishpond, Duckpond, Darts, Pans, String Game, Candy Ploss, Ring Nail Game, Guess-Your-Weight Scales, Candy Apples, Bumper Store, Hoop-La, Watch-La, Knife Rack, Cane Rack, Cane Game, Tracks, Skillos, Tip-Ups, Roll-Downs and G Wheels not allowed. Small Pit or Platform Shows wanted.  
THOS. J. COLEMAN, Hotel Middlesex, Middletown, Conn.

### LAST CALL—HARRIS COMBINED SHOWS

WILL OPEN MARCH 15 IN ARTESIA, N. M.

WANTS for 1930 tour: All legitimate Concessions open except Cook House. Positively no grift. WANT Man and Wife to take charge of Cook House. Lady Ball Game Agents wanted. Feature Show, Athletic Show, or any other Show capable of getting money, with or without canvas. WANTED—Capable Pit Showman with feature attractions, to take charge of organized Pit Show. WILL BOOK OR BUY one or two Baby Rides. Thos. McDow, Mr. Dudley, Illusion Show and Wilkens Bird Show, please write. Have route established; will furnish same to interested parties. Address all communications to HARRIS COMBINED SHOWS, Artesia, N. M.

## KAUS UNITED SHOWS

WANTS Athletic Show, Ten-in-One, Monkey Speedway, Circus, and Monkey Autodrome, Slidrome, Law and Outlaw, Wax, Pit or Platform Shows, Penny Arcade. Will furnish Wagons for same. WILL BOOK Tilt-a-Whirl or Waiter. CONCESSIONS: Fishpond, Devil's Bowling Alley, Darts, Nail Game, Scales, Candy Apples, Knife Rack, Cane Rack, Ball Games, China, Groceries, Clocks, Ham and Bacon, Blankets. All Stock Wheels open. No grift. American Palmystry. WILL BOOK OR BUY Frozen Custard Machine. Electrician and Ride Help wanted. Jack Wagner, write. All address Elizabeth City, N. C.

Kohrn, wife of secretary, called home thru illness of sister. Joe Redding and Jack Murray vying for golf honors. Olga, bearded lady, good addition to Billy Bozzell's circus side show. Has, with one exception, all new human oddities this year. Opening day at the Volusia County Fair, De Land, drew record attendance for the section appearing there. It was Children's Day. They came by the thousands. Mrs. Eddie Madigan has the midway dining palace with the Fort Myers unit. She and husband tossed coins as to who should be the boss of the winter show. The missus won.

### P. J. Spononi Shows

ROCK FALLS, Ill., Feb. 15.—Manager P. J. Spononi of the P. J. Spononi Shows and wife have returned from their vacation. Painting and various activities have started in the winter quarters here in preparation for an early opening. The show will carry 3 rides, 5 shows and about 20 concessions. The merry-go-round will be shipped from the factory the first of April. All shows and rides are transported by trucks of capacity of two to five tons. The trucks are painted orange and black. The house car and office combined is almost completed and is equipped with latest conveniences. Free acts will be carried in an effort to hold the people on the midway until a later hour. Wiley McMurdo and wife will have three concessions. Earl Orlandi, of Chi-

cago, was here Sunday and booked his corn game, bowling alley and ball game. The management is highly pleased with his engagements booked for coming season and is optimistic concerning the season as a whole.  
ESTHER L. SPERONI.

### R. L. Wade Shows

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Feb. 15.—Things are humming at the winter quarters of the R. L. Wade Shows, and by the opening date, all shows, rides and what concessions that are here will be looking good. Owner, Ralph Wade and crew of four men have been working every day since the first of the year on the Merry-Go-Round. Curly Hyde and his crew have all new seats built for the Ferris Wheel, and both rides will look fine. Visitors lately included Pat Taylor, who will have the Hawaiian Show; R. A. Gilbert (hypnotist), who appeared at the Saenger Theater here, and Billy Burton, who has one of the most completely equipped portable skating rinks on the road. Rex Sanders advises that he will be here in time for the opening with his Wild West. Mr. Collins, who will have the Circus Side Show, will also report here next week. The writer has secured fairs including Lexington, Benson and Shelby, N. C.; Winder, Monroe and Lakeland, Ga.; Fayette and Decatur, Ala. The show will open here under the auspices of the American Legion March 15 with four rides, 10 shows, 30 concessions, band and calliope. R. L. DAVIS.

### Mad Cody Fleming Shows

COLUMBUS, Ind., Feb. 15.—According to advice from an executive of the Mad Cody Fleming Shows, things are going along nicely at their winter quarters here, other advice being as follows: Mad Cody Fleming made a trip to Florida, visiting his old-time friend, Harry B. Arnold, at West Palm Beach; also doing some fishing; then to Tampa, purchasing of Joe Fishman a Deep Sea Show and a giant shark. He also visited Johnnie J. Jones Shows. Frank A. Owens, general agent, is busy signing engagements, a list of which will be published in an early advertisement in *The Billboard*.

A free gate will be the policy of this show for the coming season. Loun Thatcher, publicity man, is sending out some very good stories and getting them in papers in the towns the show has already contracted. Joe Walters has signed to handle the Athletic Show. Baby Richard will be back again in the lineup of shows. Bill Krueger will again have charge of the Merry-Go-Round, with Polly Oliver for a second man. John Schenck will have charge of the Lucky Lindy; Bill Bishop, second man. Henry McEllya has been engaged as electrician. Robert Cotter and Tiger Mack wrote that they will arrive about March 1 to start rebuilding their concessions. Bert Montgomery says the Tilt-a-Whirl will be shipped April 1, so it will be in time for the opening of the season. Dolly Owens will have the cigaret shooting gallery. Dale Query is showing his Hypnotic Show at a local theater this week, and the show people are giving him a play. Doc Dodson's poolroom is a favorite rendezvous for the show boys wintering here.

### C. A. Wortham Shows

FAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Feb. 15.—Continued good weather has proved of value at the C. A. Wortham Shows' winter quarters the last 10 days, as it allowed the starting of work that was being held up on account of extreme cold. Trainmaster Bradford is moving right along with work on the cars, and Master Builder McFarland is showing nice results daily on the new wagons.

Ida Hodges has signed with Beckmann & Gerety to put her Fat Family Show on their midway the coming season. Ida says that it will be "just like coming back home" to be here again.

Felice Bernardi, owner of the Bernardi Exposition Shows, and Harold Barlow, owner of Barlow's Big City Shows, were visitors at winter quarters last Sunday. After looking over the work being done, they wanted to know if Beckmann & Gerety were "putting out two shows this season."

General Agent L. S. Hogan has been spending the past week at winter quarters, recuperating from his strenuous trip thru the frozen North.

The Pinochle Club meets nightly, with Mrs. Beckmann, Mrs. Ybanes and Mr. and Mrs. Cary Jones doing the heavy work. Honors seem to be about even. The last meeting of the winter will decide the championship.

Elmer Day and Denny Pugh advise that they are having a wonderful time at Hot Springs. Elmer has taken up golf.

R. C. Ward is moving out to winter quarters, so he can be on the job superintending the construction of an entirely new set of stands for the juice and grab concessions.  
EDGAR T. NEVILLE.

### Leon Broughton Shows

The winter show of the Leon Broughton Shows, launched November 11, closed January 25 at Colmesneil, Tex., and the 80-mile run to winter quarters was made over rough and slippery roads in good time. Everyone got settled down to stay a few weeks and work began in earnest. The work this winter is to perfect and build a finely equipped motorized show. Most of the work is body building and repairing. Not much mechanical work, as all the old trucks have been replaced with new ones. Our first wagon (or truck) front has just been completed. This is built on one box truck and one box trailer, 18 feet high at the top of the entrance arch, and spreads 46 feet. It is not gaudy, but is neat, done in old ivory and light green. Work is progressing nicely and everything will be ready for the opening, March 8, in the "old home town", Kirbyville, Tex.  
GEORGE F. CLARK.

**Isler Greater Shows**

CHAPMAN, Kan., Feb. 15.—The writer was agreeably surprised with his first glimpse of the winter quarters of the Isler Greater Shows as he arrived in Chapman. J. B. Parker, in charge of quarters, has a beautiful five-room bungalow at the entrance to the grounds. Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. V. J. Yearout were guests of the Parkers. The Yearouts autoed from Emporia, where they are spending the winter. Al Davis, master mechanic, is overhauling the paraphernalia and getting everything ready for the paint crew, in charge of Charles Stanley, who is due shortly. J. B. Parker, electrician during the season and in charge of the little train and baby rides, is overhauling the electrical equipment and will add another 20-K. W. transformer, making a total of 120 K. W. connected load carried by the show. All fronts will be studded this season with lights. Babe Drake, trainmaster, reports his train in good shape, the steel flats to arrive during the next 10 days. Babe is also overhauling his Oh, Boy, Fun Show, installing new improvements in same. A beautiful archway for the double Ferris Wheel is under construction. Phil Mathieu, Omaha, is lining up a strong array of attractions for the Circus Side Show. Rastus Jones, Kansas City, will have one of the best minstrel aggregations of his career, with band and orchestra, giving daily concerts and parades. Jim Hart, Kansas City, will arrive about March 1 and get his string of concessions ready. Tom Galtner, Los Angeles, will be here in plenty of time for the opening. The writer has assumed his duties of assistant manager, and Manager Isler has placed at his disposal a well-appointed office at winter quarters. The show will open April 19 at Chapman on the winter-quarters grounds and will leave here April 27 for its annual tour. **DICK O'BRIEN.**

**William Glick Shows**

BALTIMORE, Md., Feb. 15.—With carpenters, mechanics and painters busily engaged 10 hours a day, winter quarters of the William Glick Shows here presents a scene of real activity. The three wagon fronts now in the course of construction are fast assuming shape and ere another week goes by will be ready for the massive carving which will adorn the front of them.

One hundred and twenty rubber-tired wheels, with axles, have been ordered and will be delivered immediately. Trainmaster Loring arrived to assume his duties and is now at quarters getting his physical equipment in shape. Herbert Tisdale arrived Sunday and departed the following day with General Representative C. W. Cracraft to attend the Pennsylvania Fair Association meeting at Philadelphia.

General Manager Glick, after a week away on a business trip, returned Sunday and is busily engaged looking after details and answering the vast amount of correspondence. He attended the Pennsylvania Fair meeting, leaving Wednesday morning for Philadelphia.

Contracts have been entered into for the cookhouse and eating stands with Angelos & Boyd, who will have a brand-new outfit this season.

**F. PERCY MORENCY.**

**Barker Amusement Co.**

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Feb. 15.—Manager J. L. Barker, of the Barker Amusement Company, has returned from a satisfactory trip to the fair men's meeting at the Marlon Hotel in Little Rock, Ark. Work is rapidly progressing at winter quarters. The entire paraphernalia is being repainted, the color scheme being orange and dark blue. The shows will consist of Five-in-One, Hawaiian, Athletic, Minstrels, Illusions, Animal and Freak Animal, the outfits all owned and dressed in new canvas by the Barker Amusement Company. Lewis' combination Pit Show has arrived from Texas, and repairing and painting the paraphernalia has started. The crew at quarters has completed a well-lighted arch to be used as an entrance, as there will be a pay gate this year, using two free acts. "Dutch" Baker has received his new cookhouse top. Harry A. Rose, the new contracting agent for the show, has met with good results in his booking still dates. The writer accompanied Manager Barkey on his trip to Little Rock and met many friends among the visiting showmen. **DOCTOR THADDEUS.**

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DEPT. B, 4100 FULLERTON AVENUE  
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Makers of OVER 600,000 COIN OPERATED MACHINES.

**DEHNERT EXPOSITION SHOWS, Inc.,**

**Want for 10 Wisconsin Fairs**

Motorrome, Monkey Speedway, Wild West, Illusion and Dog and Pony. What have you to offer?

WANT CONCESSIONS. All Wheels open. Will sell exclusive to reliable people. Will book any legitimate Grind Store. Will sell exclusive to American Palmist. No Tracks, Skillos and G. Wheels.

WANT RIDE HELP for Merry-Go-Round, Tilt-a-Whirl, Ferris Wheel, Mix-up, Whip and Aeroplane Swing.

Jimmy Chanis, wrestler, and Irish Lynch, write or wire me.

**J. F. DEHNERT, Mgr., 7 E. 5th St., Covington, Ky.**

**Wanted**

**WATERMAN GREATER SHOWS**  
**OPENING MAY 1st,**  
**NEAR BOSTON**

**Wanted**

SHOWS—Ten-in-One, Platform, Athletic.  
CONCESSIONS—Cook House, American Palmist, String Game, Dart Game, Corn Game and other Grind Stores. Wheels open. WILL BOOK OR BUY Chairplane, Whip or any Flat Ride. Eight Centenary Celebrations in Massachusetts. Come where the money is. Ride Help wanted. Agent wanted. Carl Wilson, Tom Ellis, Jack Grimes, Frenchie Valentine, write. **SAM WATERMAN,** Room 424, 332 Washington St., Boston, Mass. Permanent address, 21 Laconia St., Boston.

**First Call WANTS — CARL J. FOLK GREATER SHOWS — First Call WANTS**  
OPENING FORT WAYNE, IND., MARCH 23.

First-class 10-piece Band, Troupe of 4 Hawaiian Musicians, first-class Male Quartet, Girls for Feeding Show, three good Clowns, Magician, Taitoo Artist, Strong Man and any other good Acts or Freaks for Side Show. WILL BUY two good Bucking Mules. Will sell X on Cook House, Corn Game, Ice Cream, Popcorn, Candy and Cracker-Jack, Penny Arcade. Have good proposition for new outfit. Concessions all open. Grind Stores and legitimate Wheels. Help wanted—Tilt-a-Whirl Foreman, Merry-Go-Round Foreman, Electrician, A-1 Sign and Scenery Painter. WILL BOOK one more good Free Act. Orville Miller, write. Address **CARL J. FOLK,** Winter Quarters, Box 565, Ashley, Ind.

**MAJESTIC SHOWS**

WANTS FOR SEASON OF 1930.  
Two or three more Shows with own outfits. Concessions all open except Milk Bottles. Would sell X on Wheels to one party, or separate. Cook House, Bingo and American Palmistry still open. Address all correspondence to A. R. HAYDEN, Manager, 1215 West Erie Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., or CHAS. ROE, 335 Morgan St., Tonawanda, N. Y. WANTED—Ride Foreman and Second Man for Spillman Little Beauty Merry-Go-Round. Truck Drivers and an Electrician who can drive truck. Only reliable men need apply. State salary expected. All Help address CHAS. ROE. P. S.—All Rides booked.

**FRANK E. LANG'S NORTHERN EXPOSITION SHOWS**

**NOW BOOKING FOR SEASON 1930.**

SHOWS—Can place Ten-in-One, Penny Arcade, Fun on the Farm, Illusion Show or any other good Show, with or without own outfits. WILL BOOK OR BUY two Kiddy Rides. CONCESSIONS all open except Cook House, Mitts and Novelties. This Show has now contracted 14 FAIRS and CELEBRATIONS, starting in North Dakota June 2. FOR SALE—Four 10x16 Concession Tops, Evans Candy Race Track and a new Daly Wheel, never used. P. S.—Pete Cole and Jake Perry, let me hear from you. Address all mail **FRANK E. LANG, Box 18, St. Paul, Minn.**

**SERVICES**

(Continued from page 74)

anchor; beautiful wreaths from Crafts Shows, the Johnny J. Jones Shows, and J. W. Conklin, of Conklin & Garrett Shows. Many other floral tributes were sent from various shows operating thru-out the continent, along with four auto loads and a van load from individuals.

Following are the names of a few of the hundreds who attended the services: Joe Rogers, Sky Clark, Dick Parks, "Paddy" Conklin, Harry Seber, John S. Lyon, Tom Ryan, George Duignan, Ed Smythson, John Miller and wife, Walt Hunsaker and wife, "Judge" Karnes and wife, "Candy" Moore, Chas. Gubberman, Harry Phillips, Clyde Gooding, Chas. Farmer, Lee Teller, Harry Hargraves, Mrs. Bullock, Jim Comefort, Milt Runkle and wife, Frank Babcock, Mr. and Mrs. Tantlinger, Frank Redman, Ed Foley and wife, J. Greenhalgh, Jim Hicks, Ray Johnson, Mrs. Green, Chas. Paige, Ross Davis, N. Shoe, Bill Harvey, Jack Murray, S. Wells, L. A. Corbelle, Bill Flynn, Sam Bosworth, Chas. Cooke, H. S. Tyler, J. C. Furness, Thos. Dawson, Joe Sullivan, A. J. Blancke, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ziv, Ben Austin, Jack Benjamin, Harry Wooding, Harry Fink and wife, Max Harman, Mel Vaught, Geo. Edwards, L. Nelson, Tom O'Brien, Hap Young, Mr. and Mrs. Vic Levitt, Mr. and Mrs. Archie Clark, Jack Politt, Bert Chipman, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Fowler, Chas. Chysler, C. A. Blancke, J. A. Lawless, Mike Herman, E. W. Rockwell and wife, L. LaBelle, H. Shore, Wayne (Dick) Barlow and wife, Chas. Keeran, Chris Olsen, W. H. Pendleton, J. C. Rane and wife, A. H. Barkley, Dr. Johnson and wife, Sam Schaffer, Teddy Levitt, R. M. Seguin, W. D. Murphy, Doc Turner and wife, Mrs. Mabel Haden, George Lowrey, Fred Kenyon, Fred Klass, Mrs. Max Klass, Mrs. Ed Mozart, Chas. Welfort, and many more whose names were not secured.

Following the services at the chapel, the Malta Lodge officiated for the Wm. McKinley Lodge of Masons, Oriental Consistory and Medina Shrine, of Chicago, at the grave.

Max Klass, former business partner and associate of Earles, who passed away last week, was buried in the forenoon, and is alongside his "pal", and the members of the P. G. S. A. express deep sympathy to the surviving families of both deceased showmen. All of showdom will be greatly affected thru the loss of Bert Earles and Max Klass. May their souls rest in peace!

**JOSEPH GLACY.**

**NVSA MEET**

(Continued from page 74)

C. (Duke) Pohl, B. S. Gerety, Fred Beckmann, John Schweppe, L. M. (Pete) Brophy, Stanley Hughes, Col. H. M. Morgan, Robert Clay, Henry V. Gehm, Frank B. Joerling, Robert E. Walker, Matt M. Dawson, William Dolezal, Herman Aarons, John Brophy, Paul Brown, Arthur H. Daly, George Davis, Sam Feinberg, Morris (Boots) Feldman, L. S. (Lary) Hogan, Jake Hoffman, George Heller, Michael Fitzgerald, Melvin Harris, Tom Kearney, Leo F. McBride, T. L. Doc Milburn, Charles Ordwein, Kohn O'Shea, A. G. Ritter, Joseph Treyball, F. A. (Whitey) Woods, Eddie Vaughan, John Heade, Jack Feldman, S. Reubenstein, John V. Cohick, Frank Berger, Fred W. Daly, Harry Cohn, Thomas A. Haynes, Jack Ross, John K. Maher, Theodore Carras, Ed C. Reiter, John J. Sweeney, James Dolan, Dr. M. R. Lipson, Oscar Marquardt, Marshall Dean, E. J. Webers, Eddie Krapf, Danny Hogan, E. H. (Bill) Cates, Mike Amarosa, Fred Christman, Walter B. Kemp, James Sherwood, Scotty Halstead, John G. Lang, Thomas E. Mangum, M. E. Shoemaker, Ed J. Hackett, Joe Darpel, Jules Sussman, Tom Sharkey, Tom W. Allen, James Carlton, E. D. Logan, Dave Dedrick, James York, Robert Mansfield, Hector Gaboury, Tex Conroy, Tom Meyers, Robert Sims, Warren E. Soles, Albert Hunt, Charles Cook, Wm. (Red) McCoy, Ted Reid, Harry E. Miller, Harry Wolff, Will Stone, O. H. Blanchard, Thomas Blinn, James Philion, Pete Pullman, Buel Riednhour, Jack Wilson, Victor Davis, Lionel S. Gage, Al Clarkson, Joe Brown, Joe Fury, Happy Busch, Harry Burk, C. M. (Chubby) Hade, Clarence Shelton, John Barry, Herman Rudick, A. P. Murphy, P. E. Ballet, Charles A. Hoffman, J. Chase, M. M. Cohn, Milton Schaeffer, Thos. J. O'Connell, Fred Albeitz, James Fitzgibbons, Thomas E. Miller, Earl J. Calhoun, Pat Noonan, Elmer Brown, E. O. Beahan, David Hintz, E. S. Creelman, William J. Engel, Peter Finnegan, Langdon M. (Tex.) Shawver, E. C. (Delbert) Ward and others whose names were not secured.

**YOU WILL KINDLY NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS**

Gross.

Basketball Scissors	...\$2.60
Self-Threading Needles, 10 in Paper	... 2.88
Needle Threaders, Directions on Handle	... 1.30
Men's Handkerchiefs, Transp. Envelopes	... 5.40
Toothpick Knives, Colored Handles, 5-Piece	... 3.00
Toothpick Knives, Colored Handles, 3-Pc.	... 2.25
Army & Navy Needle Books	... 2.35
Nail Files	...\$1.50, \$1.80, 2.40
Scented Sachets	...\$1.35, 1.80
SPECIAL 2-Drum Perfume Vials, Sealed, Labeled	... 2.50

Fair Prices. Square Treatment. Prompt Service. Stamps or currency for samples. Prices F. O. B. New York. Deposit required on C. O. D. orders. Ask for complete list.

**CHARLES UFERT**  
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**The Radio Stropper**

**\$7.20 GROSS**

Nickel-plated. Holds all makes of Safety Blades.

1 Gross Radio Stroppers  
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One Gross Combinations Outfit, all for \$14.95. Sample Outfit, 35c. 25% deposit on all C. O. D. orders.

**RADIO STROPPER CO.,**  
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**GOOD NEWS!!**

For Health and Exerciser Workers

**SEND \$1**

Get Samson Pocket Gym and Chart, with Seed-Lax combination complete (Sells for \$3.00).

SEND \$10.00. Get 1 Dozen Samson Pocket Gyms and Charts and 1 Dozen Seed-Lax Combinations (Sells for \$36). 25% deposit on C. O. D. orders.

**EDUCATIONAL HEALTH FOUNDATION**  
165 West Monroe Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

**CASH IN \$20 A DAY**

**GAS LIGHTER**

**WHY USE MATCHES?**

JUST OUT! Lights gas instantly without sparks or flame. Sells like wildfire wherever gas is used.

**\$8.00 Per Gross**

Rush name and address (free sample). One Gross **\$34 Profit** Gives You **Retails 25c**

**FREE SPECIAL**  
1/2 Dozen CROWNITE CIGAR LIGHTERS of Highest Polished Nickel, with Birthstone Setting. Retails \$1.00 Each. With Each Cash Order of One Gross of Gas Lighters.

**Ignition Products Co., Inc.**  
(Sole Manufacturers)  
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**HEALTH LECTURES**

**MANAM** } \$8.00 per 100 Pkges

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**FOOD SCIENCE** } \$8.00 per 100

CONSTIPATION }  
DISEASE—And How To }  
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**MOTHER'S GUIDE** }  
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**VEGETONE SOAP**, \$3.50 per 100. Wrapped 8 to Carton.

**KING POCKET EXERCISER**  
SPECIAL \$35.00 per 100

Send \$1.00 for all these samples.

**NATURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION, Inc.**  
152 West 42d Street, NEW YORK.

**Ruby Glassware**

For Engravers. Sample and Price List, 25c.

**LAMP & GLASS SPECIALTY CO.**  
MONACA, PA.

# Pipes for Pitchmen

Conducted by GASOLINE BILL BAKER  
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

ALTAS, the tooth-powder worker, has returned to New York from the South.

PITCHMEN'S STORES on 125th street, New York, which have been the cream during midwinter, are having a hard tip rallying a tip these days.

SAYS MADAM RAY: "I've tried the best in the big town. Coney Island is, as it ever was, my best spot the year round."

STREET WORKERS selling the song sheets over which the publishers and composers have been making loud noises and calling on the law in vain are multiplying on the streets of New York. They may be found everywhere selling a collection of the latest song hits for a nickel.

THE NORMALLY DULL fog end of the winter season has hit the boys in New York. Most of them are preparing to pull out for their favorite spring spots at the first call of the bluebirds.

SHOPS IN TOLEDO, O., closed down or working short. Chev. plant working only about 20 per cent of the usual force and there are just a few men at the Overland plant.

PITCHMEN making Johnson City and Endicott, N. Y., find business very slow just at this time, the factories working on part time, but prospects are bright for the spring in both of these usually good spots.

GEORGE AND MARY DINELLY have been working the forms in New York for three years straight. George uses eccentric comedy for his bally and always has a good tip in front of his window. Mary handles the inside work.

THE BOYS AND GIRLS at the DeVore Mfg. Co., Columbus, O., were handsomely remembered by B. A. Cayton, who is spending his winter at Miami, Fla., when they received a large crate of Florida oranges, almost two bushels.

W. H. (AUCTION) BROOKS and the missus are in Helena, Ark., and W. H. reports a nice sale of jewelry. He will remain until the bluebirds carol in the North, then may join Joe Garfinkle. He sends greetings to Jimmy Miller and all square-shooting jam men.

MANY PITCHMEN who formerly spent the winter in Boston have not been seen in the Hub this year. Doc Michael Smith and a few others have had the corners and curves of Boston pretty much to themselves since the Christmas holidays.

"JUST A LINE TO SAY I did not open the big health show under canvas the first of the year as I expected to do, but will open about April 1 in Charlotte, N. C., instead," Dock Jack Scharding, the health evangelist, writes from Tampa, Fla. "The outfit is stored in Charlotte. Prof. E. R. Hume has joined me again. The zodiac worker and myself are holding down the big fair here and talking to large crowds. Doc Hankerson is a daily visitor and Doc Hale is on the fairgrounds. Conditions in Florida are not as good as last winter. From here he will invade St. Petersburg, then go to the East Coast."

A SHEETWRITER'S BALLYHOO had the effect of closing the Wheeling (W. Va.) Automobile Auto Show to sheetwriters, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lindmar report. It was the way it was done that antagonized the show officials. "The ringing of a large bronze bell at the opening of the show and the presenta-

**SCARF SETS**

Best Quality 4-Pc. SCARF SETS in Flower BASKET or BIRD Patterns. Assorted colors, red, blue, gold, etc.

**\$5.50 DOZ.** Best Quality 4-Pc. SCARF SETS in Flower BASKET or BIRD Patterns. Assorted colors, red, blue, gold, etc.

25% deposit, balance C. O. D.

**BERK BROS. IMPORT CORP.,**  
543 Broadway, New York City.

**Reduced Prices — Best Quality**

**OUR PRICES ARE LOWEST**

Write for New Price Lists and Special Offer Spectacle Kit.

**The BEST**

B.B.32—All Shell Skull Bow Spectacles, all numbers. Per Doz., \$2.15; Gr., \$23.50

Here Is A Big MONEY MAKER

"Goldtone" SPECTACLE

B.B.34—"Goldtone" Shell Rim Spectacles, with gold-plated Bridge and soft Cable Bows, all Focus Numbers. Large Round Lenses. DOZEN \$4.50; GROSS \$51.00. Catalog Mailed Free. Write at Once.

**NEW ERA OPTICAL CO.,** 21 North Wabash, CHICAGO.

**SGT. FRANK POULOS**

**POCKET GYMNASIUM**

With Complete Illustrated Chart

**\$35 Per 100**

Genuine Fina rubber with new improved one-inch grip and reinforced sides. Retails for \$1.50. Box marked \$3.00. Chart shows photos of every maneuver, posed by Sgt. Poulos. Also endorsements and photos from famous authorities. 25% Deposit, Balance C. O. D.

**Poulos Health Inst.**  
1697 Broadway, N. Y. C.  
Phone, Columbus 6828.

Sample, \$1.00.

**MEDICINE MEN**

We put up the best selling Herb Package on the market. Formula attached, at the lowest price consistent with the real medicinal qualities of the ingredients.

Also Tonics, Liniments, Nerve Tonic Tablets, Salves and Soaps.

All under your own name if you wish.

**SERVICE THE BEST. ASK OUR CUSTOMERS.**

**BECKER CHEMICAL CO.**  
235 Main St. (Established 1890). CINCINNATI, O.

**BIG MONEY BEING MADE**

By Agents, Dealers, Pitchmen with our

**FRAMED OILETTES**

Reproductions of well-known OIL PAINTINGS by Master Artists. WRITE QUICK. Also other big sellers. JAS. LEE CO., 29 S. Clinton, Chicago.

**Yours for the Asking!**

Big Catalog of Medicines, Perfumes and Powders for coupon workers, Specialties, etc.

**The DeVore Mfg. Co.**  
Mfrs. Chemists,  
309-19 S. 4th St., COLUMBUS, O.

**DON'T LET THEM FOOL YOU MY PENS SELL**

**GUARANTEED SOLID GOLD PENS!**

**GOLD PENS, \$4.00** Jumbo Size. **\$5.00**

Medium. Doz. \$4.00. Dozen. \$5.00

With 1/4 Bands. \$4.50. With 1/2 Bands. Doz. \$5.50

Dozen. \$4.00. Dozen. \$5.00

PENCILS to Match. Gross **\$21.00**

**SOLID ROD STOCK**

All Colors, Including Pearl Effect. Dozen, \$8.00; with 1/4 Bands, Dozen, \$8.50.

Pencils to Match. Doz., \$3.00; Gross, \$30.00.

All first-class Merchandise and Workmanship. No seconds, no job lots. Yours for service at all times. Get my new Price List.

**NEW PRICE on Black and White Mottled Jumbo, Pearl Effect, Plated Points, 1/4 Bands. Dozen, \$3.50. Pencils to Match, \$2.50 Dozen. Complete Sets, \$65.00 Gross.**

**JAMES KELLEY, The Fountain Pen King, 487 Broadway, New York**  
180 West Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

**MAKE BIG MONEY**

Just out! Lights gas instantly without sparks or flame. Sells like wildfire wherever gas is used. Retails for 25c.

**MYSTERY GAS LIGHTER**

Packed on individual cards with instructions. Sample, 10c. Rush \$7.50 per Gross or \$1.00 per Dozen. NEW METHOD MFG. CO., Desk BB-4, Bradford, Pa.





**SELL MEXICAN DIAMOND**

GEMS and Clean Up Big Money! To prove this marvelous Gem positively matches the finest genuine Diamond SIDE-BY-SIDE, we will send you this massive Tooth Belcher fine gold filled reproduction of a 1900 Diamond Ring for only \$2.89 (Our Cat. Price, \$8.50). Fine \$1 Ring Case Free.

SALESMAN'S OUTFIT of 6 Rings and Cases, assorted sizes, for only \$18.

SEND NO MONEY. We ship C. O. D. Write quick for Cat. and Inside Salesman's Free Sample Case proposition.

MEXICAN GEM CO., Dept. NR, Monterey, Calif. Square Dealers with Billboard readers for 26 years.

**75 WEEKLY IS EASY**

ACCIDENT PREVENTER. First Salesman made 185 first week. Samples and selling instructions furnished free.

ALDIS, 4739 Adkins Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

**ELGIN WATCHES** In Lots of 6, \$5.75 ea. Slightly used. Look like new. Open faces. 1 jeweler. White, green and yellow cases. Shipped open for your inspection. C. O. D. Send 25% deposit. All guaranteed. FEDERAL JEWELRY & LOAN CO., 1215 Grand, Kansas City, Mo.

**NAIL FILES**

Make Big Profits With Our Line of Nickel Plated Files \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.25 Gross

**FOLDING KNIFE FILES** \$5.50 and \$6.50 Gross

Buy direct from the manufacturers and obtain the benefits of quality and price. Send ten cents for sample. All goods F. O. B. Newark. 25% deposit, balance C. O. D. Send 25% deposit. Register in mail. Postoffice money order. No checks accepted. No catalog.

**BUCHANAN & BURNS CO.** 861 Mt. Prospect Avenue, NEWARK, N. J.

**SALESMEN**

RADIOPACK, which science has now added to its achievements, heats itself in a few minutes—automatically—without fire, gas or electricity. Scores an instantaneous "Hit" wherever introduced. Thousands sold in New York. CHOSEN TO EQUIP THE BYRD ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION. We need salesmen who wish to build a permanent and repeat business on a liberal commission basis. Apply by letter ONLY. COOPER & COOPER, INC., Radiopack Division, Dept. C, 23 CHH St., New York City.

Something Different. No Friction. MAKE UP TO \$40 A DAY

Showing My Mystery Lighter to Men. What Makes It Light? All Guaranteed. No Friction. New Principle of Ignition. Sample with Sales Plan, 25c.

Sample Gold or Silver Plated, \$1.00. Agents write for proposition. New Mech. Co., Dept. B-6, Bradford, Pa.

**AGENTS BUY DIRECT AT LOWEST MILL PRICES.**

Make Big Money. Laugh at Competition. Men's Latest Fancy Hose, Doz. \$1.45, \$2.10. Men's Heavy Silky Rayon Hose, Doz. 2.25. Men's Latest Silk Ties, Doz. \$2.75, 3.25. Finest Art Silk Knitted Ties, Doz. 1.50. Latest Pointers Silk Hose, Doz. 2.75. Ladies' Fr. Heel Silk Hose, Doz. \$4.25, 7.00. Genuine Full-Fashioned Hose, Doz. 11.00. Ladies' Pure Rayon Bloomers, Doz. 7.50. Finest Rayon Combinations, Doz. 19.50. Shadow-Proof Rayon Slips, Doz. 12.00. Plus postage. 10% deposit, balance C. O. D. Satisfaction guaranteed. Catalog FREE.

**SUPERIOR KNITTING CO.** Dept. 14, New Haven, Conn.

**REAL INDIAN BEAD WORK**

Coats, Shirts, Vests, Leggings, Eagle Quill War Bonnets, Dance Hats, Moccasins, Tobacco Bags, Pipes, Bows, Etc. Large stock Sioux Beaded Wearing Apparel and Indian Bells. All new. Price list free.

**L. W. STILWELL, Drummond, S. D.**

in Tampa last week and found Wilson and the missus there with knife sharpeners; Mr. and Mrs. Abe Greenbaum, with whitestones; George Glue, wire goods; Bill Lanahan and Hursch, with peelers; Hartsook the Great, with Parisian diamonds; Fido Kerr and the missus, with peelers, and Al Smith, wire goods. Looked to me as if they would all be pleased to get their money back. Conditions in Florida not so good anywhere. The fellows not here are not overlooking anything."

JOHN LOONEY is working around the home base, Brockton, Mass., this winter and making a pitch on hula dancers and the song sheets that have been stirring up composers and publishers. No interference in the Massachusetts city and sales big, according to Doc Morrison, working the same city. Looney is the only pitchman working on the streets in Brockton since the opening of the month, says Doc. Everybody else indoors. Looney has teamed up for the spring campaign with Charlie Hurley, of Springfield, Mass., and they will take to the road early in March with their new car.

"DOWN IN THE SUNNY SOUTH we have waded thru four heavy snows since Christmas," Doc G. T. Hylan pipes from Meridian, Miss. "Coldest season in 35 years. Everything seems on the blink. Have been here since December 20 and haven't made an ace note. Don't expect to until it quits snowing and raining. Several of the boys stopped over here lately. They all reported no biz. I worked three joints here in January—pearls, pens and blades—and didn't get the nut. The natives haven't got it. Would like to hear the experiences of others, especially Art Rust, of needle fame, and W. S."

THE TWO KIDS you have been listening to from Station WKRC, Alms Hotel, Cincinnati, are—just as you expected—the children of Harry Corry, the jam auctioneer of the melodious voice and the bugle ballyhoo. They are Harry, Jr., 10 years old, and Billy, 8. After the hit the Corry Kids scored when they made their debut two weeks ago, they were re-engaged for last week, and it is likely they will be a permanent team on the program. Harry, Jr. is the lead tenor. The harmony singing of the little fellows has won them plenty of listeners. They were trained for the radio programs by Harry, Sr.

NED HOUSE is just as active as ever in the game despite reports to the contrary. Fred T. Slater pipes from Johnson City, N. Y., February 7. "I met the man from Jawa February 4 in Birmingham, N. Y.," says Fred, "at a drug store, where he was passing out the Mexican diamonds at a lively rate and raking in much mazuma. He was happy and smiling. Ned had not much time to confab, but he said he had a big surprise in store for his friends in the near future. Chief Running Elk, I see by pipes, has returned from Florida. He is sure one square guy. He and the Princess Beppo are deserving of success. All who know them are glad to read of the chief's return. Here's health and long life to the pair of straight workers."

"NOTHING SUCCEEDS like success," Andy Stenson shoots from Denver. "Prosperity always did and always will

**4-PIECE SCARF SETS**

No. 55B—4-Pc. Scarf Set, consisting of one large Runner, one large Dolly and two smaller ones.

**\$6.00 Per Dozen Sets**

No. 55B—4-Pc. Special Scarf Sets, with beautiful heavy lace edging.

**\$7.00 Per Dozen Sets** 25% with order.

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1132 South Halsted St., CHICAGO, ILL.

**IMPORT YOUR OWN GOODS**

German Export Magazine published in English offers numerous bargains in latest articles, novelties and new inventions. Also opportunities for obtaining profitable distributing agencies. Sample copy, 80c, postpaid (none free or on memo). Sample monthly copies, \$1.00. Subscription price, \$3.00 per year for 12 monthly copies with special privileges.

**SQUARE DEAL SUPPLY CO.**  
B-246 Fifth Avenue, NEW YORK.

**BIG FREE Sample Offer**

To Concessionaires and Agents.

HERE'S THE PROOF OF BIG MONEY

we were the first to create this famous ONE-OUNCE NARCISSE PERFUME, cellophane wrapped, just like the \$5.00 and \$10.00 Bottles of Perfume, giving it the finish and flash that you need in your game. LOOKS LIKE A \$2.50 NUMBER—Costs you less than 8c per bottle—Think of it!

Only \$11.00 a Gross

A full One-Ounce, square shaped crystal bottle, cellophane wrapped, with black oblong stopper and packed in beautiful orange and black box.

Free Sample

If you want to see sample before ordering, just write and we will be glad to send you one by return mail.

**Important**

Yes, we have special combination offers and furnish coupons. Our advertisement offers free service in assisting you along this line. We also have the biggest FLASH of all time in a special 10-piece Combination Toilet Requisite Set that you can get for only \$1.00 and make a big profit. See big display which is sent upon request FREE OF CHARGE.

LOOKS LIKE A \$2.50 NUMBER. You can stand this number up against any \$2.50 or \$3 bottle of perfume. It looks like a big money's worth, and it is. The quality and appearance is there.

**How to Order**

Send no money. Just send coupon for free sample. If you want to place quantity orders you can do so. Our tremendous manufacturing facilities enable us to carry a big stock, so we guarantee to ship same day your order is received. Price, \$11.00 per Gross, F. O. B. Tyrone, Pa. A deposit of 50% required with all orders and you can pay balance C. O. D. If you wire for goods, be sure to wire remittance to avoid delay.

**BAREE, Inc.**

Dept. 302-C, Tyrone, Pa.

**BAREE, INC.**

Dept. 302-C, Tyrone, Pa. Your special package of 1-oz. Narcisse Perfume looks good to me. Kindly send quantity checked below: Gross at \$11.00 per Gross. Enclosed find deposit, amounting to 50% of the order. I will pay balance C. O. D. I also include instructions for shipping. If you prefer proving sample first, just mark X here [ ]

Name .....  
Street .....  
City ..... State .....

**CALIFORNIA GOLD COINS** mounted on rings... **NEW-FLASH** \$5.00 per DOZEN - Sample 75 cents

**BLICK CO. 430 SO. BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

**HUSTLERS STREETMEN**

**VICTORY NEEDLE PACKAGE** 5 Papers all Gold-Eye Needles, 11 assorted Darners, 1 Bodkin. In handsome lithographed covers. No. BB57. Per Dozen, 65c; per Gross, \$7.50.

**TOOTHPICK KNIVES** Three Blades. Assorted Color Handles. BB538—Bulk Packing. Per Gross, \$2.25. BB390—1 Dozen on Card. Gross, 2.50

SALESBOARD OPERATORS—Full Line Premium Goods and Boards. Special Catalogue, free.

We carry Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware, Novelties, Notions, etc. Deposit required on all C. O. D. orders. Large Catalogue free. Wholesale only.

**SHRYOCK-TODD NOTION CO., 824 N. Eighth Street, ST. LOUIS, MO.**

**MEDICINE SHOWS**

Can play the same spots year after year with the Famous NUTRO Line and MAKE MORE MONEY

The high quality merchandise in exceptionally attractive wrappers and labels assure you repeat business. Positively nothing like it ever offered from a platform. Send \$1.00 for 6 full-sized samples.

**NUTRO MEDICINE COMPANY, 16 So. Peoria St., CHICAGO, ILL.**

**FAST SELLERS FOR PITCHMEN**

Folding Paper Tricks, Gross, \$4.00  
Key Ring and Dime Trick, Gross, \$2.50  
Fiddles (Jumping Peg), Gross, 4.00  
Noisy Letters (Buzzers), Gross, 2.50

Send 25c for 4 Samples and Big List of Other Sellers.

**LEA BROTHERS, 128 East 23d St., New York.**

**A NEW ONE, BOYS! THE STEPS**

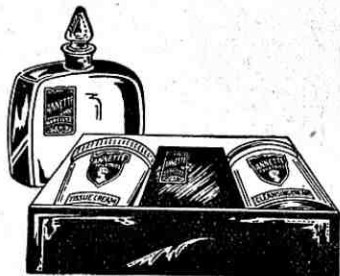
"Climbing Up the Golden Stair," \$9.50 a Gross

Either Ladies' or Gent's, 12 Assorted Samples, \$1.00.

**ARLINGTON W. BARNES**  
24 Calender, Providence, R. I.

# THE LEADER OF THEM ALL QUALITY COUNTS

Get with the pack-  
age that repeats.  
Now is the time  
to get ready for  
the spring sales.  
Write for prices.



What our inde-  
structible Pearl  
Package did last  
year is well known  
to all salesmen.

**SAMPLE  
PREPAID  
75c**

**SAMPLE  
PREPAID  
60c**

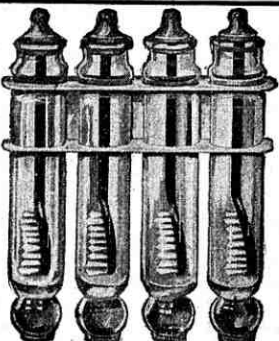
**Illustrated Coupons \$1.00 per Thousand.**

**ANNETTE PRODUCTS CO., 4042 MAIN ST., KANSAS CITY, MO**

## 137 Sold in One Day

By James Bell

James Bell, of Haddenfield N. J., sold 137 Sterals in one day. J. Monsa, of Chicago, averaged 69 Sterals every day for two weeks and sold over 100 in one day. G. Birnbaum, of Chicago, averaged over 59 Sterals every day for two weeks. Billy Halcomb, of Clarksdale, Miss., a 12-year-old boy, has a bank account of over \$400 made in six months selling Sterals. 10850 Sold in 6 Months by One Distributor. One of our distributors sold 10,850 in 6 months without previous experience. His commissions were over \$5,000 for the 6 months. Why don't you get into the big money class?



The Steral Tooth Brush comes in units of one, two or four. The charge in the bulb in the bottom gives off germ-killing fumes. The brush comes out sweet and clean and is sterile. The Steral sells on sight to a person who believes in the individual drinking cup and individual towel. After 6 to 12 months, tube and all is thrown away and you have a repeat sale.

Agents Make Big Money

Start a crew or take a territory yourself. You need very little money to start.

**DR. THOMPSON'S STERAL  
TOOTHBRUSH CO.  
803 So. St. Clair St.,  
Toledo, Ohio**

## LION and TIGER MATS, RUGS and SCARFS

Attractive and lifelike in appearance. One of the biggest selling novelties we ever made. Send for Samples today.  
LION OR TIGER MAT. Size 11x21 in. (Sample, Postpaid, 50c)..... \$ 4.25 Dozen  
LION OR TIGER RUG OR TABLE THROW, 24x40 in. (Sample, Postpaid, \$1.35)..... 12.50 Dozen

**BRADFORD & CO., Inc.**  
Dept. W., St. Joseph, Mich.

**\$36.00 a GROSS, WHILE THEY LAST**

**GOLD MOUNTED BILLFOLDS**

Made of SPECIAL ASSORTED COWHIDE.

Formerly \$48.00 a Gross.

**KING LEATHER GOODS MFG. CO., B. Street, Indiana, Pa.**

## WIRE-WORKERS

Open Seam 12-Karat Gold-Plated wire: 1/10, 1/20, 1/30, 1/40, 1/60 and "X" qualities; hard or soft, square or round, in 5-ounce coils. Prompt service. Quality guaranteed.

**A. HOLT & COMPANY, Inc.**

227 Eddy Street, PROVIDENCE, R. I.  
Manufacturers of Wire for Wire-Workers for Over 50 Years Send for Price Lists.

## OUR CATALOG

Of Easter and Spring Novelties to the trade now ready for mailing. Dealers please write for copy.

**I. ROBBINS & SON, 203 Market St., Pittsburgh, Pa.**

## PEARL NECKLACES

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KIND.

By the dozen or thousand. We import these Beads in very large quantities and our prices are right. Also lead in Bead Box prices. Write for Price List. All Spangler Merchandise sold under money-back guarantee.

**SPANGLER, Inc., 160 N. Wells Street, Chicago**

## CAMPAIGN ADVERTISING

Political Campaigns will soon be here. We are headquarters for Muslin Banners, Signs and other Specialties bearing the Union Label, to advertise candidates. Write for samples and prices. SALESMEN AND SIDELINE MEN, get our money-making proposition.

**BRADFORD & CO., Inc., St. Joseph, Mich.**

win friends. My voluble and valuable partner, Harry Levitt, with Dominick Lepore and myself opened up a beautiful store here. Business continues very good. We have been jamming here now four weeks to the satisfaction of all concerned and we are quite proud of the reputation we have earned. We left Toledo with everything hunky-dory and can always go back there again. Why? Because we work clean. We hope to make this town ours for a long time. By the way, what has happened to my pal, Earl Jacobs? Has he broken his right arm? Drop a fella a line, Earl; also Nat Golden. Like to hear from the boys who don't sleep with their shoes on. Long live the legitimate jam."

ONE TOO MANY Running Elks has prompted Chief Running Elk, of the North American Indians outfit, to call attention to the fact that the Running Elk who has been operating a med. show in Louisiana this winter is not the same Running Elk now in Cayuga, Ont., and identified with the team of Chief Running Elk and Princess Beppa. The chief argues that Chief Running Elk, of the Sanguatone Medicine Company, whose return to Buffalo from the South was noted in the issue of February 8, ought to change his name. He says the name belongs to him (the original) by birth and that the Sanguatone chief merely adopted it. While there is no law to prevent John Smith from using a name that belongs to millions of other Smiths, the original Running Elk contends that as a professional courtesy and to prevent confusion of names in the business, the Sanguatone man should yield to his objection in this case and adopt another name.

CHARLES J. (CHUCK) CLANCY wishes to thank the many friends who cheered him with letters during his illness. Piping from New York, he says: "My operation was highly successful and I expect to be fully recovered about March 15. Then, after a 10-month layoff, I will be in a mood to go out and get it. Best wishes to Simon Bowman and Joe Ghella and to Pat McGonigle and other friends with him. To Brother Tom I want to say (as Zip Hibler would pen it): Smile and stick, kid; smile and stick. What if it all looks dark and thick? Things have been lots worse before and are liable to be lots worse some more. Out with your chest, kid; up on your toes. The best defense is a left to the nose. Whenever you feel that you're out and thru, remember the other birds tired as you. The fight ain't won 'til you hear the bell. Smile and stick, kid, and give 'em hell. I am making the Hub with Dutch in a month or so and will visit you. Still getting my mail at the 55th street address, New York. Regards to Jerry McCarthy, Joe (Dodo) Walsh and Dave Silverman."

WIDOW ROLLINS' DIARY—It's Macon, Ga., and February 2. Left the Fringer Hospital, Chattanooga, Tenn., January 18, recovered from a terrible illness, pneumonia. I must write the many folks who wrote to me when I was so seriously ill soon as I get time, including Mrs. Anna Dexter, New York; Walter Stenning, Detroit jeweler; Mrs. Jessie Walker, Sid Sidenberg, A. B. (Zip) Hibler, Jack (Zim) Zimmerman, Alexander Spear and others. I'll not forget you. H. O. Bright, write me. At Rockmark, Ga., met two charming men, L. H. Baxter and Mr. McGee, sheetwriters, and farther on met another fine fellow, Miller, the rummender man. At Atlanta I met Kenner, known as Count Kenner, who had a fine layout of cement. He gave me some of the cement to mend my

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wanted by Everyone

**200% to 300% Profit**  
Photo-Statuettes, Compacts, Medallions, Cigarette Cases, etc. Only three sales a day means \$50 to \$75 profit for you each week.

**Old Established Firm**  
With modern, up-to-the-minute line of fast, easy sellers and world-wide reputation for square dealing.  
Write for Free Catalog and Free Sample Offer.

**CRUVER MFG. CO.**  
Dept. 32  
2456-58-60 Jackson Blvd.,  
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## SLIGHTLY USED WATCHES

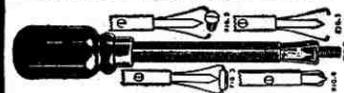
ELGINS, WALTHAMS, ILLINOIS and HAMILTON POCKET and RAILROAD WATCHES.

ALL PRICES AND ALL SIZES White, Green and Yellow Cases. LOOK LIKE NEW. ALL GUARANTEED. Write for Catalog.

**FEDERAL JEWELRY & LOAN CO.**  
1215 Grand, KANSAS CITY, MO.  
Wholesale—Diamonds and Watches.

## SALESMEN WANTED

Sell Cox Holdfast Screw Drivers



Sells on sight to Mechanics for Auto, Radio and Electrical Work. Self-Holding, Self-Relieving. Send 50c for sample and ask how to get Salesman's Outfit Free.  
S. J. COX, Mgr., Dept. A, Franklin, Pa.

## A Reminder of Lower Prices

No. 70 Gas. Trans. Balloons. Gross \$3.00  
Stim. Jim Workers. Dozen 2.50  
We carry a complete line of Concession Goods.

**WELLINGTON NOVELTY CO.**

447 S. Los Angeles St., LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

## 16-SIZE USED ELGIN or WALTHAM WATCHES

Rob. Hun. Movements. In Beautiful Brand-New White Open-Face Cases. Handsomely Engraved. Seven-Jewel. A sorted Dial. In Lots of Six, Each..... **\$3.95**

Same in 15-Jewel \$4.95. Same in 17-Jewel \$5.95. Order today, as there is but a limited quantity. Deposit required on all orders. Circular on request. "Our Prices Are the Lowest in the U. S."

**SPARBER & CO.**  
121 North Broadway, ST. LOUIS, MO.

## Big Profits!

Own your own business, stamping K & Y Checks, P. O. B., Name Plates, Sample, with name and address, 25 cents.

**HART MFG. CO.**  
397 Degraw Street, Brooklyn, - New York.

## MEDICINE MEN

Have Medicines, Toilet Goods put up under your own private label and carton. Private Formula work a Specialty. Write for Catalog.

**THE QUAKER HERB CO.**  
Manufacturing Pharmacists,  
Laurel and Freeman Ave., CINCINNATI, O.

## ONE MINUTE MEN!

NEW 1930 PRICES ON DOMESTIC BROOCHES  
Style "B"—Bronze, \$1.00 per 100, \$9.00 per 1,000.  
Style "B"—German Silver, \$1.25 per 100, \$11.50 per 1,000.  
Style "A"—Bronze, \$1.15 per 100, \$10.50 per 1,000.  
Style "A"—German Silver, \$1.40 per 100, \$12.50 per 1,000.  
Domestic Button Plates, 80c per 100, \$7.50 per 1,000.

Also Our Reg. \$40 "Camerascope" at only \$35. Tripod charged extra. Reg. 25c Package Developer, 20c.

Write for Further Particulars.  
**FREEDMAN CAMERA CO., 233 E. 117th St., N. Y.**

## SALESMEN

GET THIS NEW  
BIG MONEY MAKER  
PATENTED SCREWDRIVER  
HOLDZIT



Get the insideout this today. Write or write for information. Save time. Send \$1.50 for Trial Sample.

We will refund your money any time within a week if you are not satisfied with our proposition.

**THE ABCO MFG. SALES CO.**  
PAINESVILLE, OHIO  
REFERENCES:  
The Painesville National Bank,  
The Painesville Chamber of Commerce.

## Learn to PAINT SIGNS and SHOW CARDS

We quickly teach you by mail, or at school, in spare time. Big demand for signs, interesting work. Oldest, foremost school. **EARN \$30 TO \$200 WEEKLY**  
Otto Wilson, Md., home-study graduate, made \$2,000 from his business in one year. John Vassar, N. Y., home-study graduate, made \$1,000 in one year. Write for complete information. **DETROIT SCHOOL OF LETTERING**  
182 Stinson Ave., Est. 1899, DETROIT, MICH.

# "The Daddy of 'em All" More Popular than Ever A REAL Dollar's Worth

Worked to death? NO! It has never stopped making money for the operator. A genuine value and a flash that keeps clicking when the others stop!

**One Ounce Narcisse Perfume.**  
**One Ounce Jasmin Perfume.**  
**Three Ounces Face Powder.**  
**Two Ounces Cleansing Cream.** **36c**  
Per Deal

Also supplied with one Perfume, Cleansing Cream, Tissue Cream, Face Powder. Packed in strong black box, gold seal labels, a strictly high type package that will put your sales over successfully.

Prepaid Sample, 75c.  
Coupon \$1.00 per 1,000.

**THREE-PIECE PEARL DEAL**  
**15 In. Pearls.**  
**One Ounce Perfume.**  
**Three Ounces Face Powder.** **30c**  
Complete

You can really flash this deal. We invite your inspection. Send 60c for prepaid sample. Let us prove to you we have the most substantial deal of its kind on the market.

All orders 50% with order, balance C. O. D.

**UNIVERSAL LABORATORIES**  
DALLAS, TEXAS



bones in case they crack again before I get to Florida, he said. Funny guy is the Count. At Macon I met Frank (Swing Ball) Fry. He was making mugs. Sure he made mine, and said, "Widow, that is good of you."

"THE GREAT OIL BOOM reported at Corpus Christi, Tex., is really a great oil bloomer," Helen Pence shoots from the Texas city, adding: "Even now rooms are not obtainable for love or money (February 7), and I think I will leave before sundown." Helen incloses a writeup she drew during her brief stay by taking a dive off the municipal pier. She tried the water in a bathing suit some weeks ahead of the season, thereby attracting the attention of a multitude on the waterfront. "I was right", she says. "The water was warm."

"I MUST ASK THE BOYS to help me bemoan the illness of that fine promoter of special events, Johnny Sullivan, of this town," Chief Pantogal pipes from Lewiston, Me. He says further: "I am sure the boys who trek this part of the Maine woods in the middle of the big game season will be sorry to hear of the noted sportsman's illness. He is in a hospital at Augusta suffering from a nervous breakdown. The last big game I caught in Lewiston was not moose, but the flock of greenbacks to be found at the armory once a year when Johnny holds his annual Pageant of Progress. This year we may miss the dough."

DOC N. T. MAXWELL SHOOTS from Madison, Ind., January 30: "This is to advise that the Standard Remedy Company, Louisville, has conducted a store show here for three weeks, and business has been beyond our expectations. The reader is right, and the people are more than right. In fact, the nicest folks we have had the pleasure of working before and to. Mr. Standard and wife were very welcome visitors Wednesday night. The show and store are in the capable hands of Jack Morgan, who is well known to the outdoor show world. Performers consist of six people who are giving a high-class bill each afternoon and night. Let us hope the troupes to follow in this town will keep it the nice little town it is, for goodness knows they are few and far between. Our roster: Frances Taylor, Bobbie Wood, Mrs. Hazel Younger, Tex Younger, Mystic Courtney and N. T. Maxwell."

CAPTAIN DAVID LEE Medicine Show Notes—We have been out all winter, showing any place we can get, from real opera houses to hay barns and blacksmith shops, carrying four people and just getting by. We have a new tent for this coming summer. Dramatic end made by Driver, of Chicago, and she is a dandy. Sleeping and cook tents will be brand new. Two good trucks to pull us out and a run around for the advance. And all we get is honest. We leave no bad taste in their mouths when we leave town. Work straight as a string and can always go back, which a good many cannot. I do not believe in ill-gotten gains. We carry three loads of baggage. Eat and sleep in the halls. And we eat, believe me. Our four people: Peat Lilly, piano, straight in acts; Woodrow Schlegel, car mechanic and general utility; Mrs. Lee works in acts, sells tickets, runs picture machine, keeps books and is head cook. Captain Lee, lecture, does all comedy in advance and billposter. We make two and three-week stands.

REFERRING to the new organization of pitchers formed in Cincinnati with Jeff Davis, editor of *The Picket* and celebrated as king of the hoboes, T. H. Johanns, secretary of Los Angeles Lodge No. 1, N. P. S. P. A., writes: "We are certainly glad to read that there is a bunch in the East with nerve enough to stick up for their rights. How are the city dads going to know what pitchers want if they say nothing? Pitchmen should remember that the thing to do when they want something is follow in the footsteps of the Chamber of Commerce and kindred business organizations. We have too many pitchers who would rather move to another spot than part with a few dollars to let those that make the laws know that there are still a few real Americans left. Our smoker was pulled off in great style. We had standing room only. I never saw such a fine gang of pitchers as we have here now. You almost have to fight to get into our clubrooms, which holds 80 people. There were 18 men working on the lot at Third and Main streets last week at one time. Here is a list of a few

## STERLING SILVER

At the Lowest Prices ever quoted. Set with 33-facet Sumatra Gems. Will wear forever. All chromium plated.

**B401—Ladies' 1-Carat at Size. Pierced Design. PER DOZEN \$3.00**

**B402—Ladies' 3/4-Carat at Size. Octagon Top. PER DOZEN \$4.50**

**B403—Men's 1/2-Carat at Size. Fancy Engraved. PER DOZEN \$5.50**

**B404—Men's 1-Carat at Size. Satin Finish Oxidized. PER DOZEN \$5.50**

Send \$2.00 for our new sample line No. 400, consisting of six assorted Men's and Ladies' Sterling Silver Rings, in green velvet tray.

HAVE YOUR BOOK OF BARGAINS FOR DEMONSTRATORS, CARNIVAL AND FAIR WORKERS? WRITE FOR IT TODAY.

25% deposit required on all orders.

**ALTER & COMPANY**  
165 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

### BIG REPEAT DEMAND

**HICK'S NICKEL-PACKS AND DIMM-PACKS**

Make \$50.00 and up a week easy with popular line, including Aspirin, Breathweets, Lighter Mints and other guaranteed necessities. 100% to 150% PROFIT TO YOU!

Write quick for new big profit plan.

CHAS. M. HICK & CO., Dept. 5018-B, L., 1018 S. Wabash Avenue, Chicago.

### AGENTS WANTED

**ELECTRIC SUNSHINE "HOMECURE"**

Therapeutic Health Lamp. Buy direct from the manufacturer. Complete, ready for use. Largest Therapeutic Lamp Mfr. in U. S.

**HOME LABORATORIES.** Est. 1906, 194 11th Ave., New York City. Write at once for Agent's Proposition. Territory being given now. Special Price, Fairs, Bazaars and Carnivals.

### FELT RUGS

Buy Direct From Importers at Wholesale Prices

No. 33P—24 in. Neck-lace Sample, 15c; Doz., \$1.56.

Send \$1 for 5 assorted Samples. We also import 12 different kinds and colors of Pearls. Write for prices and free wholesale catalog.

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### TOBIN BROS.

128 Summer St., CHELSEA, MASS.

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anyone who ever got any money out of the Southern territory. Well, Ed Myers got \$10,000 in Texas in one season's pitching. John A. Hartman, who has been pitching in Texas 40 years, maintains a nice home, has educated a family and has money left. I can name a few papermen who work profitably in the South every year during the fall and winter months. They all own cars, and many of them own their homes in Texas. They are as follows: Powell brothers, Eddie Yegley, Colonel Menoag, Tom Bulger, Carl Windt, C. Wrightman, Dokes Silpsenger, Frank Whatley and the De-bodys brothers. These men are capable, which is a very necessary factor whether it's South or East or North or West. Mr. Kennedy speaks of road men who had to walk out of the South. Say, fellows, there are people who would be compelled to walk out of heaven. The difference is in the man. Conditions are bad at times in all parts of the United States. If you are capable and will work you get the breaks. You must adjust yourself to conditions. Mort Steel, as a boy, started working paper in the South. Now he has four or five crews working for him and a fat bank account. I have worked paper for years. Have made several trips across the continent. At times I found it tough in all parts of the country. I am now 61 years old and have been off the road five years. I have a nice little hotel in Texas. The boys patronize my place, and I have never extended one of them a favor that was not returned. Think it over, Tom. Probably those boys you speak of sell can openers."

**NEW YORK CITY NOTES**, by Charles (Doc) Miller: Here's a warning. No readers are issued now to street workers. A special squad of police has been assigned to enforcement of the order from headquarters. In most cases, when arrests are made, the fine is only \$3, but the boys take a long chance, just the same. . . There are 10 pitch stores operating in

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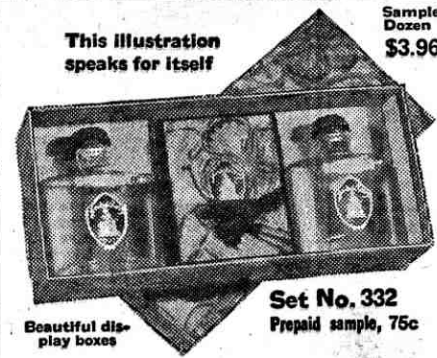
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Greater New York more than ever before and three more going every fine Sunday at Coney Island. Some are doing fair, others just getting by. . . The Stevenses, well known to many in the burg, are taking life easy at Albany, N. Y. . . Joyce Maxwell Reynolds, who has been glorifying the pitch game wherever she goes and whose passouts have been the talk of the town, is seriously ill at her home, Coney Island. Everybody in the business here is hoping for the speedy recovery of the clever pitchwoman whose culture, personality and appearance have made her a great success."

**ZIP HIBLER**, spreading his corn remedy in New Orleans, observes: "It looks to me as if the historical aspect of the old Crescent City is a little mused up. Especially is this apparent on the Spanish side of the city, where I notice the balconies over which the serenitas once leaned are now decorated with linens hung out to dry. The antique (or junk) dealers here are longing for tourist trade. However, the spirit of democracy still prevails, and a stranger somehow feels welcome. I always knew Frank Libby was a hot promoter of automobile trades, but I never knew until today that he is the king of spot promoters. That bird is the only pitchman working on Canal street. He is passing out glasscutters at the rate of three gross a day. He has his eye on another automobile and says he'll ride me into Florida, where I can meet the Kennans and the Widow Rollins and prove to Dusty Rhoads that I am the original Doctor Zip. How about it, Mac and Mary, Tom and Oruger? Pipe in."

## EXPLOITATIONS

(Continued from page 12)

photography brings in the orchestra for pop, musical intervals. In making up the trailer on the schnozzle trio, it was necessary to take animated shots without bringing in sound until the film had reached the studio, where music was fitted to the action. However, this was so cleverly done that it is unnoticeable. Work on sound trailers for other RKO feature stage attractions will continue as soon as the opportunity presents itself.

**RADIOED VAUDEVILLE** — A novel method for holding the attention of theatergoers in Memphis, Tenn., where Sunday shows are forbidden, was tried last Sunday evening by putting the vaudeville bill on the air from the new Orpheum Theater. The opening day for this house is Saturday, and Sunday the bill usually lays off with continuance on Monday. The radioing of the acts was a new idea for holding the attention of the town and will be continued only if showing favorable results.

**ICE TIEUP**—RKO is exploiting the fact that Sol Gould, comedian, uses cakes of ice in his act. In every town he plays, the house managers attempt a tieup with the local ice company whereby a streamer is carried on all their trucks proclaiming the fact they are de-

livering ice to him at the theater. A tieup scheduled for the summer will have Gould distributing a truckload of ice to the poor.

**THERMOMETER GAG**—A house manager playing a well-known comedian had a huge thermometer built in his lobby and instead of numbers like 40, 50 and 60 degrees, replaced them with "laughs", "action", "suspense", "thrills", etc. In order to make the display stand out better, he devised a contraption whereby a piece of pasteboard, resembling a red temperature indicator, kept moving up and down.

**DANCE MATINEES**—For those houses where matinees need bolstering, RKO managers are being tipped off to use dance teams playing there in a try for the female trade. The teams could be advertised to present the latest dance steps at matinees exclusively, which should attract the femmes anxious to learn the latest Broadway ballroom routines.

## Fox Holding Special Over a Second Week

**NEW YORK, Feb. 17.**—Sunny Side Up is being held over a second week at all of the Fox Brooklyn houses, and likewise for four additional days at the Audubon in Manhattan. The vaude has been cut to allow for the length of the picture, and is also held over a second week. The Fox office has decided to adopt the same policy with regard to *Happy Days* early in March, and will play that film two weeks in Brooklyn and one week in Manhattan houses normally split weekers, also cutting the vaude, fare.

## Alma Rubens Makes Two False Starts

**NEW YORK, Feb. 17.**—Alma Rubens, screen "name" who came here from the Coast last week, is evidently finding it difficult to procure a vehicle, for she has delayed the local opening date given her by RKO. She was penciled in for the first half of next week at the Capitol, Union City, and was set for the last half at the Madison, Brooklyn, but pulled out of both dates.

Now she's slated for the first half of March 1 in New Rochelle, tho it's not definite yet. Meanwhile the circuit is getting lots of publicity on the projected booking.

## Flicker Dog's Route

**NEW YORK, Feb. 17.**—Rin-Tin-Tin, dog star of the flickers, has landed a good-sized route from RKO after originally starting out to play a few weeks of Western dates. He is current in Minneapolis and is booked solid, except for two open weeks, up until May 19, when he plays the Hippodrome here.

## REVIEW

(Continued from page 17)

characterization is not unlike that of Miss Ardine, of McKay and Ardine. Neither one is a steal on the other, however. Charming of person and very clever in her acting, Miss Thorne makes a very strong impression on the whole. During a change wait Rose warbles *I Wonder* and does it nicely. Only one gag in the whole 18-minute session that's not so clean. It's the one about the kimono, and right near the finish, too. They can easily cut it without hurting their appeal.

Babe Egan and Her Hollywood Red-heads scored a show stop that almost interfered with the ensuing sound trailers. Miss Egan has an aggregation of 11 fiery gals who are not only a great musical unit, but are very strong on specialties. Almost every miss in the outfit gets a chance to shine in solos. Act is cleverly routined and the ensemble arrangements are high class. One of the few girl bands that does not need bolstering up by the pit men. That trombone player has a delish personality and the little banjost who sings *Redhead* with feet curled on the apron is also the nuts. Not a paluka in the whole cargo. If we must have hands let them all be like this; then we won't feel the compulsion one bit.

ELIAS H. SUGARMAN.

## Keith's Franklin, N. Y.

(Reviewed Wednesday Evening, Feb. 12)

It looked as if an assistant office boy on the RKO booking floor laid out this show. An office boy himself would have done better—he couldn't have done worse. Six of the seven acts contain comedy, and most of it is unworthy for a house just establishing itself firmly on the profit side of the ledger. Only two acts made an impression on the well-filled house, one a new comedy turn and the other a flash. Both stopped the show. This is one of the circuit's two showing houses here; maybe that explains it partly.

Burt and Grace Turner present nothing unusual in the hello spot with their juggling and supposed-to-be comedy. The hefty fem. tosses around a flock of hats, balls and nautical props, while her partner makes frantic efforts for laughs. This time he failed. Only a ripple.

Wright and Merrill laid an egg in the deucer. The male member of this team may be funny, but this audience thought he was a dramatic actor. Billed as a singing skit, the damsel comes across with only one tune, but that was good. She should exercise her larynx a little more.

De Luxe Five blazed away with trumpets, trombones and saxes, and a black-face member of the quintet angles for laughs. The house didn't think he was funny, and it wasn't until they put torch strains into their instruments that they received a burst of applause.

Friend and Wells waltzed into the four spot and were a relief. They had hardly been on a few moments before the house realized that here at last was comedy as billed. The laughs came thick and fast for this pair and they walked off to show-stopping thunder.

Meehan and Shannon slipped over some fair comedy and dancing and rated a good sendoff. Two cute lasses provide the stepping, while the standard bearers are responsible for the comedy intervals.

Ray Stanton and Company took the next-to-closing position with a flock of laugh material that was done last year by Ben Blue. It cannot be said whether Stanton copped it or bought it. Anyhow he registered a fair sendoff.

De Long and Renard closed with a pretty flash, wherein are a six-piece marimba orchestra and a warbling lass. The billed pair present some excellent stepping, each routine well earning the applause received, and the singing fem. aided plenty in garnering the palm music. They stopped the show, probably because of being so much of a relief from the comedy—alleged and genuine.

JOE SCHOENFELD.

## Mrs. Primrose for Interstate

**NEW YORK, Feb. 17.**—Mrs. George Primrose and her *Spirit of Minstrelsy*, nine-piece affair, has landed the Interstate Time and will shove off next week in Oklahoma City. John Healy is featured in the cast, which also includes the Molloy Twins, Eddie Clifford, Fred C. Holmes, E. Booth Platt, Gray Weller and Joe Reilly.

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## VAUDEVILLE NOTES

(Continued from page 13)  
the East, will switch to Loew next week, splitting between the 46th Street and Bedford, Brooklyn. A troupe of eight Gamby-Hale girls is featured.

POTTER AND GAMBLE and Company opened for RKO this first half at the Franklin, Bronx, for the first time in several seasons. The three-people singing and dancing outfit recently played for Loew. They are agented on the major circuit by Milton Lewis.

NAT C. HAINES, ample-girthed comedian, will resume for Loew this week, splitting between the Gates, Brooklyn, and the Plaza, Corona, booked thru the Yates office. He is supported in his familiar comedy sketch, *Hello, Mamma*, by Vera Rial, Louise Evans, Helen Gero, Ted Kent and Harry W. White.

By the end of the first week in March RKO will have completed its final cleanup of the booking office. Until then we are not in a position to say whether the new administration of the once big time has it on any of the others. There is much cleaning yet to be done in RKO. We hope for vaudeville's sake that the job will be well on its way toward completion by the ides of March.

EDDIE MILLER AND HENRIETTE, who recently resumed for Loew in the East, have been booked for additional New York dates. They will open on a tour the last half of next week at the Victoria.

THREE ACES, male roller-skating outfit who recently played for RKO and Loew at a number of New York houses, have been booked for a string of indie dates. They played last week in Providence and are splitting this week between Wilkes-Barre and Scranton, agented by Amos Paglia.

LEO REISMAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA, now playing a string of RKO dates, were canceled for the first half at the Coliseum, New York, this week and will play that house the week of March 1 instead. They were at the 86th Street the last half, as scheduled.

EILEEN HOOVER, Richard Camp, Jack Sharkey and La More are featured in *Glory of Spain*, Meyer Golden's new 10-people flash. They opened last week at the Kenmore, Brooklyn.

BABE MONTANA will attempt a vaude. comeback with a 12-people flash, now in rehearsal, billed *Broadway Hit-Hatters*. His last act was the *Silk Toppers Revue*.

PAUL DURAND has produced a new flash billed *Song Birds*. It opened at the Prospect, Brooklyn, the first half last week with more RKO dates pending.

MARIONETTE GUILD REVUE, with six people working the dolls in w. k. marionette show, opened in Yonkers for RKO last week. It was the first appearance in vaude. for this act. Benjamin David is agenting.

Doc M. Irving, manager of Princess Yvonne's act, is looking for a home out Philadelphia way. Other vaudevillians of whom we know are looking for split weeks, and not very particular about money either, profession. Anyway we hope Doc Irving knows real estate as well as he knows the minding business. Then he'll surely get a good buy in a house.

FANNY SIMPSON and Earle Dean are doing a new comedy, singing and dancing turn and expect to open for RKO soon in the East.

RICARDO CORTEZ, screen name, made his vaude. debut for RKO last week on a split between the 58th Street and the Fordham, New York. He is assisted by two males and a fem. in a one-act playlet by Edwin Burke titled *Wanted*.

HARRY HAYDEN AND COMPANY have been given further dates by Loew. This week they are on a split between the Willard, Woodhaven, and the Lincoln Square, New York. They are doing a comedy skit titled *Take My Advice*. Meyer North is agenting.

THREE SILVERS have been booked for dates by Loew in the East. They are splitting this week between the Willard, Woodhaven, and the Plaza, New York.

DOROTHY MAY'S BANDETTES, a new musical act, opened for Loew the last

half of last week at the Lincoln Square, New York. They were spotted in place of Muriel Kaye and Company, which is slated for a later opening date.

THE HI-HO BOYS, radio and recording duo, are booked to resume for RKO next week, splitting between Proctor's 125th Street, New York, and the State, Jersey City.

FOUR JACKS AND GIRLIE, novelty casting act which recently showed for RKO in New York, have been booked for six weeks of New England dates, agented by Max Tishman.

MRS. HAZEL LA MONTE, mother of Lestra La Monte, female impersonator, is confined at the Deaconess Hospital, Cincinnati, with a broken leg received recently when she slipped on an icy street when alighting from a street car. She would be pleased to hear from all her old friends.

HOLMAN AND HOLMAN will open shortly for RKO in a new sketch by Ellis O. Jones.

## PIAZZA

(Continued from page 10)  
It had been reported that Godfrey was responsible for the booking of McWilliams for 40 weeks at four figures, Godfrey stated that Edwin G. Lauder, Jr., E. F. Albee's son-in-law, had acted for K.-A. in contracting for McWilliams' services. Godfrey was not with the organization at that time. The McWilliams settlement was not revealed, but it is said that the "pianolist" has been given 25 weeks at a lower salary.

In the case of Max Hayes and his *Dot's Things* unit, no definite agreement has yet been reached. At one of the conferences with Piazza, Hayes is reported to have walked out in a huff. If Hayes persists in his huffness, according to an RKO official, the "moral obligation" angle may not be wide enough to cover his claims.

## SMALL PRODUCERS

(Continued from page 9)  
its 10-people cast, and two others were booked for five weeks each on their showing days last week. The above time is being played on all the larger circuits and the indies.

Considering railroad fares and baggage charges, the performers in the cheap flashes cannot be averaging more than \$40 per to give the producers their small profit. Small in comparison with the much larger net on the more expensive acts. And taking into consideration that those producers are putting out those acts as fast as they can, \$100 to \$150 net from each act is nothing to laugh up a sleeve about.

The production of such acts at a time when the much more elaborate flashes are not being put out forms a threatening situation for the vaudeville field in general. For one thing, a continuance of putting out such cheap turns and their being booked by not only the indies, but the major circuits as well, will force the larger producers to do likewise or look for other things to do for a living. It will also create a cheaper type of entertainment, therefore lowering the standard of vaude. at a time when it needs strengthening most.

Talent for the wholesale flashes is comparatively easy to get. The dancing schools are grinding out sufficient steps to take the cheap jobs, while the comedy and singing relief, if any, is easily picked up among those performers who have worked so little lately that they are calling a last half a route. A great many of these performers have begun to realize that it is better to work 10 weeks at \$50 than two at \$100. And considering what a great many of them have been getting for playing indie dates, \$50 is a lot of money.

There is certainly no squawk from the major circuits about the cheap flashes. So long as it is acceptable material, they would much rather pay an act \$500 to \$650, than \$1,250 to \$2,000, and sometimes more.

## NEW ACTS

(Continued from page 17)  
matic bit with her, during which she persuades him that she hasn't squealed to the cops, she leaves the room and Orsatti enters thru a window. Faced with arresting his brother and sending him to the chair, Orsatti decides to allow him to escape as Farrell and the

girl leave the room. A sentimental piece of business occurs here between the brothers in recalling old times and "mother". Instead of making good his escape thru the open window, Cappello takes a gun from beneath a pillow and shoots himself.

Ricardo Cortez's performance is undoubtedly the outstanding of any given by flicker "names" recently to take a vaudeville plunge. In his curtain speech, Cortez made it evident that this is simply a training spell for him before he makes an attempt to crash the talkies.

JOE SCHOENFELD.

## Clark and Smith

Reviewed at Loew's State, Style—Singing. Setting—In one. Time—Ten minutes.

For some unknown reason Ted Clark and Earle Smith are referred to as midgets of the radio, tho their round appearance and powerfully blended voices put a lie to that puny description. This pair of singers put over as fine a personally-packed deucer as any caught here during the past season, and in many respects measure up to the best of big-time standards. The boys lay no claims to being well-known warblers, neither are they headline repeaters, such as a number of others during the past few months, but they certainly sold their popular ditties and parodies to a big reception at this show. They appeared to be slightly hampered by lack of proper filler material between numbers, but this want was nicely offset by the quality of their voices, which easily filled the spacious house. Work thru-out in tuxes.

Open with an introductory song patter with references to their radio and recording work. *The Call of the Southland* follows, with Clark carrying the melody and Smith singing an obligato of *Swanee River*. A medley of sentimental ballads is next offered in song response, and includes *That Old Gang of Mine* and several *Old Pal* themes with recitative patter sandwiched. They do *I'm Gonna Be an Ice-man*, and got plenty of laughs. For a finish they harmonize *When You're Smiling*, during which the ponderous Clark does numerous somersaults and headstands. Could hold down a better spot with proper filler material.

C. G. B.

## Caulfield and Ritchie

Reviewed at the Franklin, Bronx, Style—Flash. Setting—In one, three and full (specials). Time—Sixteen minutes.

Really remarkable how a producer can send out an act, finished in dancing, costuming and staging, and yet pass up an extremely important item, such as the total lack of beauty in a six-girl lineup. Perhaps the excellent stepping of the femmes caused the producer to disregard the torso measurements, but that is not a complete acquittal in the eyes of the audience.

Leslie Caulfield and Dorothy Ritchie have been reviewed twice before by *The Billboard* and on both occasions were praised for their finished dancing, both in solo and duo. It was apparent, when caught here, that they haven't forgotten how to use their feet to advantage. Caulfield comes on in an excellently executed tap with the lineup and then goes into an acrobatic waltz with Miss Ritchie, who is let down in "full" on a cradle. Two damsels deliver a soft-shoe routine in "three" to allow for a scenic and costume change, and the standard bearers come back in "full" in a bungalow set for the rendering of a pop-tune.

The lineup makes several costume switches, all pretty, and do some excellent dancing. After a solo by Caulfield of *Sunnyside Up*, the entire company comes on for a fast dancing finish. They were on the receiving end of profuse applause when they stepped off.

J. S.

## DANIEL MAKARENKO

—Presents—

## Dunn and West Revue

With the Dilley Brothers and Bonnette Sisters

Reviewed at the Grand Opera House, Style—Singing and dancing revue. Setting—In one, three and full stage (specials). Time—Twenty minutes.

Every split second of the *Dunn and West Revue* is of interest and worth while to the spectator, for its complement of youth, talent and class makes

good vaude. entertainment. Billy Dunn and Violet West work as tho they had been teamed for years, and their youthful support, the Dilley Brothers and the Bonnette Sisters, appears to be the same that played around here last season as *The Campus Kids*. Offering carries flashy setting of drapes and a splendid wardrobe. The revue has all the earmarks of big-time material, with the work of the standard bearers excellently balanced with that of the peppy quartet of youngsters. Spotted last here, they registered several show stops.

Routine is cleverly shared by the outfit offering ensemble and individual specialties. The Bonnette Sisters and Dilley Brothers do three ensemble routines, opening the revue with a harmony number, *Colligate Hop*, which they interpolate with the dance. Later they put over a clever *Tin Soldier* precision tap and lead the finale in a soft-shoe routine. The Dunn and West combo also clicked with a trio of teamed specialties, offering a graceful waltz, a clever adagio duo and a whirlwind. In addition one of the boys sandwiches an eccentric dance and works with his brother in a fast buck and wing. The sisters also were effective in two dual specialties of the eccentric variety. Good act anywhere.

C. G. B.

## Louvan Trio

Reviewed at Loew's Grand, Bronx, Style—Acrobatic and perch novelty. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Six minutes.

Young boys working like old hands. They have an effective novelty offering now, tho it can only be called pleasing, but in time to come they should be able to build their act up into a sure-fire opener. Perch work occupies most of the routine and justly so, for it is by far their forte. It is flavored with a sprinkling of hand-to-hand bits and hoop juggling. They seemed to be extremely careful in stunting at this show, tho it does not slow up the turn. Ran only six minutes. The boys make a handsome appearance, sporting white sailor blouses and duck pants.

They get going with a brief display of hand-to-hand and head-to-head acrobatics. Feature a head-to-head bit with the understander doing hoop juggling with unattached fellow. Another good feat is the one in which one of the boys gives shoulder support to his partners, who are doing a head-on. The rest of the routine is given over to perch stunting. Two of the boys alternate as understanders. On a long pole the topmounter does some neat stunts while the pole is shaped in a deep curve and the fellow below gives it the support of his shoulder. The duo does nicely on a shorter pole, too. Other understander works from a cradle and balances with his feet a high ladder, at the summit of which the topmounter handstands. Ran off to a good-sized reception here.

S. H.

## Al Mardo

Reviewed at Keith's Jefferson, Style—Comedy, musical and dancing. Setting—In one. Time—Eleven minutes.

Al Mardo, wop dialectic comedian, appears always to have worked with a partner heretofore, making this his first recorded venture as a single. As early as 1923 he was reviewed by *The Billboard* with a male comedy two-act, Mardo and Rome, and subsequently—at different periods—was teamed with two girls named Wynn and Baye. He played major-circuit dates early last season with the latter combo. Decided improvement in this over any of his previous efforts, tho he hardly measures up to a high standard. Works thruout in tight-fitting suit, toots hot ditties on a harmonica and shuffles several eccentric steps. Drags on his doubtfully talented English bulldog for part of routine.

Opens with a medley of popular tunes on the face organ, followed with a session of laugh-packed chatter. He garnered a heavy portion of laughs with his dialectic gags on radio, television and various new inventions. He tops this with an eccentric-slide dance interpolated with mugging. His clever line of chatter when he introduces the bulldog and attempts to make him perform puts the act over in great style. The canine's one comical stunt appears to be a yawning howl which sounds like *Hire a Hal!* when Mardo blues the harmonica. Finished strong here.

C. G. B.





Paul, Mrs. A. D. Payne, Arillas Phillips, Mary Polley, Helen Polly, Mrs. Chas. A. Forscheck, Leona...

Shubert, Mrs. John Smith, Alice Sims, Noels Stacker, Faye Stephenson, Mrs. J. W. Sullivan, Mrs. Paul Sylvester, Bobby Taylor, LaVern Wagner, Al Wayne, Dorothy Wayne, Kathryn...

VanZandt, Kenneth Varnick, Duke Vockler, A. G. Voss, George Voss, Fred Waite, C. A. L. Wald, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Wallace, Bennie W. Ward, Fred C. Wayne, Jimmy...

Lynch, Hugh J. Lyne, James Lyons, Damon MacHardy, Bozo Malley, E. J. Malone, Earl Maloney, Mack...

Townsend, J. T. Towneglow, A. L. Tuiley, John Tuiley, John Tuiley, Mrs. W. E. Tuiley, Mrs. W. E. Tuiley, Mrs. W. E. Tuiley...

Adams, Rastus Aldrich, C. H. Alex, H. C. Alexander, Otis Altman, Harry Anders, A. A. Aramian, Richard Arden, Albert F. Aron...

Trout, Eddie & Katheryn Trout, Max & Jack Heff Trull, John B. Tucker, Ernest Underhill, H. D. VanDer Kook, H. E. Youkin, Chester L. Youkin...

Conley, Frankie Cook, Fred K. Cook, Happy E. Cooper, Paul Corbin, Roy Kramer, Emire Cudney, W. J. Cunningham, H. C. Curran, Harry G. Darling, Cyrus Davis, Gus...

McDonald, Claude McFarland, Toke McGuire, Harry G. McGuire, L. J. McKeown, Speedy McKeown, C. M. Mead, Elmer Mendell, Claude...

Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos, Mrs. Marie Amos...

KANSAS CITY OFFICE 424 Chambers Bldg., 12th and Walnut Sts.

Parcel Post Ladies' List

Adams, Lucille Lewis, Mrs. Dorothea Agre, Mrs. Jackie Lime, Gertrude Agre, Mrs. Jack Lime, Gertrude...

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Adams, Lucille Lewis, Mrs. Dorothea Agre, Mrs. Jackie Lime, Gertrude Agre, Mrs. Jack Lime, Gertrude...

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390 Arcade Bldg., Eighth and Olive Sts.

Parcel Post Ladies' List

Fry, Mrs. Alta 2c Heyn, Henry, 10c

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511 Charleston Bldg., 251 Kearny St.

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Gentlemen's List

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COOK'S VICTORY SHOWS Season of 1930 OPENS AT NEW BRITAIN, CONN., SATURDAY, APRIL 26 WANTED Shows, Rides, Concessions

BARKER AMUSEMENT COMPANY WANT FOR SEASON 1930, SHOWS, RIDES AND CONCESSIONS.

Great Sutton Shows America's Finest Equipped Gilly Carnival OPEN SATURDAY, MARCH 23, OSCEOLA, ARK.



# BUY AN EXHIBIT PENNY ARCADE AND AN IRON CLAW CONCESSION

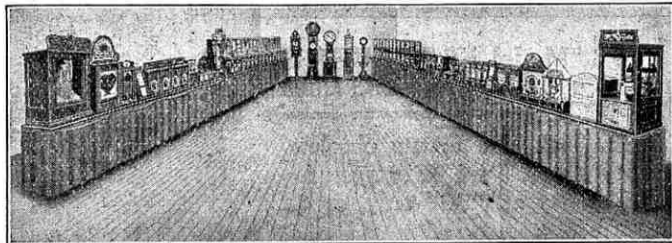


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STANDARD ARCADE EQUIPMENTS from \$1,600.00 to \$7,000.00. We will be glad to send full particulars if you'll write.

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TEST YOUR SKILL - GET A REWARD

We make in our own factory every machine we sell. These machines are built by skilled mechanics and of the best material money can buy. Therefore, it is not a hardship for Exhibit to guarantee their products.

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**WE BUILD UP TO A STANDARD—Not Down to a Price.**

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No. 300—Our Famous Two-Tone Model. Fitted with Fine 6-Jewel Lever Movement. Unbeatable as to Quality, Style and Price. In Dozen Lots, Each, \$3.50

Same Style, with 15-Jewel Lever Movement. In Dozen Lots, Each, \$5.25

25% deposit, balance C. O. D. Send for complete catalogue. All samples, 35c extra.

**FRANK POLLAK**  
214 Chrystie St., New York, N. Y.

## Royal American Shows

**SOUTH JACKSONVILLE, Fla.**—C. J. Sedlmayr, general manager of the Royal American Shows, recently returned from his fair-booking trip north. Immediately a night working shift was added, and 17 out of every 24 hours are spent in the rehabilitation seven days a week—the day shift working nine hours and the "electric-light gang" making eight hours.

Mrs. Sedlmayr came back with her spouse, looking the picture of health after her winter in Kansas City. The past week has been marked by the frequent trips of the personnel to the Tampa Fair (210 miles away), where many visits were made with folks on the Jones outfit, among the sojourners being Mr. and Mrs. Bill Harvey, Mr. and Mrs. Nate Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Best, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Sedlmayr, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Velare, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Velare, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Van Wert.

Visiting showmen here: Gene Nadreau, of Hawaiian Show fame (Gene gets his name from his genial smile); C. M. Coats, of the Morris Miller Shows, and Frank Church, veteran showman, back from a winter in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. George Peters is hobbling around with a cane after undergoing a successful minor surgical operation at St. Vincent's Hospital. Irving Oakes, of Elsie Calvert's Rainbow Ramblers, came in from his home in Chicago to get the equipment of the 1930 revue in shape. Bob Sweeney is back. Signor Crescio came in after an 1,800-mile auto trip from Sweetwater, Tex., and commenced his seasonal task of reconditioning and tuning the show's organs (seven), forming a distinguishing feature of the R. A. S. bally for rides—and now winter quarters has a "band", PAT BEGGS.

## Gold Medal Shows

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 15.**—With ideal weather prevailing and a crew of men working at top speed, quite a lot of work is being turned out at the Gold Medal Shows' winter quarters here. Men were put to work painting the wagons and cars, and with the opening advanced to March 15 much work remains to be done.

The fair secretaries' meeting held here last week was attended by the writer, along with Manager Billick, and success was attained. Harry Noyes, the general agent, has signed ten or more fairs starting early in July and ending in November in Mississippi.

The double wagon front to be used as an arch has been turned over to the scenic painters and will be a thing of beauty when completed. Hugh Pope, former county clerk at Van Buren, Ark., and a friend of all showfolks, is a weekly visitor to the quarters and has been of great help to the mahagement this winter. Pope is now an employee of the State and has his office in the capitol.

Mike Roman and Roy Truby have contracted their string of concessions and Monkey Circus with the show for the coming season.

Many visits are exchanged by the personnels of the Laughlin Shows, wintering in North Little Rock, and the Gold Medal Shows. The opening date has been set, but whether in Little Rock or North Little Rock has not as yet been decided.

**JAMES K. NEWSUM.**

## SALES BOARD OPERATORS

Have you seen our new Lucky Strike Assortment? Note—This is not a cigarette board. Write immediately—it will pay you.

All assortments on Hamilton Boards, best boards made.

**PEERLESS SPECIALTY CO.**  
1340 Forbes St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

## TOY DEALERS, LOOK!

Unbreakable Toy Aroplane. Flies 300 ft. and returns. Sells fast to children at 15c. Sample, 25c. Gross, \$10.80. W. H. DUNN, 3640 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago.

**BASEBALL PITCHING MACHINE** Complete, cheap. Bad health, forced to sell. FRANK HERNEK, 4 1/2 E. Tazewell Ave., Roanoke, Va.

## RIDES WANTED

One Carnival a year in a live town. We have it. A real spot. We put on all Concessions except Rides. Tell us what Rides you have and what you will play for. Any date, for week, from July 15 to August 15. Two Saturday nights if possible. A. O. H. SOCIETY, Harry Kokley, Chairman, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

6—Rides—6      10—Shows—10

## Wolf Greater Shows

Open 1st of May. Want to hear from Shows and Concessions of all kinds. Will sell exclusive on Bal' Games. Have Penny Arcade for sale. Will book same for season. Address all mail P. O. BOX 466, Minneapolis, Minn.

## Freak Calf ALIVE

Six months. Bulldog face type. Divided nose. Circus, Circuit or Concessionaires, take notice. Name proposition, requirements and particulars. FRED W. KETTLER, R. 5, Box 50, Batavia, O.

## TATTOO STUDIO TO LET

Formerly conducted by Paul Dunbar and Ted Hazard.

Rent, \$60.00 per Month.

**BARBER SHOP, 16 Bowers, New York City.**

## STORE SHOW FREKS FOR SALE

All ready to ship. List free. NIELSON SUPPLY HOUSE, 514 E. 4th St., So. Boston, Mass.

## LEISTNER'S FAMOUS ELECTRIC FLOWER BASKETS



**\$3.75** each  
In Dozen Lots  
Bulbs Included

Sample **\$4.00**

No. 7-M-9 illustrated herewith, 23 inches high, filled with nine (9) beautiful large-size cloth American Beauty Roses, each with a genuine Mazda Electric Bulb inside. When lighted gives a most beautiful effect as soft light peeps thru the Roses.

**DAHLIAS**  
The Genuine **\$22.50** per 1,000  
**Georgine Flowers**  
**\$25.00** per 1,000  
The Genuine Big Size No. 82, Assorted Colors.

Fresh Stock of LAUREL Always on Hand.

25% deposit required on C. O. D. orders. When ordering samples please include 25c extra for packing.

WRITE FOR BIG CATALOG.  
**OSCAR LEISTNER, Inc.**  
Importers and Manufacturers for 29 Years,  
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## GOING AWAY? HERE'S BIG VALUE!

### GENUINE LEATHER GLADSTONE BAG

No. B33—Here's the value of the year! You can't afford to pass it up! A strong, durable Gladstone Bag, made of 4 1/2-oz. split cowhide grain genuine leather. Has trunk lining and a centerboard with fold and pocket, two leather stay straps and six metal studs. Sewed all around. Heavy handle. Strong brass lock and catches. Size 22 in. Exactly like illustration, but with plain corners. Truly a remarkable buy at only Each in Lots **\$4.95**



Sample Only \$5.25.

B34—Guaranteed 4 1/2-oz split cowhide, lizard grain, genuine leather Gladstone. Self-locking center partition. Beautifully plaid lined. Case contains shirt fold and full-size linen pocket. HAS STRAPPED TOP. Black or brown. A fortunate quantity purchase enables us to offer them to you at Only **\$5.95**

B35—As above. Black or brown, and with collapsible top, resembling high-priced bag. Each **\$6.95**

**SPECIAL!**

Our Catalog contains hundreds of unusual bargains! You can't afford to pass them by, so send in your name on your business stationery today to DEPT. B, and be placed on our permanent mailing list.

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The Very Best Made and at Prices to suit every one. Guaranteed in every way. Write for free literature.

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225 Second Avenue, North, NASHVILLE, TENN.

## WANTED GENTRY BROS.' FAMOUS SHOWS

(MOTORIZED)

Useful People in all branches of Circus Business. Prefer people with truck show experience and those owning own cars. Kindly state all in first letter. **WILL BUY** Acts and Equipment suitable for a motorized show. **WILL SELL** Balloon, Novelty, Hamburger, Photograph and other legitimate Privileges. Address **SAM B. DILL, Manager, West Baden, Ind.**

## Wanted - Savannah, Ga., Spring Festival DOWN-TOWN LOCATION - Wanted WEEK MARCH 17-22 - MARCH 17-22

RIDING DEVICES OF ALL KINDS WANTED. Lindy-Loop, Caterpillar, Leaping Lena, Skooter, or any kind. Will furnish Wagons for same. **SHOWS**—Will place Shows all kinds. Good opening for Ten-in-One Pit Show or any Platform Shows, Monkeydrome or Circus, Fat Girl Show. **WANT** Performers for Minstrel Show who can double B. & O. Musicians, all instruments. **WANT** Chorus Girls for Musical Comedy Show. **CONCESSIONS**—All kinds except Cook House and Grabs. Good opening for all Wheels, Corn Game, all kinds Grind Stores, Auction Stores, Frozen Sweets, Frozen Custard. All legitimate Concessions. No racket of any kind wanted. Write or wire **MORRIS MILLER, Box 76, Savannah, Ga.**

P. S.—Have ten Wagons for sale, stored in Memphis. Will sell reasonable.

# Only the BEST in Vending Machines

New or Used

"Model K" RESERVE Jack Pot Front, Price \$15  
Costs a little more—Worth it

**WE UNDERSELL THEM ALL** on Mills, Jennings, Watling, Pace and all makes! Jack Pot Bells, Jack Pot Side Venders, Front Venders and all kinds of skill and amusement machines.

**OUR PRICES WILL SURPRISE YOU!**  
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**Here it is! "Model K" RESERVE** Jack Pot Front for Mills 5c and 25c Bells and Side Venders  
Q Makes all other Jack Pot Fronts obsolete.  
**One or Three Jack Pot Winners!**—Can be adjusted to pay on "20" only, or on "20" and both "16's".  
Simplest to install—no parts on mechanism.



**Keeney & Sons, 706 E. 40th St., Chicago, Ill.** WORLD'S HEADQUARTERS FOR VENDING MACHINES (Est. 1900)

## Max Gruberg's Famous Shows

SHOW OPENS IN PHILADELPHIA, PA., APRIL 4, AND THEN PLAY THE BEST LOCATIONS IN PHILADELPHIA UNTIL JULY, THEN PLAY NEW YORK CITY UNTIL FAIR DATES.

**WANTED—CONCESSIONS, GRIND STORES (No Wheels), RIDE HELP AND SHOWS.** WILL BOOK Grind Shows, Fun House. Would like to hear from several Freaks for Single Pit Shows. CONCESSIONS—All Grind Store Concessions are open. No exclusive. Must be legitimate. Will sell exclusive Palmistry, Candy Floss, Cook House and Grab Joints, Frozen Custard, are sold exclusive.

**RIDE HELP** for Merry-Go-Round, Whip, Ferris Wheel, Chairplane, Tilt-a-Whirl and Caterpillar. No Foremen needed. Especially interested in Ride Help to work on the above Rides.

**FOR SALE—Knickerbocker Light Plant, 15 K. W., new, \$900.00.** Have complete Athletic Show, brand new, with front, cost \$1,000; will sell for \$250.00. Two Wooden Box Cars, 40-ft., good condition, \$100.00 Each. Write or wire.

**MAX GRUBERG'S SHOWS, 1510 S. 6th St., Philadelphia, Pa**

### O. J. Bach Shows

PULASKI, N. Y., Feb. 15.—Preparations are going forward for the new season by the O. J. Bach Shows. New canvas has recently been purchased and everything will be placed in a spick-and-span shape.

Among concessionaires signed up are Fred Allen, 3; Mrs. Don Williams, 1; E. H. Kenyon, 1; Mrs. A. LaFountain, 1; Adolph LaFountain, 1, and Willard (Bill) Irvine, 10. Tony Stewart (Young Bull Montana) has signed up for the Athletic Show, George Chand'er for advertising and contests and Welter LaFountain as electrician. The following ride men have signed: Leo Grandy, Ray LaFountain, Irvine Pratt, Harry Green and Burt Pelky. In a later issue of *The Billboard* a complete roster will be given. The show will open the latter part of April in Syracuse, N. Y., carrying five shows, five rides, about 20 concessions, a callopie and free acts.

**LEO GRANDY.**

**NEW - - -**  
**Tamper-Proof Varnished Edge**  
on our - -  
**"64 to Sq. Inch"**  
is your -  
**Protection.**

Sales Board Games of all Kinds

**CHAS. A. BREWER & SONS**  
The Largest Board & Card Houses in the World  
6320-32 Harvard Avenue  
Englewood Station Chicago, U.S.A.

## NOBLE C. FAIRLY SHOWS

**Open Ft. Smith, Ark., March 27th**  
**NINE DAYS NINE DAYS**

**WANT** Man for Pit Show—Illusion and Octopus Shows; will furnish complete outfit for each show.  
Will furnish equipment for any Show of Merit.  
**WANT** to hear from Legitimate Concessions only.  
Will carry Seven Rides and Ten Shows, owned by management.  
**Address All Mail to NOBLE C. FAIRLY, Hotel Main, Ft. Smith, Arkansas**

### Zimdars' Shows

WINONA, Minn., Feb. 15.—All work at the winter quarters of Zimdars' Shows is at a standstill because of cold weather, but will be resumed in about six weeks. Claude Brenner, who had the Ferris Wheel and Chairplane on the Macy Barnhart Shows, is running a roller-skating rink here in the armory. The winter quarters of the show was broken into, allegedly by some juveniles, recently, about 10 of them, and light bulbs and other things were broken, and concession stock was missing. The loss is estimated at about \$500, and the losers are Manager Zimdars, and Eddie Just, Sam Purkheiser and Art Zimdars, of concession row. The opening has been set for May 10, in this city, and all will be in readiness by that date. Manager Zimdars recently returned with contracts for the fairs at Calendonla, Plainview and Zumbrota, all in Minnesota.

**H. W. WELHE.**

## JACK POT MILLS 1930 MODEL

**MILLS LATEST JACK POT**  
5c, 10c, 25c and 50c Play.

**MILLS LATEST MODEL BULL'S-EYE GLASS OPERATORS BELLS**  
In 5c, 10c, 25c and 50c Play.

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Offices: 52, 53 and 54, 326 Fourth Avenue, PITTSBURGH, PA.

## Bill H. Hames Shows Opening at the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show Fort Worth, Tex., MARCH 8 to MARCH 16, 1930 Want For the Season of 1930

Shows and Attractions of real merit. CAN USE Mechanical City, Wax Show, Penny Arcade, Wax Show, Platform Shows and other Attractions. WILL PLACE any Concession of legitimate nature. No racket or graft tolerated. Corn Game, Eats and Drinks sold. WANT capable People in all departments. WANT Minstrel People for largest and best equipped Colored Show on the road. Car accommodations. Musicians on all instruments, Piano Player to double Band. Preference to Musicians doubling Stage. George Harris, George Lewis, write or wire. Minstrel People address STANTON & SHOTES, P. O. Box 1464, Fort Worth, Tex.

THE BILL H. HAMES SHOWS HAS SIXTEEN FAIRS AND CELEBRATIONS ALREADY BOOKED FOR 1930. Address  
**BILL H. HAMES SHOWS, E. R. Bruer, Manager, 511 Cotton Exch. Bldg., Fort Worth, Tex.**

### Leo & Bill's Greater Shows

ARMADA, Mich., Feb. 15.—Leo Powers, manager Leo & Bill's Greater Shows, advises that contracts have been completed with Ludy Kaeser for his string of four shows—Musical Revue, Snake Show, Circus Side Show and Hawaiian Village. Kaeser, now in Florida, was last season with the Rock City Shows. Other advice is as follows:

Mrs. F. Darling has contracted her Dog and Pony Show. Mr. and Mrs. Darling did free attractions at fairs several seasons, but Darling passed away last September and his widow has decided to return to the carnival field. H. E. Huntington, ride superintendent, will arrive from Oklahoma early in March. Ivy Cutcher has received 10 new arcade machines, also a large arch banner for his Athletic Show. Powers recently signed contract for the Monse (Ill.) Fair.

### SANDY'S CHAUTAUQUA, Inc.

(FORMERLY SANDY'S SHOWS)  
**WANTED—FERRIS WHEEL, ELI No. 5; SMITH & SMITH CHAIRPLANE,** one or two Kiddie Rides. WILL BOOK any Rides that don't conflict with what we have.  
**SHOWS—**with or without outfits. Shows of merit that do not conflict with our present lineup. CONCESSIONS all open. Positively no graft. All Concessions must be Merchandise Stock Stores.  
WANT FREE ACTS.  
**888 EAST 155TH STREET, BRONX, NEW YORK. PHONE, LUDLOW 4447.**

### SCHELL BROS. CIRCUS

(FINEST MOTORIZED SHOW ON EARTH)  
**WANTS** Wild West People in all lines. CAN PLACE complete Wild West with Horses and own Trucks. CAN PLACE one more Circus Act. Ball Rack, Tintype and Pitch still open. Chas. Cooper, write. FOR SALE—80x180, Top only, and 20x20 Marquee, all good for another season. No rot. \$300 for quick sale. Show opens March 10.  
**SCHELL BROS.' CIRCUS, Hynes, Calif.**

### PALMER'S UNITED ATTRACTIONS FOR SALE

Tenders for purchase of above, comprising three Rides, Merry Mix-Up, Shooting Gallery, Arcade, Tractors, Truck, Lighting Plant and other Equipment, the property of the late Alonzo Palmer, deceased, will be received by the undersigned Solicitors for the Executor of the Estate up to March 8, 1930. Further particulars on application to  
**LEITCH & McCLURG, 384 Talbot St., St Thomas, Ontario.**

### FOR SALE AUTOMATIC CALLOPE

Perfect condition. First \$450.00 gets it. Also one and one-half ton Graham Truck, panel body. Price \$500.00. Act quick. Will sell separate. O. FRANKLIN, General Delivery, Denton, Tex.

### NEW BALL GAME FEED THE PELICAN

Made of cast aluminum. WRITE FOR NEW PRICE LIST

Flashy Colors. New idea. Gets the money. Motor driven. Quicks every time he opens his bill.

Immediate Delivery.

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### SLOT MACHINE CHECKS

500.....\$6.00 1000.....\$11.00.  
We make Checks of all kinds. Write for Free Samples and Prices. GIBSON CHECK MFG. 315 East Collogg, Wichita, Kan.

# Shipp's Circus Ready to Sail

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Gran Circo Shipp is all ready to sail for South America, states Edward Shipp, sole owner and manager, and it is expected the show will be on the high seas before the month is over. The staff embraces Edward Shipp, owner and general manager; James Stuart Douglas, English-speaking representative; Ricardo Fernandez, Spanish-speaking general agent; John W. Dauser, of *The Standard*, English daily of Buenos Aires, who is Argentine representative; Sir Alfredo Ansa'do, of Theater Victoria, Valparaiso, Chile, the Chilean representative; Don Juan A. Oliveira, Brazilian agent; S. H. Barnett, special agent back with show; Mrs. Julia Shipp, candy stands and concessions; Percy Harold Shouler, treasurer and uptown tickets; Capt. L. M. Miller, director of 12-piece American band; Elmer Brooks, boss hostler; John Delaney, boss canvasman; W. E. Delorey (Bostock Red), boss property man, and George Whitey Barnes, blue seats and carpenter.

The performer personnel consists of Alfredo de Seck, equestrian director and jockey rider; Tan Araki, Japanese troupe; Dalbeanle and Campbell, magic wheel, balancing, ladders, high stunts and bicycle entanglements; Verneeta Clark Duo, tight wire; the Cycling Duffys, comedy bicycle act; Johnny Reilly, hoop rolling, juggling and drum major; Leroy Leonard, contortionist and clown; Charles Fortune de La Poussee, French juggler and eccentric clown; Zelda Greer, loop-the-loop trapeze and iron jaw; Moe Arons, comedy balancing, breakaway tables and clown entrees; the Flying Harpers, trampoline casting and return aerial act and comedy acrobats; Johann Wessels, head-balancing trapeze; Susanne Brothers, barrel jumping and tumblers; the Parisian Four, comedy furniture balancing; the Gerard Brothers, high perch act; Vivienne and Frese, character and acrobatic dancing, and the Gregoire Sisters, singing, dancing and lightning cartooning. Virginia Shipp, with her high-school and Liberty horses, bucking mule and football pony, and mechanical riding number entitled "Bareback riding exposed". Miss Shipp is called the Mary Pickford of Latin America, and is well known in South America.

Manager Shipp first toured South America with the Gardner, Lamkin & Donovan Show during the late Frank Gardner-Harris Lamkin and James Donovan's existence, seasons of 1884-'85-'86-'87, then he toured Mexico with the Orrin Bros. in 1891-'92, organized his own company, Gran Circo Shipp, with T. C. Gibbs as equal owner, seasons of 1907-'08-'09; upon the death of Gibbs, sold half interest to Roy Feltus, of Bloomington, Ind. For 12 years the show toured South America as Gran Circo Shipp & Feltus, and the partnership was known as a gentlemen's agreement, to contract or a scratch of a pen existing between them.

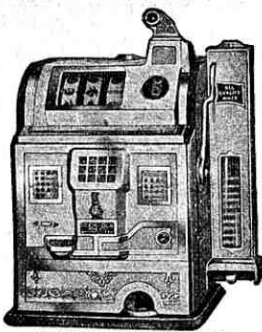
The outfit consists of 136-foot, two-pole round top, an innovation in circus tents. There will be 12 8 by 12 banners depicting the circus acts that are actually with the show. There will be the customary dressing rooms, horse pens, candy stands and the like, but there will be no side-show or carnival features carried.

## Sandy's Chautauqua

The management of Sandy's Chautauqua (formerly Sandy's Shows) is making rapid strides in preparing for the coming outdoor amusement season. All that is now needed is favorable weather to set and stretch the 10-foot sidewalk that will enclose the new show. Great Valencia, widely known aerialist, who features a complete somersault in the air without the safety of a net, and a high-pole act have been booked additional to the other three free acts secured. Manager Sandy plans to give the pay-gate idea a thoro tryout, feeling that good outdoor performances, properly timed and managed, will "bring 'em in". Prof. DeNoto's uniformed band of 10 pieces will furnish the music within the enclosure, and two air calliope will make the outside and up-town ballhooses. A majority of concession people with the show last year have already been booked for this year. The concessionaires include Al Halpern, with three; Mr. and

## SLOT MACHINE BARGAINS

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JACKPOT MINT VENDER.

Lot.	5c Play.	25c Play.
25 MILLS JACKPOT BELLS	\$55.00	\$60.00
35 MILLS JACKPOT MINT VENDERS	60.00	65.00
45 MILLS F. O. K. MINT VENDERS (Ball's eye)	60.00	62.50
55 MILLS OPERATOR BELLS	35.00	40.00
26 JENNINGS JACKPOT BELLS	55.00	57.50
36 JENNINGS JACKPOT MINT VENDERS	60.00	65.00
46 WATLING BLUE SEAL BELLS	30.00	35.00
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Extra Special—Watling Front Vendere, 25c Play, \$45.00

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### WANT FOR SEASON 1930

To open in Detroit first week in April, then you know where. Small Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Tilt-a-Whirl, Chairplane, Platform Shows on trucks or Tent Shows with their own transportation. Concessions all open except Cook House, Popcorn and Drinks. All Concessions must have their own motor transportation, as this is not a railroad show, but a motorized outfit going to Wisconsin and Northern Michigan. WANT two Free Acts with high-up rigging. Telephone or telegraph Euclid 9311. All mail, 5447 Tireman Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Mrs. Carpenter, two; Al Fromsdorf, Jr., two; John (Red) Hampel, one; Harry Thayer, two, and Jimmie Bloom (electrician) and wife, one. H. A. Todd and James LaVelle's extravaganza show is among the latest bookings okayed by the office. Word was received a few days ago that the two marquees ordered from Thomas Martin had been shipped to winter quarters. R. A. PATTERSON.

### Bill H. Hames Show

FORT WORTH, Tex., Feb. 15.—As the time draws near for the opening of the Bill H. Hames Shows at the Southwestern Exposition and Pat Stock Show, work at winter quarters is being rushed. Some new box and flat wagons have been built, also a new transformer wagon, and ere the opening six more wagons will be completed. Harry Beach has done some splendid work on this new equipment. Manager E. R. Bruer is constantly on the go. Owner Bill H. Hames, Manager Bruer and General Agent V. McLemore were in evidence at the Texas fair meeting at Dallas. Hames has purchased some new steel flat cars, which will be delivered before the show takes the road. Stanton & Shots will have 16 performers and a 10-piece band, and new and flashy wardrobe and band uniforms, with the minstrel show. Louis Hemingway, of the Loos Shows, has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Bruer last week. ROBT. JAMES.

### Hall-Miller Shows Open

The Hall-Miller Shows United opened their new season February 3, in Tucson, Ariz., and everything started off with a bang. Ideal weather prevailed and business was above expectations.

The shows and rides are all newly painted and the midway a bevy of lights. Only six shows were ready for the opening. Owing to inclement weather in Texas, several people were considerably delayed arriving, but will be with it in a few days. The management was advised that the new Merry-Go-Round and Tilt-a-Whirl will arrive at Deming, N. M. However, there were 6 rides and 5 shows and 35 concessions for the opening stand. The Silodrome failed to open, due to lack of space on the midway.

The lineup: Ferris Wheel, Jack Richards, foreman; Norman Felto, second man. Baby Ferris Wheel, Alvin VanDyke, foreman. Baby Mix-Up, J. Hudson, foreman. Double Thriller, James Heller, foreman; F. Doran, second man. Steam Miniature Railroad, J. D. Wright, licensed locomotive engineer, assisted by F. J. Hudson, Sr. Athletic Show, Ray Wheelock, manager; Young Ellingsworth and Teddy Moore meeting all comers; Mrs. Wheelock, tickets; George Gibeaut, talker. Buried Alive Show, F. F. Marshall, manager. Snakes and Pit Show, H. L. Elliott, manager; Mrs. Elliott, tickets. Ten-in-One, management of Guy Linsey. "Blue Eyes",

Claude Martin, manager, and Mrs. Claude Martin, featured dancer. Penny Arcade, Ed Dillman, assistant manager; Mrs. Virgie Tidball, manager. Cookhouse, managed by the congenial "Old Boy Kelly" himself. Corn game, owned by the writer; Bob Rensing, agent. Erie Diggers, Minnie Spring. Candy floss, Tony Spring; knife rack, Tom Burke; nail store, J. F. McDaniel. Other concessionaires owning more than one are as follows: Ray Brewer, Woods, Monty Rose, McDow, Marto, Hartsel, Bill Davis, H. Campbell, Neblett J. Tanner, F. Fisher, Larry Savaldore, Jack Smith, S. Jelsma and "Smiling Sam".

The staff: A. Glenn Miller, general manager; Doc E. W. Hall, general agent; Al H. Hogan, special representative; Lucille King, secretary-treasurer and publicity; C. F. Tidball, general superintendent and electrician; Jack Kelman, trainmaster and assistant electrician; Bob Rensing, calliope and trucks; R. E. Kelly, master mechanic. LUCILLE KING.

### Kaus United Shows

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.—Activity is the watchword at the Kaus Shows' winter quarters now. Men are working both indoors and outdoors.

"Dad" Kaus has the carpenters building two new wagon fronts. Joe Rock, who arrived last week, is cleaning up the tractors.

Mr. and Mrs. —, who will have the privilege car, are remodeling the entire car, and will have a kitchen, dining room, reading room, five staterooms and a bath. William Callis will have the Minstrel Show, with a six-piece band. Bert (Scooty) Dean will have charge of the Whoopee House. W. C. Kaus, general agent, and family are visiting relatives in Nanticoke, Pa. Among the recent visitors were Bill Holland, of the Brown & Dyer Shows, and Arch Clair, of the William Glick Shows. T. E. KAUS.

### Milo Anthony Museum

MONROE, La., Feb. 15. — The Milo Anthony Freak Museum closed here Tuesday night after a two weeks' engagement, the most successful stand of the season. It will play one more spot, Shreveport, La., and then will go to Fort Worth, Tex., where Milo Anthony will open at the Stock Show, having placed his Side Show with the Bill Hames Shows for the coming season.

The lineup of attractions is as follows: Frank McGowan, banjoist; Tony Harris, alligator boy; Professor Marino, magician; Cecil-Cecilia; Clarence Ashley, steel-skin marvel; Patagonian Pygmies; Bety Fritz, illusions; Milo Anthony and his wife, their second-sight act; a tattoo artist and a fire-act. Tony Harris and his wife left Wednesday for Dallas, Tex., to attend the coming session of court. The writer is still handling the front. W. W. (DOC) LEWIS.

## Galler's Amusement Co.

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 15.—Lloyd Johnson has contracted to produce the Hawaiian Show with Galler's Amusement Co. Will also place two concessions. Gabby Brothers will handle the new snake show, also a show yet unnamed. They were with the show last season. C. A. Owens, at Philadelphia, advises that he is putting his minstrel performers thru rehearsals and promises innovations for the new season. Mrs. Owens is busily engaged in getting the wardrobe lined up. Incidentally Owner Galler has ordered a new minstrel show top and scenery, and this with the new banners will be an asset to the midway. Some of the lots formerly used by the show in this town have been taken up and improved, which necessitates the breaking in of new ones. The early opening of several shows in Florida has caused an exodus of showfolks to that clime. Sam and Walter Beatty, C. B. Sears and Leroy (Brown) Addison were noticed on the "main stem". Incidentally "Brown" is opening a restaurant in the Savoy Hotel on Baker street. Clarence Thames arrived in town and will assist around here until the opening, when he will take charge of the No. 1 calliope. Recent office callers were Texas Bill Finnegan and wife, Clarence Thames; Prof. Eslick, bandmaster of the Beth Shows; Mr. and Mrs. Laurel; Abe Silverstein, former carnivalite, now with Loew's; "Spot" Kelly and Mr. and Mrs. Shep Miller. R. E. SAVAGE.

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#### Football, Golf and Derby

Patented  
With attachments that can be added from time to time, increasing earnings, and providing additional fascination and skill in playing the games.  
Even without these attachments the games, over 4 1/2 years, have been very profitable and continue to hold the public interest.

Our games require skill to play, the same as billiards and pool, which have survived over 200 years. Being reproductions of our national sports, they will be popular as long as the sports they represent are popular.



Baseball Now ready and building 500 games. All territory open. Take option on your territory.

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Everything for  
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Guaranteed best made, same price as others. Trade in your old machine. 20% off new Ponds and Ball Coasters bought now.  
AUTOMATIC FISHPOOD CO.  
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Week of September 1.  
FOR MARCELLINE, MO'S.  
6th ANNUAL FREE STREET FAIR  
Biggest Free Fair in the State. Address E. HERBERT, Chairman of Concessions, Marcelline, Mo.



MODEL 1930  
Regular Price, \$130.

ADVANCE ORDER  
SPECIAL \$82.50



THE ERIE DIGGER CONCESSION.

## ADVANCE ORDER SPECIAL STILL OPEN ON ERIE DIGGERS

It was a gigantic undertaking—making to order a thousand new machines of the LATEST MODELS! Early last fall preparations were made for this special.

How it was carried out:  
Raw material was ordered for 1,000 machines.  
Every machine in our factory was kept humming, turning this raw material into finished parts.  
On December 10 we sent out a feeler to 100 operators—HOW MANY ERIE DIGGERS WOULD THEY ORDER IF WE WERE TO CUT THE PRICE ON SINGLE MACHINES TO THAT WHICH WE WOULD HAVE TO CHARGE IF ORDERED IN LOTS OF 1,000.

The results were gratifying. But it would only mean making and selling 1,000 machines at cost, unless we could get a few hundred NEW BUYERS FOR ONE SAMPLE MACHINE EACH, for WHOEVER BUYS ONE WILL GLADLY PAY OUR REGULAR PRICES FOR TEN MORE.

**HERE'S THE REASON—THE ERIE DIGGER IS NOT A GAMBLING MACHINE, YET EARNS AS MUCH.**

It is the desire to use that miniature steam shovel to dig out gravel, boulders and rocks that fills the money box.  
We cannot manufacture this machine indefinitely at the low price quoted here. As soon as orders for 1,000 machines are in, we will HAVE TO GO BACK TO OUR REGULAR PRICES.  
The first orders that were received on the Special are now filled and on their way.

**RE-ORDERS WILL COME FROM THESE!  
DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY! SEND YOUR ORDER IN AT ONCE!  
SPECIAL CLOSURES WHEN THE THOUSANDTH MACHINE IS ORDERED.**



STANDARD MODEL  
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GENTLEMEN:  
Desiring to take advantage of your "Advance Order Special", as per Billboard ad, herewith place order for:

.....Standard Model Erie Digger Machines at.....\$69.60  
.....1930 Model Erie Digger Machines at..... \$2.50

To be shipped as early as possible, but not later than March 31, 1930.

The amount \$..... covering one-third of the order, is enclosed. Will pay balance on delivery

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## Showmen's League Notes

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—The meeting of February 13 was well attended and the general routine of business was attended to. The resolution committee reported resolutions in memory of Past President Jerry Mugivan and Past Vice-President Bert W. Earles are on hand and will be delivered to the families of these brothers in the near future.

There were three new applicants elected to membership: Jack Jacobson, J. Fred Temple and S. T. Jessop. The membership committee put up an urgent appeal for co-operation, as they are out this year to beat all records.

The February party committee reported returns to date are encouraging and they are in hopes of being able to present a substantial check as the result of their efforts. Remember the date of the affair is Wednesday, February 19, and all who attend are assured full value for their money.

The 1930 banquet and ball committee says that, altho the date is in the distant future, the committee has already shown results and all may be assured it is not asleep.

Brother Wm. Harper is still confined

at the American Hospital and Brother Col. Owens is at home. Both are improving and it is hoped they will soon be with us at the meetings.

Again we are called upon to pay our last respects to a brother. Brother Chas. P. Nash died in Chicago February 11 and was buried in Showmen's Rest on February 14. Members of the league and friends attended the service, which was in charge of the league. At the meeting Thursday the members arose in silent prayer for our departed brother.

President Brown presented the league with a framed script, depicting the higher qualities of the first president of the United States, George Washington. This is to be hung along with the picture of Washington presented to league by President Brown during the 1929 banquet and ball. Brother Tom Rankine made the presentation speech and President Brown responded in an able manner.

Paddy Ernst was elected to fill the vacancy on the board of governors caused by the death of Bert W. Earles.

First Vice-President Sam J. Levy is the toastmaster at the banquet and ball of the Mississippi Valley Showmen's Association. A number of the brothers have been contemplating the trip to St. Louis in order that Sam will not be alone, and to enjoy the festivities. Among those intending to go are President W. O. Brown, Treasurer Walter F. Driver; Wm. Kaplan, chairman of the membership committee, and wife; Mr. and Mrs. Lew Dufour, Mrs. L. C. Kelley, Ed Mathias, and if Eddie Mathias is successful in his solicitations there will be many others.

Joe Rogers, who went via airplane to Los Angeles to attend the funeral of his late associate, Bert Earles, returned to Chicago by the same route.

Sherman Glover was a recent visitor on several occasions.

Seen around the clubrooms were H. A. (Whitey) Lehrter, James Chase, Lou Mathison, W. O. Brown, Walter F. Driver, Lew Dufour, Lou Berger, Maurice Lightstone, Lee Hall, John Hoffman, Mel Dodson, Felix Charneski, Bob Brumleve, Dave Robbins, Lou Leonard, Lou Keller, Dave Tennyson, Ed Mathias, Ben Samuels, Paddy Ernst, Jimmie Campbell, Peter Rogers. Wm. Young is a regular visitor at the rooms. John Lorman

runs up to say hello and incidentally to sit around and cut it up with the boys.

Fred Beckmann has been appointed chairman of the 1930 League Week drive.

## Mary Rudy's Parents Killed

Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Brewer, parents of Mary Rudy, who was said to have been with an indoor show in Cleveland week before last, were killed at Middletown, O., Thursday afternoon, February 13, when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a train. This information was phoned to *The Billboard* Saturday night by J. R. Baker, undertaker of Middletown, who said he was holding the bodies awaiting word from Miss Rudy as to their disposition: Anyone knowing her whereabouts is asked to bring the matter to her attention or notify the undertaker.

## Geo. Dexter on Business Trip

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—George Dexter, manager of Josephine-Joe, arrived here last week from Cardiff, Wales, his mission being to book some suitable freak talent for the other side. He expects to return on March 15 and states he is going to confine his future activities to England, where he can make more money than here. He has been playing' fairs for the last nine months and reports business satisfactory. He states there is nothing new in the line of freaks on the other side. He has been playing with Pat Collins' outfit and it is his intention to put on this season a Yankee pit show, which he believes will register a hit in England.

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif., Feb. 15.—The Waltzer ride with the John T. Wortham Shows, playing here at the Orange Show, is scoring heavily in patronage. This is the first time it has been in operation in this section of the country and it seems that its popularity as thriller was instantaneous. Harry Witt has been here a week or 10 days, meeting and entertaining people of the amusement world; also has watched the setting up and operation of the ride he represents.

## New York Office Callers

LOU C. DELMORE, manager of Sells-Floto Side Show.  
BILLIE BURKE, of *Tango Shoes*.  
ALFRED HONEY, of the Honey Troupe.  
J. F. MURPHY, general manager of Melville-Reiss Shows.  
BENO BENO, sensational high trapeze performer.  
GEORGE DEXTER, manager of Josephine-Joe.  
PAUL SASCHA, circulation promoter of *Graphic*.  
HATTE DELMAN, outdoor singer.  
JAKE DAVIS, motordrome rider.  
J. D. WRIGHT, JR., general representative of Melville-Reiss Shows.  
JOS. A. ROWAN, promoter.  
CAPT. ROBERT J. BAILIE, wild animal trainer.  
GERALD (FRENCH) SNELLENS, program advertising solicitor of Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus.

## Chicago Office Callers

DALLIE JULIAN ANDREW, former equestrienne, and her daughter, Anna Ledgett.  
MYRON ORTON, of the Four Ortons, vaudeville act.  
PHIL KING, stilt walker.  
LOUIS J. BERGER, carnival agent.  
ETHEL KENNEDY, vaudeville performer.  
CHARLES MARTIN, circus and fight announcer.  
HENRY GIBBONS, clown.  
ALLEN DURNELL, of the vaudeville act of Kenny and Durnell.  
LEW D. NICHOLS, veteran circus man.  
CHESTER PELKEY, superintendent of concessions, Sells-Floto Circus.

## Circus Men in New York

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The following circus program advertising representatives were in the metropolis last week: R. O. Scatterday, representing the 101 Ranch; H. Y. Barry, of the John Robinson Circus, and Gerald (Frenchy) Snellens, of the Hagenbeck Show.

## 3 HOT VALUES

CIGARETTE TOPPERS—50c value. Best packed and carded on the market. While they last. **65c and \$1.**—Dozen

(Others ask double this and more)  
CANARY BIRD WATER WHISTLES, 10c seller. While they last. **\$2.75** Gross.

VALET AUTO STROP SHAVING CREAM. (50c seller). Factory Price, \$24.00 **\$12.**—Gross. Our Special Price, Gross.

Samples at wholesale prices, plus postage. Our reputation of values should bring your order immediately. One-fourth deposit on all orders. Write for Catalog of Needles, Notions, Razor Blades, Perfumes, etc., prices of which will surprise you.

**MILLS SALES CO.**

901 Broadway, New York City

## Circus Pickups

By FLETCHER SMITH

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 15.—Ray Morrison, concessionaire with the Christy Show, is apparently not satisfied with disposing of his restaurant on Austin street at a good profit, and has purchased another, this time at 2208 North Main street. He still avers he will be on the road as usual this season.

Joe Stokes, who has been busy at the quarters of the Christy Shows, has left for Beaumont, where he has accepted a position with the Magnolia Refinery Company and will probably not troupe this season.

Bobbie Todd, of the Al G. Barnes Show, who came east and has enjoyed a visit with her old friend, Mrs. Bowman Robinson, at Kerrville, Tex., was a recent visitor at the Christy quarters.

William P. Culp, legal adjuster of the Christy Shows the coming season, since the recent death of the owner of the Brazos and the Auditorium hotels in Houston has been appointed hotel detective of each house and will hold the position until the opening of the circus, now that G. W. Christy is able to be out and about every day.

General Agent Bert Rutherford, of the Christy Shows, is back at the quarters and is trying to rebeautify the landscape and the display of palms which were rendered practically nil by the recent cold snap.

The three elephant acts and the Simmons Midgets of the Christy Show, together with several other animal acts, will be the features of the annual Shrine Indoor Circus at Galveston.

A. B. McDonald, former circus man and now general superintendent of the Pennsylvania Car Works at Beaumont, was in Houston last week and entertained by the writer. He was here for the purpose of securing a director and musicians for a shop band, which will be sanctioned by the company.

## Harris-Comb Shows

ARTESIA, N. M., Feb. 15.—Work at the winter quarters of the Harris-Comb Shows is drawing to a close. O. P. Harris reports everything repaired and newly painted for the coming season. The advance agent has returned from a successful booking trip thru New Mexico, Colorado and Nebraska. Harris is enthused over the outlook for the coming season. Members of the American Legion are boosting the opening engagement here under their auspices. The new organ for the Merry-Go-Round has arrived. From the looks of the six-wheel trucks being built at winter quarters, it seems to the writer, secretary, that this show is headed to play the "sticks" this year. CHARLES W. CROSS.

## Melville-Reiss Shows

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Feb. 15.—The crews at the Melville-Reiss Shows' winter quarters sure are hitting their stride. Sallor Harris' crew of wagon repair men have about finished placing springs with dead fittings. Howard Ingram and his train crew have a little more work to do on the coaches. Will not check the flats until the last of next month, as that equipment will need little work other than laying the lining. Bodies for three box wagons were being framed to-

day. The paint-shop gang started to spread varnish on the Merry-Go-Round horses. Kit Carlos, master painter, submitted plans for the new entrance, with heavy carvings finished on goldleaf. The remodeling of the wagon fronts was contracted with the Charlotte Mill Works, and all that will be necessary will be the hanging of the panels. These fronts will likewise have carvings, one finished in gold and the other in silver with white and ivory background. Mr. and Mrs. Roy VanSickle is spending the week here before visiting their folks at Elizabethtown, N. J. Mrs. H. G. Meville and I. L. Peyser arrived from Chicago last night. Peyser expresses his appreciation of his many friends' expressions of sympathy sent him during his bereavement. Harry Silvers motored from Louisville and will start building three new illusions. Owner Meville is expecting a letter from Gean Nadreau daily, or see him drive up in his new sedan. Mrs. F. O. Burd joined the writer last week and is confined to her room with a bad cold. Mr. and Mrs. Earl Purtle are now comfortably settled in their new home, and Earl has his regular hours at winter quarters in his overalls. Byron and Billie Woods, of Funny Monkey Circus fame, write from Miami that they have had a wonderful rest and are feeling fine. Herman Horrow, of Philadelphia, stopped over between trains to see Nate Miller. It is only natural to expect Joe End in the near future. F. O. BURD.

## N. E. Bartlett Shows

KEOKUK, Ia., Feb. 15.—Arrangements are being completed toward the opening of the N. E. Bartlett Shows here April 12. The show is slated to carry 5 rides, 10 shows and 30 concessions. Things have started moving around winter quarters. A new truck has been ordered for the calliope and office, and a new arch is being built.

A surprise birthday party was tendered Manager Bartlett February 8 by his friends and relatives at the home of General Agent Odie G. Sackman. Among those present were Mrs. Vina Bartlett, Laura Bartlett, Mrs. Jessie Bartlett Miller and many friends and acquaintances. O. G. SACKMAN.

## Southern Expo. Shows

SILOAM, Ga., Feb. 15.—The Southern Exposition Shows are here at this writing. Weather is fine, but business is only fair. Manager W. R. Harris just returned from a trip thru Tennessee and Kentucky arranging dates for the show. Tony Martini has joined the staff as general agent and has left for the fair meeting at Milledgeville. Fred Newman has joined with two concessions, Eddie Farrell two and J. R. Brown two. Clarence Stephens is placing a nice 24-foot corn game. The writer has just completed a nicely framed underworld show, which will be on the midway at the next engagement at Crawford, Ga. Manager Harris states we will be in Georgia about three more weeks, then to the coal fields of Kentucky. Seems like the Minstrel Show is the featuring attraction, as it keeps packing them in. When Johnny Smith starts his orchestra and jazz revue even the show people get in line for front seats. J. W. STEVENS.

## Hilderbrand United Shows

ORANGE, Calif., Feb. 15.—J. R. Stephon, who has operated side shows and attractions on many carnivals, has contracted for two shows and one major ride with the Hilderbrand United Shows for the seasons of 1930 and 1931. J. L. McCart, who has kept his Fairland Shows operating all winter here in Southern California, was a visitor at winter quarters last week. General Agent F. B. Currey left Monday for Idaho Falls, Ida., where he will attend the annual meeting of the Idaho State Fair Association. Construction of two floats to represent the Hilderbrand Shows in the parades at the Santa Ana Mardi Gras and Carnival February 25-March 1 started this week in winter quarters.

A "Two Show" under the direction and management of the Hilderbrand organization is now assured, Hilderbrand announced this week. Consisting of two rides, two shows and a string of concessions, the show will be modern in every detail, with a fleet of trucks and trailers for transportation. CHET NICHOLSON.

## Fair Men Arrive In Chi. for Meetings

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—The advance guard of the fair men and showmen arrived in town Sunday for the motor contest, trotting association and fair association meetings. As several important matters are scheduled to come up, including establishing one parent trotting association and possibility of organizing a national association of county fairs, it is expected a larger number of fair men than usual will attend.

Registered at the Auditorium Hotel Sunday night were the following: E. G. Bylander, W. R. Hirsch, Ralph T. Hemphill, Thos. H. Canfield, Senator Frank D. Fuller, A. R. Corey, Chas. Nash, C. E. Cameron, A. P. Burdick, Lee Warner, H. M. Ofelt, J. Alex Sloan, J. Saunders Gordon, Ray P. Speer, T. P. Eichelsdoerfer, E. B. Cimijotti, Ray Lee, D. J. Murphy, Ernie Young, Mike T. Barnes, Chas. H. and Frank P. Duffield and W. H. (Bill) Pickens.

## Meighan in New York

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—George Meighan, representative of Ringling, is in New York at the Forest Hotel.

## SARANAC NOTES

(Continued from page 12)

of the McDonald Sisters at 75 Margaret street.

Sue Nace, who arrived a few weeks ago from San Diego, Calif., and has been under the care of the NVA at 50 Sheppard avenue, has moved into the NVA Lodge.

Andrew D. Molony, who left Saranac Lake two weeks ago, has returned and will continue the cure under the care of the NVA at 50 Sheppard avenue.

Harry E. English had a little setback and will be in bed for a few weeks more. Valentine Kincaid, of the Lodge, has been confined to his bed with a cold for the last two weeks.

Pauline Aurandt has moved from 15 Ampersand avenue to 11 Baker street.

Aif. Pierce, formerly of Udell and Pierce, is now chasing the cure at 9 Front street.

Angela Papulis, of Steubenville, O., is now a guest patient of the NVA Lodge, moving from 9 Front street to 80 Park avenue.

Joe Donatella, an NVA guest patient, received a surprise visit from his mother, who will spend a few weeks with him.

Alice Carmen, curing at 9 Front street for the last eight months, has moved to 52 Park avenue and is on exercise.

Harry Clark is another guest patient, who moved from 9 Front street to 6 Baker street.

Al Downing, former electrician with George White's Scandals, has been curing in Saranac Lake since last March. He is on exercise and curing at 10 Baker street.

## Daly and RKO Discoveries

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Joe Daly and the RKO Discoveries, new seven-people act, showed off for the circuit this first half at the Franklin, Bronx. In Daly's support are Little Ann Little, Harry and Honeybee, Violette Flores, Joe Bisio and "Skeets" Genaro.

## Several Managerial Switches Are Made

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—It looks like "new face month" as far as RKO house managers are concerned. Last week Louis Goldberg took up the reins of the Franklin, Bronx. In the place of Edwin Mochary, and A. L. Haynie replaced Cecil Miller at the Seventh Street, Minneapolis, booked out of the Chicago office.

Effective today, Foster Lardner has been relieved of the Victory, Providence, so that he can devote his entire time to the Albee in that town. Harry Storin landed the Victory. Also, J. S. Powers succeeded Andy Anderson in the management of the State and Rivoli, New Brunswick.

## Vanessi Goes Loew

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Vanessi, who recently showed for RKO at one of the locals, switched to Loew this first half for a showing at the Grand, Bronx. She is supported in her new five-people vehicle by Dick Delton, Bobbie Baldwin, Jay Silver and Al Gitroux. The production was staged by Phil Tyrrell.

## Checkers Finished; Chess Begins Soon

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—William Beattie, with a score of 163, won the first prize in the NVA checker tournament. Other winners, in order of their ranking at the finish, were Henry Talmud, Tom Sawyer, Dave Oaks, Anthony Andre, Bert Turner, Clifford Mack, and Luigi Picaro, Paul Martell and Henri LeGrand tied for eighth place.

The NVA Chess Tournament will get under way February 24. A set of rules has been posted, one of the stipulations being that only those with paid-up cards will be eligible. All games will be played according to the International Chess Code, with no more than 10 minutes allowed for each move lest the game be forfeited.

## Sharon De Vries Back

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Sharon De Vries, heading a nine-people revue, has been booked by RKO for the last half of next week at the Riverside. This will be her first appearance here for the major circuit in four years. She recently toured Australia. Direction of Fred DeBony, of the Thomas Fitzpatrick office.

## Hughes and Lang Starting

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Fred Hughes and Nick Lang, singing and comedy duo, will shove off the first half of next week for RKO in the Memorial, McKeesport, and play Pittsburgh the week following. They are agented by Billy Jackson.

## Lewis With Shannon

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Jack M. Lewis took space last week in the Sam Shannon office in the Bond Building and will go in for personal management of attractions. On his arrival here from Chicago eight months ago he tied up with Arthur Horwitz and soon after went with the Bill Mack and William Shilling combo.

## Betty Jane Cooper Act

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Betty Jane Cooper is heading a new eight-people flash featuring Lillian Dawson, which will open for Loew this last half at the Premier, Brooklyn. Other Eastern dates are likely, booked thru the Yates office.

## Karreys Out of Town

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Four Karreys, contortionistic troupe which played Loew's State last week, canceled local dates this week on a split between the National and Grand, Bronx, and were sent out of town instead. They opened in Syracuse this week, and next week move on to Rochester. They will return for additional local dates shortly thereafter, booked thru Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office.

## Illness Cancels Langford

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Myra Langford has canceled all Loew dates at local houses due to illness and she has been replaced everywhere by Lillian Campos, warbling single. The latter opened this week on a split between the Lincoln Square and the Gates, Brooklyn. At the Lincoln Square this first half Jack McKay, Scotch comedian, was spotted in place of Kimberly and Page, who flopped.

## Daro and Costa Resume

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Gino Daro and Ray Costa, dance team, who formerly played for Loew at the head of a six-people revue, resumed for the circuit this first half at the Gates, Brooklyn, as the standard bearers of a new 11-people flash, booked thru Meyer North. They have added the Humberto Marimba and several specialty people.

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## DEATHS in the PROFESSION

**AMERY**—Phyllis, actress, died suddenly in Melbourne, Australia, last week.

**ANDREWS**—Sarah Ann, wife of Joe Aldean, died suddenly February 5 in Chicago. Mrs. Andrews in her younger days was an apprentice of Wm. Hamston, of Harmston's Circus, in the Orient. She did a wire act and also toured the world with her husband and his brother in the Aldeans bar act. Surviving her are her husband and a daughter, Annie Howlett.

**ANSORGE**—Conrad, 67, noted concert pianist and composer, died in Berlin, Germany, February 13.

**ARCHER**—Sam, formerly of Archer and Garlow, well-known musical act, died February 9 at the John B. Murphy Memorial Hospital, Chicago, of heart trouble. Archer had been in the profession for 60 years. He had been with various repertoire companies and for the last 38 years he and his wife, Kitty, were known as Archer and Garlow. His widow survives. Burial was in Detroit.

**ATWOOD**—Mrs. Martha A., mother of Martha Atwood, Metropolitan Opera singer, died in Madison Hospital, New York, February 12, following a brief illness.

**BAKER**—Arthur B., 71, assistant director of the National Zoological Park and widely known for his knowledge of animals, died at his home in Washington, D. C., February 8, of bronchial pneumonia. Baker became attached to the Zoological Park in 1890. His widow, a son and three daughters survive.

**CAGNEY**—Davis H., 71, miniature railway train manufacturer, died February 15 in the Jersey City Hospital, Jersey City, N. J. He was also active in New Jersey politics. Two sons and a daughter survive. Funeral services were held February 17 at St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church in Jersey City and burial was in the Holy Name Cemetery.

**CLIFFORD**—Mrs. Thomas E., wife of the former stage and concert baritone, died suddenly February 12 at her home, 5 Rozella street, Ashmont, Mass. Besides her husband she is survived by a sister, five daughters and three sons. The funeral was held February 14, with a requiem high mass at St. Anne's Church, Ashmont.

**CONKLIN**—Ed S., secretary-manager of the Warren County Fair at Lebanon, O., for the last 20 years, died in that city last week after a brief illness. He was known by many outdoor show people for his promotions in that branch of the amusement business and was also an ardent supporter of the Ohio Fair Managers' Association, being a regular attendant at all of that organization's meetings.

**DALEY**—Joseph, 56, died February 1 at Bloomington, Ind. He had been connected with Howard's animal show in vaudeville for the last 10 years.

**DAVENPORT**—Susan, 55, mother of Madeline Kingsland, formerly in vaudeville and burlesque, and at present on Guy Weadick's ranch in Alberta, Can., died February 8 in Portsmouth, Va. Burial services were held February 11 in Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx.

**DIXON**—The 13-month-old child of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Dixon, died February 9. The parents are associated with the carnival business.

**EICHELSDORFER**—William P., 48, who had been connected with the Regalia Manufacturing Co., Rock Island, Ill., for the last 30 years and who was known by many showfolk, died last week in Rock Island of injuries suffered in an automobile and train accident at Milan, Ill., January 16.

**EMERSON**—Mrs. Mary T., widow of Billy Emerson, noted minstrel, died February 12 at her home in San Francisco. She was a well-known musician of San Francisco.

**FARR**—Burton Cassius, 50, actor, playwright, theatrical director and landscape and scenic artist, died February 9 after a brief illness. He had scores of friends in all branches of the amusement business, having been engaged in the dramatic, repertoire, carnival and motion picture fields.

**FIELDS**—Nellie, formerly in vaudeville as a member of the team of Frey and Fields, died February 6 in Los Angeles. She was buried February 8 in Loudon Park, Baltimore.

**FORBES**—Mrs. Dorothy Faucher, who before her marriage was an active figure in the promotion of the little theater at Holyoke, Mass., died February 14 in Holyoke.

**GARDNER**—Mrs. Della, 54, died February 13 of a heart attack at her home in Delphos, O. The Gardners operated their tent show, known as the Great Gardners, for 30 years, but retired from the show business about eight years ago. Funeral services were held February 16.

**GIBSON**—Clarence E., 38, died of tuberculosis February 10 in Indianapolis. He had been in the carnival business for the last 12 years and was a partner with Clyde Harvey in the Sunset Park Attractions. His widow survives. Burial was made in Cedar Rapids, Ia., February 14.

**GILBERT**—Max C., 37, died February 6 at his home, 3520 Jasper street, Philadelphia, Pa. Complications set in after an appendicitis operation. As Philadelphia representative of *The Billboard* for the last two years Gilbert was popular with many showfolks. His death has taken from *The Billboard* staff one of its most conscientious and valued members. He left a widow and four children.

**HAPGOOD**—Mrs. Emilie Bigelow, prominent in theatricals and former wife of Norman Hapgood, died February 15 in Rome, Italy. A stroke of apoplexy caused her death. She was a former president of the Stage Society. Largely thru her influence, Granville Barker brought his productions to New York in 1914. She produced and designed the scenery for *The Little Man and Magic*. A daughter, Mrs. Ruth King, survives. Burial was in the Protestant Cemetery in Rome.

**HAYES**—Fred L., for the last 18 years an actor with various stock companies, died in Brownwood, Tex., February 7, after an illness of two years. He went to Brownwood in 1911 and practically all of the time since he has been associated with theatricals in Texas. His widow survives.

**HORN**—William J., 74, member of the TMA, St. Louis Lodge No. 5, died at his home, 520 Rosedale avenue, St. Louis, January 25, following a nine days' illness. Death was due to heart attack.

Horn was employed as stagehand and property man in St. Louis theaters for the last 57 years. He was connected with the old Olympic Theater for 43 years previous to 1916, when the house closed, and he moved to the American Theater, where he was property man at the time of death. A widow, Mrs. Anna Horn, and a son, H. Wallace Horn, survive.

**HOWE**—Mrs. Clara Gilbey, dancer, and wife of Frederic E. Howe, died February 7 at her home at Dawaglac, Mich., following an operation for appendicitis. As a member of the Frederic E. Howe Amusement Company, she was known to thousands of members of Elks and K. of C. organizations thruout the country, for which it produced musical comedies for the last 26 years. She is survived by her husband.

**HUBBELL**—Thomas, 67, old-time circus man, died at Southington, Conn., last week. Hubbell was a ticket seller with Ringling Bros.' Circus and with the Barnum & Bailey Shows for 40 years and his honesty earned him the nickname of "Honest Tom".

**HURLBUT**—George Henry, 82, father of William J. Hurlbut, the playwright, died February 15. He left a wife and another son. Interment was made in Belvidere, Ill.

**KINSELLA**—James, violinist of Syracuse, N. Y., died at his home in that city February 8. Burial was made in St. Agnes' Cemetery, Syracuse.

**KRINES**—John E., 61, connected with the Auditorium, Milwaukee, Wis., for the last 18 years, died in Milwaukee February 13.

**KUNKEL**—Mrs. Albert, mother of Glen Tryon, film star, died February 11 in Los Angeles. Mrs. Kunkel is survived by her husband and three sons, Glen, Sherman and Louis.

**LOGAN**—Birch H., 53, former secretary and soloist with Al G. Field's Minstrels, died February 11 of heart disease at Columbus, O.

**LONG**—Hilary C., 43, who was a wire artist with the Barnum & Bailey Circus for several years, died February 6 in Tucson, Ariz. Interment was made at Smyrna, Dela., February 12.

**MCNEARY**—John F., 84, formerly part owner of Uhrig's Cave, St. Louis, light

opera summer garden, died February 10 in Alexian Brothers' Hospital, St. Louis, of a complication of diseases.

**MABIE**—Cecil A., 38, concessionaire and showman, died at a sanitarium in Shreveport, La., January 27. Funeral services were held at McCook Bros.' Funeral Home and interment was made in Greenwood Cemetery, Shreveport. His widow and father survive.

**NASH**—Charles P., 57, died February 11 at his home in Chicago. Funeral services were held February 14 and interment was in Showmen's League Rest. Deceased was born in Durand, Colo. For many years he had been a concessionaire, for the last few years working around Chicago.

### THE RELATIVES OF THE LATE

## MRS. I. L. PEYSER

Wish to express their thanks and appreciation to the many friends for their kind words of sympathy and for the beautiful floral offerings.

MR. I. L. PEYSER,  
MR. AND MRS. H. G. MELVILLE.

**PAGE**—Fiddes Mortlock, 78, actor, died February 12. He had been a guest at the Actors' Fund Home since 1914. He entered the dramatic and musical comedy profession at the age of 18. When he was 21 he went to South Africa and served in the South African Mounted Police as troop sergeant, and when he was discharged as physically unfit for service he again entered the theatrical profession and toured the

### George W. Rollins

George William Rollins, one of the most widely known and popular showmen in the United States, died Saturday morning, February 15, at Revere, Mass. A few weeks ago he fell victim to a stroke of paralysis.

Rollins was born at Berwick, Me., August 16, 1863. In early boyhood he learned to play a clarinet, and on May 12, 1886, he led the band with Whittier's Allied Shows, which was his initiation into show business, and he remained with that company two seasons. Next, for one season each, with Whitmore and Clark's Minstrels and Peck & Fursman's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Sam A. Scribner, manager). The following two seasons he was a musician with Scribner & Smith's Circus, then successively with the Walter L. Main Circus, T. K. Burk Circus, Katherine Rober Repertoire Company, Seamore & Stratton's Repertoire Company, Barlow Bros.' Minstrels (Al Dolson, manager). He next, as advance agent, joined J. J. Garrity's International Allied Shows; then became connected with the Frank C. Bostock Shows for 12 years, about 8 years lecturer inside the Wild Animal Show, and the remainder of the time handled the Chiquita (midget) attraction; also took Chiquita to Europe for one winter. He next operated his own animal show independently for several years, then booked it with Miller Bros.' 101 Ranch Wild West for one year. Then he purchased an interest with the late Sig Sautelle in the Sautelle, Lowanda & Rollins Circus, staying there four years. Following this he joined the Greater Sheesley Shows as press representative, and managed the Sheesley Trained Wild Animal Show for four years, and later went to the Johnny J. Jones Exposition, and purchased a "Bughouse" fun show, which he kept with that organization five years and moved it to the Morris & Castle Shows, after a year selling the attraction to Charles Jameson, and then purchasing a wax-figure show, which he had with the Rubin & Cherry Shows in 1925. Rollins then formed a partnership with Harold L. Anfender, and their interests in objects in wax kept multiplying and expanding to include carving, sculpture and painting collections, under the firm title of George W. Rollins & Company.

His widow, and his daughter, Mrs. Edward Hathaway, Revere, Mass., survive. He was a member of St. John's Lodge No. 115, F. & A. M., Philadelphia, and affiliated Masonic orders, including Scottish Rite and the Shrine.

### In Loving Memory to My

### MOTHER

## MRS. SOPHIE C. EDSON

Who Passed Away in Rock Hill, S. C., at  
4:30 P.M. February 18, 1927.

*Passed Away to Another Land;  
Nevermore will her guiding hand  
Show me how and lead the way,  
But her Spirit,  
I'll be near it;  
So her trust in me will stay.*

Ralph



### IN LOVING MEMORY

## MRS. SOPHIE C. EDSON

Died February 18th, 1927

Before my life is ended  
And my time has come to go  
And leave the joys and sorrows  
Of this old earth below

I long for God to give me  
The gifts of word divine,  
That I may write some verses  
To that friend dear of mine.

A journey back in memory  
In my verses I would take,  
And picture all the sorrows  
She has suffered for my sake.

How she gave me strength and courage  
When my heart was in despair,  
And scattered love and happiness  
About her everywhere.

Ah! I know it will please her,  
And I'd love to see her when  
They tell her that the verses  
Are the verses from my pen,

And that I wrote them for her,  
Just because I missed her so,  
To be sung up there in glory  
When her time had come to go.

So I'm longing and I'm praying  
That before I cross the bar,  
Ere I journey over yonder  
To the gates that stand ajar,

Of all the verses I may write,  
My sweetest one may be  
Written to the friend  
That the Master gave to me.

Mike Ziegler, Ralph Edson, Jack Rose

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world, finally settling in the United States. His last engagement was in 1913 in 45 Minutes From Broadway. He also appeared in the companies of Jos. R. Grismer, F. C. Whitney, Stockwell & Osborne's Alcazar Stock. He appeared with Jeffreys Lewis, Louis Morrison, Emily Melville, E. J. Carpenter and Oliver Dowd Byron. Funeral services, under the auspices of the Actors' Fund of America, were held from Campbell's Funeral Church February 15, and interment was in the Actors' Fund plot in Evergreen Cemetery, Brooklyn.

POYNER—Percy R., 34, well known in outdoor show business, died last week at his home in Columbus, Ga. He had trouped with Sparks, Hagenbeck-Wallace and the John Robinson circuses and was also a member of the Johnny J. Jones and C. A. Wortham shows. Poyner was a World War veteran and was the victim of a gas attack, which affected his health since the war. Besides his widow he is survived by his parents, three sisters and three brothers. Interment was in Riverdale Cemetery, Columbus.

RUSSELL—Col. M. R., 83, died in Deadwood, S. D., February 5. He was a friend and associate of the late Col. W. F. Cody and was a member of his executive staff on Cody's first tour of Europe. He had many friends in show business.

SILVER—G. Lote, a member of the act known as the Silvers, "song illustrators", died in San Francisco February 7. He was born at Fowler, N. Y., December 29, 1862, and began his stage career with his mother and father in 1868. His widow and four brothers survive.

TRENARY—S. J., father of Queenie Marlow and Betty Gordon, died January 14 at Indianapolis, Ind. He was known by many showfolk.

TRIPP—Claude L., 18, died February 9, the result of an automobile accident at Chickasha, Okla. Last season he was with the Morris & Castle Shows.

VEDRENNE—John E., 62, noted English theatrical manager, died February 13 in London. He had produced many of the best known plays of George Bernard Shaw, John Galsworthy, Sir James Barrie, Maurice Maeterlinck and Jerome K. Jerome. He was also manager of such theaters as the Savoy, Apollo, Queen, St. James and Royalty in London.

WATERS—Mrs. Ida Mae, 55, formerly an active figure in the advance of the little theater movement and a former member of the Play Arts Club, died February 12 in Baltimore, Md.

WICKER—Dr. Charles F., a resident of Saranac Lake, N. Y., for the last 50 years, and a leading general medical practitioner, died February 12 at the Physicians' Hospital in Plattsburg, N. Y., where he had gone a short time ago for treatment. Dr. Wicker had the distinction of being Saranac Lake's first physician, as the place in its early development 50 years ago was without a physician until he arrived there.

MARRIAGES

BLANCHARD-STOUT—Chas. A. Blanchard, professional, and Barbara Stout, nonprofessional, were married in Monroe, La., last week. The groom will troupe with the H. B. Webb Shows when that organization goes out.

BROMBERG-FIEBACH—Lillian Bromberg, secretary to Al Grossman, New York Loew Circuit agent, and Robert Fiebach, nonprofessional, were married February 8 at the Regina Mansion, Brooklyn. They are honeymooning for several weeks.

BYRON-SIMPSON — Marie Simpson, actress, and Arthur Byron, Jr., artist and son of Arthur Byron, actor, were married in New York February 11.

CLEMENT-SALTER — Violet Clement, well known in Wild West entertainment circles, and Coleman Salter, nonprofessional, were married at Sulphur Springs, Fla., January 25. The bride will continue in her profession for the coming outdoor season, probably with a large circus.

FRATELLINI-MULLARD—Henri Fratellini, son of Francois Fratellini, of the popular trio of clowns at the Cirque d'Hiver, Paris, and Mile. Suzanne Carreau-Millard were married at Nogent, France, February 4.

LOWANDE-FERT — Howard Albert Lowande and Ada Nora Fert were married February 3 at Toronto, Can. Both are known in show business.

MORSE-CARSON—Beatrice Carson, of Oakfield, N. Y., was married February 10 to Clyde Morse, program director for Station WHAM, Rochester, N. Y., at Oakfield.

ST. LEGER-MILLSPAUGH—Frank St.

Leger, one of the conductors of the Chicago Civic Opera Company, and Katherine Millsbaugh, musician, of Yonkers, N. Y., were married February 10 in New York.

SCHULTZ-MERKEL — John (Dutch) Schultz, manager boss, and Lola Merkel, of the Merkel Trio, cello, walking, of the Robbins Bros.' Circus, were married in Des Moines, Ia., February 11. They are making their home in Granger, Ia.

SUTHERLAND - KENYON — Edward Sutherland, Paramount studio director, and Ethel Kenyon, New York stage actress, were married February 6 at Aguascalientes, it has been reported.

WATLINGTON-BUTLER—Wally Watlington, publicist for Publix at San Antonio, Tex., and Wertie Mae Butler were married at Texarkana, Tex., last week.

WILLIAMS-JENKINS — A. J. (Jack) Williams, publicity director of the Texas Theater, San Antonio, and Dorothy Marion Jenkins, professional of Pittsburgh, Pa., were married in San Antonio February 6.

WISE-FLOYD — Olive Wise, blues singer, radio entertainer and at present station director at Station KFJZ, Fort Worth, Tex., and Cecil Floyd, non-professional, were married February 11. They will reside in Fort Worth.

WORNE-FAIRE—Virginia Brown Faire and Duke Worne, film actress and director, respectively, were married January 28 at Big Bear, Calif.

ZACCHINI-WALKER—Hugo Zacchini, "human projectile", whose act of being shot from a cannon was one of the high lights of the Ringling Show last season, and Elizabeth Walker were married at Sarasota, Fla., last week.

ZACCHINI-REIGEL—Bruno Zacchini, brother of Hugo, and who does the firing of the cannon, was married at Sarasota, Fla., to Gertrude Reigel last week.

COMING MARRIAGES

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan G. Gordon, the former once president of the Olympia Theater chain in New England, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Marion B. Gordon, to George S. Wildberg, a New York investment banker.

BIRTHS

Helen Hayes, in married life Mrs. Charles MacArthur, gave birth to a daughter February 15 in New York City. The expected maternity of the actress was the cause of arbitration proceedings last September between the Actors' Equity Association and Jed Harris, who suddenly closed Miss Hayes' starring vehicle *Coquette*. Her husband is coauthor of *Lulu Belle*, *Front Page* and *Salvation*.

DIVORCES

Mrs. Laura Lawrence Heywood, actress of New York, was granted a divorce last week from Herbert Heywood, Broadway actor, in New London, Conn.

Sam Coslow, songwriter at the Paramount Studio, Hollywood, has filed divorce proceedings against Mrs. Dorothy Coslow, former show girl, in Los Angeles. They were married in Brooklyn New Year's Day, 1925, and have one son, 4 years old. They separated January 17 last.

Mrs. Marie Le Doux has filed suit in Los Angeles for divorce from James Le Doux, vaudeville actor.

Genevieve Andrieni, formerly of *A Night in Spain*, was granted a divorce in Chicago February 11 from Lawrence Andrieni.

Violet Lamb, of the Lamb Sisters, was granted a divorce February 11 in Cleveland from P. Wallace, stage electrician, whom she married in New York, July 13, 1925.

Frankie (Red) Moore, burlesque sou-brette, was granted a divorce in Cleveland last week from Jimmy Moore, banjoist, of Salisbury, N. C.

Mrs. Dorothy Waring, wife of Fred Waring, noted orchestra leader, filed suit for divorce in Cleveland, O., February 12. The Waring has been married seven years.

Renos Celebrate

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Reno, for many years producers of dramatic stock road shows, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary last Wednesday at their home in Brooklyn.

G. A. FAIRS

(Continued from page 3)

the association last year, and secretary of the Middle Georgia Fair here, was re-elected. Hon. S. Courson, of Soperton, secretary of the Treutlen County Fair, and a member of the State Legislature from his county, and who will probably be a State Senator this year, was advanced from the position of second vice-president to first vice-president. President Robert C. Freeman, of the Lanier County Fair at Lakeland, was elected second vice-president. Freeman is president of the baby fair of the State. His fair, organized last spring, proved one of the most successful fall fairs in the State. This was the first time in the history of the association that an official of a fair attending his first convention was elected in the line of officers. E. Ross Jordan, secretary-manager of the Georgia State Exposition at Macon, was re-elected secretary-treasurer of the association. Jordan is a former president of the association and has served as secretary for four years.

The following directors were elected for the coming year, being substantially the same board which served last year: Felix L. Jenkins, secretary of the Chattahoochee Valley Exposition, Columbus (re-elected); L. C. Anderson, secretary Candler County Fair, Metter (re-elected); A. L. Moseley, secretary Toombs County Fair, Lyons (re-elected); C. O. Perry, secretary Crisp County Fair, Cordele (re-elected); S. N. Harris, president Georgia State Fair, Savannah; F. W. Hendrickson, vice-president Middle Georgia Fair, Milledgeville; Gordon S. Chapman, secretary Washington County Fair, Sandersville (a former president of the association and re-elected a director); Dr. A. D. Williams, president S. E. Georgia Fair, Waycross (address Folkston); Henry Odum, secretary Newton County Fair, Covington (re-elected); R. E. Rountree, secretary Emanuel County Fair, Swainsboro (re-elected); R. L. Vansant, secretary Cobb County Fair, Marietta (re-elected); J. P. Watson, Jr., secretary Pulaski County Fair, Hawkinsville (re-elected); Walter Harrison, secretary Jenkins County Fair, Millen; Thomas P. Littlejohn, Bainbridge, secretary of several fairs.

The original dates for the convention had been set for February 6 and 7, but were changed to February 12 and 13 in order to secure Chairman Alexander Legge, of the Federal Farm Board, as a speaker.

A few carnival representatives commenced coming into Milledgeville Monday, and by Tuesday night most of the hotels were crowded to capacity with carnival and fair officials. The headquarters of the convention were maintained at the Baldwin Hotel, and all of the sessions were held there, with the exception of the one Wednesday afternoon, when Chairman Legge and others spoke. Lack of space prevents publication of the convention proceedings in full in this issue.

EXHIBITORS

(Continued from page 3)

Allied the "rational" statement is printed below:

"The situation created by Thacher Decree calls for cool heads. A system of distribution must be worked out which will conform to the law and be acceptable to the industry. This calls for the exercise of judgment and patience, and I hope the exhibitors will be able to make their contribution to the solution of the problem.

"In the meantime it is to be hoped that the distributors will not, in a spirit of resentment, take action which will delay or endanger the final and satisfactory adjustment of the situation by joint action of the industry.

"In like manner the exhibitors should be controlled by a spirit of frankness and not seek to take advantage of the situation to avoid just obligations or to do other things which cannot be justified in good conscience. I would remind the latter that they expect to be in business for a long time and that future satisfactory relations are more important than the temporary gain from taking advantage of the present situation."

Road Company Successor

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—The *Strange Interlude* Company, which has been playing at the Blackstone Theater to large audiences for 12 weeks, departs for Philadelphia at the end of this week and will be replaced by the *Strange Interlude* road company.

F. E. ENCELL

Attorney at Law

General Practice in All Courts. Suite 2004, 100 No. LaSalle St., CHICAGO, ILL. Phone, State 3757.

Publix's Traveling M. Cs.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—The Publix organization is following the lead set by the Capitol Theater, together with the Loew organization, and will send out its stage shows headed by a traveling master of ceremonies with each company. Nikita Balleff and his *Chauve-Souris* will be the first of these new-style traveling shows. Charley Hill, formerly master of ceremonies at the Paramount, New York, will head the second presentation, *Tintypes*. Other masters of ceremonies who will start with new companies shortly are Art Kahn, Bobby Jackson, Pat Rooney, Larry Rich, Borrah Minnevit, Eddie Lowry and Ray Teal.

BURLESQUE BALL

(Continued from page 34)

engagement at Lake Saranac to be present and do his bit; Carl Randal and Virginia Watson, singers and dancers; the Nesbit Brothers, formerly of South Africa, in an original banjo-uke playing, comedy, singing and dancing act and various imitations; John Irving Fisher, master of ceremonies at the Fox Theater, Washington, in a comedy, talking and piano-playing act; Bobby Carney and Jules Howard, comedy cross-fire patter and dancing, led up to the finale with Larry Rich and his company recently featured at the Palace, who gave their full act augmented by the pretty, petite sister of Ruby Keeler in a tap-dancing specialty, and Rich's little daughter, Jane, in an acrobatic dancing specialty and melodious singing.

Phillips then brought forth Meyer Harris and Charles Allen, commending Harris for his arrangements as chairman, and Allen for his ever-ready willingness in soliciting the aid of his various acts in doing their bit for burlesque.

The finale of the stage presentation was the cue for floor dancing.

Grand march led by "Uncle" Bill Campbell and Rose Sydel, Mr. and Mrs. William Clark, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hyams, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Franklyn, Henry Dixon and Alice Lawlor, Mr. and Mrs. George Dresselhouse, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fieberg, included several hundred participants.

Ted Lewis made his entry about 2 o'clock to an ovation that carried him onto the stage, where he discarded his coat in order to do full justice to his musical direction of Hughey Shubert's orchestra.

Everyone present conceded it to be the social event of the burlesque season.

NEW PLAY

(Continued from page 7)

somewhat of an affront to the good taste of audiences in general. Therefore it is probably in the play's favor that Joseph is never really a character, but a caricature, and that George Jessel is merely George Jessel all dressed up in fancy costumes. And that Douglass Dumbrille isn't Pharaoh, king of all Egypt, at all, but merely Douglass Dumbrille.

Somehow one quite believes Ara Gerald's Potiphar's wife, even if one is tempted at times to wonder if the master's wife couldn't really be Nita Naldi. Nevertheless Miss Gerald does some right fine acting and her performance is really the high light of the play.

Ferdinand Gottschalk is splendid in the role of the comic-strip Potiphar who is blind to his wife's desire for the Hebrew slave, and who, if he knows of the affair between his wife and the king, is smart enough to keep his eyes closed. Anne Teeman does what little she can with the negligible role of Deborah. A large supporting cast garbed in costumes resembling those of the period lends atmosphere to the goings-on, as do the rather conventional settings designed by Redington Sharpe.

The staging by George S. Kaufman is exactly in keeping with the spirit of the play and there is some incidental music by Joseph Rumshinsky that doesn't matter very much one way or another.

Despite the fact that *Joseph* falls apart whenever Bertram Bloch has tried to make it dramatic it is a highly diverting piece of entertainment.

CHARLES CROUCH.

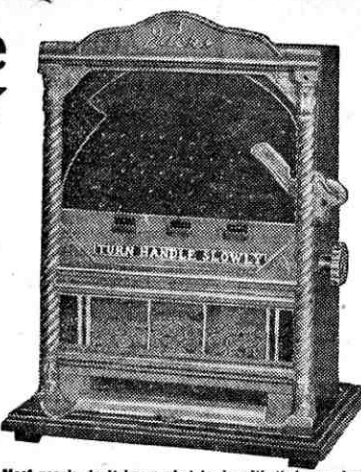
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**ROUTES**  
(Continued from page 53)  
George, Doc, Ventriloquist: Waterloo, Ia., 17-28.  
Jango Road Show, Wm. J. Riley, mgr.: (Hipp.) Youngstown, O., 17-22.  
Heads, F. H., Med. Co.: Caroline, Wis., 17-25.  
Kenny, Magician: Salisbury, Md., 19-20; Cambridge 21-22.  
Lucy, Thos. Elmore: San Antonio, Tex., 17-21.  
Marine-Froststone Co.: Oklahoma City, Okla., 17-March 1.  
Mayfield's Tanawa Co.: Conewango Valley, N. Y., 17-22.  
Mysterious Wheldons: McCook, Neb., 20-22; Holdrege 24-26; Orleans 27-March 1.  
Mysterious Smith Co.: Waukesha, Wis., 17-22; Portage 24-March 1.  
Oklahoma Outlaw Show, L. H. Hooker, mgr.: Kenedy, Tex., 19.  
Shapiro-Panzelle Co., Magicians: Gaston, N. C., 19; Garysburg 20; Jarrett, Va., 21.  
Brink, N. C. 22; Franklinton 24; Kiltrell 25; Henderson 26.  
Thurston, Magician: (Erlanger) Cincinnati 17-22.  
Wright, C. A., Vaude. & Animal Show: Bartonville, Vt., 18-19; Grafton 20-21.

**CARNIVAL COMPANIES**  
Alabama Am. Co.: Aragon, Ga., 17-22; Carversville 24-March 1.  
Alamo Expo.: Crystal City, Tex., 17-22.  
Barkoot Bros.: Auburndale, Fla., 17-22.  
Berg's, J. F., Great London: Ivan, Tex., 17-22; McCamey 24-March 1.  
Coe Bros.: Lake Wales, Fla., 17-22.  
Crafts Greater: Imperial, Calif., 24-March 1; Brawley 3-8.  
Delmar Quality: Marthaville, La., 17-22; Robeline 24-March 1.  
Greenburg Am. Co., Nogales, Ariz., 17-22; Casa Grande 25-March 1.  
Leach Am. Co.: Stapleton, Ga., 17-22.  
Loos, J. George: Laredo, Tex., 17-20.  
Miller, Ralph R.: St. Martinsville, La., 17-22.  
Pacific States-Kline: Tucson, Ariz., 17-22; Miami 24-28.  
Texas: Weslaco, Tex., 17-22.

**Additional Routes**  
(Received too late for classification)  
Babetta Med. Co.: Hollansburg, O., 17-22.  
Baylor's, Ed., Butler, Pa., 17-22.  
Bowser Tanawa Med. Co.: Findlay, O., 17-22.  
Bowser's Comedians: Olney, Tex., 17-22.  
Boyes, Chick, Players: Falls City, Neb., 17-22.  
Clarke's Cherokee Comedy Co.: Mixerville, Ind., 17-22.  
Cook's Show: Dupont, Ga., 17-22.  
Gormand-Ford Co.: Easton, Md., 17-22.  
Hubbard, Paul & Co., Magicians, Wilford Downs, mgr.: Jacksonville, Fla., 17-22.  
Lena's Show: Pawukee, Wis., 17-22.  
Lesser Comedy Co.: Utica, O., 17-22.  
Miller, Al H., Show: Otter Creek, Fla., 17-22.  
North Players: Madison, Kan., 17-22.  
Obrecht Stock Co.: Milbank, S. D., 17-22.  
Phillipson, Happy Comedy Co.: West Lebanon, Ind., 17-22.  
Ray's Show: Dunlo, Pa., 17-22.  
Reno, Great, & Co.: Ursa, Ill., 17-22.  
Scott Show: Refugio, Tex., 17-22.  
Slout Players: Galena, Ill., 17-22.  
Stewart Players: Dodge Center, Minn., 17-22.  
Tanawa Co.: Conewango Valley, N. Y., 17-22.  
Wanagah Comedy Co.: Tonica, Ill., 17-22.

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Same as Cuk. Doz....	
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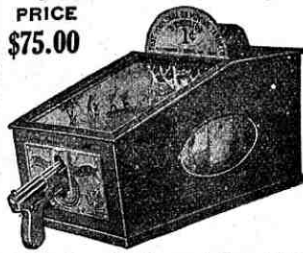
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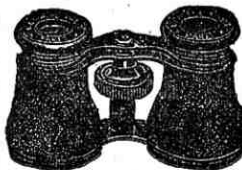
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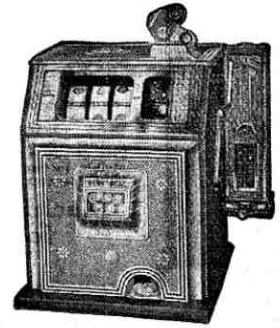


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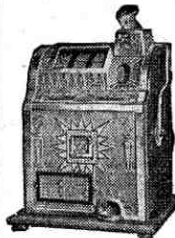
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2	27	56	74	
15	18	31	48	73
5	29	34	49	71

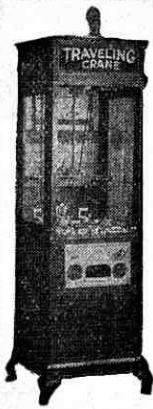
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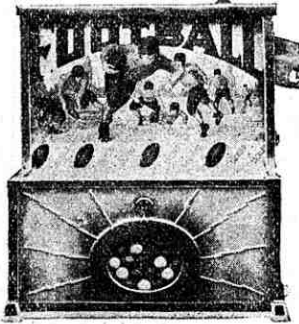
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A Ball Gum Vendor and Skill Amusement Machine. Aluminum finish, attractive front, small, light, handy, and easy to locate. Glass front can be taken out and replaced at will. A big "Money Getter" at a price competition can't touch.

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LEGAL EVERYWHERE.

**3 BIG FEATURES** PLAYS 3 COINS—1c—5c—10c Operates With or Without Prizes FOOL PROOF CONSTRUCTION

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B5437—Clock Lighter Deal. Consists of two Clock Lighters and one Strap Watch, Mounted on a 1,500-Hole Sc Board. Takes in \$75.00 and pays out \$15.00 worth of Cigarettes. **SAMPLE ASST. \$11.00**

Whoopie Tops Assorted Colors B2170 **\$6.75** Gross

B1769—5-B 1 a d e Toothpick Knives, with Mottled Colored Handles. One Dozen on a Display Card. **Per Gross, \$3.00**

B5441—600-Hole Combination Bargain Board. Consists of two Jumbo Pen and Pencil Sets, one Strap Watch and one Lighter. Players pay 5c, 15c and 25c, as they choose. Takes in \$92.40 and pays out in trade \$25.50. **Sample—\$8.75—Asst.**

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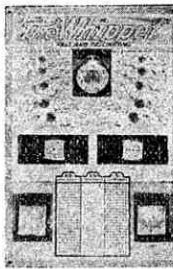
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GET IN ON THESE BIG SPRING ITEMS FOR QUICK PROFIT. No. 3900—INFLATED TOY GLOVE MONKEY By inserting fingers in back to operate, this Monkey works wonders. **Per Gross, \$10.80** No. 39000—TWO INFLATED DANCING MONKEYS Both attached and is operated and will dance just like the Charleston Dancers. Each pair in an envelope..... **Per Dozen, \$1.80; Per Gross, \$21.00**

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Salesboards From 30 to 10,000 Holes

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Get our Prices on 5c Gum Ball Machines and



**\$52.50 "Jackpot Bells" \$52.50**

Nickel Play. Original "Mills". Factory built. Free play on the Lemon. Serials over 213,000. Used few weeks. Are like new in appearance and mechanically perfect. 25c Play, same as above, \$62.50.

Wire One-Third Deposit.  
Shipment Same Day Order Received.

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GREATEST COIN MACHINE SINCE THE FAMOUS "LIBERTY BELL".

ABSOLUTELY LEGAL and can be operated in all classes of stores anywhere with 300% to 500% profit. Set on the counter as a penny machine, it still takes nickels, dimes and quarters, and when the reels stop a fortune designated on the fortune card. The storekeeper may pay rewards accordingly. Can be operated with JACK POT, or can be changed instantaneously to 10 BALL GUM, for closed territory. So silent you can't hear it run! Absolutely dog-proof.

**SPECIAL FEATURE FOR OPERATORS.**  
Handling a Number of Machines.

Two cash boxes. The storekeeper has access to his profits at all times, while the operator's credit is under separate lock and key. A patented coin divider automatically divides up the coins on a percentage basis, putting in each cash box the correct amount. This type of machine would be impracticable without this exclusive feature—no other machine has it!

Send us \$39.95 for a sample machine, which is the jobbing price, with 1,000 balls of Gum free. We guarantee it to be the best machine of its kind on the market.

Size, 11 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches. Weight, 22 Lbs.

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**THE FIELD PAPER PRODUCTS CO., PEORIA, ILL., U. S. A.**  
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**\$6.00 DOZ. New Style**

Send \$5.25 for Sample Doz. Prepaid.  
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SMALLEST PUSH CARDS MADE.

SIZE	150 Lots, Blank	100 Lots With Seal and Name
15-Hole Push Card...	\$2.64	\$2.44
25-Hole Push Card...	3.33	4.33
30-Hole Push Card...	3.69	4.69
40-Hole Push Card...	4.33	5.33
50-Hole Push Card...	5.00	6.00
60-Hole Push Card...	5.43	6.43
70-Hole Push Card...	5.79	6.79
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HERE'S A HOT ONE!  
"THE PACKLITE"

Per Doz. 42.00 Each 3.75

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B2C353—Combination Automatic Lighter and Cigarette Package Holder. Keeps package in shape. Just a press of the finger and thumb raises top so that cigarette can be removed. Press down on lever and you have a light. Compact. Will sell wherever demonstrated.

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PER DOZ. 10.50

B2C10—Imported All Glass Boudoir Lamp. Height, 9 1/2 in. Bright Colored Glass. Shade Decorated with Scenic Design. Compatible with Cord and Plug. Each in Carton.

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MAKE SOME PEAL MONEY WITH THIS  
**Sport Model Strap Watch 1-75 Each**

Sample Watch 1.85 Each

B21W9—Nickel-Plated Case, Cushion Shape, Silver Metal Dial, Black Arabic Figures and Hands. Lever Escapement Movement. Fine Quality Leather Strap, with Nickel Buckle.

**MINIATURE CHARM PISTOL.**

**AMERICAN MAUE**  
PER DOZEN 12.00  
Each 1.15

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Biggest Trade-In Allowance on Your Old Machine.

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Two Boards in one, presenting an irresistible appeal. 2000 Holes at 5c. pay Single on Reward Numbers. 2000 Holes at 10c pay double on Reward Numbers. Each panel is filled with different colored tickets. 10c is printed on each ticket in the 10c panel. Board Takes in . . . . . \$390.00  
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