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A Visit to the Edwin Forrest Home

By ELLIE DEANE-PALMER

Recently I had occasion to make a visit to the beautiful Edwin Forrest Home at Honesburg, Pa., which is for retired members of the profession. I came up the drive leading to a stately grey-stone mansion in a snowstorm. I was a little weary and very cold and it was a wonderful experience to enter the spacious hospitable hall and be welcomed by Mrs. Stewart, the hostess, who did everything in her power to make me feel that I was among friends.

The Home is most attractive and is furnished with the beautiful antique furniture and relics of Mr. Forrest. Everything is beautifully renovated to harmonize with the paneled, hand-carved old English interior of the house. One enters a large hall with Tiffany stained-glass windows and an enormous stone fireplace. The hall is handsomely furnished with easy-chairs, daybenches and a grand piano. In the evenings and on dull afternoons the guests gather about the blazing logs in this great hall telling stories, discussing plays, past and present, and sometimes Mrs. Stoyke and Mrs. Hurley sing an old-time song or one of the other ladies plays the piano. Everything is planned for the guest's comfort and they surely appreciate it. There is a pipe organ and a fine radio which is enjoyed each evening. The dining room is delightful. The guests

are seated at small tables and dinner is served by candle light.

On the day I arrived there were lovely crimson carnations and sweet peas in vases and rooms. There are always fresh flowers to make the air fragrant and the whole place is gay and inviting. There are many sunny windows, looking out on a balcony, and restful chairs in which one may bask in the sun which pours in on a bright day. How the older folks enjoy this!

The bedrooms are furnished with every comfort and convenience and each room is different in color scheme.

The Home has a large automobile, with a chauffeur, for the use of the guests when they wish to go on little errands or to pay visits. Many of the guests are devoted to their daily walk, however, Miss Lewis, a charming and much-beloved little lady, who because she has been in residence for 19 years is

called "The Dean", is a great lover of outdoors and all the birds and other animals come to her to be fed. A dear little female Saint Francis!

There is a faithful night watchman, whose duty is to watch over the guests while they sleep. If anyone becomes ill in the night he or she is cared for immediately.

The house is beautifully situated on a hill, with a pretty stream running along the edge of the estate and plenty of woodland all about it. Still it is within a city block of a pleasant village, where the tradespeople take great pride in serving the Forrest Home folks.

It companies playing in Philadelphia would pay a visit to the Edwin Forrest Home they would feel resaid and the guests would be delighted to receive them, for they are full of loyalty and devotion to the profession. It is not far from Philadelphia and can be conveniently reached by subway or trolley. I cannot say too much for Mrs. Stewart and the Edwin Forrest Home and I wish I could share this acquaintance with many others.

Stage Stutterers

As a result of the International Conference on the Cause and Cure of Defects in Speech in Vienna last month it has been decided to ask stage directors the world over to have in their productions no comic characters who create their fun by stuttering. Since there is said to be one stutterer among every 1,000 persons it is conceivable that at least two in every audience will be distressed by seeing their misfortune made the butt of humorists. There will probably be a response that will please the attendants of the conference, for there are today few plays in which the comedy is provided by the efforts of stutterers to talk.

Dramatists are loath to part with any expedient of fun or pathos that has been found effective. There may have been a time when stutterers served among the characters of a play as sources of entertainment. But that period has passed. In drawing their characters playwrights now avoid all kinds of physical abnormality. Henri Bergson to the contrary notwithstanding. Audiences, too, have ceased to find amusement in departure from physical normality emphasized for its own sake. No public would today laugh at a cripple or patronize a performance dependent on a character is painful for its fun. The tendency of the best type of theaters has been away from physical monstrosities. The successful dramatist today is one who can take the every-day world as he finds it and interest his listeners in a cross section of life as it is. He would not people his work with the physically deformed. No playwright would today make his drama depend for serious or comic interest on the acts of a character mentally deranged.

There are in the classic drama some characters that stutter because they are old and convention has decided that, following the fashion of the ages, certain parts are to be acted with an impediment in the speech. But there are few contemporaneous works likely to need revision from the organizations that are seeking to end stuttering as a comic stage device. The object was practically reached a long time ago.

—NEW YORK SUN.

1927 Business Outlook

Considered Favorable

Looking back over the dying year of 1926 and forecasting the business outlook for 1927, directors and members of the National Association of Manufacturers predict a continuance of the unprecedented prosperity of the nation. They see only a few economic icebergs in the path of the ship of Success.

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 7. People generally are contented and there are gradually fewer labor disturbances.

Thief Is Shot

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Thomas Evans, former night watchman at the Haymarket Theater, who has been sought since Labor Day for alleged stealing of \$3,000, was killed today by the present watchman, Roy White, when White says Evans returned and was caught again attempting to rob the safe that replaced the one he had robbed before.

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More Vote on Sunday Shows Than on Village Paving Issue

WATLAND, N. Y., Dec. 26.—That the public takes its amusement more seriously than it does such matters as, for instance, a village-paving issue, was indicated here this week in the special referendum on Sunday shows. A total of 323 votes were cast, with Sunday movies winning 481 to 325, while only 263 votes were cast at the special election on the village-paving proposition.

Gaby & Tocker, managers of the American Legion Theater, stood the expenses of the referendum and the village board, which agreed to abide by the poll, will pass an ordinance authorizing movies on Sunday after 8:45 p.m., when church services close.

N. Y. Orchestras May Consolidate

Rumor Current That New York Symphony and Philharmonic Will Soon Be Merged

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Rumor is current among boxholders and patrons of Philharmonic and New York Symphony orchestras that both organizations will soon consolidate, which if carried out will mean the realization of New York's "one big orchestra" dream.

That the rumors are entirely unofficial is proven in part by the refusal of Harry Barkness Flagler, sole guarantor and resident of the Symphony Society, to comment on them. Clarence H. Mackay, chairman of the board of directors of the Philharmonic Society, was not reached last night. Both organizations' schedules call for 100 or more concerts during the winter season. Those who discussed the amalgamation yesterday explained that the combined audiences could be covered in 150 concerts, exclusive of the few now given on tours. The layers eliminated in the amalgamation, it was also pointed out, would be provided for in the new organizations arising in other cities. Western bidders are now to offer \$200 a week for certain layers. Walter Damrosch, who recently resigned from the New York Symphony, is said to be definitely decided that his future activities will be confined to educational concerts for children and young people.

Fire Destroys Winnipeg Theater

WINNIPEG, Dec. 25.—The Winnipeg theater, owned by C. P. Walker, was destroyed by fire Thursday, with a loss estimated at \$120,000, of which there is about \$40,000 covered by insurance. Four men lost their lives while fighting the flames.

Manitoba officials have started an investigation.

Wenger Takes Over 2 Baton Rouge Houses

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 24.—The Wenger Amusement Company has closed lease with the Columbia Theater Company of Baton Rouge for the lease of the Columbia and Louisiana theaters, Baton Rouge's two principal show houses. The lease is for a period of 25 years with a monthly rental of \$6,000 or about \$1,000,000 for the period of the lease.

(Continued on page 17)

All Ohio Road Shows Will See Home-State Boy in Comedy

Patterson McNutt Plans Unusual Tour for Elliott Nugent and Original Broadway Production of "The Poor Nut"—State Invasion Starts January 17 in Columbus

Patterson McNutt, the theatrical producer, announced this week that he had completed arrangements for an all-Ohio tour of *The Poor Nut*, which has Elliott Nugent, an Ohio boy, as featured player. Following a run of 20 weeks at the Court Theater in Chicago, the college comedy will begin the Ohio engagement at the Hartman Theater, Columbus, the week of January 17, with an extended tour of the State to follow.

In addition to playing the title role, young Nugent is author of the play with his father, J. C. Nugent. The home of the Nugents is in Dover, O.

Additional significance is given to the State-wide tour in that the play deals with undergraduate athletic activities at the Ohio State University, of which young Nugent is an alumnus. Consequently, this institution is planning a tremendous reception for him at Columbus, and the

various branches of the O. S. U. Alumni Society throughout the State will stage similar demonstrations when *The Poor Nut* plays other cities. Governor Donahoe, President Rightmire of O. S. U. and other prominent State and educational officials will be guests of honor at the initial Ohio performance.

The Poor Nut is one of the outstanding successes of recent seasons, having to its credit a record of 42 weeks in New York, 16 weeks in Boston and 8 weeks in Philadelphia, in addition to its long Chicago engagement.

Young Nugent's supporting cast will be virtually the same as appeared on Broadway, including Norma Lee, Betty Garde, Percy Helton, Beach Cooke, Frazer Coulter, Larry Fletcher, Harry Gresham, Thomas Shearer, Robert Scott, Eric Kalkbrenner, Cornelius Roddy, Edith Letter.

(Continued on page 17)

Straight Movies Are Unable To Hold Small-Town Patrons

Evidence that straight moving pictures are unable to hold the patronage of the amusement seekers in the small towns is brought out by the numerous closings of film houses in various sections of the country. In the Northwest, for instance, 23 movies closed within two weeks.

Among the latest efforts to bolster up film theater attendance is the one-cent-sale idea, whereby anyone buying a ticket on certain nights is given a second ticket for one cent.

While the small communities are losing interest in straight movies the metropolitan centers, where strong musical features and stage attractions augment the films, report greater attendance.

Henry Duffy Plans Chain

Pacific Coast Manager Will Have String of Houses From Canada to Mexico

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—With today's opening of the Mission Theater, Long Beach, latest addition to Henry Duffy's list of theaters, this rising Pacific Coast producer and manager will have four houses under his direction. Two of the others are in San Francisco, and the fourth is in Seattle.

A fifth house will be opened by Duffy in the North next spring, and he plans to follow this up with other acquisitions until he has a chain reaching all the way from Canada to Mexico.

Duffy has one company on the road headed by Isabel Withers playing *Rufus*, and next week Hugh Cameron will head another company to tour in *Alles the Deuces*, opening in Reno and going as far north as Vancouver. He also has two companies in Australia.

Duffy does not contemplate appearing at any of his houses in the near future, and his wife, Dale Winter, will probably not be seen on the stage locally for some time to come, after the end of the run of *The Little Spifire*, now being presented at the President Theater.

Walter Chenoweth, who has made a successful record at the President, will manage the Mission, and J. E. Perry will succeed him here.

Theater War Looms In Springfield, Mass.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 27.—With Poll, Goldstein Brothers, Loew and Public all planning new theaters here, it looks as though a theater war looms. At present there is only one vaudeville house in the city, Poli's Palace. The new houses are to show pictures or pictures and presentations. It is believed that at least two of the older houses will turn to vaudeville.

Frisco Gives "Miracle" Biggest Advance Sale

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 25.—The advance sale of seats for *The Miracle* on Monday last, just one week from the date of the opening performance, had already exceeded \$100,000. In no other city has the advance booking reached such proportions. Morris Gest, Max Reinhardt, who traveled 7,000 miles to come here, and most of the principals have been here for several days.

Preacher Interrupts London Play To Tell Heroine What She Should Do

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Rising to the aid of the distressed heroine when she asked, "Should I marry this man with whom I have been living?", in the third act of *The Outcast* at the Regent Theater, a preacher who happened to be in the audience replied:

"Yes, it would be quite all right."

The clergyman then turned to the audience and delivered a lecture on tolerance. "This unfortunate woman should be treated as one of your sisters," he said.

He then warmed to his theme and made a stirring plea. A commissionaire called on him to sit down, but by the time he had finished speaking, with the actress still on the stage, he was applauded by the audience.

National Broadcasting Co. Lines Up Big Names for New Year's Program

Big names, such as John McCormack, Rosa Ponselle, Mischa Elman, Alfred Cortot and the Victor Salon Orchestra, under the direction of Nathaniel Shilkret, are among the artists who will on January 1 assist the National Broadcasting Company in conveying to the radio audience its wish for a Happy New Year.

This presentation will be on the air from 9 until 11 o'clock, Eastern Standard time, and will mark the first of the 1937 series sponsored by the Victor Talking Machine Company.

The National Broadcasting Company manages WJZ, New York; WRC, Washington, and owns and operates WEAF, New York. Presentations to emanate from the studios and remote points on New Year's Day will be a forceful demonstration of the company's announced aim to offer the best in radio broadcasting programs.

An outstanding achievement for the first time will be inaugurated with the formation of the new Blue network with WJZ as the key station and consisting of an additional chain of broadcasters, including WEZ, KDKA and KYW. The transmitters of the Blue will be linked with the Red, of which WEAF is the key station.

Events to be broadcast during the

day include the address of Governor Alfred E. Smith at noon.

Another which should command the interest of fans will be a play-by-play description of the Leland Stanford University of Alabama football game at Pasadena. Graham McNamee will be at the microphone and 23,000 miles of wire will be utilized to bring his description to the radio audience.

After the victor has been proclaimed by McNamee the audience will be taken to the Chamber Music Hall, New York, where Walter Damrosch will lead the New York Symphony Orchestra in its presentation of the Balkite Hour.

George Gershwin, American symphonic jazz pianist-composer, will be the guest artist and will render his famous *Rhapsody in Blue* at the piano, with Damrosch and the orchestra playing. This event will be broadcast beginning at 8 o'clock Eastern time.

The Blue and Red networks will sign off at 11 o'clock, when WJZ will take its audience to the Hotel Pennsylvania, where George Olsson and his music will be the offering. WEAF's audience will hear the familiar salutation, "Lopez speaking," after which will come an hour's program of dance music by Lopez and his orchestra from Casa Lopez.

M. E. Comerford Expanding His Theatrical Holdings

Scranton Operator. With Coast-to-Coast Chain as His Goal. Takes Over Frank A. Keeney's Lease of New Exchange Theater. Binghamton, N. Y.—Local Competition Looms

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 27.—M. E. Comerford, the Scranton theatrical operator, has taken over Frank A. Keeney's 21-year lease of the Exchange Theater, now under construction on Exchange street here. Altho Comerford is president of the Binghamton Theater Corporation, which owns and operates the Stone and Binghamton theaters, the new deal is solely on behalf of the Scranton magnate, whose ambition is to have a chain reaching from Coast to Coast.

It is understood that Comerford also has tried to buy an interest in the Kodeco Company, which operates the Strand, Star and Symphony theaters, but Ned Kornblite, David Cohen and others of this concern would not part with their holdings. Kornblite and Cohen are interested with Comerford in some Scranton and Wilkes-Barre theaters.

According to Comerford's plans, the Exchange will offer a type of high-class film and stage attractions equal to those in the best New York movie houses, and this will result in direct competition with other local theaters.

Asked if he intended to resell the Exchange to the Binghamton Theater Company, Comerford said he is not desirous of doing so at this time, but might consider it later.

Comerford now has 115 houses, and he is extending his operations to Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago. Keeney is retiring from the business.

Managers Hosts at Party

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 25.—Following the usual custom Managers Taylor of the Orpheum and Myers of the Ponce theaters entertained house staffs and artists on the bills at a Christmas dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel last night after the performances. Among performers present were Johnny Kruss, Albert Huxton, Joe Browning, Donald Kerr, Effie Weston, Sylvia Rich, Bert Weston Jim Cassidy the Original Honey Boys, E. Sheriff, Grace and Eddie Parks, from the Orpheum, and Gene Winchester, Sammy Ross John Barton, Irene Rubini, Terese Ross and Miss Violet from the Palace.

John Van Druten Lecturing Ahead of "Young Woodley"

John Van Druten, lecturing in Cincinnati in advance of the engagement of the company presenting his *Young Woodley*, at the Grand, disclaimed any pretense of advocating the "high-brow theater", attributed to him in newspaper reports. His lecture engagements for the week he passed in Cincinnati were numerous. He announced in advance that he had not come to talk about his play or anything else he had written. He discussed "Modern English Dramatists and Their Methods" before the various civic organizations whose guest he was.

McGarry Gets "Laff That Off" For Stock Company Production

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—Last week *Laff That Off* played here at the Shubert-Teck Theater at \$3 top. Next Monday it will be presented in stock at the Majestic Theater for a week's run at \$1 top.

Commenting on his unusual speed in getting the play for stock production, Garry McGarry, director of the Garry McGarry Players, said that before the piece opened on Broadway it was offered him for a local tryout with his company, but he was tied up with other contracts at the time.

Bars "Beau Geste" On Kick by France

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—Acting on a protest from the French Foreign Office in New York, alleging *Beau Geste* misrepresents conditions in the French Foreign Legion, German authorities have barred the showing of the picture in this country. It had been prepared for showing here with a new set of subtitles. An added charge of brutality in the film is given as among the reasons for its restriction in Germany.

Irene Bordoni in Vaudeville

Irene Bordoni, who closed in New York last Saturday night in *Mosart*, will open January 9 at the New Palace, Chicago, for a two weeks' engagement.

Autobiography of Arliss In "Ladies' Home Journal"

Up the Years From Bloomsbury, the autobiography of George Arliss, who is at present touring in *Old English*, has been completed and will appear serially in *The Ladies' Home Journal*, beginning with the January issue.

The narrative, according to an advance proof, differs from most works of this kind in that, instead of being a mere string of dates and anecdotes, it is a salient and witty chronicle of the theater during the life of the author.

Helen Kennedy in Film Houses

Helen Kennedy, singing and dancing violinist, formerly with *Artists and Models, No. No, Nansette; Sweetheart Ties*, and *Fanchon & Marco's Sun Kiss*, is now doing a single act in the large film houses. She plays the Washington Theater, Detroit, the week of January 2, and the Royal Theater, Toronto, the following week.

Paul Tanzer Nearly Loses \$700 In Sale of Valuable Old Violin

HOLYOKE, MASS., Dec. 26.—Paul Tanzer, violinist in the Victory Theater Orchestra in Holyoke, was about to sell one of his violins for \$300 when he decided to inspect it carefully and have it valued. The instrument proved to be one made by George Grenouder and was valued at \$1,000, which price Tanzer obtained.

New Long Island House To Use Presentations

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Another presentation theater in the East, within easy access of New York and which will be devoted only to the highest class of attractions, enters the field with the opening tomorrow night of the Sunnyside Theater at Jackson Heights, Long Island. The house was erected by Grobe & Nobel, who operate the Boulevard and Jackson theaters in the same town. It seats more than 2,000 and is removed from dangerous competition.

A policy of one, two or more stage attractions, depending on the acts available and the salary, will obtain with Arthur Fisher supplying the material. Fisher also books the other Grobe & Nobel houses.



EDDIE DAVIS AND HIS ENTERTAINERS, who recently completed a successful tour thru Ohio and the New England States, are now furnishing the dance tunes at the Mandarin Gardens, Toledo, O. The cast: Harold Farling, sax and entertainer; Don German, sax, clarinet, piano, arpeggio, singer and entertainer; Ed Stevin, banjo, singer and entertainer; Billy Hudson, drums, xylophone and violin, and Eddie Davis, piano, director and singer.

LONDON CABLES—Special to The Billboard

LONDON, Dec. 24.—Business of the theaters is unusually good, compared with Christmas weeks of preceding years. The ticket agencies report record holiday bookings.

Andre Chariot sailed Wednesday to see the New York production of his revue. Immediately before leaving he acquired the rights to Lord Latham's *Tuppence Colored*, which was very agreeably received at Sunday's special performance. Gilbert Miller also returned to the States Wednesday, having completed his London arrangements.

Ida Moleworth and Tepler Lawrence announce they will resume London management in January, with 12 Miles Out.

Happy-Go-Lucky, the English version of *Smiles' Thru*, was favored with a good reception at the Prince of Wales Theater Tuesday, Roy Ralston playing the lead. The most original work in the production is done by Marion Sakl, partnered with Billy Taylor, their dancing being up to the standard set by the Adaires.

Dorothy Dickson recaptured both old and young on her reappearance in the name part of *Peter Pan*. The supporting cast is unevenly balanced, but Alfred Drayton and George Shelton went great as Hook and Smee.

Broadway was given an enthusiastic welcome at the Strand Theater December 23, and the critics predicted a successful run for the American play, the London production of which was supervised by Jed Harris. Dealing with the bootlegger, the hijacker and aspects of criminal life unknown to London, the play proved fascinating. *The Times* comments that "alho the rivalries of the drink trade may not be to every one's taste, they certainly are illustrated with a dash of brilliance unfamiliar to the English stage."

The Duke and Duchess of York were among the spectators at Ben Blue's skatorial debut at the new Prince's Cabaret December 26. They demonstrated their enjoyment and approval by applauding cordially.

Lord Lonsdale presented all the women with bouquets and all the men of Cochran's *Blockbirds* Company with cigars last Monday, his lordship's personal Christmas card being attached to each gift.

World's Fair Agricultural Hall, London, is offering a good sawdust show for North Londoners Christmas Eve.

The Palladium's Christmas Pantomime is particularly good this year. Charles Austin proved to be a riot.

LONDON NEWS LETTERS—Legitimite, Page 48; Vaudeville, Page 35.

Theatrical Folk Trapped in Fire

Cantor and Brandell Offices in N. Y. Demolished by Flames of Unknown Origin

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The offices of Lew Cantor and William Brandell, theatrical producers, specializing in big-time vaudeville acts, and the greater portion of their rehearsal rooms adjoining were demolished Thursday afternoon by fire of unknown origin, from which many performers and others, clad in light garments, found escape difficult.

Before the fire department arrived on the scene at 110 West 47th street, the blaze had spread to the office of James Dealy, artists' representative, where severe damage was done, and the flames were eating their way thru to the next floor, where the Chorus Equity Association is located. It was extinguished before reaching this floor. Dorothy Bryant, head of Chorus Equity, carrying the funds and valuable papers of the organization, was rescued by ladders.

The fire started in Lew Cantor's private office, and was not discovered by Frances Robinson, his secretary, until the entire room was ablaze. No one had been in the office for several hours, and an adagio team rehearsing an act in the rehearsal room next to it went on with their work unaware of the fire. The team and others were cut off by smoke in the stairways and had to be rescued by ladders from the front of the building.

Members of the cast of *The Girl Friend*, rehearsing on the seventh, the top floor of the building, fled to the adjoining roof. Miss Robinson turned in an alarm and warned the entire building. By the time the firemen arrived Cantor and Brandell's office had been reduced to ashes, and a grand piano and other furniture in the rehearsal rooms damaged beyond repair.

Theatrical contracts for acts and with artists and Cantor and Brandell's bank-books were all that Miss Robinson could salvage. All the furniture, papers and files were laid waste.

Cantor thinks the fire was caused by defective wiring or a short circuit, since no one had been in the office for a long time prior to the start of the blaze. Telephone men had been working recently on connections in the private office, but fire investigators claimed there was not sufficient current in telephone wires to cause a fire unless they came in contact with another carrier of electricity.

The loss will reach several thousand dollars. No insurance was carried.

Frederick Mercy Taking Over Grand Theater, Walla Walla

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 25.—Frederick A. Mercy, Jr., announces that the Junior Amusement Company, of which his father, Frederick Mercy, of Yakima, is head, will take over the Keyloc Grand Theater January 1 on a long-time lease. The Junior Amusement Company owns and operates the America and Capitol theaters of Walla Walla.

Mgrs. Up for Sunday Violation

PROVO, Utah, Dec. 26.—H. B. Ashton, assistant manager of the Columbia and Princess theaters, and Raymond Sutton, manager of the Strand, were summoned to appear before the City Court here in answer to complaints charging them with operation of a moving picture theater on Sunday. Both managers took the statutory time in which to enter pleas.

Sparks Plays Santa Claus

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Dec. 26.—One thousand children, invited guests of the E. J. Sparks Enterprises, attended the first performance at the opening of the Alcazar Theater on Christmas morning, where they not only enjoyed the show put on for their special benefit, but also many presents the management provided. Malcolm Estes will manage the new house.

Madrid Approves Benavente Play

MADRID, Dec. 23.—Critics and audience alike placed the stamp of approval on Jacinto Benavente's newest play, which was given its premiere last night. It is a comedy in three acts, titled *The Butterfly Which Flies Over the Sea*.

Vitaphone at Popular Prices Is Presented in Providence

First Showing of Talking Films at Low Scale of 40 Cents Top Is Given by Edward M. Fay in His Majestic Theater—Other Synchronized Productions To Follow

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 25.—What is announced as the first showing of the Vitaphone at the low scale of 40 cents top took place here today when the new talking film was presented at Edward M. Fay's Majestic Theater.

The opening picture program included the Warner Bros. feature, *The Third Degree*, and other novelties. The Vitaphone artists announced include Giovanni Martinelli, Roy Smek, Anna Case, Mischa Elman, Marion Talley, Will Rogers, Al Jolson and others.

Considerable anticipation has been aroused over the arrival of the Vitaphone in Rhode Island, and a large crowd was on hand to witness the initial showing. At the popular prices quoted, the attraction is expected to go big.

Improvements Are Being Made At Liberty Theater, Portland

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 25.—Effective January 8, the Liberty Theater here will undergo complete remodeling of stage equipment. Plans call for the immediate installation of a counter-weight system. New curtain drapes and drops will be part of the equipment.

Another change will be the permanent installation of a 14-piece orchestra under the direction of Sam K. Wineland, leader and violinist. He has recently finished an engagement at the Coliseum, Seattle. Coster and Hewett will be added with a repertoire of songs.

Sam H. Cohen, formerly at the Rivoli, is in charge of publicity.

Mikhail Mordkin Freed From Charges

TULSA, Okla., Dec. 25.—Attempt made by attorneys for George Ponds, New York costumer, to halt the tour of Mikhail Mordkin, Russian dancer, and his ballet and symphony orchestra, until Ponds' claim for \$3,800 for costumes should be settled, failed. Under the attachment served nine trunks belonging to the producers, Harry Block and Max Indicuff, were held, but the order did not include the bulk of the equipment, which was declared to be owned by Mordkin, and the production moved on time to Oklahoma City.

Frank Tinney May Act No More

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Reports from the bedside of Frank Tinney in Naval Hospital are alarming. The attending physicians fear that the comedian's mental condition is "very grave." They hold out little hope of his complete recovery from the nervous breakdown and believe that his stage career is at an end. Tinney has shown no improvement since he was received at the hospital December 12.

Equity Again Stops "The Black Cockatoo"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Rehearsals of *The Black Cockatoo* at Bryant Hall were again stopped yesterday by order of the Actors' Equity Association. Frank Martins had announced the premiere of this Samuel Rusklin Golding melodrama for next Thursday night at the Comedy Theater. The play will not be permitted to open, however, unless Martins conforms to Equity's ultimatum, which is the immediate payment of the \$305 held against him for salaries still due the cast of *Piccadilly*, production of last summer which flopped at the George M. Cohan Theater.

Equity stopped rehearsals of *The Black Cockatoo* several weeks ago, but allowed them to be resumed upon Martins' promise to post security for the salaries, the bond to be in Equity's hands at least a week before the opening, and his promise to pay off the \$305 back debt in weekly installments after the premiere. Martins failed to post the bond Thursday. The cast agreed to waive the security in consideration of a quarter interest in the motion picture rights of the piece. This will be accepted by Equity only if Martins settles the *Piccadilly* claims. He agreed to pay the money not later than yesterday noon, but did not fulfill.

The cast is composed of Anne Forrest, James Crane, Beatrice Morosco, William H. Randall, George Le Guere, Reynolds Dennison and Edward Forbes. Several directors have had hand in rehearsals. Rollo Lloyd is at present in charge.

Winter Garden, N. Y., To Get K.-A. Acts

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Keith-Albee Circuit is planning to book acts into the Winter Garden, revue house of the Shuberts, for the Sunday concerts given there. Reports had it that the K.-A. office was taking over the entire concert shows, but this is not the case as yet.

Edwin G. Lauder, Jr., vice-president of the K.-A. interests, confirmed the rumor that acts from their exchange would be booked for the Winter Garden only as a part of the programs for the time being, the question of booking the entire show having not yet been decided definitely.

K.-A. has been booking the "concerts for the Shubert-controlled house, the Century.

My Christmas Wish

By SOPHIE TUCKER

You've asked me to confess what I
Would like from Santa Claus.
I fear I cannot do that
And one reason is because
No matter what the dear old soul
Has in his mind to bring
Please stop him and say Sophie
Doesn't need a single thing.

Altho' the world is filled with things
I'd dearly love to own
Already life has showered gifts
And ev'ry kindness shown.
To ask for more would be unfair
When I have been so blest,
Let Santa Claus just pass me up
And think about the rest.

For I have gifts that others lack—
Ability to please,
A manner and a voice of sorts—
I've fared quite well with those.
I've wealth, I've health, a loving son,
A thousand friends or more.
Tell Santa Claus to take my share
To someone else's door.

When Christmas comes my heart is
glad,
I feel its warmth and cheer,
For those I love are brought to mind
And thoughts of them are dear.
I like to play at Santa Claus
And honestly believe
It's better far to give myself
Than ever to receive.

—*Minneapolis Journal.*

Equity Calls Mass Meeting

Violation of Eight-Shows-a-Week
Clause Is Chief Problem
To Be Discussed

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Council of the Actors' Equity Association has decided to call a mass meeting of all Equity members, probably January 10, at the Hotel Astor, to consider various current problems which it is felt should be decided by a general vote. The most important question that will be put up to the members is Equity's future policy in regard to violation of the eight-performances-a-week clause.

An expression of opinion will be asked as to whether or not it would be advisable to penalize the actor as well as the manager in cases where this rule is broken. So far the manager has been the only one to be penalized, as he is the one responsible for the contract. It has been said that the actor has not dared to object to the phrasing of salary clauses that in one way or another permit the manager to get nine performances for the price of eight. Equity has always avoided penalizing members where it seemed unnecessary, but the council now feels that some such penalty might help in protecting the actor; that is, if he were to be suspended from membership or fined if he signed a contract that violated the eight-performance rule he would have something definite to hold up to the manager as to why he could not sign such a contract.

Several producers have been breaking the rule, and Equity has had difficulty in putting a stop to it without the support of its members. The question of playing out of town for a lower salary than in New York is considered an evasion of the rule, and so is the trick phrasing of nine-for-eight salaries. This road scale will also be brought up.

Another important question to be put before the meeting will be the much-discussed plan of taxing each working member in an effort to aid the Actors' Fund.

American Cinema Association To Film Edgar Guest's Poems

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Acquisition by American Cinema Association of exclusive world rights to the screen adaptation of Edgar A. Guest's poems is announced by A. J. Moeller, president of A. C. A. Negotiations were concluded Monday between A. C. A. officials and representatives of the George Matthew Adams Service. The Edgar A. Guest series comprises a wide range of single-reel jewels, as unlimited in variety as the writings of the versatile Eddie Guest and the illustrative possibilities of motion pictures. First of the series will be released February 1 thru the 25 A. C. A. exchanges. Significance is seen in the fact that this is the first time in history that the works of an American poet have been wholly adapted to the screen in picture form.

Mrs. Oscar Hammerstein To Make Home in France

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Mrs. Oscar Hammerstein, widow of the impresario, who will soon sail for France, declares she will never return here. She says her decision to make France her future home was prompted by the sadness arising from the legal squabbles with Hammerstein's children, particularly the fight over the disposition of the Manhattan Opera House.

She also declares that her pending suit against Arthur Hammerstein is practically settled. She expects about \$45,000 from her lawyers, the final adjustment of her financial affairs being the signal for her departure.

John Prescott To Manage Lyric Theater, Bridgeport

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 26.—John Prescott, formerly business manager for five years for Robert Edson and for a number of years with John Barrymore, has been appointed manager of the Lyric Theater, local first-run movie and legitimate house. Before coming to this city he was manager of the Famous-Players Lasky Theater, New Bedford, Mass., and prior to that was managing director of the Butterfield corporation in Michigan.



—Wide World Photo.

MRS. ALFRED E. SMITH, wife of New York's popular Governor, attended a matinee performance of "The Nostr" at the Hudson Theater, New York, last week. After the show she met the members of the cast back stage, but unfortunately the photographer "scrambled" the names of the players in his picture. Mrs. Smith is second from the left in the front row. The full cast is: Hans Robert, Lester Lonetgan, Ralph Locks, Anne Shoemaker, Rex Cherrymen, George Thompson, Ralph Adams, Harry Bulger, Jr.; Jack Daley, Charles Brown, Max Clarke, Dorothy Sheppard, Erenoy Weaver, Maryland Jarboe, Barbara Stanwyck, Wilfred Lucas, George Nash, George Barnum, Carolyn Clarke and Helen Flint.

Fire Destroys Opera House, Helena, Ark.; Was One of Famous Institutions in West

HELENA, Ark., Dec. 24.—The Grand Opera House, one of the most famous theatrical enterprises of the Mississippi delta section, has been completely destroyed by fire, with a loss of approximately \$60,000. Only \$5,000 insurance was carried on the old structure, which was built in 1887. W. H. Howe, Helena lumberman, was president of the controlling company, and Sam W. Tappan was manager of the house.

Fifteen or more theatrical attractions were billed to play in the Opera House the first part of 1927. Among them were Elsie Janis and Will Rogers, telegrams canceling the engagements were sent out by the management following the blaze, which, originating shortly after 2 o'clock in the morning, had gained such headway when discovered that it was almost impossible for firemen to control it. They devoted their efforts to saving near-by buildings.

Many famous people of a decade ago,

as well as those of modern prominence, have trod on the platform of the Helena Opera House, among them being: Ex-President Wm. Howard Taft, Ex-Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels, as well as numerous high State and national politicians, the stars of the legitimate and musical stage and leaders in sporting life, the latest of the latter being Jack Dempsey, when heavyweight champion of the world. But a few nights before the fire Walker Whiteside had presented his success, *The Archon*, from the same stage.

There are no immediate plans for rebuilding the house, altho Helena as a whole feels the loss of the theater. Two concerts were to have been presented by a newly organized Civic Music Association early in 1927, and the Arkansas American Legion was to have used the auditorium as its convention hall in August of the same year.

State Film Censorship in N. Y. May Pass Out Within a Month

Legislative Bills, Providing for Repeal of Supervision of Motion Pictures, Expected To Pass Without Difficulty—Governor Smith Will Again Urge Abolition of Law

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 27.—Altho the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York recently appointed James H. Wingate to assume full control and supervision of the censorship of motion picture films, to succeed the present State Motion Picture Commission, which will be abolished January 1, it is reported about the Capitol there will be no State censorship of films in a few weeks after the Legislature convenes January 3.

The sentiment against censorship has steadily increased, and a movement is under way to repeal the law. Legislative bills have already been drafted providing for the repeal of this obnoxious act, and they will be introduced early in the 1927 session, and the indications are they will be passed with little difficulty. This would carry out the recommendations of Governor Smith, who in all of his annual messages to the members of the Legislature has urged the abolition of the State censorship of motion picture productions.

Governor Smith has not changed his views on the subject, and it is expected that in his coming message, which he will personally read before a joint session of both branches of the Legislature, he will again earnestly request the passage of a bill eliminating the censorship law in its entirety. This is not considered a partisan measure for the reason the supporters of the repeal law include both Democrats and Republicans.

Musicians' Board Holds Annual Meet

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The National Executive Board of the American Federation of Musicians held its annual meeting last week in the office of President Joseph N. Weber, 1440 Broadway. Routine matters were taken up, including claims of members and various local agreements. Weber explained, following the four-day session, that the meeting was in accordance with the constitution of the Federation, which provides that the executive board meet at least once between conventions. Nothing occurred in the national affairs of the organization during the past several months to warrant a gathering of its ranking officials save the mandatory clause in the body's constitution. Present at the meeting were President Weber; William L. Mayer, of Pittsburgh, vice-president; William J. Kerogood, of Newark, secretary; Harry E. Brenton, of New York, treasurer, and C. A. Weaver, Des Moines; A. C. Hayden, Washington, D. C.; A. A. Greenbaum, San Francisco; Fred W. Birenbach, Minneapolis, and D. A. Carey, Toronto, members of the executive committee.

Sailings and Arrivals

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Among those who sailed this week were Helen Arthur, manager of the Neighborhood Playhouse; Agnes Moran, one of the stage directors of the same group; Irene Franklin and Jerry Jarnagin. Included among the incoming showfolk were John Charles Thomas, baritone; A. H. Woods; Peggy O'Neill; Mme. Yvonne Printemps; Sacha Guitry and 12 members of their company; Mrs. M. Guy; Lois Moran, accompanied by her mother and sister; Irving Jampol and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Tyler, members of the *Is-Zut* Co. company; Vesta Victoria, vaudevillian; Mrs. Hal Sherman; Joseph Heifitz-Jarowitzsch, Berlin actor; Jose Bohr and his troupe of 11 musical gaudios from Argentina; Mrs. Murray; Mrs. Dorothy Caruso, widow of the tenor, and her daughter, Gloria; Carmela Cafarelli, Italian singer, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Dasey, Jr., both screen writers.

Managers Sail

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Helen Arthur, manager of the Neighborhood Playhouse, and Agnes Moran, director, sailed Thursday for a holiday in Southern France. They will also visit the European theatrical centers in search of new material. Helen Ingersoll will assume Miss Arthur's duties during her absence. Basil Dean, after having supervised the productions of *This Was a Man* and *The Constant Nymph*, sailed today for London, where he will greet for the first time his two-week-old daughter, Tessie, named after the leading character in the latter play. He expects to return for the New York opening of *Madame*, another of his productions, now on tour.

Free Christmas Shows Help Regular Business

SODUS, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Mills Brothers, Inc., managers of the Arcade Theater, find their regular business increased greatly by the annual Christmas presentation of a motion picture program at which all school children in the township, which boasts 20 public schools, are admitted free. The party this week was the second event, and the crowd was larger even than last year, when the theater was filled beyond capacity.

Gilbert Riddell Play To Have Private Test

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A new play, *Safe Investments*, written by Gilbert Riddell, will be given a special tryout New Year's Eve in the private theater built by Herman Lee Meader, the architect, next to his bungalow on top of an office building opposite the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The piece is headed for Broadway with the possible backing of Meader, according to report. Eva La Gallienne is considering the leading role. Edna Richmond will play one of the leading parts in the play on its tryout. The author is planning to play another leading role.

Meader uses his unique little theater for the private entertainment of his friends. Riddell, a well-known magazine writer, also is the author of *Affinity* shop and a number of vaudeville sketches.

HOUSTON, Minn., Dec. 25.—The State Theater has been burned to the ground, the loss being approximately \$10,000. Defective wiring is believed to have caused the fire. J. J. Sliot owned and managed the movie house.



ACTORS' FUND HOME, Staten Island, N. Y.

Chicago Attractions

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—At the Playhouse, beginning Friday evening, January 1, Mrs. Henry B. Harris and L. M. Simmons will present *Trial Divorce*, the play that Judge Joseph Sabath has written in collaboration with M. A. McGuire and Willard Mack.

Two scenes from Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* have been adapted for the pantomime ballet stage by Adolph Bolm, and will be presented for the first time anywhere by Bolm and his company at the Eighth Street Theater, Sunday afternoon, January 2. Another new ballet will be *The Tropic of the Cello*, with music by Alexander Tansman, and scenery and costumes by Nicholas Rimeloff. Vera Mirova will be the guest dancer.

Quadrille Snatchers opened last night at the Garrick. Mary Boland heads the cast, which also includes Edna May Oliver, Margaret Dale, Raymond Hackett, Humphrey Bogart, Raymond Gulon, William Corbett, George Lemoy, Joseph Holicky, Eunice Hunt, Helene Tobin, Helen Daddens and Lillian Gerald.

The Shanghai Gesture opened Christmas night at the Adelphi. Florence Reed heads the company, which includes Cyril Kitchley, Conrad Cantzen, C. Henry Gordon, Mary Duncan, Marguerita Orlov, C. Haviland Chappell, Frederic Worklock, Henry Worthington and Evelyn Wight.

What Price Glory also opened Christmas night at the Garrick. Lou Hesseman is looking after the business end.

Twelve Miles Out is due at the Cort January 16, following *The Poor Nut*.

The Olympic is expecting *The Woman Disputed* on January 9, replacing Frances Starr in *The Shelf*.

Musical Farce for Road Is Launched in Chicago

Rehearsals were started last week in Chicago for an unusually high-class musical farce about to be launched New Year's Eve for a Southern and Pacific Coast tour, playing only the better class houses. The organization, known as *The Vestal Girls* of 1927, is under the management of the Mid-West Productions and is being produced under the personal supervision of Charles Lewis, who will go on tour as the managing director.

Eddie Burch, a Pacific Coast favorite, has been engaged as the principal comedian, and Miss Joan Wood, known as an Orpheum Circuit headliner and said to possess an exceptional soprano voice, is the prima donna. Holly Leslie, a native of Australia, and lately with the Wilbur Opera Company and *Honeymoon Town*, also is among the principals. He is a remarkable basso profundo. Jessie High is the company ballerina. She has just returned to the States after a successful tour of New Zealand and Australia with Hugh Ward and Company.

Other members of the cast include Charles Emery, Percy De Ville and Julia Leighton, all to be augmented by a chorus which is to be billed as a "Gorgeous Garden of Glorious Girls".

Kahn To Direct Drive for Fund

Accepts Chairmanship of Campaign for \$1,500,000 Endowment for Actors' Charity

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Otto H. Kahn, noted banker and chairman of the board of the Metropolitan Opera Company, has accepted the chairmanship of the national campaign to raise \$1,500,000 for the Actors' Fund endowment. This was announced today by Daniel Frohman, president of the Actors' Fund. The endowment is intended to provide the funds necessary for the maintenance of the Home for Aged Actors and to give relief to needy actors.

Mr. Kahn has started organizing the national committee. He announces that he has already received acceptances from the following governors: Al Smith, New York; A. J. Pothier, Rhode Island; A. G. Sorlie, North Dakota; John G. Winant, New Hampshire; Arthur T. Hammett, New Mexico; Tom J. Tarral, Arkansas; Howard M. Gore, West Virginia; Clifford Walker, Georgia; Albert C. Ritchie, Maryland, and Captain Martin E. Trench, the Virgin Islands.

The national committee also will include mayors of many leading cities, among them "Jimmy" Walker, New York; Charles H. Kline, Pittsburgh; C. Clarence Neslen, Salt Lake City; Thomas L. Raymond, Newark, N. J.; James Rolf, Jr., San Francisco; John W. Smith, Detroit; S. P. Snively, Duluth; S. H. Tyler, Norfolk, Va.; George M. Warren, Bristol, Va.; F. C. Zehrusg, Lincoln, Neb.; George E. Leech, Minneapolis; James J. Thomas, Columbus; John D. Marshall, Cleveland; Malcolm E. Nichols, Boston; Daniel A. O'Donovan, Covington, Ky.; J. E. Pearce, Galveston, Tex.; L. C. Hodgson, St. Paul; Howard W. Jackson, Baltimore; Frederick W. Donnelly, Trenton, N. J.; Edward L. Bader, Atlantic City; Harry E. Clinton, Troy, N. Y.; William A. Gunter, Jr., Montgomery, Ala., and Harry T. Hartwell, Mobile, Ala.

Col. Arthur Little has been appointed chairman of the New York division. Col. Little was chairman of the testimonial dinner tendered Mr. Frohman last Sunday night in honor of his 44 years of service to the Actors' Fund. Many of those who had a hand in arrangements for that affair will also serve on the national committee, among them William H. Edwards, Franklin Simon, Cornelius N. Bliss, Congressman Sol Bloom, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, Senator Royal S. Copeland, E. F. Albee, Abram A. Elkus, Eddie Cantor, Frank Gillmore, Gen. James G. Harbord, Patrick Cardinal Hayes, William Randolph Hearst, Marc Klaw, Jesse L. Lasky, Marcus Loew, Bishop William T. Manning, Thomas McElghan, Frank L. Polk, Lee Stubert, E. M. Statler, M. H. Aylesworth, George W. Wickersham, Louis Wiley, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and Adolph Zukor. Manny Strauss is chairman of the national advisory committee.

Theater Robberies

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 22.—Four masked men held up the Olympic Auditorium today and after locking five men and two girls in the office vault got away with the receipts of last night's boxing show, \$8,500. H. A. Andrews, manager, and Gene Saxe, treasurer, were among the seven driven into the vault by the robbers.

MIAMI, Okla.—John Giffin, manager of a local theater, was followed into the box-office of his house by two robbers, who held him up at the point of pistols and robbed him of more than \$1,000, the day's receipts. The thieves escaped with their loot.

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 21.—Hamrick's Lakeside Theater was robbed of \$1,200 last night by masked bandits, who entered the lobby just as William Storey, collector for the Hamrick chain, was about to leave the theater with the day's receipts. He was ordered back into the office by the thieves, who escaped after relieving him of the bag containing the cash.

New Play for Nash Sisters

Mary and Florence Nash, who closed last Sunday at the New Palace, Chicago, will start rehearsing shortly after New Year's in Martin Brown's *The Poisoned Pen*.

Will Rogers in 8 Short Films Produced During Trip Abroad

Pictures Are in the Form of Comedy Travelogs. With Titles by the Comedian Himself—Chicago Fountain Pen Company Financed the Productions—Releasing Deal Being Negotiated

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Will Rogers is back in the movies in a series of short subjects of a novel character. The secret representing the Schaeffer Fountain Pen Company, of Chicago, had been here negotiating for releasing arrangements. The pictures, which the Chicago pen company had produced, are known as Will Rogers' Travelogs, and are a series of single-reel features depicting Rogers' recent trip abroad, when he visited some of Europe's leading capitals. They show Rogers meeting royalty, prominent statesmen and public figures, and are titled by Rogers himself in his typical comedy vein. The first of the series, consisting of eight, was taken in Ireland, when Rogers met President De Valera.

The films are 950 feet long, a little longer than the average "short", which usually runs around 600 feet. As soon as distribution arrangements can be made they will be available to the motion picture theaters of the country. It is understood Rogers has arranged a tieup with the *Saturday Evening Post* for publication, about the time the films will be released, of a series of articles dealing humorously with his European trip.

Educational Film Exchange may distribute the pictures, although other releasing organizations dealing in "shorts" are under consideration.

Dorothy Hall Engaged For "Virgin Man" Cast

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Dorothy Hall, as seen in *White Collars*, has been engaged by Mark Cahan for the lead in *The Virgin Man*, a comedy by William Francis Dugan and Maltby scheduled to open cold New Year's Eve at a theater not yet named. Others engaged for the cast are Ellena Ruby, Virginia Smith, Joe Baird, Don Dillaway and E. F. Horne.

The show received some unusual publicity when it was originally announced that Anne Caldwell, show girl, who recently obtained a verdict of \$50,000 from John W. Hubbard, Pittsburgh "shovel dig" in a breach of promise action, would be starred.

Hall-Mills Play a Flop

PAWTUCKET, R. I., Dec. 26.—With a story and plot suggestive of the Hall-Mills murder case, *Who's Golly?*, a sensational melodrama, was produced here by the Carroll Players at the State Theater tonight. The piece was a hopeless flop. Even the appearance on the stage of Charlotte Mills, daughter of the slain woman, who was presented after her curtain fell on the first act, failed to draw a crowd. The house was about one-quarter filled. Miss Mills told the audience that her public appearance was not prompted by mercenary motive; that he was trying to defend the good name of her mother. Jay Packard, her manager, announced that Miss Mills would hold a reception on the stage Thursday afternoon.

Beth Merrill Gets Starring Contract

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Beth Merrill, who won unanimous notices of praise in a recent production of *Lily Sue*, was given a long-term contract last week by David Belasco. One of the most important clauses calls for stardom. *Mirrors*, a new play by Milton Herbert Gropper, according to the Belasco office, will be ready for rehearsal within a fortnight. Acceptable to Miss Merrill, it will be her next vehicle.

Chorus Girl Seriously Hurt

SHARON, Pa., Dec. 21.—Nora Moran, 18, said to be a chorus girl, is in a hospital here, suffering with serious internal injuries received in an automobile crash today when Joseph Yaxvac, a policeman, and Ronald Heath were killed and two others injured.

Sidney Skolsky Quits As Habima Press Agent

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Sidney Skolsky, who has been handling press work for the Habima company, now playing the Mansfield Theater, has resigned.

Bob White Invents Device For Presenting Prologs

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 24.—Bob White, general manager of the Multnomah Theaters Corporation, will shortly apply for a copyright and patent on a new device for the presentation of prologs.

White has not revealed the mechanical details of the device, but says it will permit an audience to see what apparently is an artistically wrought solid curtain at the opening of the prolog. Before the audience is aware of it the curtain appears to dissolve and thru what looks to be a gauzy network of cords a gorgeous scene is revealed, giving life and atmosphere to the spectacle. The effect is reversed at the close of the prolog. This is produced by a gigantic blind, patterned after the ordinary porch variety, which is worked by batteries of powerful electric motors. The principle can be applied in five separate ways to produce novel illusions.

Robert T. Murphy Will Manage New Publix House in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Dec. 27.—Robert T. Murphy, who has been building up business for the past year at Shea's North Park Theater, will manage the new Publix Theater, which is the latest addition to the Publix chain. The house opened Christmas Day and with the North Park, Hippodrome and Buffalo theaters gives Publix four houses in this city.

Universal Books Edna Wallace Hopper

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Edna Wallace Hopper has been booked for three dates in Universal theaters by N. W. Stephens. Two of the houses Miss Hopper will play—the America, Denver, where she opens January 31, and the Alhambra, Milwaukee—are now playing *Pantagos* vaudeville and will present Miss Hopper as an added attraction.

The well-known stage entertainer plays the Liberty, Kansas City, presentation picture house, week of February 12 and the following week appears in Milwaukee. Dates between the Denver and Kansas City engagements may be arranged before that time by the William Morris office, which represents Miss Hopper in all her bookings.



—International Newsrel Photo.
CAPTAIN JAMES C. SUMMERS, 73-year-old stage doorman at the Belasco Theater, Los Angeles, who knows the tricks of many trades. He has been newspaper man, soldier, rifle marksmen, master of sailing vessels, pilot, deputy sheriff, court clerk, fire chief and world traveler, with some minor activities sandwiched in at odd times. His ability to attract the ladies also rates high, as this picture proves.

Los Angeles Theatricals

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—*Cradle Snatchers* is in its 13th week at the Playhouse. *White Collars* has reached its 1,272nd time at the Egan Theater, and will probably close the first of the year.

The El Capitan Theater, which has been dark for the last few weeks, will reopen Christmas night, with Pauline Frederick in *Lady Frederick*. In the supporting cast will be Charles Waldron, Allen Connor, Lawrence Grant, Clark Gable, Olof Hytten, Tudor Owen, Maudie Turner Gordon, Margaret Delamere, Ina Rorke and Nanette Vallon.

The Orange Grove Theater will also reopen Christmas night. Ernest Macauley, formerly associated with the Ambassador Theater in New York, has leased the theater for five months from Arthur Freed, and will present *One Man's Woman* as his initial Coast venture. Harlan Tucker, formerly leading man with the local Morocco Theater Stock Company, has been signed to appear in the leading male role, and Nancy Carroll has been signed for the feminine lead.

The Miracle will have its Los Angeles premiere January 31 at the Shrine Auditorium, where it will be on view for four weeks.

Professioned, by John Howard Lawson, is being presented this week at the Pot-bollier's Art Theater.

It is reported that Ruth Helen Davis,

New York playwright and actress, has taken over the lease of the Belmont Theater, pictures and vaudeville, where she probably will produce legitimate plays.

Carlotta Miles has been added to the cast of the Hollywood Music Box Revue, replacing Florence Hedges, who is scheduled to leave for the East to accept an offer with a New York show after Christmas.

The Duncan Sisters have been proving a wonderful drawing card this week at Loew's State Theater. Ben Black and His Band, Ward and Van and the Fashion Flappers are showing at the Metropolitan Theater, in addition to the photoplay program.

Abel Lyman and His Coconut Grove Orchestra, who have been playing nightly at the Coconut Grove of the Ambassador Hotel, will open tomorrow at the Uptown Theater, the first of several of the West Coast chain of theaters which Lyman will play.

The show presented by the musical stock company at the Burbank Theater at present is titled *Black Bottom*. It is a pretentious revival, with Lee Gled Harrison and Henry Sherr heading the cast, which includes, among others, Robert Sandberg, Grace Hutchinson, Billy Moody, Reesa Gardner, Bob Purch, a chorus of 25, and Lou Traveller's Orchestra.

Censorship Bills To Be Up Soon

Congress To Consider Measures
Calling for Federal Moving
Picture Commission

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Shortly after Congress returns to its sessions January 3 the two film censorship bills sponsored by Representative Upshaw, of Georgia, and Representative Swoopes, of Pennsylvania, will come up for debate. The bills call for drastic changes in the present system of censoring movies. Upshaw asks for the establishment of a Federal Motion Picture Commission, composed of five members, each drawing \$9,000 a year, with an additional \$1,000 for the chairman. Swoopes proposes that the commission be under the jurisdiction of the Department of Interior as a division of the Bureau of Education, composed of the Commissioner of Education, ex-officio, and six commissioners, including two women, all to be named by the Secretary of Interior.

The House Committee on Education, which now has the bills under consideration, may combine the two measures or submit an entirely new bill.

The bills, in addition to seeking to eliminate immoral, unpatriotic, sacrilegious and other objectionable scenes from pictures, include government examination of scenarios, production, copyright and other features of the film industry.

Strong opposition is expected with the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, Inc., and other bodies and individuals lining up against the measures.

Theatrical Leaders Honor Gabel at Birthday Dinner

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Max Gabel, "the George M. Cohan of the Yiddish stage", was tendered a complimentary dinner Thursday night at the Pennsylvania Hotel on the occasion of his 50th birthday, by a group of prominent men and women representing the East Side and Rialto theaters.

Gabel, who began his career years ago selling shoe laces, announced that he plans the erection of a \$1,000,000 Yiddish theater. He is the author of over 100 plays in which he has acted with his wife, Jennie Goldstein.

Among the speakers were: Health Commissioner Louis I. Harris, Frank Gillmore, of Equity; M. Richter, president of the Yiddish Theater Alliance; Max R. Wilner, manager of the Irving Place Theater, and representatives of the Yiddish and English press. Reuben Quakin, manager of the Hebrew Actors' Union, was toastmaster.

A bronze bust of Gabel, done by Aaron Goodelman, was presented to the honor man. The cost of the bust was defrayed by contributions received from the actor's admirers by the testimonial committee composed of David Belasco, David Warfield, A. H. Woods, Sophie Irene Loeb, Augustus Thomas and Fannie Brice.

No Sunday Amusements For Tarpon Springs

TARPON SPRINGS, Fla., Dec. 25.—There will be no Sunday movies here, as a result of a referendum. The move to legalize Sunday shows lost by 31 votes. Efforts to force Sunday shows here were directed toward the referendum after considerable litigation in the matter.

J. E. Alford Appointed Manager Of Saenger New House in Miss.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 25.—J. E. Alford has been appointed manager of the State Theater, opened at McComb, Miss., this afternoon. The new house is of brick, with a seating capacity of 1,000, and is the latest unit of the Saenger Theaters, Inc.

Shuberts Sign Grace Bowman

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Grace Bowman, formerly prima donna of *Innocent Eyes* and *Artists and Models*, has been engaged by the Shuberts for their new revue, *A Night in Spain*, being prepared for the Century Roof Theater.

Music Corp'n of America Opens Booking Department

Will Enter Field Soon With Offices in Chicago: Gene Perry Selected as Manager. According to President J. C. Stein, Now Arranging for New York Quarters

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Announcement was made today by J. C. Stein, president of the Music Corporation of America, that a complete department for the booking of acts for vaudeville, cabarets, hotels, clubs, ballrooms, etc., will be incorporated with their organization.

Gene Perry, well known throughout the amusement business for many years, has been selected as manager of the department and will have complete charge of the booking and the placing of acts.

It will be remembered that Mr. Perry was responsible for Annetto Kellermann's first visit to America and he held her as a headline attraction for many years until her entrance in the picture field. He also handled Paul Ash in California, previous to his engagement in Chicago by Balaban & Katz. Among others who have risen under his direction are Fay Lamphier (Miss America of 1925). Mr. Perry was originally connected with the Shuberts' Winter Garden and from there went to Philadelphia, where with Jules and Stanley Mastbaum the Stanley Company of America was organized. He was general manager of this concern for seven years. Of late years he has been in California handling theatrical enterprises.

The main office will be situated with the M. C. A. on the 18th floor of the new Masonic Temple Building. Offices will also be opened shortly in New York.

The M. C. A. is now booking orchestras in every State of the union. Among the famous recording units booked are Isham Jones, Zee Confrey, Coon-Sanders, Ted Weems, Chas. Dornberger, Charlie Straight, Jack Crawford, Ross Reynolds, Benjie Krueger, Don Bestor, Carl Fenton, Earl Hoffman, Egyptian Sereaders, Whitey Kaufman, Vincent Lopez, Paul Ash, Oriole Ross Reynolds, Al Gabel, Henri Gendron, Phil Baxter's Texas Tommies, Joe Kayser, Billy Wentz, Glen Wertendyke, Bill Dalavo, Billy Adair, Art Payne, Dick Lucke, Mat Grogan, Harry Bailey, Kent Reynolds, H. D. Pope, Connie Conrad, Johnny Meyers, Chicago Blue Blowers, the Bal Tabarin Orchestra, Pied Pipers, Hurdy Gurdys, Cavaliers, Rose Room Rammers, Davey Jones, Musical Pirates and many others.

J. C. Stein is in New York completing arrangements for the new New York office.

Actors' Theater To Hold Dinner, Show and Auction

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A novel dinner, entertainment and auction sale will be held Sunday evening, January 23, by the Actors' Theater in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Biltmore. The invitations announce it will be an evening for merrymaking only and there will be no serious discussion of the theater. A play and three hours of entertainment are included in the program.

Tables will be divided into companies named after the various Actors' Theater plays, with the principal professional who acted in them as host and hostess. De Wolf Hopper, William Courtleigh and Jimmy Powers will be among the auctioneers to sell costumes of past productions, and the hosts and hostesses will include Francis Wilson, Violet Heming, John Drew, Ethel Barrymore, Grant Mitchell, Jane Cowl, Jessie Ralph, Rollo Peters, Edith Wynne Matthison, Charles Rann Kennedy, Peggy Wood, Pedro de Cordoba, Richard Sterling, Henry Hull, Mary Fowler, Margalo Gilmore, Dudley Digges, O. P. Heggie, Alice Fischer, Blanche Yurka, Helen Chandler, Tom Powers, Katherine Emmet, Gilbert Emery, Helen Freeman, Rosalinde Fuller, Walter Abel, Mary Morris and Walter Huston.

Ethel Barrymore and Arthur Somers are the dinner chairmen. They are assisted by a dinner committee of Mrs. Sidney Borg, Albert Buchman, Mrs. Clarence Mack, Mrs. Eugene Perry, David A. Anshbacher, Otto H. Kahn, Mrs. Dorothy Earle, Mrs. Jeanette Curtis, Henry D. Walbridge, Mrs. Gerard Swope, Howard Cullman, William Hamlin Childs, Arthur Carns, Manny Strauss, Mrs. Oliver Harriman, Sidney Ross, Willard King and F. H. Hymeyer.

The poster committee consists of Jerome Myers, chairman; Karl Knaths, Agnes Welzoff, Stuart Davis, Louise Brumback, Harle Albright and John Noble.

Poland Now Boasts An Amusement Paper

Poland now boasts an amusement trade paper, the first issue of which has just come to hand. It is called *Toutie 4 Rozrywka* (The Dance and Pastime), and Edward J. Kurylo is manager and editor of the publication, which is the only magazine of its kind in that country.

Kurylo, who has had literary and theatrical experience in the States, will make special efforts to give help to American artists visiting this part of the world. His headquarters are in the Hotel D'Europe, Warsaw.

New York Theater Clubs

Theater Assembly

The ladies of the Theater Assembly gave their usual luncheon and entertainment for the guests of the Actors' Fund House, at West New Brighton, Staten Island, New York, Wednesday, December 23. Luncheon was served and there was an entertainment, including a playlet entitled *The Employment Agency*, played by ladies of the assembly. Mrs. Albert Doerle was chairman of the dinner committee, and Mrs. Minnie M. Marks, president of the Theater Assembly, was chairwoman of the entertainment committee.

Joe Leblang on Vacation

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Joe Leblang, the cut-rate ticket king, left town Saturday for his annual winter vacation. He will be gone until March and will divide his time between Havana and Palm Beach. Accompanying Leblang are his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Marks and their daughter, Ruth Marks. Dave Marks is head of the Tyson-United Ticket Agency.

Acts in Demand For Holidays

Sharp Increase in Agency Orders Affords Work to Layoffs and Regular Acts

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A tremendous increase in the demand for entertainers during the holidays, in clubs, theaters, general organizations and private homes, has resulted in work for all available acts of anything better than those in the "terrible" class. Leading independent booking agencies yesterday made this report, stating there never has been so many calls for entertainers.

Jack Linder, who has always done a big business during the holidays, stated he gave work to hundreds of acts, and almost felt the condition of greater demand than supply. Many private homes this year have called upon him for entertainers, and the increasing number of private clubs throughout the city and vicinity during the past year has opened a much wider field for artists on Christmas and New Year's.

Roehm & Richards Office Places Many Cafe Artists

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The custom of opening new cafe floor shows Christmas week reflected decidedly during the past week on the activities of the club placement department of the Roehm & Richards office. More engagements were effected thru this department in this period than in others, covering every branch of the amusement field. Engaged thru the office for the show opening today at the Piccadilly Cafe, Philadelphia, were Denison and Lelan, dance team; the Three Happy-Go-Lucky Boys, a versatile trio; Olga Lanoff, dancer, and Billie Stout, singer and dancer.

The producer of the show at the Folies Bergere, Atlantic City, was supplied with Harry Reiser and his Orchestra, an 11-man unit; Wyla Davles, dancer; Kay Renault and Annabelle Barnes, singers, and the Marshall Sisters, song and dance team. The Club Normandie, Philadelphia, engaged Dantes and Tamea, adagio team formerly of vaudeville, and Lorraine Toland, violinist, for the show opening today. Placed with the Christmas show at Francis Renault Cafe, Atlantic City, were Nauty and De Serres, dance team; Anita La Rue, soubret, and Josephine Masters, comedienne.

Kay's Cut-Rate Ticket Office Closes With \$100,000 Deficit

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Kay's Cut-Rate Ticket Office operated by Harry Kaufman will close January 1 in the hole, it is reported, more than \$100,000. This leaves Joe Leblang's Public Service the only cut-rate agency in the city.

Kaufman, January 1, will open a new office in the Astor Theater lobby under the name of Kay's, but will handle theater tickets only on a premium basis. It has been said that his loss was caused by theater managers not giving him tickets to sell at the cut-rate whereas before he went into the cut-rate end of the agency business he was assured by them that he would be given an allotment, and that his subscription price of \$1 a year for service did not meet with approval by the public over Leblang's 50-cent rate.

New Jewish Public Theater Ready To Open in New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The new \$1,000,000 Jewish Public Theater at Second Avenue and Fourth Street will open January 8 with an elaborate operetta in which leading Jewish actors from all parts of the country will have parts.

The new house was built by David Schulman and Louis Goldberg and was designed by Major David M. Ditmarsh.

Margaret Shackelford Joins Garry McGarry Stock Co.

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—Margaret Shackelford, well-known Broadway ingenue, joined the Garry McGarry Players at the Majestic Theater here this week and will remain for the rest of the season. Her last engagement in New York was in *The Butter and Egg Man*.

Publix Pays \$528 For Work Not Done

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 25.—Faced with the inability to secure services of union stage hands, operators and others required at the new Texas Theater, which opened this week, because of complaint from the unions here that outside men were used in installing equipment, Publix Theaters Corporation, operator of the new house, has paid the sum of \$528 to the stage hands' local, covering what salaries would have been to union men had they been employed.

The controversy arose when the Peter Clark Company, out-ide organization, refused to employ San Antonio stage employees to install the counterweight system backstage at the Texas. Immediately the local protested to the International Alliance, and served notice to the Publix organization that services would be refused at the new house.

The \$528 payment for labor not done that the local insisted should have been done by stage employees was accepted as a satisfactory adjustment.



THE GOLD DRAGON'S ORCHESTRA, booked by the Cincinnati-National Orchestra Bureau, Cincinnati, which is creating a sensation with its tooting at the Egyptian Ballroom of the Kossitz Hotel, Louisville, Ky. E. E. Gordon, manager of the Egyptian Ballroom, was so impressed with Gold Dragon's Orchestra that he has held the engagement over for an indefinite engagement. The lineup: Charles McClure, piano and entertainer; Al Gaudes, trombone, entertainer and director; Clyde Reynolds, trumpet; Lee (Red) Lobdell, sax, entertainer and fiddle; Auburn Gross, sax and entertainer; Thomas Cantor, sax and entertainer; Max Mills, banjo, entertainer and piccolo; Wilbur Meyers, bass, and George Maule, drums and entertainer.

Chicago Theatergoers Spent \$50,000,000 For Their Entertainment During 1926

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—The average amount spent by Chicago citizens for amusement during 1926 was about \$16.50. The aggregate amount spent was something like \$50,000,000 for more than 100,000,000 seats. The average sitting price was about 50 cents.

It is claimed that Chicago spent more for amusement this year than New York did last year. While the figures given are not complete or exact, it is certain that 1926 will prove to be the greatest in the history of this city.

Balaban & Katz and allied theatrical interests have had an attendance for the first 11 1/2 months of this year of 29,256,000 persons, an increase over last year of nearly 9,000,000, they report. Theaters owned by Ascher Brothers,

Marks Brothers, National Theater Circuit, Schoenstadt and others all reported a prosperous year.

One of the greatest gains during the year was experienced by the Civic Opera Company. Receipts this year have totaled about \$971,000. It is estimated, including a 47 per cent increase in subscriptions over last year. Attendance records show an increase of approximately 25 per cent. Opera and vaudeville attracted more people than ever, but the movies carry off all honors as a drawing card, according to the figures given out. Approximately 30 per cent of the total attendance was at movies. One most interesting fact is that neighborhood theaters did as big a business in proportion as did the loop houses.

FRINCESS

Beginning Wednesday Evening, December 22, 1926

THE GREAT ADVENTURE

Revival of Arnold Bennett's play. Settings by Albert Hills. Presented and staged by Reginald Pole.

Albert Shaw, Ham's Valet...George Thompson
Ham Carve, an Illustrious Painter...Henry Meschery
Dr. Fawcett...Wheeler Dryden
Edward Horning, Doctor's Assistant...Wayne Whitten
Janet Cannon, a Widow...Spring Byington
Cyrus Carve, Ham's Cousin, a City Attache...C. T. Van Voorhis
Father Looe, a Catholic Priest...Charles Lowden
Hosier Looe, Sister of Father Looe...Miriam Cutler
Peter Horning, a Journalist...Harry Green
Lord Leonard Alar...George Fitzgerald
James Shaw, a Curate...Wheeler Dryden
John Shaw, His Brother, a Curate...Harry Green
Mrs. Albert Shaw, a Widow...Both Vivian
Lord Leonard Alar...George Fitzgerald
Word, an American Millionaire...Lowden Adams
ACT I—Room in Ham Carve's House, 120
Redcliffe Gardens. ACT II—Private Room at
the Grand Babylon Hotel. ACT III—Janet's
Spring Room at Wether Road, Putney. ACT
IV—A Room in Lord Leonard Alar's House,
Greenover Gardens.
Special Notes—Each act is divided into two
scenes, separated by a passage of time, in-
dicated by darkening the stage for a few
moments.

Reginald Pole, recalled as the more or less prominent little theater actor who replaced William Faversham during the recent difficulties over the rendition of the leading role in the *Passion Play* at the Hollywood Bowl, carries the quadruple duties of being the backer, the producer, the director and the principal player in this revival of Arnold Bennett's play, *The Great Adventure*. He at least deserves credit for his courage.

The production, however, does not measure up to the Broadway standard. It is a little amateurish and a little over-arty. As fully, too fully, presented, the play is tedious. Considerable cutting of the script and an increase of pace in the performance would help.

Pole's characterization of the illustrious painter is not by any means bad, but he overplays too frequently to allow it to be good. Spring Byington gives the only polished and truly arduous performance in the cast. Her portrayal of the Putney widow is delightfully amusing.

Wheeler Dryden does very well with two minor roles and George Fitzgerald, Lowden Adams and Charles Lowden impress with their ability. Harry Green, Ruth Vivian, Miriam Cutler and C. T. Van Voorhis could all afford to tone down, the direction may have called for their current accentuations. In brief appearances, George Thompson and Wayne Whitten prove themselves quite satisfactory. The settings serve their purpose but bear too obviously the signs of economy. GORDON M. LELAND.

CIVIC REPERTORY

Beginning Monday Evening, December 20, 1926
TWELFTH NIGHT

A comedy by William Shakespeare. Directed by Eva Le Gallienne. Settings and costumes designed by Mrs. Gladys E. Calthrop and executed by the Civic Repertory Theater Workshop. Presented by the Civic Repertory Theater.

Orsino, Duke of Illyria...Harold Moulton
Sebastian, Brother to Viola...Hardie Albright
Antonio, a Sea Captain, Friend to Sebastian...Barlowe Borland
A Sea Captain, Friend to Viola...Robert F. Ross
Gentleman Attending on the Duke...Jim Emery
Viola...Edwin Cooper
Sir Toby Belch, Uncle to Olivia...Egon Brecher
Sir Andrew Aguecheek...Wesley John
Malvolvo, Steward to Olivia...Rayne Crawley
Servants to Olivia...Marjorie Brown
Feste...Alan Birmingham
Olivia...Beatrice Terry
Viola...Eva Le Gallienne
Maria, Olivia's Woman...Josephine Hutchison
First Officer...Gordon Pascal
Second Officer...Arthur Jacobson
Priest...Robert F. Ross
Ladies Attending on Olivia—Margaret C. Love, Agnes McCarthy and Hilda Plowright.
Pages Attending on Orsino—Ruth Wilton and Martha Leach.
ACT I—Scene 1: The Coast of Illyria. Scene 2: Orsino's Palace. Scene 3: A Room in Olivia's House. Scene 4: A Street in Illyria. ACT II—Scene 1: A Street in Illyria. Scene 2: Kitchen of Olivia's House. Scene 3: Orsino's Palace. Scene 4: Olivia's Garden. ACT III—Scene 1: Olivia's Garden. Scene 2: The Same. ACT IV—Scene 1: Before Olivia's House. Scene 2: Olivia's Garden. Scene 3: Before Olivia's House.

The Civic Repertory Theater turns lightly to Shakespeare for the first time since Eva Le Gallienne launched her venture at the 14th Street Theater in its latest selection, *Twelfth Night*.

Miss Le Gallienne makes it modernistic and stresses the comedy in the piece, making it fanciful with bizarre costumes,

THE NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY

proteus' makeup, queer-looking wigs and unique settings. In so doing some of the poetical beauty has been lost, but it is lively and at times takes on a brilliant humor and shows a number of original touches in her excellent direction.

The cast performs creditably with a few exceptions. Eva Le Gallienne is graceful and refreshingly different in her interpretation of Viola. Beatrice Terry makes a charming Olivia. Egon Brecher registers comedy in every line and gesture as a bibulous and happy-go-lucky Sir Toby. Rayne Crawley is diverting in his rendition of Malvolvo, but in his concluding lines the direction does not permit him to gain the sympathy which is usually attached to this part. Josephine Hutchison, by making her laughter less forced, would be more natural as Maria. Harold Moulton, needing to put expression into his lines and to be less conscious of his false beard, is colorless as Orsino. Wesley John, as Sir Andrew Aguecheek, is inaudible at times and not at all comic, as the part is meant to be. Hardie Albright, as Sebastian; Barlowe Borland, as Antonio, and Robert F. Ross, as a sea captain, are fairly capable. In the minor roles, color is added to the presentation by Ian Emery, Edwin Cooper, Marjorie Brown, Alan Birmingham, Gordon Pascal, Arthur Jacobson, Robert F. Ross, Margaret C. Love, Agnes McCarthy, Hilda Plowright, Ruth Wilton and Martha Leavitt. Especially attractive are the unusual stage settings and exotic costumes designed by Mrs. Gladys E. Calthrop.

ROBERT E. SCHENCK

FULTON

Beginning Tuesday Evening, December 21, 1926
OH, PLEASE!

Libretto by Anne Caldwell and Otto Harbach. Founded on a story by Maurice Hennequin and Pierre Veeber. Music by Vincent Youmans. Staged by Hassard Short. Dances and ensembles directed by David Bennett. Settings and costumes designed by James Reynolds. Settings executed by the H. W. Bergman Studios. Costumes by Dorian's. Costumes executed by Brooks Costume Company, Schneider-Anderson, Tappé, Pranceillon and Fischel. Presented by Charles Dillingham, starring Beatrice Lillie and featuring Charles Wininger and Charles Purcell.

Kama Bliss...Helen Broderick
Miss Fall River...Pearl Hight
Miss South Bend...Blanche Latell
Miss Topeka...Gertrude Clemens
Miss Walla Walla...Josephine Sabo
Jane Jones...Irma Irving
Dexter Lane...Nelson Snow
Buddy Trevoct...Charles Columbus
Jack Gates...Nick Lang, Jr.
Nicodemus Bliss...Charles Wininger
Fay Pallette...Kitty Kelly
Thelma Tiffany...Gertrude McDonald
Huth King...Dolores Farris
Charlie Cartier...Cynthia MacVae
Lily Valli...Beatrice Lillie
Robert Vandenberg...Charles Purcell
Percy Perkins...Robert Baldwin
Dick Mason...Floyd Carter
Ted Foster...James Garrett
Sammy Sands...Richard Bennett
Billy Lee...Charles Angio
Joe Dillard...Jack Wilson
Chester Carter...Leon Canova
Marjorie Keegan...Dorothy Bigelow
Ladies of the Ensemble—Ruth Goodwin, Flora Watson, Muriel Hayman, Anna Rex, Harriet Hamill, Adahelle Booth, Virginia Clark, Mary Elizabeth Kerr, Marianna Sarrina, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Emily Burton, Betty Block, Mildred Sinclair, Cherie Pelham, Georgia Marns, Anna Varley, Chris Crane and Geraldine Downs.
ACT I—Bungalow of Nicodemus Bliss in Flower City, Calif. ACT II—Scene 1: Display Room of Vandeleur Perfume Company in New York. Scene 2: Outside the Bliss House, New Rochelle. Scene 3: Lawn Fete at Vandeleur's Estate, Westchester.

When all is said and done about *Oh, Please!* the point slummers down to the fact that a musical comedy needs a feminine lead whose abilities are not solely confined to a bag of slapstick tricks, no matter how good those tricks may be. That Beatrice Lillie's talents are so limited is much more noticeable in this latest vehicle than in the *Charlot* revues, for, of course, this show is given over almost entirely to her from curtain to curtain, a strain on any musical stage star, and Miss Lillie can hardly qualify for more than a feature position.

The book is merely an excuse, and rather an odd one at that, with bedroom doors, the mixing of business and pleasure in the perfume shop and the final pointless denouement at the lawn fete. Vincent Youmans' music is little more

than pleasant, the *I Know That You Know* should be popular, and *Wonderful Girl, I Can't Be Happy* and *Nicodemus* might also be adaptable to jazz orchestras. The dancing of the ensemble is short in quantity but up to the Dave Bennett standard. Nick Long, Jr., scores with his soft-shoe work and the team of Snow and Columbus contributes briefly with acrobatic dancing. Dolores Farris gracefully demonstrates perfect control on her toes and one or two others kick up occasionally. But there could be a lot more footwork. In matter of voice, there is only one real one in the cast and that is Charles Purcell's, put to poor use.

Pearl Hight, Blanche Latell, Gertrude Clemens and Josephine Sabo make a riotous burlesque quartet, about the funniest thing in the show, altho Charles Wininger is gorgeously amusing every chance he gets and draws the heartiest laughter of the performance. Helen Broderick, too, again proves her artfulness in dry humor and leaves a desire for more of her despite the overcrowding of the comedy department. There is more than one person to regret that the favor of the stage during the greater part of the running time is handed wholesale to the star.

Not that there is any question about Miss Lillie's skill at what she does, but enough is enough of one thing. Her singing voice is pathetic. She knows it, of course, and capitalizes on it by helping it to crack and get off key. Her dancing is elementary. She knows this, too, and so calls upon her tricks of bumping into the chorus line, the furniture and whatnot. The trick fan, the trick costumes and other prop surprises are her stock in trade and she knows how to get the most out of them. Her eyebrows, her nose, her twisting mouth, her every glance carry out the purpose of provoking mirth. But enough is enough, and the opportunity in a revue is plenty.

Gertrude McDonald, attractive to look upon and to be suspected of being accomplished, provides the only real touch of femininity among the principals. Irma Irving, Kitty Kelly, Cynthia MacVae and various others in the minor roles round up the cast with satisfaction as far as it goes, and James Reynolds supplies his usual flow of odd and fascinating colors to dress the whole production. All in all, however, *Oh, Please!* will be a test of Beatrice Lillie's drawing power. GORDON M. LELAND.

Edyth Totten Theater
Presents Marionettes

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A performance which is enriching the holiday season with romance and color is the performance of Tony Sarg's Marionettes, in *An Baba and the 18 Thieves*, at the Edyth Totten Theater, West 48th Street. A series of morning, afternoon and evening performances are being given until January 1.

Throngs of children and their escorts crowded the pretty Edyth Totten Theater during Christmas week. Youth and age alike thrilled to the adventures of All Baba, his handsome son and the beautiful slave girl, Morgiana, and laughed uproariously at the antics of Abou and Muma, the faithful donkeys. A flock of frisky lambs, chased by a barking dog and a lumbering baby elephant, added to the merriment of the street scenes. The student of puppeteering marveled at the skill in the manipulation of the puppets and the legibility with which lines were spoken from the flies. The puppeteer, Helen Lyvers, who, with magic fingers, guided the slave girl, Morgiana, thru the mazes of a dance which was a combination of ballet, acrobatic, jazz and Oriental, came in for a good share of the applause. The settings were a delight to the eye in their Oriental splendor and color.

The piece was adapted by Knowles Entrikin from *Arabian Nights* and was produced and supervised by Tony Sarg and staged by Charles E. Searle.

In the prolog one sees the Sultan of the Indies and Scheherazade, his wife, the heroine of the thousand and one tales. She conjures up apparitions of the Magic Carpet, the Flying Horse, the Genii and the Fisherman and Sinbad the

Sailor. Scheherazade's story was illustrated graphically and moved with dashing spiritedness. The cast was a very large one, including principals, the 40 thieves (who sing a rhythmic chorus), slaves, townspeople and animals.

The puppeteers were Charles E. Searle, Helen Lyvers, Sylvia Newton, Richard Odlin and George Graves. Special music was arranged and played by Helen Murphy, and a real Arabian love song was contributed by Mrs. Floyd McCathern.

After January 1 Tony Sarg will pack up his marionettes and leave New York for a coast-to-coast tour, and on January 3 the Edyth Totten Theater will present *Foxtot*, with Gene Lockhart as Mopliote. Other plays scheduled for the Edyth Totten Theater are *Babbling Brookes*, in which Edyth Totten will play the 1847 Babbling Belle Brooke, and *The Cofos Queen*, a Louisiana play, with a woman star. Each play will have a Broadway cast.

Plays Under Way

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Activities of legitimate productions now being put in readiness for eventual showing on Broadway are:

Piggy (William B. Friedlander), Sam Bernard's show, formerly named *That Certain Party* and *That's My Baby*, will remain at Werba's Theater, Brooklyn, until January 8, and on January 10 will come into the new Chanin Royale Theater.

Green Fruit (Shuberts), starring Mitzl, opens December 29 at Columbus, O.; will play the week of January 2 at Cincinnati, the week of January 3 at Cleveland and the week of January 16 at Detroit.

Rio Rita (Florenz Ziegfeld) opens tonight in Boston at the Colonial Theater. *Doisies Won't Tell* (Edgar Selwyn and Sam H. Harris) remains at the Plymouth Theater, Boston, for this week and due to come here next week, but the theater has not yet been booked.

Yours Truly (Gene Buck) opens tonight at the Shubert Theater, Detroit, for a two weeks' run and will then move to Pittsburgh for two weeks.

Listen, Dearie (Shuberts), formerly titled *Billy*, opens tonight at Atlantic City and moves to New Haven for the week of January 2.

Bye, Bye, Bonnie (L. Lawrence Weber), opens tonight at the Broad Street Theater, Newark.

Lady Alone (L. Lawrence Weber), Alice Brady's new vehicle, formerly named *The Street's Daughter*, will open January 16 at the Shubert-Belasco Theater, Washington.

It Is Love (Werner & Goldreyer) opens tonight at Scranton, December 30 will be at Wilkes-Barre, January 3 at Great Neck and January 4 and 5 at Bridgeport.

Ballyhoo (Russell Janney) opens tonight at Syracuse, with no dates set following that showing.

Maria Guerrero and Fernandez Diaz de Mendoza, in Spanish repertory (Walter O. Lindsay), open January 5 at New Orleans and will tour, reaching New York about May.

Mayfair (George Tyler and Basil Dean) will be at Philadelphia for two weeks and then come to New York. Theater has not yet been set.

A Night in Spain (Shuberts) will open January 10 at the Majestic Theater, Brooklyn.

My Maryland (Shuberts), formerly named *Barbara Frietchie*, will open January 10 at Atlantic City.

Burn Your Head (Jack Productions) opens out of town January 19 and will come in the week following.

Pinwheel (Neighborhood Playhouse) will open here January 31 at the Neighborhood Playhouse.

The Arabian Nightmare (Charles Painter) opens December 30 at Mamaroneck.

The Barker (Charles Wagner) opens January 3 at the Apollo Theater, Atlantic City.

Broadway Openings and Closings

December 27

Sacha Guitry and Yvonne Printemps in Guitry's *Mozart*, with the second act of Guitry's *Debaran*, presented by A. H. Woods at Chanin's 45th Street Theater.

The Padre, by Stanley Logan, presented by William A. Brady at the Ritz Theater, with Leo Carrillo as the featured member of the cast.

Peggy-Ann, musical comedy by Herbert Fields, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz

(Continued on page 17)



Vaudeville

Conducted by M. H. SHAPIRO—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York



Major Circuits Are Ready With Flock of New Headliners

Early Weeks of 1927 Will See Big-Time Aspect Changed To Give Patrons Something New—Newcomers Developed and Groomed Under Executive Supervision

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—In the wake of the candid indifference of the major circuits to the release of many standard headliners to picture and small-time houses, comes definite information from reliable sources to the effect that 1927 will see a powerful array of new headliners on the Keith-Albee, Orpheum and affiliated chains.

The number of new names will be sufficient to change the aspect of big-time bills entirely and a brand-new complexion will be given such shows. For the most part the new headliners, who have been signed for three years each, are of American origin, and artists who have come up from the ranks so to speak. Others are of the "find" variety and still a few more are from Europe.

All of them have been carefully groomed for months under the personal supervision of such executives as E. F. Albee, Edwin G. Lauder, Jr.; Marcus Helman, Max Gordon, J. J. Murdoch and others. Many of the new stars played for weeks recently, with a special man to see that the artists was getting the most out of material and staging, and to offer practical suggestions to the young proteges. Not all of them needed this help, but office supervision was placed over the majority of them.

While every one of the flock of new headliners is not expected to click, a goodly number of billtoppers is a foregone conclusion. The plan was not worked out over night, but matured gradually over a period of several months. As much care was taken to keep the move quiet as was to scout for new talent and check up on those performers in whom possibilities were seen. Likely prospects were called in and those taken under the big-time wing were gradually developed. At least three of them played the Palace, this city, within recent weeks, and while two of them made their initial appearance at the house the three of them scored decided hits.

A carefully worked out publicity campaign will go with each artist, for the benefit of the house manager for one thing. There will be close co-operation in all such bookings. A list of about 20 names is said to be ready, but a few do not yet realize that they are to receive headline billing. One or two have not been decided upon and other reasons make it inadvisable to print names.

In any event, it is the determination of the big-time circuits to serve something new to the patronage in place of the time-worn attractions which are steadily being relegated to any other contract they want to sign. Furthermore, there will be no let up in the search and development of new talent, faces and names.

\$500 Suit Against Trini

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The suit for \$500 damages, brought by Ralph Farnum, K-A agent, against Trini, was adjourned for two weeks due to the inability of one of Farnum's witnesses to appear.

Farnum, according to his complaint filed in the Third District Municipal Court, arranged to release the Bonancourt Marlona Band for use in the Spanish dancer's new act for 1926, which, he alleges, Trini never paid him.

South American Troupe Of Jazz and Wild West

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A troupe of Pampa troubadours, who arrived late last week headed by Jose Bolz, the "jazz king" of South America, may be seen in vaudeville shortly, for the winter season at least. In addition to their jazz band, they will offer a South American Wild West Show which includes the roping of steers as done in their native country.

of the candid indifference of the major circuits to the release of many standard headliners to picture and small-time houses, sources to the effect that 1927 will see the Keith-Albee, Orpheum and affiliated chains.

Big-Time Bookings To Be Speeded Up

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The holidays mark an increase in bookings on the big time, with the Keith-Albee and Orpheum circuits extending routes for time that is left open after the first of the year when early season contracts begin to run out. Immediately after January 1 producers and agents look forward to unusual booking activity on the big-time floors and the issuance of routes extending into the early summer or the end of the vaudeville season.

During December the books have been fairly well filled, even with the Orpheum Circuit, which customarily maintains an average grade. This year, however, the Western circuit is routed far in advance, giving time until early in the new year.

Lowe and Sargent Booked On Sun Time by Grohs

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Lowe and Sargent's *Around the World*, carrying nine people, was booked last week on the Gos Sun Time, opening February 13 in Buffalo. Charles C. Grohs, independent artists' representative, affiliated with the Arthur Silber office, handled the booking. The Lowe and Sargent act will continue on the Sun Time indefinitely.

Downing Gets New Partner

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Harry Downing, now playing independent dates in his comedy female impersonation skit assisted by Miss Lane, eccentric acrobatic dancer, will split the partnership following tonight's engagement at the Premier Theater, Brooklyn, due to the latter's recent engagement for a stellar position in the road company of *The Girl Friend*. Bill Howland, formerly of Howland and Lynn, will join forces with Downing in a comedy and singing act which will shortly go into rehearsal for presentation over one of the major circuits under the direction of Al Grossman.

Independents' Business Good Now, But Worst Is Feared Next Summer

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Conditions generally in the independent vaudeville field, which took on sudden life this fall with the advent on a larger scale of presentation entertainment, are better than they have been in many years, and there is every indication the balance of the season will prove as favorable. There is considerable misgiving as to next season, however, as it is claimed the present trend in the independent field will lead to a panic, due to excessive building and over-seating, coupled with efforts of one theater owner to beat his competitor. More expensive shows, invariably with the use of acts, have resulted this year.

The slump may begin next summer when the collapse of business in heavily over-seated towns starts. Independent agents leading in the field declare that bond and mortgage companies will be the biggest operators of theaters when the panic arrives.

Illness and Cancellations Hit Independent Bookers

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A paradoxical situation hit the independent agencies last week when an unusually large number of artists canceled on account of minor illness, more or less due to the ever-changing weather.

On one hand there was a slump and an abundance of acts, with the favored few getting the breaks. On the other hand, a last-minute cancellation placed the booker in a serious predicament and an act similar to the one sold would be hard to get, for the majority of the bookings are split-week to split-week basis in the first place.

Loew Starts Field Publicity Department

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Loew Circuit is establishing a branch publicity department which is to be under the supervision of Ellison Vincent, formerly manager of Nashville and Birmingham theaters, and more recently field representative working out of Dallas, Tex.

It is the plan of Terry Turner, head of the Loew publicity forces, to have Vincent arrange mobile headquarters, to be moved to various cities, all according to the opening point for the circuit. For the present he will stay in Norfolk, Va. If the starting point for the road shows and feature acts is changed to Washington again, or another point, the headquarters will be moved to that city.

Direct contact will be held between Vincent and Turner in order to find out just how effective a publicity campaign works out. Thus a featured offering leaves New York with a load of copy and a well-ordered campaign on the face of it, which, however, may turn out to be all wrong.

Vincent will check up on all such matters and report on them, making changes to suit the actual needs. In the past the theater manager had to do the best he could with a written campaign whether or not it proved to be practical. The main office in many cases never did know just how their ideas worked out.

Being Staged for Vaude.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Vaudeville will have its own showboat offering along musical lines if plans of John Shultz materialize. Shultz is head of the recently formed Keith-Albee special production department and is looking about for suitable talent. There was a showboat act produced years ago that played the two-day circuits, featuring Percy Jennings, Jesse Lasky and B. A. Rolfe produced it.

All cities and towns in the East, including Brooklyn, whose vaudeville houses have almost doubled in number during this year, are frightfully over-seated as a result of intensive building during the past two years. Efforts to meet competition and obtain a share of patronage in over-seated towns will eventually lead to the closing of many of them, some already finding it difficult to keep the right side of the ledger above the left.

For the independent bookers, agents and artists the keen competition in the field has been a godsend. On the Fally Markus books there are about 30 houses, more than he has ever had before. Jack Linder's list, already nearing this number, has shown terrific increases over past years. Arthur Fisher, but a year in the field, is now handling 18 houses, almost all of them split-weeks, and Walter Plummer announces he is booking about 10.

Buffalo Agency Plans New Tieup

National Vaudeville Exchange Is Negotiating for More Eastern Time

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The National Vaudeville Exchange of Buffalo, which books independent acts in that city and surrounding territory, is planning on a new Eastern tie-up. Jack Birman, representing National, arrived in New York this week to remain over the holidays and announced that he probably will have effected a New York affiliation before he leaves.

Early last fall Jack Linder was made New York representative of the Buffalo booking agency. Whether this connection will continue or not was not indicated by Birman.

National is now booking about 18 houses in the Buffalo territory. This number is less than the agency has ever had before, due, according to Birman, to the acquisition of independent theaters by bigger interests. The Schine Brothers, operating houses up-state, who are aligned with Universal, have invaded the territory. They recently took over the new house in the Riverside section of Buffalo, as yet unnamed, but which will be opened soon. The new Shea houses and a new Comerford stand in Buffalo will increase the competition for the independent theaters.

Birman stated that while the independent vaudeville business decreases in and around Buffalo with every year, the club business has shown an upward trend.

After the first of the year Birman will dispose of a part of his interest in National Vaudeville Exchange and locate in business in New York, he announced.

Loew Agents To Meet And Elect President

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—As a matter of form, the Marcus Loew Artists' Representatives Association will hold a meeting to formally elect Sam Baerwitz or possibly another candidate to the presidency of the organization. Irving Yates, president for over a year, recently announced his desire to be relieved of the office owing to press of other business, and those present were in favor of moving Baerwitz up a notch. However, the by-laws state that a meeting and election must be held.

K-A. and Affiliations Entertain Poor Children

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Fifteen hundred children from the Children's Aid Society and others selected from various institutions were the guests of F. F. Proctor at the circuit's 12th Street house, Friday afternoon, when special features were added to the regular show.

Other children, such as cripples and orphans, were the guests of the Keith-Albee Circuit at several houses, including the Palace, during the week, as is the usual yearly custom.

Kay Spangler for "Vanities"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Kay Spangler, well-known high-kicking specialist, formerly appearing with Jack Hill in Tom Howard's *Toy Shop*, in vaudeville and presentation, signed a three-year contract with Earl Carroll this week to be a feature in the new edition of the *Vanities*, opening January 2 at the Earl Carroll Theater.

Fay Bainter Again

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Fay Bainter is again subject to negotiations for a vaudeville tour, this time thru Al Lewis, Inc. If a suitable playlet is found the act may open some time in January for a trip around the two-day stands of K-A. and Orpheum.

K.-A. Closes Deal For Rochester Site

3,000-Seat Theater and Office Building Is Set—To Cost \$2,500,000

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 24.—Contracts were signed yesterday whereby the Keith-Albee Circuit will erect a vaudeville theater here costing \$2,500,000. The agreement was executed in the offices of Castle & Fitch between Ex-Senator J. Henry Walters, representing E. F. Albee and the K.-A. interests, and the Banorge Corporation, of this city, owner of the property.

The new playhouse will occupy nearly an entire block, facing on Clinton avenue and extending from Mortimer to Pleasant streets in the rear. Seating capacity will be 3,000, and the architects are to be Graven & Mayer, of Chicago. Lobby and main entrance will be on Clinton avenue between the Masonic Temple and Michael Sterns, with additional foyer and entrance to the auditorium for the parking space planned as a convenience to the patrons on the Pleasant street side. On Mortimer street the plans provide for a large office building comprising lofts and stores. The spacious stage and dressing rooms will be in the rear and on what is now known as the Wallace property. Construction will be started at once.

The site for the new house is now occupied by the Gordon Theater, abandoned film house, which will be demolished.

Also expected for some time, the deal was finally set yesterday and this city will share in the \$25,000,000 building program of the Keith-Albee and affiliated circuits. Six big houses will probably be opened during the course of the current season and plans are on foot for a structure in Detroit, which is exclusive of other large city theaters already announced.

Josefsson Returns— Foreign Money Scarce

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Johannes Josefsson and his Icelandic drama novelty of the art of self-defense arrived this week from Europe after playing four weeks each at the Empire Theater, Paris, and Scala Theater, Berlin. Josefsson returned here on the strength of a cablegram from his agent, who had an immediate engagement in view, which, however, failed to materialize. Otherwise he would have spent the holidays with his family in Iceland.

Josefsson, in talking to a *Billboard* reporter, confirmed the recent story in its columns on foreign conditions to the effect that European managers wanted American acts but had no money to offer. Exclusive of the four weeks in Berlin and Paris, there is little encouragement for American artists seeking long-term vaudeville contracts abroad. These two theaters are the only ones offering worthwhile contracts.

Fine Christmas Week Program At Lafayette Theater, Buffalo

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—Christmas week was a week rich in novelty and beauty at the Lafayette Theater under the guiding genius of Manager William A. Haynes. A Christmas Episode, conceived and directed by Manager Haynes, featured the program. In connection with the stage setting of a Christmas Episode, Ralph Schwartz, musical director, conducted the song prolog, with Mrs. William A. Staples as soloist.

This Christmas marks also the 16th anniversary of the orchestra conductor, Ralph Schwartz, as a director of orchestras in various local theaters, but always for the same employers.

The song prolog featured at the Lafayette Theater Christmas week is also a novelty to Buffalo and has taken well. Three weeks ago Manager Haynes came out with the local innovation of having a special stage setting each week to depict a scene from the song offered.

Loew Books "Herb" Williams

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—"Herb" Williams, formerly of Williams and Wolfus, has been routed over the Loew Circuit and is booked to open at the State, this city, January 7. Williams recently returned from England and is said to have a new offering. While playing the Palace here last week the vehicle was the same as the old one, with one or two comedy bits changed in the running order.

Vaudeville Folk Bring Cheer to Nonprofessionals

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Prompted by a letter from E. F. Albee, *The New York Sun* started a fund for the benefit of the families of over 50 men who were drowned in the Hudson River while on their way to work last week. Mr. Albee donated \$1,000, the paper gave a similar sum, \$500 was received from President John J. McGuirk of the Stanley Company of America and additional support in the form of money and benefit performances has been promised by the Allied Theatrical interests taking care of charitable obligations, of which Mr. Albee is the chairman.

This is considered in line with the policy of having vaudeville assist in worthwhile causes apart from show business. Also in this connection was a free show given by the local vaudeville theater and staff at Amsterdam, N. Y. The Keith Theater in that city, from orchestra to vaudevillians, journeyed to the County Almshouse and staged a show for the inmates, some of whom hadn't seen a show since the days of Tony Pastor.

In Cincinnati last week Edith Clifford, Joe Pong and other vaudeville artists gave a Christmas party and entertainment for the blind children of the Sands School.

Orpheum Bookings Lead With "Name" Offerings

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Orpheum bookings took a sudden leap last week, featuring contracts for Irene Bordoni and Maude Allen. The latter, internationally famous dancer, opens this week at the Orpheum, Los Angeles, and follows at the Orpheum, San Francisco. Miss Bordoni starts a tour to the Coast and back at the Palace, Chicago, on January 9.

Another important booking was marked with the signing of Gaeton and Andrea and Company, adagio dancing rage of London and Paris. The act opens a tour at Minneapolis on January 30.

Dezso Retter, comedian, routed on the Orpheum Time to open January 3, cut his engagement at the Hippodrome last Tuesday in order to open this week instead at the Orpheum, San Francisco, filling a disappointment. Orpheum has also issued a route to Billy House and Company, who opened this week in Chicago at the Riviera, and announces Les Folles Rouges (Red Folles), now on the K.-A. Time, will be the feature attraction in the Senior road show No. 8, tentatively set to open January 23 at the Palace, Chicago.

Hi Tom Ward and C. Diamond Will Resume Tour January 3

Hi Tom Ward and Charlie Diamond, who recently closed 28 weeks over the Keith-Albee and Proctor circuits, winding up in Boston on December 13, will resume their tour January 3 at Moss Broadway Theater, New York.

Ward is spending the holidays at his new farm in Massachusetts, while Diamond went to New York to visit his daughter, who has just closed a long season over the Orpheum Circuit.

Chicago Vaudeville Activities

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—S. M. Klien is playing outlying houses with a skit, *The Screen Test*, introducing a police dog, Paule De Beauty, Anthony Antonio is the manager and Mrs. George H. Webster is booking the act.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Denton are in town, having just completed a Coast tour. The Windsor is prospering in its present policy of combined picture-vaudeville shows. Being near the Gold Coast, Chicago's aristocratic district, this house is enjoying patronage that seems to be appreciative of the management of Robert F. Emig and H. J. Turner. Mr. Turner recently came to the Windsor from Pittsburg, where he was connected with Universal Pictures.

There will be an extra midnight snow New Year's Eve at the Majestic.

The Northshore will present an old-time minstrel show for the holiday event, the kind that thrilled our fathers. Fred Bernard will be master of ceremonies. He is a recent arrival from New York.

The National Vaudeville Association had a great Christmas celebration at

F. F. Proctor Opens Schenectady House

Continuous Policy at 50-Cent Top—Chamber of Commerce Dines Theatrical Men

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Dec. 27.—F. F. Proctor's new theater, built at a cost of \$1,500,000, will be opened to the public this afternoon, with a price scale of 35 cents top for the matinee and 50 cents top for the evening show. Afternoon prices will prevail until 6 o'clock; those attending the supper show after that will pay the higher scale. The first show will start at 1 p.m. with a feature picture; the vaudeville show begins at 2:45 p.m. The old Proctor house will continue until Sunday and just what will be done with it until next spring, when the W. W. Farley interests take it over on a lease, is undecided.

Seating capacity of the house is 2,000 and no expense has been spared to make it modern in every respect.

Wednesday night the community will offer official recognition and appreciation of the new house by dining Mr. Proctor and four of his associates under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce. E. F. Albee will be present, as will Charles F. Wallen, vice-president and treasurer of the Proctor Circuit; W. P. S. Hart, attorney for Proctor, and E. C. Jackson, auditor for the chain. The dinner will also be attended by A. J. Gil, Proctor manager here, and other theatrical folk.

Mildred L. Clemens Producer

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Mildred Leo Clemens, who for more than nine years sponsored Hawaiian travel offerings, has transferred her activities from the chautauqua platform to vaudeville. She is making her debut as a producer of vaudeville acts with her Clemens' Filipino Ramblers, an 11-people orchestra and dancing offering. The act is showing this week for major circuits as the special attraction at the Commodore Theater, one of the largest picture houses on the East Side, soon to be operated under a new Loew policy. Miss Clemens, who was formerly known through lecture circuits as "Happy Hawaii", appears in the act, offering a special Hawaiian dance number.

Sturm Joins Joe Sullivan

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Jack Sturm, formerly with the Keith-Albee Circuit and for a time in business for himself, is now associated with the Joe Sullivan office, booking acts on the K.-A. and Orpheum floors. Sturm announced a route has just been obtained for Denno and Rochelle, doing their same act, which includes the Palace late in January.

Sponsler Has Afterpiece

BOSTON, Dec. 24.—Les Sponsler, who has been touring the Keith-Albee houses booked out of the circuit's local office, has produced a novel afterpiece which he is presenting in addition to his own act. Last week at two Maine stands the act broke house records with the afterpieces, which included Eddie Cole, Melroy Sisters, the Masked Athlete, Ray Fontaine and the Nine Jolly Bandits.

Long Theatrical Season Expected During 1927

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The long side of the present theatrical season is expected to come after January 1, with the larger organization of the legitimate and motion picture interests getting a better break than during the early part.

Up to the present the situation is analyzed as having been spotty with an occasional hit for independent producers. Such organizations as the Shuberts cannot be marked down for a highly profitable fall or early winter business. Likewise the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation, whose only bit of importance thus far this season was *Beau Geste*. And this picture is running at a small capacity house. Loew's, Inc., did better if taking into consideration the business coming in mostly from the pictures produced last year.

Vaudeville business has more than held its own. The Orpheum is expected to have one of its best years. Big-time vaudeville business is said to have maintained its usual business with the box-office receipts very satisfactory.

Many sources blame the weather, which has shown neither a hot nor cold trend as yet, for business being off for many legitimate houses.

New Firm Has Circuit Of One-Night Stands

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—After devoting several months to preparatory effort, a new vaudeville booking combination, composed of Edward White and Walter Gordon, made its appearance last week with the opening of offices in the Homax Building. *The Billboard* was informed by the youthful pair that they have already the nucleus for a circuit with the acquisition of three split-week houses in Brooklyn, 15 one-night stands in the same borough and Sunday concert stands dotting the entire city. In addition to booking acts for the houses of their new chain, White & Gordon will produce both vaudeville and stock tabled attractions. A separate department of the office will be devoted to booking night clubs and orchestras.

The West End Theater, W. 125th street, which has hitherto been operating under a straight picture policy, will, in about two weeks, carry Sunday concert bills booked by White & Gordon. Several other straight picture houses will be converted into split-week vaudeville and Sunday concert stands with this firm in possession of the booking rights but, due to the immature status of negotiations, the names of the houses are being withheld.

White claims a 14-year affiliation with the show business. Until last season he had his own vaudeville act, *Playmates*, working steadily on various circuits. He was teamed at one time with Nat Alberts, the pair appearing under the billing, Alberts and White. Gordon has been connected with various amusement and advertising enterprises the past several years.

Loew Deal in Atlanta For \$8,000,000 Bldg.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The latest theatrical deal by the Loew Circuit calls for a new \$8,000,000 structure in Atlanta, to be erected jointly by Marcus Loew and a group of local capitalists. It will replace the present Loew stand, the Grand Theater, for many years considered a landmark and one of the leading theaters of the State. The plans call for a seating capacity of 4,000 and a large office building as well.

Mr. and Mrs. Ike Rose Give Dinner to Midgets

MT. VERNON, O., Dec. 26.—Mr. and Mrs. Ike Rose played host yesterday at a swell Christmas dinner to Rose's 25 Royal Midgets. The enjoyable affair was held at Kokosing Restaurant.

D'Orsay a Possibility

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Edgar Allan Woolf is preparing a vaudeville vehicle for Lawrence D'Orsay, English actor. If booking arrangements work out satisfactorily the sketch will be given an early tryout.

COAST-TO-COAST VAUDEVILLE REVIEWS

New Palace, Chicago

(Reviewed Sunday Afternoon, Dec. 26)

Opening were Meehan's canines, which scored high.

Sam Robbins and His Baltimoreans play well and novelty predominated and was original. The radio stunt was a scream and a song number by Robbins and an unnamed girl pleased. Tastefully staged and the costumes natty. Eleven men and a girl.

Bill Robinson made a clean sweep for honors in the first part of the bill. He danced, sang songs, told good stories and did an imitation, all excellent amusement. The stair-step dance was a knockout. After several encores Bill made a very short but pleasing talk, in which he expressed his appreciation of being the first negro to appear on the stage of what he termed the wonder theater of vaudeville.

Solly Ward and Company, in a comedy playlet, *Off to Meise*, was one of the best farce creations that has been to Chicago in a long time. Ward made the best of the situations provided by the writer of the piece, Gus Weinberg. It is a domestic comedy, and Estelle Wood as the maid and Marion Murray as the wife were capital in their roles. Ward did as an encore his bit from the Music Box Revue.

Blossom Seeley and Bonnie Fields were successful in drawing a big hand. The set is beautiful and the two-plane idea clever. Blossom and Bonnie are entertainers capable of winning laurels with talent that is theirs, without resorting to the suggestive. They have a following here and were favored with a number of encores.

Ed Healy and Allen Cross, singing zozens, put them over with plenty of pep. Their harmony is unusually good and the take-off on a home-town quartet was a decided hit, as was the sermon in song.

Dr. George Rockwell, on each appearance here in his Quack, Quack, Quack stuff ties 'em all in a knot. He looks the part of a high-brow lecturer-dietician and has a line of talk that never varies from the subject of diet and health. He was the recipient of a big hand.

The Merideths, Madelyn and Hoyt, were charming with their dances, both old and new. This youthful pair is the target for humorous jests of Rockwell from an upper box. It is all wholesome fun.

BOB MORNINGSTAR.

Pantages, San Francisco

(Reviewed Sunday Evening, Dec. 26)

Babe Ruth is Alexander Pantages' big name at this week's show, and he is big enough to draw packed houses with overflow crowds in the lobby.

On the screen, *The Midnight Kiss*, *For Noses and Aesop's Fables*. With Shad Rosebrook and his orchestra on the stage and Don George at the organ an effective spectacle was staged in two parts, the first showing *The Three Wise Men of the East*, and *Christmas of Today*. Song numbers in keeping were pleasing.

Kate and Wiley in *A Study in the Classics*, an acrobatic posing act with a 12-inch pedestal as the base of operations, made a hit.

Bishop and McKenzie, the latter with a Swedish dialect, whose recitations prompted several laughs in a song-and-patter turn, all of which was good entertainment.

Cecilia Weston, comedienne, put over her songs in effective style and was liked with *Hugo*, *I Go Where You Go*, and *Hoorny for the Irish*.

Ernest Evans and Company in *Ripples of 1926* has a half dozen girls who assist in a song-and-dance revue. The dancing is of exceptional merit. Evans as an indefatigable artist, a snake dancer and an artist's studio den in which three models pose and step are high spots.

Babe Ruth precedes his stage appearance by having Bishop and McKenzie sing *Along Came Ruth*, and a short reel of film showing the home-run swatter in action and home surroundings. With the last flicker of film, Babe crashes through the paper screen, in Yankee uniform, but in hand, with a setting of the New York Stadium as a background. His act consists of a relation of personal experiences, a demonstration of how to hit and good-natured chatter with a group of half a dozen kiddies from the audience who came upon the stage and for whom he autographs baseballs. His talk is interspersed with humor and his personality

The Palace, New York

(Reviewed Monday Matinee, December 27)

The Palace put on its stuff this afternoon and stepped out with a corking show, with Taylor Holmes acting as master of ceremonies. Holmes introduced two stage celebrities seated among the cash customers. They were Ethel Barrymore and Laura Hope Crewes. Also, he brought Harry Hershfield, cartoonist, on the stage, for one of his usually funny stories.

Sandy Lang and Company presented "A Skating Classic", with Eleanore (Babe) Bunting. The two men and girls offered a routine of roller-skating stunts that was not only different, but cleverly staged as well.

Claude and Clarence Stroud, likable twins, did their "Two-in-One" offering, being mainly a dance novelty, with a few acrobatic tricks thrown in as a surprise, and otherwise versatile material, including singing.

Ernest R. Ball, in "A Night With the Gang", made his debut at this house in the new act, done by a double male quartet and a girl who acted as page. Great male singing combination, doing ballads mostly, which in turn is offset with Ball's informal style of getting laughs here and there. Will be further reviewed under "New Turns".

Art Frank and Harriet Towne, in "The Hick and the Chick", scored beautifully all the way. Frank has a number of exclusive bits of business as to the old "Rube" stuff, not to mention a first-rate series of eccentric dance steps. Miss Towne lends admirable support doing straight, also doing songs and dances of her own.

Laurette Taylor, in "The Comedienne", with Richie Ling, closed the first half in one of the most delightful vehicles to be offered in the two-day by a legit star. The action takes place in the office of an old-time theatrical producer, who lives in the past, and the ambitious actress, who has made a reputation as a comedienne, cries herself into a heavy dramatic role. Ling is rather transparently disguised as George Tyler, the veteran producer, and the author, J. Hartley Manners, has contributed an effective sketch, which will be further reviewed under "New Turns".

Jans and Whalen opened intermission in their comedy, song and dance offering, the routine having been condensed a little in order to make for additional speed and save running time. The patrons ate it up as usual.

Kitty Doner did her "Twenty Minutes in Paris", assisted at the piano by Jack Carroll. Offhand, anybody would state that she is the best bet we have in the line of male impersonators, and, possibly, it holds good for overseas as well. Quite an honest little artiste, too. In a certain speech she told of feeling self-conscious, because it was but a short time since she appeared here last, and wanted a new number or two before returning. It seems she was booked for the Riverside and switched. We mention this because Miss Doner is frank about the new number or two, not that her work wasn't highly appreciated nevertheless.

Taylor Holmes, in stories, recitations of the straight and dialect order, gathered more laughs on next to closing, altho he retained most of the material used hereabouts some time ago. He has the knack of selling anything as tho it were being sold for the first time—which makes a difference.

Chaney and Fox, in "Dance Visions of 1926", with Lulu Winters, Mary Jane Wright, Patsy Brooks and Catherine White, closed the show in a gorgeous Harry Royce production. Will be further reviewed under "New Turns".

M. H. SHAPIRO.

is most apparent when surrounded by the kiddies.

Sam Lingfield and Company, six men, in a rapid-fire tumbling act with a burlesque boxing bout, provided a humorous closing.

E. J. WOOD.

Majestic, Chicago

(Reviewed Sunday Evening, Dec. 26)

Parker and Son, hand-to-hand balancing, in their feats of strength combined with the balancing, drew applause.

Buds and Blossoms Company is a group of six youngsters doing songs and dance stunts of the usual kind, altho the three boys have little to do and the three girls work hard.

James Reynolds does a straight monolog made up largely of new stories of a domestic kind and almost stopped the show.

Tobey Wilson and Company have a sketch based on the newly rich theme. Wilson's hick comedy and an unusually good dancer carry the act. The three other assistants are capable.

Burns and Kisses, with comic character songs and imitations in pleasing dialect and smooth delivery, made a hit.

A Pair of Jacks, harmony boys from Station WAAF, sang well and presented novelties. The piano and tenor solos were unusually good.

Brown and Elaine work in front of a bright drop representing a pirate ship and their comedy is based on pirates and piracy. Brown does clowning, with Elaine the foil.

Pluto and Myers, with an unnamed assistant, play instruments and do comedy. The girl singer pleases and the trio gave the act a good punch with accordion, ukulele and banjo.

Kay Sisters, a revue employing a five-piece girls' orchestra besides the stepping sisters, give evidence of attention to detail with colorful scenes, bright costumes and action.

Pallenberg's Bears closed, with the bears doing stunts. The bicycle riding particularly pleases.

BOB MORNINGSTAR.

Moss' Broadway, N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Matinee, Dec. 27)

Redheads Preferred, with Raymond Hitchcock, is the featured film.

Harriet Nawrot and Boys present an acrobatic offering on roller skates, doing unusually clever work and introducing new feats.

Carleton and Ballew, man and woman, present four vocal numbers and a few steps that were fairly well received. The singing was along legitimate and blues lines and showed a sincere effort was being put forth.

Hyde and Burrill captured the crowd with scintillating jazz, comedy, song, dances and instrument playing. Their various song-and-dance numbers are interspersed with a speedy line of cross-fire comedy. Their encore was out of the ordinary and novel in the extreme.

Patti Moore, assisted by Arthur Bard, Bud and Buddy and Dominos Entertainers, combine to put over an excellent vaudeville revue. Bard is a nifty stepper and Bud and Buddy are a likable pair of youngsters who present single and team tap-dance specialties. Dominos Entertainers are versatile instrumentalists who make merry with jazz tones. Patti Moore, the diminutive cyclonic acrobatic dancer, is full of pep and personality. Her acrobatic specialty of highkicks, backbends and splits is presented with exceptional grace and finesse.

Willie Solar amused with a wealth of hokum song numbers and nonsensicalities that kept the audience glued to the seats until the drop of the asbestos.

Harry Coleman, Stan Stanley and Amack were not caught at this performance. Amack was a last-minute substitution, due to the sudden illness of Charles Hoff's dancing partner.

JAY BARRY SCHWARTZ.

New Orpheum, L. A.

(Reviewed Sunday Matinee, Dec. 26)

The Ingenues are the only holdovers. Ed East and Ralph Dunke have a clever group of comedy song numbers which they put over splendidly. East is the writer of three of their special numbers.

Hollingsworth and Crawford, man and woman, have a comedy talking skit captioned *What Price, Bob?*, evolving around the intention of the wife to have her hair bobbed over the objections of the husband. They have some good material which garnered laughs.

The Ingenues, holdovers, scored decisively again with a new repertoire of musical and specialty numbers.

Dare and Wahl, two men, formerly with *Siegfeld's Police*, are sap comedians who "wowed" them with their actions and burlesque hand balancing. For an encore they obliged with real balancing feats.

Jack Norworth and Dorothy Adelphi, in *The Soggy*, a new skit, is of the bedroom variety, with the wife nagging at the husband. Following this bit they entertained with two late songs.

Maud Allan, one of America's foremost dancers, presented three numbers, a trio of Egyptian dances, prelude C sharp minor and a Hungarian dance.

Sylvia Clark was a hit with her impersonations and character songs. Toward the end of her act she introduced Bobbie Kuhn, who with Harry Delf wrote the material in Miss Clark's offering, and the pair sang *Rockabye Baby Days*.

The Novella Brothers, European clowns, presented their routine of fiddling while doing acrobatic stunts and tumbling, closing with their *Loving Nightingale* bit.

FRANK B. JOERLING.

roduced L. Wolfe Gilbert, the song writer, who mounted the stage to offer one of his latest compositions, and another young fellow, whose name was not caught. The latter sang two numbers in song-plugging style. Mel got across nicely, as usual.

Weir's Baby Elephants, those amusing performers presented by Don Darragh, closed, holding the folks without difficulty. They worked with utmost alacrity at all times, going thru their nicely built routine of tricks without a falter.

ROY CHARTIER.

Hippodrome, New York

(Reviewed Monday Matinee, Dec. 27)

Mel Klee, heading the comedy entries, acts as master of ceremonies in the holiday bill, one that abounds in entertainment and diversity.

Edna and John Torrence, in their torrent of dance steps and music, with John Cebor at the ivories, opened the show to a welcoming hand. *Ts-Ts-Ts* is a dance offering of unusual taste, combining agility and grace as well as novelty. Miss Torrence's acrobatic specialty scored a decisive hand at the afternoon show, and John's nimble stepping number awoke a similar recognition. The act is nicely staged and routined.

Castle and Fleming followed in a musical melange of engaging numbers. One of the sisters occupies the post at the piano, leaving the burden of the singing on the other, who shoulders it with ease and confidence. The hand accorded prompted an encore.

The Arnanat Brothers, Rene and John, clowns of an inimitable order, entertained in their customary unique manner in the next spot. To the kids at the matinee show they were the biggest hit of the afternoon, and to most of the older folks one of the most pleasing acts on the program.

Meyer Golden's latest dance extravaganza, *The Whirl of Splendor*, proved everything its title indicates and more besides. The offering is beautifully staged. Scenes change as a revolving piece turns around, revealing another setting, while the dressing for the sides remains the same. The adagio team of Constantinova and Balkoff, whose work is excellent, and Blanche Granger, specialty dancer, are featured, with Mascagnò's Steppers, an ensemble of eight, assisting. An outstanding feat of dancing is the promoting by one of the girls, who gyrates with a vengeance. The new Golden offering is all that big-time vaudeville may desire.

Mel Klee tore thru the next-to-closing spot with his comedy, singing and extemporaneous stuff. This afternoon he is

Loew's State, New York
(Reviewed Monday Matinee, Dec. 27)

Folks out front are getting a good holiday show this week. Six clicking acts, including the chronic show stoppers, Noble Sissle and Eubie Blake, appended by Eddie Cantor's film, *Kid Boots*, end a sprinkling of short subjects, is a good 25 cents' worth—even in these bargain days.

Eily, billed as the possessor of "4,000 Volts of Pep", is a girl in kindergarten raiment, offering a juggling, balancing and spinning routine, with the aid of a uniformed lackey. Much of the pantomimic comedy stuff is superfluous, but this miss gets over several juggling bits quite good even for one bigger than pint size. The feature stunt, at the close, is the balancing of a divan on her forehead while ascending and descending an eight-foot ladder.

Bob McDonald and Helen Oakes break what was thought to be an established precedent in the two-spot here by stressing stepping in their offering instead of straight singing. Miss Oakes is a trim-appearing miss. Both are unusually lithe and graceful and have a diverting variety of steps. Their closing *Black Bottom* is a gem of the first water.

James Russell and Harry Armstrong, the nut comics and comedy acrobats, were evenly funny thruout. One part of the routine, in which one of them gives comedy impersonations, can stand a bit of jacking up; the four episodes seem to hang together loosely. The closing acrobatic travesty on the floor and with the rings went over unusually well. The pair would do well to cut out their objectionable cow-milking bit.

Fanny Simpson and Earle Dean are fairly funny in their skit, *Chop Stevey*, which is marked by a novelty opening behind a translucent insert in a street scene. The silhouetted pantomime at the restaurant table is well staged. When the couple emerges, the girl takes the lead as a comedienne in a drunk characterization. The talking bits, sandwiched between song and dance, are fair, altho they are hardly enhanced by two raw yags.

Sissle and Blake were given a rousing hand at entrance and sustained themselves with a steadily rising tempo, until stopping the proceedings at the close with Sissle's recitation, accompanying *My Dream of the Big Parade*. Blake scored highly in his piano fantasy bit and the other vocal singles delivered by Sissle seemed to tickle the crowd consistently. These boys look good for a neat run this season.

Joe Rea and his *California Nighthawk* Revers, billed as carrying 18 people, with but 17 in view at the finale, is an orchestra novelty, staged, apparently, with meticulous care and capable craftsmanship. A prima donna is heard in several delectable bits. During orchestra numbers, diversissements are offered in an inset far backstage. A good musical unit, offering a routine of the unusual order—but gorgeously trimmed and skillfully arranged. The boy featured in the encore locomotive number was given a great ovation. ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

Last Half Reviews

Loew's Melba, Brooklyn
(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 23)

The feature film is *Ladies at Play*, with Doris Kenyon and Louise Fazenda. Mande Elliott and Company, two girls in trapeze and wobbling stunts, went over favorably. Miss Elliott offers at least nine-tenths of the stunts, but her assistant is kept busy holding the vertical rope while the standard bearer is doing her stuff at a top. The feature bit is composed of a series of wild body swings with a single hand caught in a loop attached to the rope.

Myrtle Boland, songster, who is further reviewed under *New Turns*, registers strong thruout.

Frisch and Sadler open with the bride-and-groom vocal and talking bit, swing into the familiar blah on domestic infidelity and hop away from this theme with the man singing the comedy bit, *Masculine Women, Feminine Men*. There is more comedy and then a closing song.

Mary and Ann Clark, discussed in *Detail* under *New Turns*, are comediennees extraordinary and are aided and abetted by a fine routine. The girl in eccentric costume has the heavier role, but the

sister in straight character makes the best of her lines. The steamship wharf drop is worthy of praise.

McCoy and Walton are a mixed team and they are further reviewed under *New Turns*.

Benny and Elsie Barton please in their seven-people dash, *The Vaudeville Limited*. Elsie fiddles and so does Benny, and there is a space in which Benny gives a fair impression of Herman Timberg in a stepping number. There are a sister stepping team, a boy hooper and an adagio team. All get a chance at specialties. The finale is a series of fiddling bits by the Bartons, a collection of whirls by the adagio team and incidental stepping by the sister team and the unattached boy. ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

Princess, San Francisco

(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 23)

A bill below the average. On the screen, *The Power of the Weak* and *The Two Gun Men*.

Ted Covey, the roping ace, is clever with the rope, and the five miniature ropes he keeps in motion at one time is the high spot.

Nichols and Pearl, man and woman, in a repertoire of comic songs, proved mildly interesting.

Rose White, billed as an international songstress, received more applause than the rest of the bill put together with her offerings, three in number. In *A Little Spanish Touch* and *When You Walk With the One You Love* were best liked.

Villane and Paxon, two comedians in a wop turn, have a good line of talk and song numbers.

Jack Woods and the *Liveway Sisters* in mirth, melody and music present a use songs by the sisters and instrumental numbers, by Woods. E. J. WOOD.

Diversey, Chicago

(Reviewed Saturday Evening, Dec. 25)

Feature picture, *The Man of the Forest*, with Jack Holt.

Opening vaudeville number introduced what was termed *A Drowsy-Face Revue*, principals being the *Welder Sisters*, two pretty misses with talent. Their dancing, singing and instrumental work was acceptable and there was an atmosphere of sincerity that was delightful. Four assisting youths are nifty steppers. Sets and costumes show attention to detail. Lionel ("Mike") Ames presents *Fasci-*

nating *Feminine Fancies*, a series of female impersonations. Costumes, make-up and extreme grace of Mike has brought this act about as nearly perfect as is possible for an act of this type to be. Paul Bernard is the pianist.

Hartley and Patterson have a farce comedy sketch that is a "wow", and Mr. Hartley has nothing on the foil, Miss Patterson. Her vivaciousness and clever acting show to advantage, along with the swift comedy of Hartley. There is a curtain and then follows a charming song and dance.

Joe Freed and Company closed with a skit, the first scene being laid on the "sidewalks of New York", where there is much good fun at the expense of police. The scene shifts to a cafe, where the antics of Freed and his three assistants are a riot of hilarity. Closed with Freed's interpretation of *The March of the Wooden Soldiers*.

Grand Opera House, N.Y.

(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 23)

Mack and Brantley, man and woman, open. They are roller skaters. They started the show off with dexterous catches, pirouettes and endurance stunts.

Elizabeth Kennedy, a youthful-looking comedienne, offered several songs and character impressions that got over in fairly good style.

Myers and Sterling, man and woman, the former in tight-fitting comedy outfit and attendant frozen pale face, have a good line of comedy patter, interspersed with several excellent straight song numbers.

On Tour, with Dot Barnette, Shirley Adelle, Jimmy Green and Mickey Brown, is a diversified song and dance miniature revue. Miss Barnette offers several comedy song-and-dance specialties that received thumping palms of approval at this performance. The eccentric tap and comedy numbers by the boys likewise received its reward. Miss Adelle, an acrobatic dancer, invested her work with an indefinable rhythmic beauty and grace that has features of unusual excellence. Further reviewed in "New Turns".

Royce and Chaffin, blackface, pack in their dialog a neat assortment of mirth that raises their stuff far above the usual misnamed comedy. They went thru their routine in breezy style.

Bert Hughes and Company, three women and two men, closed the show with a pleasing bicycle offering. Their basketball game on wheels concludes the act. JAY BARRY SCHWARTZ.

Vaudeville in Spain

People tell us that the variety show is the dramatic expression of Spain today. People know. For next to the posters of roaring bulls and bull-fighters the placards of vaudeville scream the loudest in color and print. And to every legitimate playhouse there are three music halls. The largest cities boast four music halls, let us say, and one and one-third theaters.

Since Madrid is the biggest city in Spain (Barcelona really isn't Spanish), a Madrid variety may be assumed to be not only the typical Spanish product, but the best, and therefore a perfectly fair example. A common bill, then, at the foregoing consists of a "Sinfonia", two sketches, one comedian, one dancer and one singer—quite ordinary matter. But quite extraordinary manner. The Sinfonia is a musical *aperitif* performed on a warped piano, catarrhal strings and a few assorted effects—triangle, bells, cymbals. Beginning at 11 p.m. and lasting fifteen minutes, it is at times passionately formless, at times formally passionate, and all the time bad. Whatever Iberian tang it might have is drowned in the badness. With this encouragement a sketch begins. The mirth-provoking element of a particular one is a woman who sits on a chair and giggles. The woman, the giggle and the chair are quite ordinary. Then there are some smutty comparisons between a man and a little dog, and some back-stage yags. Out of this hilarity, for five minutes and for no reason at all, three lusty maidens do eurythmics in pale blue maternity smocks. And they are really funny, but none of the swarthy, fascinated faces in the sketch, called *Palos-Buenos Aires*, in honor of the great flight of the Spanish

airmen, consists of tableaux showing the various spots the aviators touched—Brazil, Argentine, perhaps Peru. The six ladies of the chorus wear breeches and pink aprons in Brazil, gingham frocks and large hair ribbons in Argentine, and breeches and hair ribbons in Peru, but you can recognize them just the same, splendid mothers that they are. And they use exactly the same footwork in the three or four or five different countries, to show how the man never sets on the Spanish empire. The comedian who follows the sketch, however, makes up for it. His face invests his conventional clothes—voluminous low-hung trousers, hungry coat—with a peculiar and pungent obscenity. He moves in an uproarious aura. If his gestures make one ashamed for those who understand them, one wonders what his diarrhetic speech must be. The three lone women in the audience scream with ecstatic apprehension, and the men are in tears and agony. Spain has comedians.

And Spain had dancers. Oh, the tragedy of Progress with a capital P! Heralded on the program by seven consecutive superlatives, the dancer bursts on the stage and into the spotlight; but oh, the pang to the eye and heart of him who expected the sensuous Andalusian in swirling shawls! The dancer, commonplace in form and feature—with legs too heavy, hips too bulky and neck too short—wears the metallic bathing suit and feather headdress of an American chorus girl. The orchestra blares a mangled version of an ancient jazz tune, rocking and unrhythmic, and Isabella Orraz, "la hermosa, preciosa, eminente 'estrella' del baile", steps out. Vague reminiscences of hula-hula, de-sexed—

(Continued on page 35)

Equity Stops Another Test Of New Jersey Blue Laws

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Another branch of the amusement business planned a test yesterday, of the discriminatory enforcement of the New Jersey Blue Laws, but was unable to carry thru the announced Sunday performance because of the interference of the Actors' Equity Association. Jules Leventhal's Stock Company at the Opera House in Bayonne posted billing in front of the theater and sent out advertisements in the mail early last week to the effect that a Sunday performance would be given yesterday and another the second Sunday following. News of the event reached Equity Friday and a letter was immediately dispatched to both Leventhal and the members of the company, warning them that the attempt would not only be a breach of the State laws, but would be a violation of Equity's rules and would lay the actors open to suspension from the Association, or a heavy fine, or possibly both. Yesterday's performance was called off, but it is reported that the one scheduled for a week from next Sunday has not yet been canceled and that it is still being advertised.

"N. Y. Exchange" in Trouble

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—New York Exchange, by Peter Glenny, scheduled to have its premiere Saturday night at the Klaw Theater, failed to open because of the unsettled state of its backing. Ivan S. Wright, who started as the producer of the show, was taken seriously ill in the rehearsal period and the latter part of last week he lapsed into a coma, making the signing of checks impossible. He had not given any of his associates a power of attorney and the cash on hand had been used up. Clarke Silvernail, who had been directing the piece, hustled out after support and the dress rehearsal found a number of prominent producers out front to look over the show, among them Lee Shubert, Jules Murry and Joseph Gaites of the Shubert office; A. L. Jones, of the Bohemians, Inc.; L. Lawrence Weber, and George Choo. The play had been written in four acts, but the last had been discarded by Wright because of its daring nature.

The outside producers in attendance did not care for the piece, as it had been out, and were about to leave when Choo, who had read the original, explained. Shubert agreed to take over the show with Choo and the fourth act was ordered in. Brandon Evans, playing the lead, refused to read the lines of the extra scene and walked out of the cast, preventing the premiere Saturday night as billed. Choo declares today that he will hold Evans to his contract and demands arbitration. If Evans agrees the play will open some night this week. If not, a new lead will have to be found and Evans will be up on charges at Equity for jumping his contract. No decision had been reached this afternoon.

Rhode Island Theaters Entertain Vaudevillians

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 26.—At 11:30 o'clock the night before Christmas, vaudeville artists appearing at the various theaters thruout the State gathered at the Hotel Dreyfus for a yuletide observance. A real Christmas dinner was served and an elaborate program of entertainment and dancing enjoyed. It was the contribution of the theater managers to the artists of the vaudeville world.

Foster Lardner, general manager of the Keith-Albee interests in Rhode Island, was chairman of the committee and master of ceremonies. His associates on the committee were Edward M. Fay, Martin Tooney, Owen F. Reddy, Fred Lovett, Matt Reilly, Bernard Fay, James S. Powers, Sam Kaufman, Fred Cuneo, James Fay, Sol Braunig, R. Alfred Jones, James Thornton, Edward Lenihan, Jack Tooney, Jack Bowen and John Carroll.

Christmas Party in Toronto

TORONTO, Dec. 24.—Manager N. K. Miller was host Christmas Eve to the incoming and outgoing vaudeville acts playing at the Pantages Theater. Supper was served on the stage, followed by dancing to a full orchestra. The affair was the largest gathering held in vaudeville circles in Canada.

State Supervision Over Penn. Agents

Plan Worked Out Whereby All Business Relations Are Kept Clean

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—Altho not generally known, progressive measures are being taken to bring local booking agents up to a high standard, particularly since this city is taking on more of an important aspect, with the growth of the Stanley Company and other interests gradually spreading out.

James J. Moran, of the State Department of Labor, who was instrumental in having the agents organize the Philadelphia Entertainment Managers' Association, is taking an active interest in it, and in order to do away with any possible distrust among the agents, he arranged to have his office at the disposal of the theatrical men for meeting purposes.

This organization, being fostered under the eye of Mr. Moran, is expected to prove more beneficial to the artists than the agents. Especially does this apply to agents booking clubs which may want to put on a questionable show. The laws of Pennsylvania are strict regarding booking agents. They are even more stringent than those of New York, which leases employment bureau licenses to agents. Here they must be bonded by the State as well as licensed, and to accept commissions from an artist when not so licensed is a serious offense. Also an applicant who wants to become an agent must pass a test as to his fitness and his place must be adjudged a fit place to do business.

The \$1,000 bond filed, exclusive of others, is for the express purpose of guaranteeing salaries. Any performer who is not paid has the privilege of applying to the Department of Labor and a hearing is held to determine whether or not the player or agent was at fault.

In this connection artists have been paid salaries out of bonds filed with the State, even though the actual engagement was fulfilled outside of Pennsylvania. The fact that the booker did business in Pennsylvania, where the contract was made, makes him liable.

Moran is hot after those agents who book unclean shows and the law reacts both ways as to performers and agents. Either can take action against the other if an unclean show is staged. A performer can complain about being asked to do such a show and an agent can take action if the act does so against his orders. In an instance where a show has been booked and objectionable features added by the sponsors themselves, everyone connected with the affair has been arrested. Thus far the idea has reacted to the extent of having clean association between artists and bookers.

The Philadelphia Entertainment Managers' Association now has 37 members out of 59 licensed agents in the State. Rudy Heller is president, Jere Shaw, vice-president; James Smith, secretary, and Fred Bickhardt, treasurer.

Bekefi Staging Novelty For Lee Stewart Office

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A new novelty, described as being a revue and yet not a revue, containing among other things singing, dancing and comedy, is in rehearsal under the direction of Stanley Bekefi, who will appear in the act with Renee Sandre, French-Russian actress. Much is expected of Miss Sandre by the Lee Stewart office, which is producing the act.

There will be a company of three in support of Miss Sandre and Bekefi. The latter is staging the offering. It will be ready for opening in about two weeks. Andre Hudlakoff is designing the scenery.

DeJari for Vaude.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—M. deJari, Serbian tenor with the Earl Carroll Vaudeville production, has been booked for a vaudeville engagement over one of the major circuits under the direction of Mr. Carroll. DeJari's repertoire will include excerpts from the last three editions of the Vaudeville.

Coombe and Nevins for Loew

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Coombe and Nevins, for some time a standard K.-A. two-act, were booked on the Loew Time last week. The pair will open January 3 at the Victoria Theater, playing the last half of the week at the Greeley Square Theater. They are under the direction of Al Silberman.

Masters of Ceremonies For New Year's Eve

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—In order to help the yuletide spirit over the foot-lights and give added momentum to the extra shows on New Year's Eve, several masters of ceremonies have been booked for K.-A. and affiliated houses. At the Palace, Taylor Holmes, motion picture star, will do his stuff, as well as an act of his own.

At the Hippodrome, Mel Klee is holding forth, while at other stands suitable singles are doing likewise.

Irene Bordoni Signed For 24 Weeks in Vaude.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Irene Bordoni has been signed for an indefinite vaudeville tour with a minimum of 24 weeks, starting on the Orpheum Circuit January 9, when she plays the Palace, Chicago. The act will be under the direction of the M. S. Bentham office and will consist of a song routine, with a pianist doing the accompaniment.

Miss Bordoni may be held over at the Palace for two weeks and will follow with the larger stands on the Western circuit. Later on the offering will come to New York for a trip around the big time K.-A. stands. This is her first appearance in vaudeville in several years.



HOWARD THOMAS AND HIS COTTON PICKERS, who will open a vaudeville tour in Chicago early in January. The Cotton Pickers' lineup is: Al Artiga, piano and accordion; Dan Devine, banjo and guitar; Bill Johnson, drums; "Whisky" Guth, sax and clarinet; Nick LeSante, sax, clarinet and violin; George Hartman, sax and clarinet, and Howard Thomas, director, dancer and entertainer.

Vesta Victoria Opens For Pantages Jan. 8

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Vesta Victoria will receive \$2,500 a week from Pan. It is reported on reliable authority. She opens in Toronto on January 8 and will complete the balance of the tour on the West Coast, including eight tentative weeks.

Before going westward Miss Victoria will be tendered a luncheon at the Twin Oaks Restaurant January 30 by the Press Club. William Morris, Jr., announced.

Miss Victoria will play a break-in date today, December 27, for Loew in White Plains. The billing for the single Loew engagement reads *New Songs and Old Favorites*.

Gerber Signs Another

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The singing and dancing team Grace and Coby Worth, who toured the Public picture houses in *The Rughness Cabaret*, have been signed by Alex Gerber for his act, *East Side, West Side*, in which Jean Waters will be featured. Gerber announced the balance of his cast is incomplete and that rehearsals will not begin until after January 1.

N. V. A. in Drive For New Members

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The most extensive drive in vaudeville history is on for members for the National Vaudeville Artists, Inc. What with a closer relationship between vaudeville and other fields during the last few seasons, the advent of acts in picture houses, and presence in the two-a-day field of many new faces unfamiliar with the work of the N. V. A., the time is considered ripe for a membership campaign. In the recent development of a 50-acre estate at Saranac Lake with sanitariums for the care of tubercular, the funds of the N. V. A. have been appreciably ried into.

In the drive now under way, questionnaires are being sent to all artists in vaudeville and application blanks distributed in agents' offices, theaters and other places where they will reach the actor or actress. The artists' representatives have been asked to mail a questionnaire to each person working for them, inquiring whether they are a member of the N. V. A.

This is to be sent to the N. V. A. by the agent, when returned, so that the present drive will reach each and every artist employed in big or small-time vaudeville.

According to a ruling last summer, every artist not a member of the N. V. A. may not expect any help of a financial nature.

Loew Bookings

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Streets of New York Orchestra, reported to be an outgrowth of the Harry Stoddard unit which recently played K.-A. houses here in an act with Mrs. Frank Tinney, was booked direct on the Loew Time last week. With Jimmy Bassett conducting, the nine-man musical aggregation will open January 3 at the Orpheum Theater. Kalbini Mattis and Company, a three-piece musical skit, was also booked on the time. Dan Shone booked the act, which opens next week in one of the local houses. William Hardy and Ruth Francis and Company, in Harry Conn's skit, *Father Ehs*, were booked thru the Mark Luddy office, opening January 3 at the National Theater, in the Bronx.

Other acts booked on the Loew Time last week are Edmond Mulcahy, Irish songster, in a vocal repertoire, who opens today at the Greeley Square Theater; Clifton and Kramer, booked thru Mark Luddy, who open at a stand undecided next week in their skit, *A Swede's Vacation*; Katherine Sinclair and Company, under the direction of Irving Yates, which opens December 30 at the Greeley Square Theater; and Florence Smith and Clarence Parsons, the colored songsters, who begin their tour today under the direction of Sam Lyons at the Delancey Theater.

Keith-Albee Bookings

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Baxley and Porter, in a skit, *Just Home Folks*, were booked last week on the K.-A. Time, opening in several days at one of the local stands.

Other acts booked on the time, with openings unannounced at this writing, are Swain's Birds, subtitled *The Feathered Theopians*, featuring Jean, a trained eagle; and Dave Manley and Joe Baldwin in their satire, *Great Men of the Past*.

Charles R. Frink, banjoist and entertainer, was booked last week for a tour. He will begin his tour by splitting stands the week of January 2 between McKeesport and Greensburg.

Cortez and Ryan, a mixed team, presenting a skit, *The Hopp and the Wop*, were booked last week on the Keith-Albee Circuit. The act opens today in Holyoke, playing the last half of the week in Pittsfield.

Courts Bookings

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Jack Wyatt's *Lads and Lassies*, a nine-people flash act, was booked last week by the Knickerbocker Vaudeville Exchange for the John E. Courts Time. The act will open December 30 in Rome. Other acts booked last week and opening today for the Courts-Knickerbocker outfit are Alton and Allen, in Rome; *The Rose Revue*, in Cortland; Brooks and Mack, in Albany; *Flashes*, an eight-people revue, in Plattsburg; *The Sun-Flower Revue*, a six-people flash, in Quebec; and Betty and Rosalie, in Montreal.

Potsdam Acts Booked

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Annette and Czech, who bill themselves as *Australian Novellists*, and Jeanne McCoy and Ralph Walton were booked on the Loew Time last week thru the Jack Potsdam office. The Annette and Czech act, which features hatchet-throwing, whipcracking and sleeping bits, opened on the time last week at the American Theater. McCoy and Walton, who present a routine of songs, talk and dances billed as *A Trio Moments With the Spirits*, showed last week in White Plains and open today at the American Theater.

Three New Loew Acts Open in White Plains

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—At Loew's State Theater, White Plains, the last half of this week three acts will play their first engagement for the time. One of them, Eva Fay, *The High Priestess of Mysticism*, is being heavily exploited, since White Plains is her home territory. She bills the act as *Phantomings*. The William Morris office has Miss Fay under its wing. Helen Eloy, formerly featured in the original *Battling Butler* Company, opens in a repertoire of special comedy vocal numbers, assisted by Fred Faber at the piano. The Mander North office is handling the act. Mandel & Rose booked the third on the White Plains bill, Kalchi Koban and Company, a Japanese novelty perch act. The routine also includes foot juggling and head balancing.

Radio Band and Tenor Make K.-A. Vaude. Debut

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Silvertown Cord Orchestra, led by Joseph Knecht, formerly of the Waldorf-Astoria, will make its vaudeville debut today when it opens at the Riverside Theater. The band, which is composed of 12 soloist musicians, is considered one of the big four popularized throughout the country via the radio. The organization carries the Silver Mach Tenor, who has been singing over the radio with the orchestra, yet whose face has never been seen by 350,000s or listeners-in. Manager Derr is outfitting the band as the most popular radio outfit in the world.

Warner and Corbett Due East

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Warner and Corbett, standard mixed team, are en route from the West Coast to begin rehearsals in a new act which will subsequently be shown for major circuit bookers. The team had been playing in the West until several months ago, when its vaudeville activities were suspended while Stanley Warner was engaged as a title writer under contract with the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture organization. The team will probably show here under the direction of the Arthur Silber office.

Pantages Dismissed On Federal Charges

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 23.—In Federal Court here charges against Alexander Pantages and seven others of conspiracy to transport motion pictures of the Dempsey-Firpo fight from New York to Los Angeles were dismissed. The prosecution moved for dismissal after receipt of a telegram from Attorney-General Sargent authorizing the action.

The Federal Attorney-General in the message declares there was no proof of overt acts having been committed in California, and that so far as Mr. Pantages was concerned, he only had agreed to show the films after they had arrived here.

Gives Party for Performers

DENVER, Dec. 25.—Manager Lou Hellborn of the Orpheum Theater after the show Christmas Eve entertained members of the closing and opening bills with a dinner party, dance and tree in the Rainbow Lane of the Shirley-Savoy Hotel.

Original stunts and speeches by the guests and a multiplicity of unique toys and gifts made the affair the most successful of the many Christmas parties Manager Hellborn has given. Among performers who participated were Ed Janis, Carmen Hooker, Irma Coligne, Iris Wraye, Elizabeth Toben, Irene Edwards, Jim Haggert, Rose Sheldon, Ed Ernie, May Ernie, Robert Emmett Keane, Claire Whitney, Bud and Jack Pearson, Jane Smith, Dorothy Mack, Charles Ross, Ernest Hiatt, Will Ferry, Jack Kraft and Elsie LaMont. In addition to the party for performers Mr. Hellborn turned his house over to the Denver Orphans' Home December 18 and presented each kiddie with a toy.

Bald & Calvert Remain Independent Agents

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Wesley Bald, of Bald & Calvert, artistes' representatives and recently franchised Pantages agents, informs *The Billboard* that the tieup with Nevins & Singer did not materialize and that they will continue to book acts with Pantages as well as for independent circuits and motion picture houses, as heretofore. The new combination was being planned on a large scale, and both Bald and Calvert were to be partners in the enterprise.

"The Old Homestead" Has 15 Weeks in N. E.

BOSTON, Dec. 27.—The vaudeville version of *The Old Homestead*, featuring Jimmy Horton, hung up a new record for the St. James last week and is expected to duplicate the feat this week at the Scollay Square. The attraction is being featured in advertising and publicity over the feature pictures, and is doing so well Leo Stewart, its sponsor, announces he will probably have about 15 weeks in New England for it. In April he has booked the act for Ohio territory.

Riley Bros. Produce

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—*The Quinlet Revue*, the first production personally sponsored this season by the Riley Brothers' office, opens for Gus Sun today in Youngstown. Jack Bell, Jr., newly appointed representative of the firm, is handling the booking for the new act. After several weeks of break-in dates for Sun, Bell will bring the act here for a Pantages showing.

Lord and Wills Coming In

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Max Hayes office has produced a new offering, being done by Ed Lord and Si Wills. The production has a funny title as well as material, according to Phil Offin, who is handling the act. Both Lord and Wills were formerly members of prominent comedy duos and recently combined.

ED JANIS has drawn the largest crowds to his free noon Black Bottom dancing classes at the Denver Orpheum he has had in the 10 weeks he has been staging them. About 300 young people, including a number of clever dorkies, were present every one of the three days. The culminating contest was when a silver cup was presented, and included 16 amateurs who competed after the show Wednesday, December 22.

Yvonne and Irving Will Play Full Weeks at Indep't Stands

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The heavy exploitation used here several weeks ago for Dunninger and Rajah Rabold, mentalists, seems to have aided this branch of entertainment generally. An indication of the receptiveness of booking folk to mentalist offerings was the booking last week of Princess Yvonne and Professor Irving, a combination widely known in the carnival field, for a specially exploited tour of the Small & Straussberg houses in Brooklyn and Long Island. The Yvonne-Irving combination will open January 2 at the DeKalb Theater, playing there a full week, with other acts on the bill playing under the usual split-week policy. The mentalists will thence proceed to the other S. & S. vaudeville houses. Princess Yvonne works on the stage while Irving solicits questions amongst the audience. They are handled by Al Silberman.

Worths and Ashley Paige Open for Loew in Hoboken

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Norman and Clarice Worth, assisted by Ashley Paige, the xylophonist, resumed their tour of the Loew Eastern Time the last half of last week at the Lyric Theater, Hoboken. The trio had been playing the Loew Southern Time the greater part of the fall season. The act is handled by Al Silberman.

Bentham Has Florida Tieup

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—M. S. Bentham, K.A. agent, has arranged a tieup with Tommy Atkins and May Spiegel, whereby they will represent him in Florida theater bookings. Spiegel, formerly prominent in local theatrical circles, is now operating a theater in Miami Beach, and the new combination is figuring on a chain of houses in Florida.

Harry Weber to the Coast

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Harry Weber, K.A. agent, left last week for Los Angeles. Altho he has a walnut ranch in California, which he visits regularly, it does not claim all of his time. On every trip to the Coast he has brought back contracts for the appearance in vaudeville of screen stars and is expected to repeat on this visit.

Crawford in New Turn

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Lester Crawford, formerly teamed with his wife, Helen Broderick, is preparing a two-act which he will soon offer in association with John Dunn on the Keith-Albee Time. Miss Broderick opened last week with *Oh, Please*, at the Fulton Theater.

"Frog Man" for Loew

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Mankin, "The Frog Man", was booked on the Loew Time last week thru the Al Grossman office. The act, which consists of sensational acrobatic bits, plays its first stand on the time beginning today at the Palace Theater, Brooklyn.

Vt. Theater Changes Policy

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Auditorium Theater, at Brattleboro, Vt., which formerly was devoted to motion pictures and road shows, goes into a vaudeville policy with five acts on the last half beginning Thursday. Walter Plimmer will supply the attractions.

Resigns as Club Executive

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 26.—Frank Keeney, Brooklyn theater owner and turfman, has withdrawn as president of the new Pompano Jockey Club as a result of illness. The club opened its first season Christmas Day.

Griffith Stays in Buffalo

BUFFALO, Dec. 27.—Persistent rumors that Clyde Griffith, manager of the Buffalo office of the National Vaudeville Exchange, was to be removed to the New York office are denied by Griffith, who states that he is going to remain right in Buffalo.

The World's Jester

Written by Rev. Edward Lodge Curran, A. M., of Cathedral College, Brooklyn, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of vaudeville, and sent voluntarily to W. W. Kerrigan, of the Albee Theater, Brooklyn.

A hundred years of vaudeville
Across the stage have danced
Acrobatic, systematic,
Pirouetted, sung and pranced.

The vaudeville that your granddad knew
When wicked was the waltz,
The vaudeville that our sons enjoy,
Forgetful of youth's faults.

The sidewalks of New York have changed
Their color and their way,
The drama and the music-box
Known golden days and gray.

Yet vaudeville with its song and dance,
Its quip and joke and smart,
Has lived a hundred steady years
Within the world's glad heart.

Humanity alone is king,
Its treasurer, smiles and tears,
Its jester, not a royal clown,
But vaudeville's yesteryears.

A hundred years is but a week
When measured by the past;
The world and vaudeville's honeymoon—
Forever may it last.

Barnes & Barton in Musical Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Billy Barnes and Jack Barton are featured in *Kandy Krooks*, a song, dance and comedy revue, which will open for Loew January 2 at the Premier Theater, Brooklyn. There are four girls and three men in the cast. The act is sponsored by Al Freeman, who is also personally handling the bookings.

Browning and Leff Featured In Cantor & Brandell Revue

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—*The Wilson Sisters' Revue*, with Cy Browning and Pincus Leff featured, opens for Loew today at the Avenue B Theater. Loew Cantor and William Brandell are sponsoring and booking the act. Also in the cast is Carol Margot. Vincent Valentine wrote the act, which is subtitled as *Broadway Impressions*.

Two Standard Acts On Independent Time

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Murray Gordon and Harry Pierce, the standard comedy team, and George Kelly's *The Show-Off*, tabloid version of the popular play of several seasons ago, are playing the independent time in this vicinity. Harry Russell is featured in *The Show-Off*. The acts are handled for the independent tour by Charles C. Grohs.

All Ohio Road Stands Will See Home-State Boy in Comedy

(Continued from page 5)
Gladys Winthrop, Betty Clifford and others.

The Ohio itinerary of *The Poor Nat* will include practically every city where a dramatic house is available, covering a period of 10 or 12 weeks. It is to be by far the most complete tour of this State made in recent years by an original Broadway cast and production.

Helen Nieman has been appointed Ohio press representative for the tour. Her headquarters are at the Hartman Theater, Columbus. Robert Reed is advance publicity agent, while Robert Sparks is general press representative from the New York headquarters.

Saenger Takes Over Two Baton Rouge Houses

(Continued from page 5)
The change of management will be effective January 1.

An operating company to be known as the Capital Theaters, Inc., will be formed by the Saengers to run the new houses. The new company will carry out a building program and a new theater will be erected at the corner of Duffroc and Main streets. It is possible that another theater will be erected in the downtown section the coming year.

Broadway Openings and Closings (Continued from page 11)

Hart, presented by Lytle D. Andrews and Lew Fields at the Vaudeville Theater, with Helen Ford starred and Lulu McConnell featured.

Wooden Kimono, by John Floyd, presented by Frederick Stanhope, and Jacques Froehlich at the Martin Beck Theater.

December 28

Betsy, musical comedy by Irving Caesar, David Freedman, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, presented by Florenz Ziegfeld at the New Amsterdam Theater, with Belle Baker featured.

What Never Dies, by Alexander Engel, presented by David Belasco at the Lyceum Theater, with E. H. Sothorn as the star and Halide Wright featured.

December 29

The Devil in the Cheese, by Tom Cushing, presented by Charles Hopkins at the Charles Hopkins Theater.

December 30

Chicago, by Maurine Watkins, presented by Sam H. Harris at the Music Box Theater, with Francine Larrimore as the star.

In Abraham's Bosom, by Paul Green, presented by and at the Provincetown Playhouse.

Week of January 3

The Lece Petticoat (Carle Carlton), Forrest Theater.

Foxt (Edyth Totten), Edyth Totten Theater.

Earl Carroll Favorites, Sixth and International Edition, featuring part of the *Charlot Revue* (Earl Carroll), Earl Carroll Theater.

The Brother Keremazov (Theater Guild), Guild Theater.

Just (Shegreen & Vroom), Garrick Theater.

Closings Saturday night, December 25, were limited to one, *Aufwasn Fire*. This *Woman Business* moved from the Ritz to Wallack's Theater.

Seed of the Brute and Loose Ankles are scheduled to close at the end of this week. Cecile Sorel and her Comedie Francaise Company are also slated to wind up their New York engagement and go on tour.

The Emperor Jones is scheduled for closing January 15.

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WANTED
Position open for competent Violin Leader, Orchestra, five pieces. One experienced in mandolin and guitar. Six-day town. State all in four letter and do not misrepresent. Address COLUMBIA AMUSEMENT CO., INC., P. O. Box 69, Palms, Ky.

Wanted--Information
As to the present whereabouts of MARIA BARRIERI, alias DAVENPORT, formerly an expert fashion model, employed by Wamsutter and other well-known houses. Her father was a tenor at the Hippodrome Theatre, and she has a younger sister who is a pianist. Room 625, 150 Nassau St., New York City.

L. J. K. HEIL Says:
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AUSTRALIA

By **MARTIN C. BRENNAN**
City Tattersalls Building,
198 Castlereagh St., Sydney.

SYDNEY, Nov. 27.—W. Scott, representative for F. B. O., sailed last Saturday on a trip to embrace Java, Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Japan, China, Philippine Islands, French Indo-China, Burmah, India and Ceylon on behalf of his film organization.

Claude Heyward arrived from Melbourne during the week. He has been identified with the picture business for many years, and at present is, in conjunction with George Coates, interested in the Tunney-Dempsey fight picture.

The business report of J. C. Williamson, Ltd., shows a profit of \$62,435 for the year ended June 30, compared with \$51,454 for the previous year.

Lex J. Keast returns here from America at the end of the week, bringing with him films which will be offered to exhibitors of Australasia.

David Garvie, cinematograph machinery manufacturer of Unley, South Australia, has returned after a tour abroad, during which he spent much time in U. S. A.

The Princess Theater, Melbourne, will be reopened Saturday next by Stanley N. Wright, who will present the same entertainment that he recently took to New Zealand for First National—Sir John Martin Harvey in the British-produced film, *The Only Way*, and Frances Scully's pantomime *Children from Sydney*.

Maurice Ralph, who conducted the recent tour of William Backhaus through Australia, left Sydney for his return to New Zealand last Friday. Mr. Ralph will concentrate on the Dempsey-Tunney fight film, for which he has secured the sole N. Z. rights.

More than 3,000 dancers were present at Wattle Park Palais, Melbourne, last Thursday night on the occasion of Henry Santrey's farewell.

Hal Freeman, who controlled the *La Ventura Posing Act* for two years, returned this week from a commercial trip to New Zealand. He speaks of leaving for San Francisco next month, in which city he is by no means a stranger.

Joe Sheffell, whose *Southern Kessie* has been a success over the Tivoli Circuit, has signed a still further contract. He opened in Perth on December 18.

George Sorlie's musical and dramatic combination opened in Newcastle last Saturday.

Humphrey Bishop has been meeting with great success recently around the Sydney suburbs.

Eileen Pollock, leading lady with Maurice Moscovitch, will be seen in the same part of *Tivoli*, to be presented at the Criterion Theater, Sydney, next Saturday.

Ben Reno, the man on the chair, American, is still getting his share of work around the suburbs.

Amy Rochelle, Australian songbird and child impressionist, has been successful in Dunedin, N. Z., where she is headlining the Fuller house.

Bertiel and Byrne, the former being that talented violinist, David Burt, are playing Fuller Time, New Zealand.

Dan Thomas is rehearsing his company for the panto, which he will produce at the Hippodrome, Sydney, Christmas and New Year. Dan will play Dame.

Percy Lodge, with his vaudeville show *Going the Mainland District Circuit*, is well established, and large houses are attracted at most of the centers.

The Campbell Boys are playing suburban theaters this week, and follow up with Union Theaters' Circuit.

Percy Grainger left recently on his return to the United States.

May Beatty, accompanied by her daughter, left for Londen last Tuesday week.

The O'Donnell & Ray Pantomime Company is doing well in the Victorian amials.

Jean Barrios, American, "The Fashionplate of Vaudeville", has proved most successful in Melbourne. This performer is one of the best female impersonators we have had.

Gayle Wyer's *Bondboy Bewie* Company is now in the seventh week of a highly successful season at the Luxor Theater, Perth, W. A.

Sailing this week are English members of the Bonicault-Barrie Company which has contributed so materially to the enjoyment of Australian playgoers during the past year.

Pat Hanna's Diggers played at Katoomba, Lithgow and Bathurst, and are contemplating a lengthy season in one of the metropolitan centers.

Rose-Marie, after 28 weeks, is nearing the end of its successful Sydney season, and will shortly be transferred to Melbourne.

Is Zot So, with an American cast, is catching on well at the Palace Theater, Sydney.

Mike Connors and Queenie Paul will run a show in Brisbane during the Christmas season.

Grant and Bates, colored performers on the Fuller Circuit, are on the bill at the Victoria Theater, Newcastle, N. S. W.

Harold Waldon is in his fourth week at Fuller's Theater, Sydney.

White Cargo concluded its season in New Zealand at Omara last week. The play opens at the Theater Royal, Adelaide, next Saturday.

The Big Four are now in their second week as added attraction at the Haymarket Theater, Sydney.

Henry Santrey and his orchestra open at the Wintergarden Theater, Brisbane, December 1.

Jim Gerald will play the role of Willie the Cat in the Fuller pantomime, *Miss in Boots*, the Christmas attraction at the Princess Theater, Melbourne.

Arthur Pond, who has just concluded a season with the J. C. Williamson

vaudeville company in New Zealand, will, in all probability, return to England immediately to fulfill an engagement in a London pantomime.

A troupe of Chinese is in rehearsal at the Tivoli.

The Aerial Smiths, appearing at the Tivoli Theater, are a well-known American circus act.

Edmunds and Lavelle, Americans, who are at present at the Melbourne Tivoli, provide an act which gets over.

SYDNEY, Dec. 1.—A long spell of dry and hot weather has affected show business in this city to a very great extent, if one excepts *Rose-Marie*, now in its 28th week, and *Abie's Irish Rose*, 5th week, and which looks set for a long run. Other houses are playing to many empty seats.

Ada Reeve brings her *Springles* run to a close this week.

Sheffell's *Southern Kessie*, colored, has signed for an extension of its Tivoli contract. The company is laying off for a week, during which Joe Sheffell and his family will take in the Jenolan Caves. Then follows a week at the Haymarket, Sydney; thence on the Perth. The company will probably arrive back in San Francisco in January.

Little Tich, English comedian, is due for a season over the Tivoli Time. It is about 20 years since he first introduced his long shoes to this country.

Fuller's recently announced they would carry on their musical comedies despite rumors to the contrary. From Christmas most of their interests will be pantomime, revue and vaudeville.

Ray Teller and His Californian Orchestra, who have been playing a Melbourne engagement, are now nearing the close of their stay in Australia.

Henry Santrey, His Orchestra and Harry and Anna Seymour are in their last week at the Tivoli Theater, Melbourne. They leave for Adelaide in a few days.

George Parden is again identified with the booking side of the vaudeville profession. He has also been appointed official agent for the Actors' Federation.

George Ward, American comedian, who has been presenting tabloid revues over the Fuller Circuit, will, it is said, ter-

(Continued on page 31)

HONOLULU

By **JRAN JACQUES LE DOUTEUR**

HONOLULU, Dec. 15.—All members of the Wilbur Players, now in their eighth week, who were injured in an automobile accident a week ago last Sunday, are recovering rapidly, with the exception of N. Anthony Baker, who will have his arm in a sling for several months, and Florence Underhill (Mrs. Baker), who is still in the Queens Hospital.

Robert Lawler, characters, leaves the Wilbur company Saturday and returns to the mainland the following Wednesday. He will be replaced by Galt Bell, who was with the Wilbur Players last season.

Ray Teller passed thru here yesterday en route to the mainland. Teller is returning to the States after two years in Australia. He is a bandmaster and was accompanied by his troupe of musicians. R. Aberne was also on board. The passenger list showed him to be in the theatrical business in London. Mike Yokel, champion whistler, is returning to his home in Wyoming after a tour of the antipodes.

Going in the opposite direction was Tricie, world's heaviest woman, in private life Nellie Lane. She was accompanied by her brother. They are headed for the Manila fair. Carl Terill, motorcrome rider, was also on board, going to Manila. He was accompanied by an assistant, Mr. Miller.

Mabel Thomas, showwoman, in Hawaii, seems to know everyone in the show game. She was on hand yesterday for both boats and greeted all with a smile.

Publicity for the Phoenix carnival Christmas week at Waikiki Park started Saturday. Eddie Fernandez has Fred, the armless man, coming along with Nelson, sword swallower. Roy, the ossified boy, is killed. He is one of the few freaks, if not the only one, who had an editorial written about him in *The Billboard*. His home is in Toledo, O. He will return to the mainland after the carnival.

Doc MacKay and his White Wonder Show returned from the island of Hawaii a few days ago and is holding forth in the Oriental section of the city.

Stanley Gordon, late of Kansas City, and M. T. Tevis, copartners in the Danceland Ballroom here, are sending the Ebony Idols back to the mainland at the end of the year. They are signed for the week for the Phoenix carnival. Gordon is bringing a band of musicians from the West Coast and will tour the islands with them.

The Honolulu Athletic Club gave its first smoker at Waikiki Park Saturday night. Bill Lederer, showman-Edk of the Islands, is president. The attendance for the opener was 1,200.

Another carnival has been added to the 1927 list for this city. The Order of Kamehameha will present one in April at Waikiki Park. After the Phoenix, Christmas week, comes the Eke, February 18 to 26. The Foresters' will come in June. The Territorial Fair, the no date has been set, will be held early in October, it is understood.

Movie houses are doing fair business. The Kentucky Minstrels, under direction of Eddie Fernandez, has been playing the small theaters and plantation theaters for the past two weeks. They are billed for the Phoenix.

There Is No Doubt

In the minds of those who read *The Billboard* as to its value as a news medium for the showman. Thousands renew their subscription each year, while other thousands continue, year after year, to buy at the newsstands. They would not continue if they were not satisfied with *Billboard* service.

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Harry Downing and Company

Reviewed Monday evening, December 20, at the Premier Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Comedy female impersonator. Setting—In "one" and full. Time—Fourteen minutes.

Working in a rather consistent manner, this corpulent man offers a comedy female impersonation turn that should click in the neighborhood theaters. The girl is cute, and her dance specialties, combined with the man's comedy warbling, make a very entertaining offering, made all the more pleasing by the intimate personalities of both.

The nonarrival of his prima donna compels the man to open the turn, attired in soft overalls, in one of those "male and female hat and voice changing bits". The girl follows with a short back-bending specialty that got over nicely. The man returns in female comedy garb and carols off several bars in double voice that pleased the folks immensely. Attired in tuxedo, the man renders *For My Sweetheart*, while the girl concludes the offering with another dance, the acrobatic stunts being along comfotionistic lines. Her kicks, splits, back-bending and body-twisting feats evoked several spontaneous outbursts of applause.

J. B. S.

Mary and Ann Clark

— in —
THE IMMIGRANT

Reviewed Thursday evening, December 21, at Loew's Melba Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—In "two", special. Time—Seventeen minutes.

If any act deserves a route on better time than it is playing, it is this wry of a comedy turn, offered by the Clark Sisters. Both are fine comedienne, but of entirely different caliber. One of them, in the character of an Irish immigrant who seems to know more about the country she is seeking to enter than Ireland, is eccentricity glorified with laurels of laughs. The straight is a pleasing sight to the eyes and a perfect feeder for her partner.

The painted drop, representing a huge wharf, with an ocean liner tied up alongside, is better than one expects to find used on this time. The gangplank extending over the front stage also adds much to the atmosphere. The immigrant girl has a laugh packed away in every gesture, limb movement and spoken cue. Her raucous, altho slightly exaggerated for the immigrant characterization, helps its wearer to reap a harvest of laughs. A pair of back-stage boys are used in two places, first as porters carrying baggage off the boat, and later to carry out the immigrant when she is unable to rise after performing a split. The funniest part of the routine is the cross-questioning process in which the straight girl, as a customs inspector, attempts to delve into the family history of the immigrant.

The act is topped off by an episode in which the sudden insanity of the customs inspector gives her the opportunity to corral the laughs. The girls encoored with an opera travesty and a dance duo, the immigrant clowning consistently. A choice spot on big-time bills would be quite an appropriate place for these girls to continue in their excellently routined hodgepodge of fund. E. E. S.

McCoy and Walton

Reviewed Thursday evening, December 22, at Loew's Melba Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—In "one". Time—Fourteen minutes.

Ralph Walton and Jeanne McCoy are offering a routine not materially divergent from their two-act of several seasons ago. The class and refinement are still lacking. Several of the gags that were old even in 1922—when this couple first used them—are retained, but Walton scores satisfactorily as a low comedian. In the latter respect, Miss McCoy also is above par. Both have fair voices, but use them sparingly. They also step a bit, but depend mostly on slapstick and hard-boiled crossfire for the laughs.

Miss McCoy makes a trim appearance, and in his rare moments of refinement Walton also makes a good impression. This act needs a revision of gags and several more songs of the ballad type to land on better time. E. E. S.

WANTED—Young Men for publicity work in high-class theatre in Southern city with population of 25,000. Policy of theatre, Radio, vaudeville and picture. Applicants must have personality, attractiveness and experience; also best references as to character and ability. Answers confidential. Address BOX D-665, care Billboard, Cincinnati, Ohio.

NEW TURNS AND RETURNS

On Tour

With Dot Barnette, Shirley Adelle, Jimmy Green and Mickey Brown.

Reviewed Thursday evening, December 21, at the Grand Opera House, New York. Style—Dancing and singing. Setting—In one and full (special). Time—Fifteen minutes.

On Tour, billed as a terpsichorean trip, marks Miss Barnette's debut as a vaudeville producer. Her first effort is an excellent song-and-dance offering for the better-time houses.

Shirley Adelle, Jimmy Green and Mickey Brown, the other members of this personable quartet, are superb in their diverting dances.

Before a drop depicting a railroad station Miss Barnette and the two boys open the offering in a pleasing little tap-dance concoction that immediately places them in good stand with the audience. The eccentric and acrobatic specialty following, with attendant high kicks by Miss Adelle, a young woman who is good to look at, gained an impressive hand when reviewed. The girl offering this dance, and who later presents a similar specialty but with more acrobatics, is one who has an excellent future ahead of her, for she combines grace, beauty and fine technique in her work. Before a drop representing the "tough" section of a city Miss Barnette and one of the boys do a comedy song-and-dance number. The boys return for a comedy and eccentric tap dance that adds novelty to the offering.

Attired in a pretty black-and-white checkboard outfit Miss Barnette offers a comedy song-and-dance specialty that contains some catchy lines about leaving the country to join the *Polles*. Following another neat eccentric tap dance by the boys the act is concluded with all four stepping it off in lively fashion.

The costumes and settings are attractive, making this miniature revue a pleasing presentation for the better time.

J. B. S.

Besser and Balfour

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at Loew's Gates Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Comedy and singing. Setting—In "one", special. Time—Twelve minutes.

Besser, the man, is a Yiddish comic of ability. He was formerly of the team of Besser and Keller, in which the same brand of comedy was exploited. Besser gets laughs generally with malapropisms. When reviewed, the gallery greeted the material with hearty laughs.

Besser is assisted by a short, blond girl, easy in manner, quite at home as his gag feeder. He makes his entrance by moving along with and later walking thru a door setting moved by one of the boys backstage. He engages in sprightly patter with the girl, continuing his clowning during two vocal bits she essays. He exits for an apparent costume change and quickly returns in the same habiliment. This bit received a warm hand. Besser also uses that classic burlesque gag, talking deprecatingly about his partner while she listens in from the inset in center stage. E. E. S.

Gibson and Turner

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at the Mayfair Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Singing and talking. Setting—One. Time—Eleven minutes.

Two blondes, who possess fairly pleasing personalities, in a routine of popular numbers interspersed with comedy talk.

They made a sincere effort to entertain at this performance.

Tonight's *My Night With Baby, How Many Times, Hello, Aloha, How Are You, and Gimme a Little Kiss, Will You, Huh?* were the numbers offered at this performance. Immediately following the opening it is perceptible they do not have an easy stage presence, making the delivery of the songs a little stiffer than they should, and their comedy talk is not so strong for laughs. Nevertheless, the demonstration of approval given them at the Mayfair, when reviewed, proved their value. J. B. S.

Frisch and Sadler

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at Loew's Gates Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Singing. Setting—In "one". Time—Ten minutes.

This team opens in a bride and groom costume number, employing the *Looking at the World Thru Rose-Colored Glasses* bit as the explanation of their habiliment. Dialog follows. Frisch offers a comedy song and then follows more verbal cross-fire. The best bit of all is the closing pop bit. Their voices show up fairly well and the delivery is not tainted with poor attempts to be funny. When reviewed, old gags got the laughs. E. E. S.

Maud Elliott and Company

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at Loew's Gates Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Aerial novelty. Setting—In "three", special. Time—Seven minutes.

The rising curtain reveals Miss Elliott whirling on the vertical rope, her body attached by a loop about the nape of the neck. She switches to another pose, this time spinning around with her feet curled about the rope. The only stunt in which the assistant has a part is one in which Miss Elliott, her feet twisted about the rope, supports the other girl by a loop arrangement around the neck. Rapid body turns feature this bit.

Climbing the rope to a trapeze suspended alongside, Miss Elliott makes body turns on the crossbar and uses the parallel ropes for other twists and turns. She also swings gracefully, suspended by the feet. Her closing bits, all performed in fast time, include hand and foot swings from the rope, body turns and a closing series of turns with one foot curled in a loop on the rope. Miss Elliott performs with grace. The giant spot is trained on her throat. E. E. S.

Monroe Brothers

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at the Mayfair Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Trampoline novelty. Setting—Full special. Time—Nine minutes.

The rise of the curtain reveals both men in tramp attire and apparently asleep on the end of the mat. Following several acrobatic stunts one goes to the trampoline and executes a number of single and double, front and back somersaults while his partner spreads what little laughter the act contains by clowning while doing his various stunts.

Comedy is injected when one does his stunts on the elastic mat while apparently blowing a miniature sax, with his partner coming into view blowing another.

While the stunts are not sensational they are sufficiently entertaining to command attention, and the act closed to a well-deserved hand at this performance. J. B. S.

Myrtle Boland

THE MELODY MAID

Reviewed Thursday evening, December 22, at Loew's Melba Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Singing. Setting—In "one", special. Time—Twelve minutes.

Miss Boland, who tells the folks out front that she is a prolific radio entertainer, proven by the ensuing vocal routine that her capabilities are not limited to the microphone. She has a personality that is pleasing and refined, altho never in the self-assuredly aggressive as other young women offering this brand of entertainment. She opens with a pop song, the first chorus of which is offered behind the centrally parted curtains. Several other bits, all of the pop genre, follow. In all of these the girl uses what might be called restrained expression. There is no frenzy, such as features the work of "queens of syncope-tion", neither are her bits characterized by the momentary tempo of the mediocre concert singer. Her voice registers favorably at all times.

The closing bit, a five-part arrangement of *Mary Lou*, is a virtual knockout. This number is worked to death in the three-day in these parts, but Miss Boland, to this reviewer's knowledge, is the first artist to utilize the possibilities of the song as a substantial part of an act. She prologs the bit with a brief recitation, explaining that there will follow five chapters from the *Book of Life*. Each chapter eventuates as an episode in the life of *Mary Lou*. The musical arrangement is identical in each, but the fashioning of the words to apply to the birth, bloom and renaissance of *Mary Lou's* romance makes the bit equally appealing from the sob angle as the *My Dream of the Big Parade* recitative arrangement. Miss Boland's enunciation is unusually clear, her voice registers splendidly here and her general manner also helps to put it over with a bang.

When reviewed Miss Boland was forced back for an encore, in which she offered the comedy number, *There's a Good Girl*. It added little to her act, but she was nevertheless called out for a goodly number of bows. Almost perfect for the time it is playing. E. E. S.

Dandy and Belles

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at E. S. Moss' Regent Theater, New York. Style—Revue. Setting—In "three" (cyc). Time—Fifteen minutes.

A snappy revue for the intermediate circuits, featuring George Patten, with the *Adairo Twins* and *Bribo Girls*. The routine is a versatile one and entertaining. Costumes and staging are in good order, probably above the average.

Opening is a collegiate number, started by Patten with a bit of introductory song and done mainly by the four girls, in modern co-ed attire, for two of them, and the other two in white flannel trousers. After this a series of sister act bits are done by the two girl teams. These included a pretty song and dance number by the twins in maid attire and later a ballroom dance in evening costume. The *Bribo* girls offered some eccentric bits, including a *Cherry Sister* comedy number and later another along all-star lines. Interlarding some of the other work was a song or two and a dance by Patten, who might do much more to help the act than he does now. Closing was a *Hula Hula* finale by the four girls. Very dainty attraction for the time it is playing. M. H. S.

Otto, Gretto and Otto

— in —
DANCLOGY

Reviewed Monday evening, December 20, at the Premier Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Dancing. Setting—In "one". Time—Nine minutes.

Otto, Gretto and Otto have billed their act *Dancology*, but the act isn't one at any price. Opening the turn, the professor, apparently Gretto, put the boys thru several Irish jig and waits clog steps. The following two or three minutes consists of cross-fire gags with the professor, all of which seem to have been dug up from Joe Miller's graveyard. The boys then do some soft-shoe team dancing and singly present some difficult steps. However, they almost kill the pleasing effect of their dance numbers by rendering a collegiate song number as only dancers can sing them. A comedy team dance was fairly good. For a close one of the boys strums a banjo while the other plays a saxophone, with the professor stepping it off at a fast clip.

Both boys have dancing ability, but their present vehicle gives them little opportunity to display it. J. B. S.

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**Marion Tiebor
and
Her Educated Seals**

Reviewed Monday matinee, December 26, at the Hippodrome, New York. Style—Seal novelty. Setting—Special, in four. Time—Twelve minutes.

Miss Tiebor dresses in a white fur-trimmed costume and uses a backdrop representing an arctic shore dotted with seals for her offering. They are fed many handfuls of fish after practically every trick, and except for one or two instances, when reviewed, displayed every alacrity and ability in executing their stunts, in which balancing features.

The tricks include bits in which the seals answer to given names, sing a note or two and play a brief musical composition on a specially constructed wind instrument. The musical bit stands out as the best in the routine and drew a good round of applause when reviewed. One of the seals makes himself an amusing performer by applauding with his flippers. Another walks a tight rope while balancing a big rubber ball.

When reviewed, the act opened the show. For this hard spot the hand recorded was encouraging. R. C.

Jack Goldie Revue

With Joan Paige and Phyllis Haverly

Reviewed Monday matinee, December 26, at Looie's State Theater, New York. Style—Musical comedy. Setting—In "one" and in "three", specials. Time—Eighteen minutes.

Jack Goldie Revue is an elaboration of the standard bearer's former routine. The girls, Joan Paige and Phyllis Haverly, are of material assistance. Dialog and specialties are not harmoniously fused. In his characterization of the role of hand servant to Sally, an actress, Goldie emulates Al Jolson. At the close he appears in the familiar Big Boy Jockey outfit and offers a song on the "Mammy" theme.

The opening is in a stage-entrance inset, the quartet of Johnnies awaiting Sally and another girl. Goldie gets over a bit of patter and, as the others drift off, he gives a single chorus of Hello Bluebird. In the apartment set Miss Paige gives several stepping bits, all excellently done. Miss Haverly, as Sally, offers bits which mark her as a vocalist of high caliber. The Indian Love Call is particularly well delivered and in the offering of one of the favorite selections from The Student Prince with boys her voice outshines those of her colleagues. An unbidden man is heard in a basso bit; two of the Johnnies give a chorus from Blossom Time and Goldie tops off the numbers with a medley of "Mammy" stuff. E. E. S.

Kharum

Reviewed Monday matinee, December 26, at the Palace Theater, New York. Style—Pianist. Setting—In "one". Time—Fourteen minutes.

Kharum is billed as a Persian pianist and wears native silks, including the turban. He hunches over the piano and loses no time in doing anything but play his selections and get off as soon as possible. Strictly from the entertainment point of view, he can play the piano, with a leaning toward the melodious operatic songs. His soft touch and technique work in harmony with such selections.

Opening operatic excerpt was of the popular order and was followed by another from Rigoletto, played with the left hand only. This was not at all skimpy and unknown to the audience, they would never believe it to be a one-hand solo. There followed a medley of classical and operatic bits, ranging from Samson and Delilah to the works of Chopin and other composers. For an encore he did a Hungarian piece and could have taken a few more as well as bows, for he has a repertoire along the lines of the majority of the patrons like and he serves them well. M. H. S.

Chilton and Thomas

Reviewed Monday matinee, December 26, at the Palace Theater, New York. Style—Dance. Setting—In one. Time—Twelve minutes.

Two youthful race athletes of pleasing personality, who are a versatile assortment of steps and are graceful and fast. Opening is a tap Charleston by each and the routine includes both single and double bits of dance. One of the bits is a slow-motion pantomime before going into a dance and this added further novelty to the turn. Their clean-cut appearance and way of working makes them an attractive couple. M. H. S.

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Miss. Andree

—in—
PARIS

With Stephen Constantine. Assisted by Parisienne Orchestra

Reviewed Tuesday evening, December 21, at Looie's State Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Orchestra and dance novelty. Setting—In "three", specials. Time—Twenty-three minutes.

An excellent dancing and musical act, evidently specially constructed for Miss. Andree, who last winter made a brief appearance in productions with Earl Carroll's The Rat. At that time the girl used the professional name of Frances Namine.

Six men comprise the band, playing sax, violin, piano, drums, banjo and accordion—the last-named instrument reported to be manipulated by Restivo. These boys not only score highly in featured bits but when accompanying Miss. Andree and Constantine help create a beautiful illusion with their contributions to the perfect co-ordination between dancers and orchestra. This effect is particularly noticeable in Miss. Andree's contortionist number, wherein good lighting and the setting are also of material aid.

The dancing couple open with a waltz tango, which is topped off by an adagio interpretation. Then follow orchestra bits and an eccentric stepping specialty by the banjoist. The accordionist is heard in a specialty composed of accordion and whistling music, a "wow" of a number and worth every bit of the rousing hand it received. The violinist offers a chorus of the apache rhythm, Mon Homme, introducing the final bit, a sensational apache depicted with an appreciable amount of realism by the featured couple and the saxophonist. Miss. Andree does some splendid pantomime as the Parisian gamine, and the routine of the steps is unusual. The saxophonist shoots the girl, and this leads into a dramatic scene between the girl and Constantine. The act was well received when reviewed. E. E. S.

Alabamians

Reviewed Monday evening, December 26, at the Premier Theater, Brooklyn. Style—Band novelty and dancing. Setting—Full (special). Time—Sixteen minutes.

The Alabamians, instrumentalists, furnish some snappy music to the strains of which the female xylophone player exhibits dance steps. The band was not so noisy at first, but when they all let loose there certainly was some din.

Following several pop. selections, the petite xylophone player comes to the footlights for a slow-motion cake walk, topping it off with a Charleston more than usual speed and ability. J. E. S.

Libby's Dancers

Reviewed Thursday evening, December 16, at Fox's City Theater, New York. Style—Dancing and staging. Setting—In "one" and full, special. Time—Twenty-two minutes.

Seven pretty, graceful dancers, a female vocalist and a juvenile comprise the lineup for this diverting and original flash offering.

George Libby, of the vaudeville team of Libby and Sparrow, has staged a fantastic affair for his premier dance revue, having paid careful attention to the settings and costumes, likewise injecting punch. The girls are of the modern athletic type, while their numbers are all snappy.

The songstress, as a feminine Beloff, opens by introducing old-fashioned sports girls. Following a quick change they return as modern tennis girls in a snappy dance ensemble. One of the girls, as Felix the Cat, presents an acrobatic number in finished style. The vocal soloist possesses a pleasing soprano voice and interpolates the dance numbers with several well-rendered numbers.

Attired in gold metallic football trunks, with jerseys and headgear to match, the girls present an athletic football number.

The dance numbers and the excellent cast, together with the pretty costuming, scenic and lighting effects, makes this offering a valuable asset to the ranks of flashes. J. E. S.

Cecilia (Cissie) Loftus

Reviewed Monday matinee, December 26, at Looie's State Theater, New York. Style—Comedy and dramatic impressions. Setting—In "three", special. Time—Twenty minutes.

Miss Loftus is offering somewhat the same repertoire of impressions with which she has long been identified. She is assisted by William Walker as accompanist on the piano in the vocal bits. Miss Loftus opens with a vocal offer the style of Jack Smith, "the whispering baritone", following with a comedy number, announced as an impression of the English comedienne, Vesta Victoria.

The Fannie Brice impression includes talk and a Yiddish folk song. The manner of the song's delivery is excellent. Miss Loftus gets over the Yiddish stuff, except for a wisp of English accent here and there. Her Sophie Tucker bit is left intact, the impression comprising *Monna Goes Where Papa Goes* in English and Yiddish. She encores with a mimicry of Florence Reed as Mother Goddam in *The Shanghai Gesture*. Her reception was weak at the opening but only her implied stubbornness to proceed with more prevented the act stopping the show. Miss Loftus is too well known as an artiste for a discussion of her talent and her polished and effective demeanor will do much to raise the standard of the circuits she is now playing. E. E. S.

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Gold Dragon a Big Hit At Egyptian, Louisville

Holman Becraft, of the Cincinnati National Orchestra Bureau in the Lyric Theater Building, Cincinnati, has just returned from a trip through the South and Southwest in the interests of the organization.

Becraft, who recently placed Fred Damon and His Greenwich Villagers on the steamer Island Queen, plying out of New Orleans for the winter season, succeeded in placing the Gold Dragon Orchestra in the Egyptian Ballroom of the Kossair Hotel, Louisville, Ky., for an indefinite stay. The Gold Dragons scored a big hit at the Egyptian Ballroom, and the Louisville press had many nice things to say for the aggregation. R. E. Gordon, manager of the Egyptian, had the following to say for the orchestra: "Absolutely the finest orchestra we have ever had and we have had the best. The engagement is extended indefinitely."

The Gold Dragon Orchestra is composed of the following: Charles McClure, piano and entertainer; Al Gaudes, trombone, entertainer and director; Clyde Reynolds, trumpet; Leo (Red) Lebdell, sax, entertainer and fiddle; Auburn Groves and Thomas Cantor, sax and entertainers; Max Mills, banjo, piccolo and entertainer; Wilbur Meyers, bass, and George Maule, drums and entertainer.

The Cincinnati National Orchestra Bureau is at present handling the following orchestras: Paradise Club Orchestra, the Gold Dragons, Fred Damon's Greenwich Villagers, the Varsity Seven, the Vinesse Trio, and Forrest Bradford and His Chicago Orchestra, which Becraft recently booked for a tour thru Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Barney Rapp Gets Nice Berth

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The Hotel Alba, Palm Beach, offers one of the choice orchestra engagements in Florida, and during the past month a dozen of the big leaders in the business tried every means to land it. The manager of the hotel listened to more than a score of bands and then engaged Barney Rapp and his combination without asking Barney for a tryout. So Barney and his band will leave New York January 8, open at the Alba on January 15 and remain there for the winter. Rapp will take 11 men.

On December 23 Rapp and his original orchestra will open the Sherman Restaurant and Cafe at New Haven, and he will replace it with another outfit when he starts for Palm Beach.

Orlando Coliseum Opens

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 24.—The Orlando Coliseum, located on Lake Ivanhoe boulevard, between Orlando and Winter Park, Fla., opened last night with Thomas Danks and his 11-piece orchestra furnishing the music for the dancers.

The Coliseum was erected recently at a cost of approximately \$200,000 and is a combination of restaurant and dance, having 12,000 square feet of maple floor for dancing. Frank Morang, slack and tight wire walker, was one of the featured attractions on the opening night.

The Orlando Coliseum Corporation is headed by F. Cullen, president and general manager, and John S. Grassfield, secretary and treasurer.

Flames Close the Paddock Club

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Paddock Club, 54th street and 7th avenue, which was one of the few known night clubs to escape the recent shower of padlocks, was compelled to close yesterday for a week as the result of a fire which started in the kitchen at 2 a. m., and just at a time when it looked as tho' the Paddock was in for the best night in a month. The club owner did not say how much damage the club and his bankroll suffered.

One report had it that in the rush for exits the patrons left unpaid checks behind them running into four figures. Repairs are being rushed and in all probability the Paddock will be in full swing by New Year's Eve.

Curfew Off for New Year's Eve

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Night clubs, cabarets and other places affected by Mayor Walker's 3 a. m. closing law will get a respite of 24 hours and be permitted, thru the grace of William F. Quigley, license commissioner, to remain open later than 3 a. m. on New Year's Day.

Orchestra and Cabaret

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Night Owl Club Orchestra Reorganized for 1927 Season

WOODBURGE, N. J., Dec. 24.—The Night Owl Club Orchestra has reorganized for the 1927 season under the management of Elmer J. (Steve) Vecsey. Included in the new orchestra are Elmer (Steve) Vecsey, drums, trumpet, sax, voice and manager; Allen (Thery) Thergeron, trumpet, voice, arranger, coach and solo pianist; Harold Bates, piano and assistant manager; Sid Currie, sax and clarinet; Bob Farrington, sax, violin and voice; Andy Tilton, trumpet, xylophone and voice; Claude DePew, trombone, voice and uk; "Big Boy" Natoli, tuba; Ed Green, banjo and voice, and Louise Beyer, singer and entertainer.

Vecsey states that he has had a number of offers for the orchestra, including several New York night clubs, but has not decided which to accept. The Night Owl Club Orchestra is at present playing one-nighters thru New Jersey.

Davis and Greer Quit Mimic

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Benny Davis and Jesse Greer have moved out of the Club Mimic. A month ago Davis was engaged as master of ceremonies to boost business and it was understood that he had an interest in the club. Greer performed at the piano.

They plan to take a few weeks' rest and then start on a tour of picture houses. While on the road they will introduce their latest song, *Here or There as Long as I'm With You*.

Agents Feel Poor Business

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The slump in business experienced by most of the night clubs has hit some of the agents who book talent, and several are reported to be looking for jobs, planning to run the booking end as a side line or chuck it entirely.



BOB WHITE AND HIS HOLLYWOOD RAMBLERS, now filling a one-year contract for the Holton Bros., owners of a chain of ballrooms throughout Indiana. The Rambler lineup is: George Oelker, pianist and arranger; Bill Tallackson, banjo and entertainer; Jack Irvett, trumpet and comedian; Joe Snyder, sax, clarinet and singer; E. Cleg, sax and reeds, and Bob White, drums and manager.

Bob Ziegel's Orchestra Booked For Palm Beach Until May 1

PALM BEACH, Fla., Dec. 24.—Bob Ziegel and his Hotel Pennsylvania Orchestra, who opened the Pompeian dining room at the Hotel Pennsylvania, West Palm Beach, Thanksgiving Day, will remain there until May 1, 1927, according to an announcement made recently.

The orchestra consists of seven men, playing 16 instruments, and their playing, singing and dancing have won them many friends in Palm Beach and vicinity.

More Padlock Summonses Served

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Emory R. Buckner, United States Attorney, and Chester P. Mills, prohibition administrator, are doing a Santa Claus turn with reverse English and have handed out summonses and personal injunctions to the owners of 58 night clubs, cabarets and restaurants, including Texas Guinan's Three Hundred Club, 157 West 54th street; Club Richman, 151 West 54th street; Dirty Moore's Restaurant, 216 West 45th street; the Palladium Club, 55 East 55d street; Club Anatole, 145 West 54th street; El Fay Club 197 West 45th street, and Piping Rock Restaurant 132 West 53d street.

Two Miami Clubs Open

MIAMI, Dec. 24.—Miami's newest supper club, the La Vida, Hialeah, opened this week. The bill is topped by the Downs Sisters. Other entertainers on the bill are Pete Macias and Reta Jayne. The La Vida works two orchestras, a five-piece house combination and the Dixie Dandies, doubling from the Cinderella Ballroom.

The Casa Grande, formerly the Dixie Club, located 15 miles north of here on the Dixie Highway, opened this week under the management of T. J. Hite. The artists on the bill are Jack Cole and his Casa Grande Orchestra, Rose Ford, Kitty Brunelle, Lola and Juan Valdesora, Rene Marcelle, Billy Allman and Mike Ford, host.

Everglades To Get New Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—A new floor show will be offered at the Everglades, 48th street and Broadway, the second week in January. Eddie Chester, who has been featured at the club for several months, will be held to do his entertaining stunts nightly.

Bunny Webson, producer of the present revue at the Everglades, will produce and stage the new one.

Bands in Florida For Winter Season

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 24.—A number of well-known bands are now gathered in Florida for the winter season and the next few months will find them playing concerts under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce in the parks of the various Florida cities.

Arthur Pryor's band recently began its seventh winter season at Miami, where it is giving two concerts each day in Royal Palm Park.

Roy Smith and his Royal Highlanders Band are playing their fourth season at St. Petersburg.

Edgar A. Ball's Pythian Hussar Band is playing its fifth season in Lake Eola Park, this city.

Bobumir Kryl and his Band have the contract with the Chamber of Commerce at Tarpon Springs.

Everett Allyn Moses and his Famous Band again are playing the concerts at West Palm Beach.

Merle Evans' Ringling Circus Band is again this season playing at Sarasota.

Tampa has Bachman's Million-Dollar Band for the concerts at Plant Park.

While several cities, notably Orlando and Tampa, are broadcasting their band concerts, Jacksonville has decided not to hire a band for concerts in Heming Park, but instead have organized a little symphony orchestra to play over the air from WJAX. Mammoth loud speakers are being installed in a number of the city's parks so that the band may be heard in various parts of the city instead of one park, as heretofore.

Rennie Foyer Starts Action Against Taylor-Rose Band

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Bernie Foyer, who manages the booking of half a dozen prominent orchestras, announced yesterday that he has begun, thru Halley, Miller & Knowles, Detroit attorneys, an action to collect from the Jackie Taylor-Vincent Rose Orchestra, now playing at the Addison Hotel, Detroit, approximately \$1,400 coming to him as back salary and money advanced to the band leaders.

Foyer says he took the band over last year when the leaders were unable to get suitable booking, and, after advancing money and signing Rose and Taylor to a three-year contract, he booked them at the Addison Hotel, Detroit, under the agreement that he, Foyer, was to receive a weekly salary as manager, and also each week a part of the money owed to him. For 10 weeks, Foyer says, everything went along smoothly. Then the weekly checks stopped coming, and Foyer could get no replies to letters he sent to the leaders at Detroit.

Melody Opens With Good Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Melody Band Box Club, 114 West 54th street, reopened last night with a floor show produced by Sidney Clare and Lew Brown. The large crowd on hand enjoyed the revue, which was sprinkled with clean comedy, and found Brown just as humorous as an entertainer as he is as a comedy songwriter. Lew recited his Greenwich Village poem and got a dozen laughs. His partner, Sidney Clare, introduced a new song, entitled *Since I Found You*.

The principals included Harry A. Rose, Madcap Lorraine, Virginia Roach, Anne Allison and Charley Kaley, who was introduced as Caruso's successor. The good-looking chorus was made up of Margaret McKay, Majorie Thomas, Jean Jules, Grace Wright, Emily Verdi, Shirley Gustin and Margaret Hollis. These girls introduced a comedy prison number which was one of the features and got a big hand. Billy Burton and his singing orchestra furnished the music for artists and patrons.

Tony Francisco, Charleston expert, who came to see the show, was engaged to join the revue the following night.

Harry Walker Renews Contract

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Harry Walker has renewed his contract to furnish talent for all the exclusive cafes and restaurants in the Isthmus of Panama. Walker has been the representative of these places for the last five years, during which time he has sent 173 artists to Panama.

On December 20 Harry Walker's *Black-Bottom Revue*, consisting of 12 girls, will sail for Bilgray's, Panama Canal. Hector Downe is the manager.

Eddie Molsher, of the Walker office, is preparing a 12-girl revue for Roseland Inn, Schenectady, N. Y.

Who's Who in Orchestras

FRANK CORNWELL, who directs the Crusaders at the Midtown Hofbrau Restaurant, 52d street and Broadway, New York, was born at Washington, Va., 1896. At the age of 10 he began to study the violin and voice, and, after completing his academic studies, migrated to Boston, where he made his debut as a professional in Lyceum work.

Next Cornwell became a member of an orchestra and remained with it until he had acquired sufficient poise and experience to direct an orchestra of his own. Two years ago he made his New York debut at the Hofbrau and did so well that he was brought back the following year. This is his third season at the Hofbrau and he is more popular today with the owners and patrons than he ever was. Cornwell is somewhat of a scamp and before devoting all his time to orchestras he did a singing single at the picture theaters in and around Boston. He broadcasts regularly over one of the big wires and is much sought after by popular publishers and songwriters who want him to try out numbers.

In addition to being an orchestra leader, Cornwell is a composer, having authored *Ed Louie To Fall Asleep and Count the Stars, You May Learn To Forget Some Day* and others. Cornwell and his band now record for Cameo, Edison and Harmony. He has what is known as a versatile hand, one able to play for dancers and entertain them with singing and other stunts at the same time.

New York Notes

By E. M. WICKES

DUKE YELLMAN and His Band have been engaged to play at the Elks' Lodge, Elizabeth, N. J., on New Year's Eve.

THE MANAGERS of the Claridge Hotel, Landau and Sullivan, plan to hold a theatrical party on New Year's Eve.

JIMMY CARR, popular leader, will spend the holidays at Utopia, his home town. Shortly after the first of the year he hopes to open the Carr Barn.

THE HARMANIACS, a Western band, quit the Mimic Club after playing there two nights. The boys did not fancy that kind of work—too hard. The combination is kept busy recording.

WESLEY EDDY now is the whole show at the Twin Oaks. The management let out the other artistes.

DOLLY KAY is planning to reopen the Avalon for New Year's Eve. She may continue to run it after that date.

MILDRED MELROSE, Black Bottom artiste, is scheduled to sail January 15 for London, where she is booked to entertain at the Kit Kat Club.

EARL CARPENTER has been booked at the Statler, Buffalo.

HOLLAND AND BARRY, dancers, at the Casa Lopez, have gone to Portland, Ore., to attend the funeral of Miss Barry's father.

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A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Chicago Cabaret Notes

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The 23d edition of *Friscolous Frollics* opened at the Frollic Cafe Monday night. Bert Frohman is the new master of ceremonies, and other new acts are: The O'Neal Sisters, the Waltons, Ross and Edwards, Mirth Mack and Phyllis Rae. Jimmy Ray and Babe Kane are holdovers, as is Charlie Straight and His Brunswick Recording Orchestra.

VERNE BUCK and His Band began an engagement Tuesday at the popular Merry Garden Ballroom.

THE HOLLYWOOD BARN has added Flo Whitman, a graceful dancer, to its floor show.

H. W. PLAIN, formerly manager of the White City Amusement Company, is now in charge of the Aragon Ballroom.

LEW FINK is making good at the Terrace Gardens with his eccentric dancing.

THE SINGING WAITERS and the Dancing Cooks are providing the entertainment for the patrons of Kelly's Stables.

BILLIE GERBER is the feature of the show at the Friar's Inn. Irene Faery, danseuse; Shirley Malette, ingenue, and Ann Toddings, prima donna, are new additions.

A NEW UNNAMED ORCHESTRA is playing the dance music at the Town Club.

ZELMA JENSEN, billed as "the Swedish Nightingale", is appearing at the Kit Kat Club.

MAC FISCHER and His Merry Makers are playing three nights weekly at the Castle Gardens.

PAULINE GASKIN is the new lead in Jack Pine's *College Inn Follies* in the Hotel Sherman Inn.

DeJonghe, latest addition to the town's smart eating and dancing places, announces tea danzants for every Tuesday and Saturday. Supper dances are daily

occasions. Paul Jones and his South-erners supply the music.

LOWELL GORDON opened this week at the Rainbo as master of ceremonies.

BENNE KRUEGER'S Orchestra played a special engagement at the Oriental Ballroom this week.

Vanity Fair, rightfully called "A Cafe of Distinction", is about to have a birthday. New Year's Eve will celebrate the beginning of its second year.

Among the notables who continue to make the Parody Club a picturesque haunt are Harry Harris, Phil Murphy, Eileen Tanner and Tex Arlington.

Fire Destroys \$75,000 Inn

Harrison, N. Y., Dec. 24.—The Antler Inn, a short distance from Harrison, was destroyed today by fire of unknown origin. The inn, valued at \$75,000, was operated by Joseph and Charles Marami. The brothers and Peter Nava, asleep on the second floor, were awakened by the insistent barking of a police dog owned by the brothers.

Firemen from near-by towns battled for several hours to extinguish the flames, but failed. The structure, which was owned by Eli J. Reiser, New York, was burned to the ground.

New Dancers Create Discord

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The appearance of Semms and Babette, Parisian acrobatic dancers, at the Club Mirador does not resemble a pleasant Christmas present for Maurice and Eleanor, who have been entertaining at the club since the early part of October and hold a contract which does not expire until January 24.

Rumor had it that Maurice and his wife would walk out, but Maurice spoked it by saying he and his wife would continue to dance until their contract expired.

"Red" Gaston a Visitor

ROY S. (Red) Gaston, whose Pennsylvanians last week wound up a successful engagement at Danceland, Cleveland, O., was in Cincinnati last week on business. During his stay in the Queen City, "Red" dropped in at *The Billboard* for a chat with the writer. "Red" reports that he is booking his orchestra himself and that business to date has been very good. The Pennsylvanians this week opened an indefinite engagement at Madison Gardens, Toledo, O.

During the past summer "Red" Gaston and his Pennsylvanians played thru North and South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee, where the boys gained an enviable reputation with their touring.

The boys line up as follows: Tommy Kersey, director, arranger and sax; Eddie, Lambiotte, trumpet; Charles Cunningham, trumpet; Charles Ferrell, banjo; Frank Mitchell, drums; Bobby Pithan, piano; Orrin Carroll, bass; Teddy Blanchard, tenor sax; R. M. Gleason, trombone, and Bill Gennert, third alto.

New Ernie Young Revue To Open in Miami, Fla.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—What is reputed to be one of the best revues ever produced by Ernie Young is to be shown at the new Rainbo Night Club in Miami, Fla. The show, which is called *Ernie Young's Scandals*, consists of a company of 25. It will open New Year's Eve.

The Rainbo is the newest night club located at the Causeway in Miami, and Mr. Young has gone to considerable pains to produce a revue that will immediately give the new resort an outstanding reputation. The principals of the company are Max Sandrius and Rita Copelli, Geraldine Karson, Wess and Wainthrop and Esther Stapleton. Jack Ford and His Gang have been selected for the music.

Musical Musings

ELGA and her 10-piece Girl Band played the Green Mills Hotel, Springfield, Mo., recently, during their engagement at the New Gillies Theater in that city.

THE CRAVEN FAMILY, well-known musicians of Chidress, Tex., gave a musical recently in honor of Jess Kimball. (Continued on page 72)

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Louis Bernstein Takes Over "When You Were Sweet Sixteen"

Louis Bernstein, president of Shapiro, Bernstein & Company, Inc., has acquired from James Thornton the new copyright on *When You Were Sweet Sixteen*, which was first published a little more than 23 years ago by M. Witmark & Son. The number was a big hit years ago and was one of Bernstein's favorite ballads.

The copyright expired October 31, 1926, and under the copyright law the song reverted to the author, who had the right to recopyright it and regain publishing rights, which Thornton did. Several publishers offered to take it off Thornton's hands and give him an advance on it. James finally decided to turn it over to Bernstein, who is planning to create a demand for it among the present generation of popular music lovers.

Thornton also announced that he has recopyrighted other songs he wrote years ago, including *When Summer Comes Again*, *I Don't Seem Like the Same Old Swell*, *My Sweetheart's the Man in the Moon* and *Just Tell Them That You Saw Me*. Thornton has a batch of new songs, many of which he feels confident are as good as anything he ever wrote.

She Could Not See Santa Claus

Several weeks ago a certain young lady renounced all belief in Santa Claus. She was a singer and had been working with a male pianist. They had been doing well with radio work and picture houses until the pianist suddenly deserted her to go West. Unable to obtain another partner, she grew despondent as Christmas approached. Then she thought she would like to spend the holidays with her mother in Chicago, but she lacked the carfare. After trying for more than a week to get a job singing, she finally dropped in to see Mrs. Gerson, the famous judge lady, explaining her predicament and asking for permission to sell candy to some of her friends and acquaintances in the show business.

On receiving permission to work on commission, the despondent songbird set forth and did fairly well. During her journey she wandered into the office of a prominent producer, who knew her and the work she had done in several Broadway shows. After ordering a box of candy and having a chat with her, the producer signed her to appear in a new musical comedy. So the songbird became happy again, spent her commissions on new feathers, and decided not to make the trip to Chicago.

Gershwin Records for Columbia

George Gershwin has started recording for Columbia. He has made *Cleopatra's Harem* and *Do-Do-Do* from his musical comedy hit, *Oh, Kay!*

Gershwin is 27 years of age and one of the most successful composers of jazz and musical comedy songs. He wrote the music for *La La Lucille*, *Tip Toes and Lady, Be Good*. Until he was 12 Gershwin did not know anything about music. But he has made up for lost time.

Copyright News for Women

Register Thorvald Holberg of the Copyright Office has assured married women interested in copyrights that "under certain conditions" they may obtain copyrights under their maiden names. He also says that the husband's name would be required when it is necessary to secure uniform identity. However, a married woman who desires to copyright under her maiden name will have to tell why she does not wish to do so under her marriage name.

Frankl May Start Publishing

Abe Frankl, formerly professional manager for Waterson, Berlin & Snyder, is reported to be getting ready to open a music publishing firm of his own some time in January. Frankl is well liked and should make the grade if he happens to connect with some good numbers.

Viola McCoy Goes to Cameo

Viola McCoy, blues singer, now entertaining at the Club Alabama, Philadelphia, has contracted to record 24 numbers during 1927 for the race catalog of the Cameo Company. She will record under the direction of Joe Davis, who obtained the contract for her, and her first two releases will be *Papa, If You Can't Do Better*, and *I'm Savin' It All for You*.

LAND O' MELODY

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A Voice Comes From Park Row

Years ago Billy Delaney and other publishers of two-cent song books which contained the words of popular songs flourished on Park Row. But since they passed out of the picture the district has been dead so far as the song game was concerned. Now two ambitious song makers have bobbed up at 15 Park Row, and released with the Songrite Publishing Company a new number, called *I Don't Care for the Life on Broadway*, but *My Grandmas Did*. Al Cheston and Jack Watts are the writers.

Record Boys Sign for 1927

Al Bernard, Sammy Stept and Frank Kamplain, songwriters, record and radio artists, have signed a contract to work every Monday evening over WJZ from 8 to 8:30 p.m., beginning January 3. During each broadcasting period they will be accompanied by a crack orchestra.

Meskill Returns to Broadway

Jack Meskill, lyricist and special material writer, has returned from Hollywood, Calif., where he spent a month. Jack said he saw a rainy spell coming and ducked. He plans to go back about the middle of January and title several comedy movies for one of the big concerns operating at Hollywood.

Victor Has \$1,000,000 Suit

The Victor Talking Machine Company has made application to Federal Judge Moscovitz, Brooklyn, for judgment on the pleadings dismissing action brought by Mrs. Lydia M. Green of Great Neck, L. I., widow and executrix of Thomas G. Green, to recover \$1,000,000 for alleged destruction of the credit of the Shas E. Pearlman Company, which Mr. Green organized as a distributor for Victor records and instruments. Judge Moscovitz reserved decision.

Who's Who in Songland

JOE KEIT, vice-president, secretary and general manager of Jerome H. Remick & Company, music publishers, proved there are opportunities in the song game as well as in any other field. Born 40 years ago in New York City, Kelt set out 20 years later to make his way. After some preliminary skimming in the business world, he finally landed a job with Remick as assistant bookkeeper. Being a shark for figures, Kelt soon was made bookkeeper and his salary was boosted. When the city sales manager passed out of the Remick picture, Kelt was offered the position, which he accepted and made good. Next he was made general sales manager and assistant to the late Fred Belcher. And when Belcher died Kelt acquired stock in the Remick organization and was elevated to his present status.



Altho Kelt operates from New York City, while the home office is in Detroit, he selects the songs and maps out the various campaigns for the organization, including branch offices in all the principal cities, as well as numerous music stores. Kelt looks after the mechanical recordings, sales drives, prepares the advertising, checks up on the professional activities, listens to and passes on all new songs submitted to the firm and interviews the big shots and others connected with the music and theatrical worlds. Kelt, in all probability, shoulders more responsibility than any other general manager in the music business.

Kelt never had any musical training in his life and judges new songs by the way they appeal to his ear and his sense of commercial possibilities. He has converted into hits songs that he did not like personally, but which he felt would hit the public. Under no circumstances does he publish a suggestive number. He feels that a publisher can succeed with clean songs, and has demonstrated this fact for many years. He earns one of the largest salaries paid in the business.

Lew Brown Takes His Inning

Lew Brown, comedy lyricist, show writer and night revue creator, says it is news to him that he made a definite promise to H. R. Baughman to appoint him sales manager of the new music firm in which he was interested.

"How could I tell him he would be made sales manager, with a chance to earn \$50,000 yearly, when I was only one and some of the other fellows were in Europe?" Brown said. "I told him I would see what I could do to land the job for him, but also advised him not to waste time on the chances or pass up anything good that might come along. That's all I know about the matter."

Another Method for Composing

Indian Butterfly was started at the Everglades, Fla., and finished at 1595 Broadway, New York. Henry Lodge, society orchestra leader, got the idea in Florida while thinking about Indians, and wrote a tune. Then he came to New York and played it for Edgar Leslie, who said it was a hit tune and offered to write the lyric and publish the number.

The melody, however, needed some revising, and Billy Stone was called in. Stone attended to the doctoring and Leslie wrote the lyric. Lodge is back in Florida and Stone and Leslie are toiling like trojans to put the number over.

Mike Fitzpatrick Still on Deck

New Year's Eve always brings back fond recollections for Mike Fitzpatrick. You may have heard him broadcast as one of the "oldtimers", but it isn't likely you dreamed he once was a writer of hit songs. Many years ago Fitzpatrick wrote a song called *The Chimes of Trinity*, which was published by Howley, Haviland & Dresser, and became a big hit. Mike was born in the shadow of Trinity Church, hence it was an easy step for him to write about it.

Fitzpatrick recopyrighted the number and occasionally sings it at parties and over the air, and on New Year's Eve he will watch the crowds celebrate on lower Broadway and listen to the chimes which inspired him to write a national hit.

Perseverance Wins for Writer

More Selgel is an ambitious lyric writer. More is a bit new at the game, hence he has a time trying to interest established composers in his ideas. Recently he dug up a title called *Good Night, Night Owl*. After being turned down by a dozen wise melody writers he got hold of Herman Paley and Al Bryan and Ernie Golden. They formed a musical conspiracy and produced what looks like a corking good number for acts and singing orchestras. Several publishers have put in a bid for the song, going as far as to offer a fat advance check.

Al Jolson Donates Royalty For a Bed at Saranac Lake

Last week J. C. Rosenthal, general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, was instructed by Al Jolson to take \$500 due Jolson in royalty from the society and acquire the use of a bed for needy actors at the Actors' Home, Northwood Sanatorium, Saranac Lake, N. Y. The bed was opened on Christmas Eve and will be supported by future royalties coming to Jolson from the society.

Rosenthal also saw to it that the other members received their quarterly checks before Christmas and that widows in straitened circumstances whose husbands were members were not forgotten.

"The society does more than collect fees from persons who wish to use its music for profit," Rosenthal said. "During 1926 it paid out more than \$13,000 to help present and former members in want. To one man in Los Angeles, who once was a prominent songwriter but who has not written a song or been a member of the society for eight years, the society donated \$500. Unknown to everybody Irving Berlin had been caring for the man for a long time."

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will move about February 1 from 54 West 45th street to the 25th floor of the Paramount Building, Broadway and 44th street.

Just now the society, thru its attorney, Nathan Burian, is arranging to affiliate with the Canadian Performing Rights Society. Contracts are being drawn which should enable the society to begin operating in Canada about January 15. Heretofore the Canadian society has been unable to collect from hotels, cabarets, radio stations and other places because the owners used almost exclusively American compositions, for which they were not compelled to pay a fee. The Canadian society now has an action pending in the Canadian courts as a test case.

Should the Canadian Performing Rights Society win its case it will mean that Canadian writers and publishers of musical compositions will receive a revenue from the various places in their own country using their works as well as from American users of Canadian copyrighted material.

The fees collected in Canada by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will fatten the quarterly checks sent to its members. Last week Class A members of the society received \$520, Class B \$265, Class C \$130, Class D \$26 and Class E \$5.

Sam Ehrlich Obtains New Job

Sam Ehrlich, veteran songwriter, has been appointed publicity director for a radio station which will operate from the Hotel Somerset, West 47th street, just off Broadway. Alvin Hanser will be the director general.

Sam is an old newspaperman and quit writing for the dailies some years ago to turn songwriter. He has produced numerous hits, including *Oh, Freshy!*

Roat Gets Foreign Greetings

Forney W. Clement, manager for Chax, E. Roat Music Company, Battle Creek, Mich., has received from Jack and Lillian Armstrong, vaudeville artists now touring India, souvenir programs which feature *Faded Love Letters* and *Rose of an Hour*.

The firm's new song, *I Want a Pardon for Daddy*, has been recorded by numerous record and player roll concerns.

Denton-Haskins Take Over Song

Denton & Haskins, Broadway music publishers, have taken over from the Raymond Music Company, Chicago, *Windy City Blues*, which is a hot tune by Jelly Roll Morton. The number already has created somewhat of a stir in the Middle West.

Melody Mart Notes

Billy Hueston, popular songwriter, is managing the radio station at Union City, N. J.

The Art Melody Company, Kansas City, has released *Memory Days*, *Do You Remember?* and *Underneath a Silvery Moon*.

Dave Silverman, Detroit manager for Shapiro, Bernstein & Company, spent several days on Broadway last week and sang the praises of Don L. Fox, singing

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announcer and general manager of WMBC, Detroit. Silverman says Fox is one of the best and most courteous in the game.

Some Day, Sweetheart, which has scored such sensational success in the past two months, is published by Melrose Bros. Music Company. It had been in the catalog for some time, but had never been played. During the past month Victor, Brunswick and Genette have

recorded this number two ways. Due to a freak arrangement and the way this song has been recorded, both by Victor and Brunswick, Marty Bloom, manager of the publishing firm, says he expects it to be another *Some of These Days*.

Ross Gorman and E. B. Marks are involved in sort of a friendly court action to determine who's who concerning mechanical royalties coming to the Ross Gorman Company's releases.

Alice Frisco, concert pianiste, who made quite a hit in Europe, did a turn on the air December 24 for the American Legion. Miss Frisco broadcast from WPCB.

Artie Fletcher will invade Chicago early in January to start a campaign on the Joe Morris catalog. Steve De Valg-

ney, Andy Stanton and a blues singer have been added to the Chicago staff. Mike Morris, who runs the New York office, spent Christmas with an Irish family in Boston, which he has done for many years.

Clayton W. Richards, of Stockbridge, Mass., has written a ballad entitled *I Wonder Where Mary Is Now*, which will be released by a New York publisher.

The Lovelight Music Company, a Broadway concern, is releasing for 1927 Philadelphia, That Quaker Town, and Everybody Wants Her Bow Wow.

Marry Reser and his orchestra have renewed their contract to record exclusively for the Columbia Phonograph Company.

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- 50 Hot Breaks for Ed Sax, by J. Pettis, .50
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- 50 Jazz Breaks for Clarinet, by G. Gracie, .50
- 54 Hot Breaks for Bb Clarinet, by Schoebel, 1.00
- 50 Jazz Breaks for Bb Clarinet, by G. Gracie, .50
- 100 Hot Breaks for Bb Clarinet, by D. Oswald, .75
- 100 Jazz Breaks for Bb Clarinet, by R. Wilson, 1.00
- 54 Hot Breaks for Trombone, by E. Schoebel, 1.00
- 100 Jazz Breaks for Trombone, by M. Male, 1.00
- 50 Jazz Breaks for Trombone, by G. Gracie, .50
- 100 Jazz Breaks for Bass, by F. Anderson, 1.00
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- New To Sing and Play Blues on the Piano, by Griggens, 1.00

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How To Organize a Jazz Band

By CHARLES DORNBERGER

One of the most prevalent signs of the times is the astonishing number of jazz bands which young people are starting all over the country. Instead of going to college or taking book-keeping—or even in addition to these—many young men and girls, too, are wooing the clarinet or drums or the slide trombone. Ten years ago if any darling had apprised his fond parents that he intended to adopt the saxophone as a career, he would have been considered insane. Today he is clever and wise. In considering the amazing vogue of the modern orchestra, it is surprising there are so few good ones, or, better yet, that there are so many bad ones. In this article we except the recognized organizations of repute. Our advice to the boys who are getting up their own little bands is to train themselves, have a good time and earn a few dollars playing for dances on Saturday nights. In the first place, in starting a modern dance orchestra, the choice of instruments is perhaps the most important thing to be considered. Many a band of good players has gone wrong because its complement was incorrect for dancing and jazz. Remember this is not symphony or opera. In the smaller orchestra, say of five pieces, there should

(Continued on page 33)

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That was the best a chief bride.
It played at all the functions,
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As a clear leader should.
With music rightly chosen,
No wonder that she could!*

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DELLIAN,
ROSES FOR REMEMBRANCE,
SILVER SONG BIRD,
WITHOUT YOU,
WHEN YOU WERE THE WORLD TO ME.

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HIGH UP IN THE HILLS,
HOP SKIP,
HOW I LOVE YOU,
I DO BELIEVE IN FAIRIES,
JUST A LITTLE LONGER,
LONELY EYES,
MY BABY KNOWS HOW,
SONG OF SHANGHAI,
SINCE I FOUND YOU,
TODAY YOU BELONG TO ME,
TOO MANY KISSES,
YOU CAN'T CRY OVER MY SHOULDER,
WHEN I'M IN YOUR ARMS.

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BLACK BOTTOM,
CANDY LIPS,
FINE,
GIGGLE,
HALF A MOON,
I'VE GOT THE GIRL,
I LOVE THE MOONLIGHT
IN A RABY WITH YOU,
IT MADE YOU HAPPY,
JE T'AIME MEANS "I LOVE YOU",
LITTLE WHITE HOUSE,
MAGNOLIA,
MOONLIGHT ON THE GANGES,
SUNDAY,
TAKE IN THE SUN,
THINKING OF YOU.

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Wagner Ends Dispute Over "Ballyhoo" Title

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The title war between Russell Janney and Charles L. Wagner over their respective plays of carnival show life, both called *Ballyhoo*, has been ended by the latter management. Wagner has decided to prefer peace to his alleged rights and has changed the title of his J. K. Nicholson piece to *The Barker*, leaving the disputed *Ballyhoo* to Janney's play by Kate Horton.

Walter Huston is to be featured by Wagner and his supporting cast will include Claudette Colbert, Eleanor Williams, Norman Foster, Kathryn Tracey, Mal Hopkins, Gertrude Wicks, Al Roberts, George Darbinier, Gus Heegle, Knox Herrold, Ross Hertz, Albert Hyde, John Irwin, Roger Beumley and the Royal Hawaiian Trio. Priestley Morrison is directing rehearsals for a New York opening scheduled for January 10, approximately the same date that the Janney opus is due. The cast of the latter production has already been reported in these columns.

Shuberts To Turn Over Carrillo Show to Brady

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Leo Carrillo's vehicle, which the Shuberts have been testing out of town under the title of *A Rough Diamond*, will be presented under the name of William A. Brady when it reaches Broadway next week. The title will also be changed to *The Podre*. Nana Bryant, Vivian Tobin, Richard Temple, Arthur Bowyer, John Troughton, May Anderson, Elwyn Eaton, Robert Leo Allen and Marcella Swanson make up the cast. Stanley Logan also has one of the principal roles. He staged the piece and is credited with having adapted it from the French play, *Mes Cere Chers Les Riches*, by Andre de Lorde and Pierre Chaine, which had a run of 500 performances in Paris and over six months in London.

George M. Cohan To Stage Another for Maraget Vernon

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—George M. Cohan is to stage and lend his name as producer to another play by Maraget Vernon. He will start casting immediately after New Year's for the new piece, which is as yet untitled. Cohan is said to have found most profitable the similar service he gave to Miss Vernon's *Yellow*, which has been playing at the National Theater since September and still looks good for a continued run. The new show, like the current piece, will be Miss Vernon's production. It is understood, Cohan to get a good percentage for the use of his name and his supervision of staging and management.

Werner & Goldreyer Stage Yiddish Play

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Phil Werner and Michael Goldreyer, whose production of *It Is Love* is shortly due on Broadway, have also bused themselves with an outside offering. Under their sponsorship a new Yiddish play, *Maselle* (*Kid Mother*), by Meyer Schwartz, with incidental music by J. M. Rumshinsky, opened last night at Kessler's Second Avenue Theater. Included in the cast are William Schwartz, Regina Prager, Boris Rosenthal, Rose Greenfield and Benjamin Adler.

"Public Opinion" in Rehearsal

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Public Opinion, a play by Max Gabel, Yiddish actor, will go in rehearsal next week. It will be presented in English at a Broadway Theater by J. Luther Adler, son of the late Jacob P. Adler, and Edward Earl Kay. On the producers' schedule for early showing are other plays by Gabel, titled *The Great Moment*, *Clear Conscience* and *The Woman of the World*.



EDWARD RIGBY, scabily covered in "This Woman Business", now at Waldorf's Theater, New York. He is not only being lauded for his performance as one of the principal "woman baiters" but he is credited as well with the direction of the play. Rigby's previous record on Broadway only includes appearances in "The Kiss in a Taxi", "A Bit o' Love" and the Maudie Miller revival of "Petet Petet", but he had considerable of a career on the stage of his native England.

David Wallace in With Weber On New Alice Brady Vehicle

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—David Wallace, who has been inactive since he resigned last spring from the post of general manager of the Actors' Theater with the announcement that he would conduct his own production enterprises, is to be associated with L. Lawrence Weber in the latter's forthcoming presentation of *Alice Brady in Lady Alone*, the play by Laetitia McDonald (Mrs. Wallace Irwin), which has up to now been known as *The Sister's Daughter*. Miss Brady's supporting cast has been completed and includes Louise Galloway, Austin Fairman, Joseph Kilgour, Edward H. Wever, Oriole Lee, Kirk Brown, William W. Crismana, William Leth and Billy Pearce. Rehearsals are now being directed by Lionel Atwill and an out-of-town opening prior to Broadway has been booked for January 10 at the Shubert-Belasco Theater in Washington, D. C.

"Faust" Cast Complete

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The cast of *Faust*, Edyth Totten's next production, has been completed and will include Gene Lockhart, Parker Fennelly, Eleanor Laning, Clara Thropp, Charles Bunnell, Frank Frayne, Kathleen Arthur, Tatiana Polmoff, Bruce Conning, Leighton Converse, Charles Cromer and a group of dancers. The opening is set for January 3 at the Edyth Totten Theater.

New Frank Craven Play

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A. L. Erlanger has placed in rehearsal the latest play from the pen of Frank Craven. It is titled *Money From Home* and the author will stage it and also play the leading role. The supporting company includes Maude Graber, Adora Andrews, Leo Donnelly, John Ravold and Frederick Graham. An opening date has not been set.

Signed for "Any Man's Woman"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Robert Elliott, M. Charles Palazzi, Howard St. John, Jean Tenney and Harry Morvil have so far been signed by Michael Kalesser for his new play, *Any Man's Woman*, which is to open January 15 out of town prior to a Broadway showing. George Smithfield has been engaged to direct the production.

Mark Twain's Daughter Plans Resumption of Stage Tour

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—Madam Clara Clemens, daughter of Mark Twain, was in Chicago last week completing arrangements for the resumption of her tour in a dramatization of *Joan of Arc*. Her Eastern bookings were under the management of Ernest Briggs and the Western tour, beginning in February, will be under the direction of Theodore A. Doucet, of Chicago. Madam Clemens carries a cast of six, with three in stage crew. The closing engagement for the holiday season will be in New York on New Year's Eve. While in Chicago Madam Clemens and members of her company broadcast scenes from her play from WJJD, Palmer House station. *Joan of Arc* is a dramatization of Mark Twain's book of the same title.

Playshop To Come Back: "Red Lily" in Rehearsal

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Playshop, after several months of inactivity, has put in rehearsal a new comedy, titled *The Red Lily*, by David Arnold Balch, with an out-of-town opening date set for January 10 and the New York showing for the following week.

The players will include Marguerite Riser, Jenny Eustace, Edwin Redding, Duncan Penwarden, William Lewis, June Leslie and Carson Davenport.

Mrs. Harris To Present Play by Chief Justice

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Mrs. Henry B. Harris has placed in rehearsal a comedy titled *Trial Divorce*, the work of Chief Justice Joseph Sabath, of Chicago. Willard Mack is taking charge of the staging, and the cast includes William Ingersoll, Robert Strange, Gilda Leary, Beatrice Nichols, Anna Mack Berlein and Carroll Chase. The piece will open January 7 at the Playhouse in Chicago.

William Harris, Jr., in Accident

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—William Harris, Jr., is confined to his home with severe injuries sustained in a taxicab collision last week. He suffered fractures on several ribs, abrasions of the right arm and lacerations of the scalp, but is rapidly improving, according to his producing offices in the Hudson Theater Building.

Myron Fagan's Backer Accepts Three More

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—B. F. White, who has backed all Myron Fagan's plays, including *The Little Spitfire*, current at the Cort Theater, has accepted three more of the author's comedies. The first, titled *The Fascinating Devil*, will go into rehearsal about January 15. *Seducing Jimmy* and *Power* will follow later in the season.

Changes in Cast

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Gilda Kreegan has taken over the part formerly played by Frank Thomas in *The Little Spitfire* at the Cort Theater.

Czara Romany has replaced Mme. Frappier in *Maitresse de Roi* production of the Comedie Francaise at the Cosmopolitan Theater.

O. J. Hamilton has succeeded Albert Renald in *See* at Daly's 62d Street Theater.

Mann Wada has returned to the cast of *We Americans* at the Eltinge Theater. Doris Freeman has taken over the part formerly played by Helen Flint in *The Noose* at the Hudson Theater.

Percy Ames has replaced G. P. Huntley in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* at the Times Square Theater.

Eva Benton has replaced Mme. Robinson in *The Bottom of the Cup* at the Mayfair Theater.

Walter Abel has succeeded Donn Cook in *See of the Brute* at the Comedy Theater.

'Devil in the Cheese' Ready To Open at Last

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Tom Cushing's fantasy, *The Devil in the Cheese*, which Charles Hopkins has had in rehearsal for many weeks, is at last said to be ready and the premiere has been definitely set for next Wednesday night at the Charles Hopkins Theater, formerly the Punch and Judy. Frederic March, Robert Moore, Linda Watkins, Catherine Calhoun Doucet, Dwight Frye, Bela Lugosi and Brandon Peters head the large company, which has seen many changes since casting first began last fall. The piece was originally scheduled to open September 6, but rehearsals were not called until long after that date. They have, however, been in progress for some time and Hopkins has been paying full salaries for each week over the rehearsal period allowed in the Equity contracts.

Claude Cooper Hurt

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Claude Cooper, playing in *See of the Brute* at the Forrest Theater here, was severely burned during the performance last Monday night. The accident occurred when the revolver used by Hilda Vaughn went off prematurely within a few inches of Cooper's hand.

Dramatic Notes

GILBERT CARTLAND has been placed, thru the office of Rycroft-Perrin, New York, to act as stage manager with *The Blonde Sinner* for its road tour.

MILTON HERBERT GROPPER is at work on a new piece, as yet unnamed, that is to be Richard Herndon's next production for Allan Dinehart and Claiborne Foster.

SAMUEL WALLACH has been appointed manager of the up-town office of Henry Zuckerman & Company, a large (Continued on page 31)



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Musical Comedy

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Shuberts Juggling Their Prima Donnas

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Having replaced Peggy Wood with Etienne Painter in *The Nightingale*, due here next week, and loaned Vivian Hart, originally scheduled for *The Willow Tree*, to Carle Carlton for *The Lace Petticoat*, the Shuberts continue to juggle around their available prima donnas.

Evelyn Herbert has been brought in from the road to head the cast of *My Maryland*, now in rehearsal for an opening January 16 in Atlantic City. This is the Dorothy Donnelly-Sigmund Rosenberg operetta, formerly titled *Barbara Frietchie*.

Lillian Davies, prima donna of *Katja* at the 44th Street Theater, will shortly be taken out of that cast and on January 15 she will replace Yvonne D'Arle in the title role of *Countess Maritza* at the Shubert Theater. Meanwhile *Katja* will be shifted January 3 to the Cosmopolitan Theater and after about two weeks at that house it will be removed entirely from Broadway and sent on tour. No definite decision has been made at this writing as to what prima donna is to follow Miss Davies in *Katja*. It will not be Miss D'Arle, however, as she is to leave the Shuberts and go on a concert tour.

"Rio Rita" Ready

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—*Rio Rita*, Florenz Ziegfeld's musical comedy which is to open the new Ziegfeld Theater in New York about January 16, will have its premiere Monday at the Colonial Theater here. Ethelred Terry and Ada May are featured and the supporting cast, which was completed at the last moment before the company left New York, includes Bert Wheeler, Robert Woolsey, J. Harold Murray, Vincent Serrano, Helen Olive, Catherine Crandall, Douglas Kimberline, Alf James, Beryl Halley, Susan Fleming, Peggy Blake, Pedro Rubin, Noel Frances, Fred Dalton, Collette Harry Ratcliffe, Nathaniel Sack, Harold Douglas, Al Clair, Alberto Carello, 16 Al-bertina Raach girls and a marimba band. Settings are by Joseph Urban.

Charlot Troupe on Way

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The *Charlot* Revue principals, who are to combine with Earl Carroll's company for the new international edition of the *Vaudeville*, are on the high seas and will arrive here next week. They include Herbert Mundin, Jesse Matthews, John Redmond, Patrick Adair, Harold Warrender, Sundry Wishes, Alan Macbeth, Hazel Wynne, Dick Francis, Peggy Doyle, Henry Linton, Anton Dolis, Dorothy Macabean, William Cavanaugh and Jill Williams. Obviously some of the principals of the current edition will have to give way to make room for the London players, but Moran and Mack, Smith and Dale, Julius Tannon and Dorothy Knapp are definitely scheduled to remain over for the new version.

George White Preparing Straight Musical Comedy

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—George White will stop counting his receipts from the *Soundals* for the next few weeks and devote his time to the preparation of a straight musical comedy which he has scheduled for a February opening on Broadway. The piece is titled *America First* and is being finished up by Lew Brown, Bud DeSylva, Ray Henderson, William K. Wells and White himself, as the contingent of authors and composers. Negotiations are now under way with two prominent stars but contracts had not been signed at this writing.

BESSIE MCCOY, the original *Yama Yama Girl*, who has been in seclusion at Nice on the Riviera, is planning to return to the American stage after nearly 10 years' absence, and will sail for home in a few weeks. She is the widow of Richard Harding Davis and the sister-in-law of the late Charles Belmont Davis.



RUTH THOMAS, the latest recruit to Winthrop Ames' Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company at the Plymouth Theater, New York. Miss Thomas is currently scoring in the leading role of *Mabel* in "The Pirates of Penzance". She is not altogether a newcomer to the ranks of legitimate stage prima donnas, as many past years have proclaimed, for she sang in "Look Who's Here" several seasons ago. Later she played with Lew Fields in "Snap Shots of 1921" and then went with Weber and Fields on a long vaudeville tour. Two seasons ago she succeeded Grace Moore in the "Music Box Revue" but has since remained in retirement to further her studies in music.

Ashley Quits Hart To Open Own Agency

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—James W. Ashley, who has been associated for the past six years with the Max Hart office, has resigned to open an artists' representative agency of his own. He has taken quarters in the Mayfair Theater Building on West 44th street. Many of his old clients, including Dennis King, Lynn Overman and others, will continue with him in his new enterprise which will include publicity work as well as placements. Arthur McHugh will assist him in the press work.

Nat Nazarro, Jr., To Replace Lew Brice in "Americana"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Nat Nazarro, Jr., will replace Lew Brice Monday as a featured player in *Americana* at the Belmont Theater. Brice has had his name in lights as a costar with Roy Atwell since the show opened and it is understood Nazarro will receive the same billing. The latter will assume all the roles played by Brice.

According to Richard Herndon, producer of the revue, Brice is withdrawing from the cast to open a night club.

Emmerich Kalman Coming Over To Conduct "Circus Princess"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Emmerich Kalman, eminent Budapest composer of *Sari, The Soldier Boy, Gay Hussars, The Little King, Faschingfest, The Little Dutch Girl, The Yankee Princess* and other well-known operettas, including *Countess Maritza*, current on Broadway, is coming over to conduct for his latest piece, *The Circus Princess*, which the Shuberts are to produce in March with Poodles Hannaford as the star. The announcement of Kalman's American visit comes somewhat of a surprise as he has several times in the past declared that he never intended to visit America.

Production of *The Circus Princess* has been put off until March because Hannaford is under contract to do two pictures on the Coast next month. In signing him for the operetta the Shuberts have taken an additional option on his services for the next two years. Hannaford is considered one of the greatest equestrians in the country and he will use four horses in the show. Grace Norma Hannaford, Fred Derrick and Elizabeth Clark will appear with him. The latter is the wife of Eddie Clark, of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Circus. Hannaford has until lately been featured in the Sells-Floto Circus.

Changes in Casts

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Jean Murray as replaced Gladys Philbin in the *Vaudeville* at the Earl Carroll Theater.

Margaret McCarthy is back in *George White's Soundals* after several days off with laryngitis. Muriel Le Count doubled for her.

Allen Boulden has returned to the cast of *Gay Paces of 1927* at the Winter Garden after a two days' absence due to illness. During her absence her roles were assumed by Grace Candee.

Sunshine Jarmon, dancer with *Americana*, the Belmont Theater revue, who has been out of the cast for two weeks with an injured ankle, has resumed her place. Isabelle Mason had been doing her bits.

Katherine Ellis, who was taken out of the chorus of *Queen Hick* at the Ambassador Theater, and sent to London with Edgar MacGregor to stage the dances of the show for Sir Alfred Butt, who bought the British rights, has returned to her old show. Miss Ellis remained on the continent sightseeing after completing her dance directing, and has just arrived from London.

Engagements

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Walter Regan has been engaged to play opposite Patti Harold in *Judy*. Lida Kane has also been signed for the cast.

John Byam, Douglas Wood, Cecil Owen, Charles Henderson, Josephine Cavanaugh and John Clemson have been added to the cast for L. Lawrence Weber's forthcoming piece *Eye, Eye, Bonnie*.

Lita Lopez, Pilar Loredo and Rita Montaner (Spanish dancer) have been engaged by the Shuberts for their new revue *A Night in Spain*. Ethel Norris, of the vaudeville team of Cal and Ethel Norris, has also been added to the cast. A Spanish guitar and mandolin band has arrived here from Madrid to accompany the Spanish artists in the production.

"Nanette" Back Where It Started

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—No, No, *Nanette* was greeted warmly at the Erlanger last night, the opening of a return engagement in the city where it started making stage history. Louise Groody, who was the star during the long run at the Harris, was given an ovation. She has with her as costar Hal Skelly, a newcomer in *Nanette* but no stranger in Chicago, and he, too, was well received. H. H. Frazee has *No, No, Nanette* and Yes, Yes, *Yvette* showing at adjoining houses. The Erlanger has the *No, No* show and the Four Cohans has the other.

Musical Comedy Notes

KATE SMITH, blues singer, in *Honey-moon Lane*, at the Knickerbocker Theater, New York, signed last week as an exclusive artist with the Columbia Photographic Company.

PEGGY O'NEIL is back in New York after her long sojourn abroad. She went to London five years ago for a three months' engagement, and has been playing over there ever since.

RUTH LAIRD, of Dallas, Tex., recently a member of Ned Wayburn's success, *Kitty Kisses and the Maiden Voyage*, appeared in the dance pantomime of the Dallas Little Theater Christmas production December 20, 21 and 22. Miss Laird was considered one of the best toe dancers in the Wayburn revue. She returned home on account of illness in her family, but expects to return to Broadway about the middle of January to open in a new revue. Ruth Laird was one of the first Dallas girls to gain a name on the stage for her dancing. She is considered one of the wealthiest chorus girls in the profession as she has four oil-producing wells in her name. She is at home, 413 East Ninth street, Dallas, Tex.

ANNA RIZZO, one of the Gertrude Hoffmann Girls in *Artists and Models*, is spending the Christmas holidays at home in Philadelphia. After the first of the year she has a new contract with the Shuberts as a feature dancer, to open a new revue on Broadway.

JANE AUBERT was given a novel birthday surprise last Tuesday on the stage of the Winter Garden, New York, where she is playing in *Gay Paces*. In her sketch, *Je l'egare*, the settings is the office of a hotel. When Miss Aubert went on, the clerk behind the prop. desk handed her a bunch of mail, as called for in the business. But it wasn't prop. mail at this performance. She discovered letters and presents from each individual

(Continued on page 49)

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Sistare To Produce For Stock Circuit

FOND DU LAC, Wis., Dec. 25.—George Sistare, manager of the Garrick Theater, and head of the Sistare Players, plans to make Fond du Lac the production center of a circuit of stock companies and road-show productions. His plans contemplate organization of a staff of stagehands and scenic artists to build and paint productions in Fond du Lac for various cities and towns in Wisconsin.

There are at least 12 to 15 weeks' work for such plays and at the next meeting of the parties interested plans will be made to make this city the producing center of the Sistare productions for the State of Wisconsin. Artists will be brought to rehearsal and each production will be opened in a near-by town and tour the State, returning to Fond du Lac, whence they will en tour again. Several cities throughout the State have already shown a great deal of interest in the project. The circuit, if formed, will go into effect some time next year.

Northampton Council Abandons Stock Company

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Dec. 25.—The trustees of the Academy of Music have voted to discontinue the Northampton Repertory Company, playing at the Academy of Music, on January 15. Their action was taken after conferring with Paul Hansell, manager of the company, and officials of the citizens' committee of the Academy. The reason for discontinuing is because of the great financial loss which is being incurred by the city in the presentation of plays by this company. Northampton is not large enough to support such an institution.

Under the terms of the gift of the Academy of Music to the city by the late Edward H. R. Lyman in 1893 the city must assume all financial responsibilities or the property will revert to the donor or his heirs. The trustees therefore concurred in the opinion of the city fathers. There is already a deficit of \$4,500. Recently the Academy started to run pictures the first half of the week to help meet expenses. The company is now on a two weeks' vacation, without pay until January 1, when it will present *Little Miss Bluebeard*. On January 15 it will be disbanded. It came to Northampton in 1925 under Paul Hansell. Hansell, manager, is also leading man of the company, which is an English company. The other members are Charles Warburton, director; Hazel Jones, Leard Dillon, Velma Royton, Kitty Newland, Miss Weaver, Lyman Hayes, Grandon Rhodes, Francis Compton, Reginald Napier, Curtis Confield and Michael McMahon.

It is planned to run a straight picture program at the Academy of Music after the Repertory Company closes.

Lake Worth (Fla.) Supports Permanent Stock Company

LAKE WORTH, Fla., Dec. 25.—Lake Worth is enjoying all the privileges of a first-class Northern city as far as amusements are concerned. Two first-class movie houses and a first-rate permanent stock company are located here for the winter season. The Miller Buddy Players offer a new play each week with sumptuous settings and a worth-while cast of players.

The current offering, *My Southern Rose*, attracted big audiences and pleased the throngs that flock nightly. The company has been here several weeks and intends to stay until the spring road season opens. In some instances members of the local Little Theater Company are appearing with the Buddy Players.

DIXIE LOFTEN, former character woman with the Gross Players, Milwaukee, Wis., is visiting her sister, Dorothy Bates, in Hammond, Ind. Miss Bates is a member of the Temple Players, of that city.

McGarry's Christmas Show Pleases Buffalo Audiences

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 25.—The Garry McGarry Players further heightened their popularity at the Majestic Theater with *Daddy Dimples* as the offering for the opening of the Christmas season. The play was enthusiastically received, being seasonable, based on Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. In keeping with play and season, children were especially catered to. Candy was distributed at each matinee and the players gave a reception to the kiddies on the stage after each afternoon performance.

For the first time in many weeks Don Burroughs was not in the cast, having been granted permission to spend the holiday week with his family in Detroit. In his absence the lead in *Daddy Dimples* was played by T. Daniel Frawley. Three Buffalo children—Charles Otto, Jr.; Louise Sullivan and Dorothy Sullivan—were selected by Manager McGarry to augment the cast in child roles.

McGarry perpetuated his yuletide custom by playing host to his players at a reception held on the stage today. There was a Christmas tree, exchange of presents "everything." The party was strictly a family affair for the McGarry Players.

For the week following Christmas the company will present *One of the Family*, to be followed by *Loff That Off*.



THE MAYLON PLAYERS, a stock organization with a remarkable history of success, enters its 105th week at the Auditorium Theater, Spokane, Wash., January 2. The company was organized by Will Maylon in August, 1924. Of the original organization only Will Maylon, his wife, Catherine Edwards, and Leonard Bonford, juvenile and technical director, remain. The players are shown in their "What Price Glory?" stage dress.

Zena Bear to the Rescue

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Bena Bear proved a lifesaver for the Guy Harrington Players here last week when she joined the company in *One of the Family* on only a few hours' notice and no rehearsal. Olga Walter, scheduled for the role of Irene Adams, was taken ill Monday morning. At one o'clock a phone call was put in for New York and Miss Bear engaged. She arrived here at 8:20 and walked on the stage to play the role without a slip.

Miss Bear will remain with the company as a second woman. She was secured thru the New York office of Helen Robinson, Broadway casting agent, who is here in Binghamton recuperating from an illness and visiting her husband, Edwin E. Vickery, director of the Guy Harrington Players. Miss Robinson appeared in the cast of *One of the Family* as a guest player with the company, which includes, besides the ever-popular Harrington, Eleanor Hayden, Marjorie Dew, Marguerite Fields, Rankin Mansfield, Al Kranz, Tom H. A. Lewis and Edwin Evans.

Stock Actors Aid Mission

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 25.—All receipts taken in by the Stuart Walker Players at the Strand Theater in excess of \$350 Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday nights, this week, are donated to the Huntington Union Mission Settlement Christmas fund. The company played *The Alarm Clock*.

Orpheum Players Notes

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Dec. 25.—The Orpheum Players, headed by Alsey Alba and Lysie Talbot, two young stock favorites, are in their 20th week. The cast includes Thomas McKnight, Fama Whitney, Frank Jaquet, Adelaide Melnotte, Myra Jefferson Caylor, Fred Sherman, Louise Miller, Jack Reedy, and is under the direction and supervision of John Caylor.

Jack Reigler, the scenic artist, has produced some of the finest sets ever seen in Sioux Falls.

Alsey Alba and Lysie Talbot have been with the Orpheum Players for 43 weeks. Mr. Caylor has been highly praised for his directing and producing of plays.

The Orpheum Players have featured scenic productions such as *Little Old New York*, *Merton of the Movies*, *Quarantine*, *The Bird of Paradise* (record week) and *Irene*. Plays undrafted are *Papa, Honest Lovers*, *Captain Applejack* and *Square Crooks*.

New Stock for Richmond, Ind.

RICHMOND, Ind., Dec. 25.—Roberson & Gifford closed their stock company here December 18. The house management and Thomas Pawley immediately began assembling a new company, which opens today. Among the prominent players engaged are D. P. Dickinson and May Kirby.

Earle Ross Players Open in Anderson, Ind.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—Earle Ross, who is here for a few days, announces that he will open with a resident stock company in Anderson, Ind., on New Year's Day with *The Whole Town's Talking* as the initial bill, to be followed by *No This Is London*, *The Rat and Why Men Leave Home*, in the order named.

Ross has taken over the lease of the Granada Theater, Anderson, and his policy will be one play a week, seven night performances and three matinees each week. He says he will produce the latest and best obtainable of the New York successes and give each a full and complete production.

He is taking a carload of equipment into the house to supplement that which is already there. Conditions in the town indicate that the venture will be financially successful. All the factories are working and the workers are well paid.

Dramatic Stock Notes

JACKSON AND CLIFFORD are organizing a stock company for Madison, Wis.

THE CLARK AND O'SHEA Stock Company, playing the Majestic, Waukegan, Ill., will close soon and the Sistrar Players will open there.

HOWARD MILLER has retired from the Larkin Players, Lyceum Theater, Memphis, Tenn., and for the Christmas week bill, *Somebody*, the lead was taken by Francis Sayles.

FLORENCE PENDLETON, recently seen on Broadway in *The Pearl of Great Price*, has left for Boston to join the new stock at the St. James Theater. She will play second business and characters.

INTEREST IN STOCK CIRCLES at Sioux Falls, S. D., was given a notable impetus when Marrriane Riedon made her initial bow as leading lady with the Pierre Watkin Players at the Egyptian Theater in *The Boomerang*. Orville Rennie, tenor, was also featured on the program in a short recital, marking his first appearance in his own home town. Notices in the two dailies were particularly strong in the praise of both Miss Riedon and Mr. Rennie, a thing hitherto unusual. Good business was also reported at the Orpheum Theater in a stock production of *Irene*.

MR. AND MRS. CHRISTY O'Brecht, who recently closed a stock engagement in Winona, Minn., were in Chicago last week selecting plays and players for a new venture in stock and will open in Minnesota on January 5.

WHITFORD KANE, who produced and acted in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Goodman Theater, Chicago, last spring, has returned to that city, starting work on *Juno and the Paycock*, which he will present with the stock company at the Goodman, opening December 23. Mary Agnes Doyle is cast as Juno. Kane will direct and play the role of the Paycock.

THE MID-WEST POLLES Theater, formerly a vaudeville house, Chicago, is now playing stock, giving musical comedy productions with a change of bill weekly. Miss Trizie Paul, now producing in Chicago, has scored a pronounced success.

ANNE BERRYMAN is succeeding Helene Millard as leading woman for the Wilkes Players at the Denham Theater, Denver, going from stock engagements in San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego. She played leads at the Denham for a short time four years ago. Her first appearance will be in *Dancing Mothers*, January 2. Miss Millard has been with the Denver company since Aug. (Continued on page 31)

Woman's Club Organizes New Stock for Rockford, Ill.

ROCKFORD, Ill., Dec. 25.—A new stock company is being assembled here. It is promoted by the Rockford Woman's Club, which has filed a surety bond with the Actors' Equity Association. Jessie L. Spafford is the director engaged for the company.

The stock company will open its season January 25. It is said that some talented local amateurs are joining the organization, but the roster will include but a few besides the Equity actors recruited from Chicago.

Rhea Diveley Playing Leads

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 25.—Rhea Diveley is now doing leads with the Forsyth Players at the Forsyth Theater, in the absence of Jeanne Devereaux, who has gone to New York to fulfill other engagements.

The *Bride* is the current week's attraction with Miss Diveley and Alan Devitt in the leading roles, supported by James G. Coggins, Gus Forbes, Theodosia Shuler, Frank McDonald, Jay Melrey, Joseph Egerton and Lawrence Keating. All of the local papers were loud in their praise of Miss Diveley's characterization of the bride.

GENE DE PERRIER has been signed up for juvenile and leads with the Kleist Stock Company at the Kleist Theater, Pontiac, Mich.

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Music Week Spreads Overseas

Not only in the observance of Music Week increasing in this country, but the movement has also spread to overseas countries. C. M. Tremaine, executive secretary of the National Music Week Committee, has received word from John Connell, municipal organist of Johannesburg, South Africa, stating that the enthusiastic music lovers of that city have expanded the observance into a Music Fortnight. Mr. Connell further states that because of the several thousand miles which separate this section of the country from Europe, it is the hope of the committee in charge of the Music Fortnight that a more general public appreciation and interest in good music will be increased. The program for the Fortnight included community singing, daily organ recitals, orchestral concerts for children, two symphony concerts, a performance of Brahms' Requiem, as well as music in a number of stores, and the second week was given over entirely to the national Etatodiffo. Mr. Connell is also in charge of a similar celebration in Pretoria, the administrative capital of the Union of South Africa. Asia, too, is interested in Music Week, and the general secretary of the Y. W. C. A., at Tokio, has obtained from Mr. Tremaine literature and posters issued by the National Music Week as helps in promoting a Music Week celebration. A considerable number of observances of National Music Week in Canada have been reported; then, too, Scotland has accepted the movement with much enthusiasm, and thus the scope of the movement is being broadened until there is indication that next year will find Music Week more widely observed than ever before.

Ernest Bloch Wins Chamber Music Prize

The \$1,000 Carolyn Beebe New York Chamber Music Society prize, given by C. C. Birchard, has been awarded to Ernest Bloch, the noted Swiss composer, now director of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. The work, *Four Episodes*, is scored for piano, strings and wind instruments, and will have its premiere after in Chicago at the Biennial of the National Federation of Music Clubs next April or on March 21, played by the New York Chamber Music Society at the Hotel Plaza.

Giannini To Be Soloist With N. Y. Symphony

Dasolina Giannini, who but recently returned from a most successful European tour, will be the soloist at the Thursday afternoon concert of the New York Symphony in Carnegie Hall December 30, and also at the afternoon concert in Mecca Auditorium on Sunday, January 3. She will sing an aria from Tchaikovsky's *Jeanne D'Arc* and Elizabeth's air from *Faust*. For this concert Mr. Damrosch will repeat the Schubert *Yose Poem* which was given its first performance under his direction at the concert on Sunday afternoon, December 26, and the symphony will be Brahms' No. 2 in D. This will be the last concert Mr. Damrosch will direct until the middle of March. Otto Klemperer will conduct beginning January 7.

Bolm Is To Present Dicken's "Christmas Carol"

Adolph Bolm has adapted for the pantomime ballet stage two scenes from the popular favorite *Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens and will present these for the first time anywhere in the world at the Eighth Street Theater, Chicago, in five performances, which began with the matinee on December 26 and continue on December 28, 29 and 31 and another matinee Sunday, January 2. Ralph Vaughn Williams, English composer, wrote the music for the *Christmas Carol* pantomime and Nicholas Rimnoff designed the costumes and the scenery. Also at these performances Mr. Bolm, assisted by his company, will present the ballet bouffe *The Tragedy of the Collo*.

Two Gordons of Capitol Family To Appear in New York Recital

Two artists, well known to radio audiences, Nina Gordon and Westell Gordon, of the Capitol Family, will make their first public appearance in New York at a joint recital to be given in Town Hall, Tuesday evening, January 4. These two artists have for the past several months been valued members of Major Bowes' radio group in the weekly Sunday evening program broadcast from the Capitol Theater, New York, and Miss Gordon's impersonations of Sir Harry Lauder have become a feature of these programs. Westell Gordon, tenor, too, is a favorite with the radio audiences, due to the type of songs he presents, the delightful quality of his voice and his clear diction. The two Gordons have toured with much success in many of the European countries, also in Australia and India, and their scrap book shows a record of appearances in many celebrated theaters of Europe, as well as before noted Scottish and English organizations. It also shows that in 1923 Mr. Gordon was a member of a group which broadcast concerts from Palings Concert Hall, Sydney, Australia, with much success, and in 1924 he was heard on the air over WJZ, and it was for concerts over this station that his sister, Nina, joined him and played his accompaniments, as she also does in the Capitol programs. Their joint recital in New York will be awaited with much interest.

Indianapolis To Hear Five Famous Artists

Under the direction of the Ona B. Talbot Fine Arts Enterprises, of Indianapolis, five world's famous artists are scheduled for the Murat Theater, January 23 is the date of the first attraction, when Fritz Kreisler will give a violin recital. The other soloists, whose engagements will also be filled on Sunday afternoons, are Sergel Rachmaninoff, Roland Hayes, Maria Jeritza and Tito Schipa.

New York Events

The New York String Quartet, assisted by Ethel Leginska, pianist, was heard in a most delightful concert in Aeolian Hall, Monday evening, December 26, for which the program comprised the Haydn Quartet in G Minor, Opus 14; Beethoven's Quartet in F Minor, Opus 95, and Schumann's Quartet in E-Flat Major, Opus 44. Throughout the entire program the ensemble work of these musicians was of a very high order, also there was beauty of tone. The Schumann Quartet was the feature of the evening in point of interpretation and because it marked the return to the New York concert stage of Ethel Leginska. Her playing of the piano part was notable for skillful blending of the piano with the strings and well served to demonstrate her artistry. The New York String Quartet is now one of the finest chamber music groups in the concert world today.

The Mischa Elman String Quartet gave its second subscription concert in Aeolian Hall, Tuesday evening, December 21, before an audience which completely filled that auditorium. The program was given over to Beethoven's Quartet in F Minor, Op. 11, and Caesar Franck's Quartet, D Major. This group has advanced far in ensemble work since last season, but there is still need for Mr. Elman to make his playing more of a part of the group and not to dominate each number. The Franck Quartet was given a most excellent reading, but even so its lengthiness made much of it seem tiresome.

Antonio Melli, baritone, gave his debut song recital in Aeolian Hall, Wednesday evening, December 22, in a program including songs by Handel, Mozart, Ferrari, Saint-Saens, Deems Taylor, and a group of Sicilian folk songs by B. Gagliano, who was the accompanist for the evening. This young singer made a very promising appearance at this, his first recital, as while at times he sang with too much force and produced tones incorrectly, he possesses a voice of pleasing quality, and he also interprets each number with much feeling and intelligence.

Wolfsohn Artists' Activities

Wolfsohn artists are as usual enjoying a busy season. Reinald Werrenrath leaves for the Pacific Coast on New Year's Day and will sing the first concert of his Coast tour in San Diego January 6. He will be heard in Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland, San Francisco, Sacramento, Portland and Spokane. By request he is singing a special return engagement in Seattle and will also give a radio concert under the auspices of Atwater Kent from Los Angeles. Mr. Werrenrath will spend four weeks on the Coast. The Springfield (Mass.) Festival Association has already engaged for the festival next May the following Wolfsohn artists: Florence Anstral, dramatic soprano; Kathryn Meisse, contralto; Arthur Hackett-Granville. Florence Anstral has also been re-engaged for the famous Evanston (Ill.) Festival, which will be held in May, 1927, and Mary Lewis will sing at the children's matinee at this same festival. Maria Kurensko, Russian coloratura soprano, has been booked as the soloist for the Musical Art Club, of Charleston, S. C., January 25, and Allen McQuibae, Irish tenor, will be the soloist for this club's concert on February 23. Nikolai Orloff, Russian pianist, will play five concerts during the week of January 3. He will have played 20 recitals during his eight weeks in this country and will sail for London on January 5, and from January to April he is booked solidly for concerts thru England and Scotland and will return to England for further concerts during May, June and July.

New York concerts by Wolfsohn artists include Albert Spalding, violin recital, in Carnegie Hall, January 2; Leonora Cortez, piano recital, Aeolian Hall, Monday evening, January 3; Alexander Bralowsky, piano recital, Carnegie Hall, January 15; a special benefit concert by Josef Hofmann, Albert Spalding and Florence Anstral at the Metropolitan Opera House, January 16; a symphony concert by the Cleveland Orchestra, in Carnegie Hall, Tuesday evening, January 18; a joint recital by Louise Homer and Louise Homer-Strees in Carnegie Hall, January 29.

Minneapolis Concerts

The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Henri Verbrughen, will give a second series of popular concerts on Sunday afternoon at the Lyceum Theater, Minneapolis, beginning January 2. This second series has been arranged in response to the many requests which resulted from the first series, concluded a few weeks ago. Mr. Verbrughen has engaged four soloists for the series and these include Jenny Cullen, violinist, January 2; Maurice Dumest, French pianist, January 9; Harry Fardman, violinist, January 16, and Helen Newitt, soprano, January 23.

Ft. Lauderdale To Have Opera

Another Florida city will have its first grand opera presentation and this time it is Ft. Lauderdale. The Chamber of Commerce and the Civic organizations of that city have endorsed the presentation of grand opera on the evening of January 1 when the San Carlo Grand Opera Company will be presented at the Sunset Theater. Mr. Gallo's company on December 31 will complete a four weeks' engagement at New Orleans and opens a three-day engagement in Miami, Fla., on January 2.

Buffalo Concerts

Marion Talley will give a recital in Buffalo on January 7, as the fourth artist in the Philharmonic series at the Conservatory Auditorium, and on January 11 occurs the concert of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, with Ossip Gabrilowitsch conducting. Roland Hayes will be heard in recital in Elmwood Music Hall on January 18, and the Beethoven Festival, under the auspices of the Buffalo Musical Foundation, takes place in the Hotel Statler Ballroom on January 17, when the program will be given by the London String Quartet.

Noted Artists Listed For N. Y. Recitals in January

The concert calendar for January shows a number of recitals to be given in New York by several of the most noted artists of the present day. In Carnegie Hall, on Sunday evening, January 9, John Charles Thomas, American baritone, will give his first public concert in New York after an absence of two years, during which he appeared in opera with the leading organization of Belgium. Then on January 13, in the same hall, occurs the piano recital of Mischa Levitzki, which will be devoted entirely to the compositions of Beethoven in honor of the centennial of the composer's death. Another event, or series of events, will be the Beethoven Centennial Series in which his 19 sonatas for violin and piano will be given on three Sunday afternoons in Aeolian Hall. The first of this series will take place January 16, for which the artists will be Errem Zimbalist, violinist, and Harold Bauer, piano. The second is scheduled for January 23 and for which the artists will be Paul Kochanski, violinist and Harold Bauer, and a third, January 30, will be given by Albert Spalding, violinist, and Harold Bauer. In Town Hall, also in January, will occur what is said to be the first Bach week ever observed in America. This is a series of six pianoforte recitals in which a different program will be played each day by Harold Samuel, who created a furor last season in his Bach recitals. The concerts will take place on the evenings of January 18, 19 and 20 and the afternoons of January 21, 22 and 23. The English Singers will return for another concert and this will take place Thursday evening, January 13.

Beethoven Festival Announced For London String Quartet

The London String Quartet, now on a tour of South America, will return to the United States the latter part of December and immediately begin a mid-winter and spring concert tour. The first engagement for these musicians is in Hartford, Conn., and then concerts will follow in Toronto, Ont.; Oberlin and Cleveland, O., and Peoria, Ill. A feature of the tour will be Beethoven Festivals in which the program will be devoted exclusively to the works of that eminent composer. Under the auspices of the Buffalo Musical Foundation the Quartet will participate in the Buffalo Beethoven Festival, which will begin on January 17 and continue until January 25, with a recital nightly, and immediately after this engagement will be heard in a recital in Chicago. One week in March will be devoted to a Beethoven Festival, when this quartet will give six consecutive recitals at Aeolian Hall, New York City, beginning on March 7.

Concert and Opera Notes

LEO H. DUSTIN, the young American pianist, who has not appeared in New York for almost two years, will resume his concert activities by giving a concert in Steinway Hall, New York, the latter part of February.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, January 15, is the date for an unusual program to be played in Aeolian Hall by Clara
(Continued on page 48)

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Milt Tolbert Show Closes Season at Dunn

DUNN, N. C., Dec. 24.—The Milt Tolbert Tent Show, owned and managed by Boyd Holloway, closed its tent season here Saturday after a season of 48 weeks, during which time it played thru Georgia, Virginia and North and South Carolina. Business was fair all season, with the exception of the last few weeks, when the cold weather slowed things up considerably.

A feature of the show during the past season was the Original Virginia Entertainers, a 16-piece jazz band, which went over large at each stand. The show played the season under an 88-foot top, with a 30 and 40-foot middle piece, and traveled by two 60-foot baggage cars, according to Charles Richards, publicity man. The equipment has been stored at Monroe, N. C., where rehearsals for next season will begin about the latter part of February.

The roster included Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lester, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Haggerty, Stella Mae Sheldon, Leah Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Allison, Eleanor Murrell, Mrs. P. D. Hester, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Holloway, Blair Camp, Charles Richards, Walter Murrell.

The Original Virginia Entertainers were comprised of the following: Bob Fisher, director and piano; Herman Berkboits, Mickey Winbourne and Bob Taylor, saxes; Jimmie Lee and Joe Turner, trumpets; Gwin Hester, banjo; P. D. Hester, drums and entertainer; Boyd Holloway, trombone and baritone, and Homer Holloway, bass.

Miss Blake is treasurer of the show; "Dad" Holloway, business manager, and A. D. Holloway, general agent in charge of the advance. Three men advanced the show.

The Virginia Entertainers remained intact, and this week opened an engagement at Raleigh, N. C., after which they will play a string of one-nighters thru North and South Carolina.

The Holloways left for a visit to their home at Monroe, N. C., after which they will go to Florida for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Lester went to Winston-Salem, N. C., to spend the holidays with friends. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Haggerty went to Asheville, N. C., for a visit with Mrs. Haggerty's mother. Mr. and Mrs. Bob Allison went to Tampa, Fla., where Bub will produce home-talent shows during the winter. Blair Camp went to Lincolnton, N. C., his home. Stella Mae Sheldon left for a visit to Richmond, Va., after which she will join her mother with Jane Hastings Stock Company. Leah Nelson went to Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Murrell left for Jacksonville, Fla. Charles Richards went to his home in Muncie, Ind., for the holidays, after which he expects to go to Chicago to open on the W. V. M. A. Tins.

The company included in its repertoire: *The Awakening of John Slater*, *The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come*, *Jim Bailey*, *Greatest*, *The Good Little Bad Girl*, *Why Girls Leave Home* and *In the Land of the Sky*.

Leslie E. Kell Preparing For 1927 Tent Season

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Dec. 24.—Leslie E. Kell has returned from his turkey hunt in the hills of Shannon County, Mo., and has settled down to getting his bills lined up for the coming season. The party of eight on the hunting trip succeeded in bagging 11 turkeys, Leslie landing one of the "critters".

Kell is lining up new people for the 1927 season and rehearsals are to begin in March. The show will play houses for a few weeks before going out under canvas.

Bill Wesley and wife are taking care of the equipment in the winter quarters at Walnut Ridge, Ark., where they are putting everything in first-class shape for the coming season.

Bell Players Banqueted

OKMULGEE, Okla., Dec. 24.—The Bell Players, who played the Yale Theater here, last week, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wright on Wednesday night of last week at a midnight banquet given at the Wright home in Beggs, Okla. Following the repast, the orchestra with the company furnished the music for the singing and dancing.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wright, Mr. and Mrs. George Leffingwell, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe (Nig) Allen, Mabel Spencer, Louise Barton, Dot Warner, Herman Starke, Lawrence and Fred Dunning, George Brockwell, Billy Hallett, Mary Jones, Fanny Kelly and "Taps" Wayne.

The Bell Players are this week playing at Weewoka, Okla.

Thomas E. Hall Writes On Largest Tent Show

The writer has received the following letter from Thomas E. (Tom) Hall, who at various times tramped with some of the larger rep. companies thru the North and Southeast. The letter was written from Ryan, Okla., under date of December 21.

"I have been waiting anxiously to see who would really claim to have had the largest tent rep. show on the road the past season. The East has been heard from, why not let the West, where the tent shows flourish all year 'round, speak up? I have been waiting to see if Harley Sadler or some member of his company would not break loose and help you. I am sure that they could say something worth while.

"I did most of my tramping in the North, East and Southeast, but never in all my experience have I had the pleasure of seeing anything that could compare with the outfit known as Harley Sadler's Own Company. It is the largest and most beautiful tent theater I have ever seen and if there is one larger or better I want to learn of its whereabouts, as I want to see the biggest and best and would travel miles to see it.

"I cannot give you the dimensions of the Sadler top or the number of people the show carries, but I hope that he or someone interested will take the time to reply and let the East know that the 'wild and woolly' West is not slow, when it comes to the rep. game.

"In the past years I believe that the John Lawrence Big City Tent Company was the largest, but that was all city time."

Captain W. I. Swain Again Plays Santa Claus

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 22.—For the ninth consecutive year the big top of Capt. W. I. Swain was pitched in Lafayette Square for the annual distribution of toys for *The Times-Picayune* Doll and Toy Fund, in which thousands of New Orleans children receive presents, purchased with funds collected by the management of the above publication on the afternoon of Christmas Eve. Capt. Swain's activities this week were not limited to driving the team from the Swain winter headquarters, but he also wielded a heavy sledge with the best of his gang as the myriad stakes were driven into the ground.

The advent of the Swain wagon, with four horses and scarlet plumes bobbing from the bridles, and the captain handling the reins, escorted by a platoon of police, is as much looked for by the grownups and children as the annual feral day itself.

MR. AND MRS. JIMMIE ELLIOTT (Peg Miller) closed a 40 weeks' engagement with the W. I. Swain Show at Pelahatchie, Miss., December 18, and are now spending a few weeks at Mrs. Elliott's home in Louisville, Ky. "The Swain Show," writes Elliott, "must carry horseshoes in its pockets—the cotton condition in the South didn't seem to effect its patronage any." The Elliotts have signed up with the Swain show for the 1927 season.

Bert Melville Company Playing in Florida

LAKEWORTH, Fla., Dec. 23.—The Bert Melville Associated Players are back in Florida and the week of December 6 played this city to good business. The Melville tent was located some distance from the center of the city, owing to a new ruling of the city fathers which provides that tent shows cannot locate in a certain central zone. This handicap, however, did not deter the company from drawing big crowds and the acting of the Melville Players was highly relished by local theatergoers.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Melville are supported by a good cast and a number of good between-the-acts vaudeville features are carried by the company. One of the features of the Melville company is an eight-piece jazz orchestra.

Among the innovations which the Melville management introduces is a mammoth electrical sign at the entrance and a 40-foot lobby, where patrons may smoke between the acts. The stage is one of the most completely equipped of any portable theater on the road. The stage settings include nearly a carload of flat sets, both interior and exterior.

Only a few of the old-type "blues" are carried, the rest of the seating space being given over to folding opera chairs, all of which are covered with clean, white tile-ona. The players travel in their own automobiles and the show is loaded on trucks and trailers.

The Melville Players last week played at Hollywood, Fla.

"Jiggs, Maggie and Dinty" Co. Headed for the West Coast

TUCSON, Ariz., Dec. 24.—E. J. Carpenter's *Jiggs, Maggie and Dinty* Company is still going strong and is doing a good business thru this section, according to George (Jiggs) Milton, with the company. The company layed off the past week, but opens tomorrow at Phoenix, Ariz., with a matinee and night performance.

Bonnie Rose Milton and her mother, Mildred LeRoy, were forced to leave the show recently because of illness. Bonnie Rose is in a very serious condition, following an operation for acute indigestion.

The company's route leads thru Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana and then to the West Coast, then back thru Canada, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The cast includes Joan Cotterall, Bonnie Rose, G. Gordon Forayth, George W. (Jiggs) Milton, Billy Swan, Fred Roberts, Frances Farrell, Donna Dean and Mita Camino. H. C. Cosner is business manager, Bryan Surfer, agent; Fred Roberts, stage manager; Robert O'Neil, mechanic; Glenn Childers, electrician, and Mrs. James, wardrobe mistress.

Thomas Dramatic Company Opens Winter Season

ELDORADO, Tex., Dec. 24.—The Thomas Dramatic Company opened its winter season at the Pastime Theater at Robert Lee, Tex., December 10, to a full house. From Robert Lee, the company moved to the Palace Theater here, for a week's run, and on opening night the S. R. O. sign was displayed, despite the cold weather.

The show is playing thru its old territory and is booked nearly solid until spring. The roster: Carl Thomas, comedian; Earl Thomas, leads; Cody Thomas, heavies; Cecil Scott, leads; Lois Thomas, ingenue and general business, and Billy McIntyre, general business and scenic artist. E. J. Lamkin is advancing the show.

MARIE AND LUCIUS JENKINS, well-known musicians, who for the past 10 years have been associated with a number of the leading rep. companies, advise that they will open an engagement at the new Tifton Theater, Tifton, Ga., January 1.

Rep. Ripples From K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 22.—Mrs. F. D. Whetten would like to hear from her many friends in the profession. Mrs. Whetten has been ill at the Dyer Hotel, but is now somewhat improved, but will be here all winter. Mrs. Whetten's husband is Fred Whetten, recently with *Ole and His Sweetheart* Company and *Uncle Tom's Cabin* Company.

MR. AND MRS. GENE BRADLEY closed the forepart of this month with the Chick Boyes Players and arrived here December 15, to remain over the holidays.

MR. AND MRS. REX McCALL (Eva Kelley McCall) were arrivals in town December 14, after a few days' visit in their home city, Topeka, Kan., where they drove after the close of the Indian George (Vandervilt) Medicine Show early in the month. Mr. and Mrs. McCall are here for the Christmas season and expect to resume their winter work shortly after the first of January.

JIMMIE TUBBS, who was with the Indian George Medicine Company until its close early in December, is in Kansas City for the holidays.

JACK AND VIRGINIA HAMILTON closed with the Chambers Stock Company in Texas, recently, and are in the city to spend the holidays. Their daughter, Miss Margaret, attends school here.

MRS. L. C. ZELLENO, wife of the sales manager of the Gordon-Howard Candy Company, has been confined to her room in the Coates House the last week, suffering from an attack of the flu.

THE DANCING GOODWINS postcard from Lutesburg, Nevla Scotia, that they are on their way to Newfoundland where they open Christmas Day with the Arlie Marks Show.

LODEMA COREY, of the team of Clem and Corey, advises that she has left Streator, Ill., after six weeks in St. Mary's Hospital there, for her home in Waukegan, O. Mrs. Clem states that the team will open with the Wanegah Comedy Company in the spring.

RAYMOND GUARD and wife, Vera, members of the Bybee Stock Company, arrived in the city December 13 for a few days' rest.

LARRY AND LULA KING closed with the Ferguson Stock Company and are enjoying a vacation in the city.

THE FORDS closed with Fred Brunk's Comedians recently. They are playing vaudeville in and around Kansas City.

PAUL NELSON closed with the Bybee Stock Company at Ness City, Kan., and is vacationing here.

WILL H. BRUNO, manager of the Verba Cross Comedians, closed the company recently at Centerville, Ia., for the holidays and came into the city for the Christmas season, as did most of the members of the company.

JERRY DEAN closed with the Bybee Stock Company at Ness City, Kan., December 11, and came into the city to spend the Christmas season with his parents at their home in Kansas City, Kan. Jerry was a caller at the local office of *The Billboard* last week and said that he would join some theater show early in the new year.

EDDIE McKINNEY, leading man for the Verba Cross Comedians, is in the city for a holiday vacation.

CHARLES AND ELIZABETH Morrell, manager and leading woman of the J. Doug. Morgan Show, are taking a few weeks' vacation in Dallas, Tex. Stanley Nickerson is managing the show in the absence of Mr. Morrell.

BEN S. BENSON is back in the city after a 16 days' trip to Chicago, St. Louis and Indianapolis.

FOREST TAYLOR and wife were visitors in the city December 14.

Dramatic Stock Notes

(Continued from page 29)

gust 16. She goes to play the lead in the first Pacific Coast production of *The American Tragedy*, which will mark the opening of the new Vine Street Theater by A. G. Wilkes in Hollywood, Calif., January 17.

MARJORIE DOW, playing characters with the Guy Harrington Stock Company, Binghamton, N. Y., for the last four seasons, was given a surprise during the performance of *One of the Family* at the Stone Theater December 16. It was Miss Dow's natal day. Almost everyone connected with the house purchased presents and at the end of the first act Mr. Harrington dragged on a small express wagon on which all the gifts were loaded. Miss Dow was overcome with emotion and could barely voice her thanks.

JAMES WINGFIELD, booking agent, Chicago, advises that the Edith Ambler Stock Company playing his Calumet Theater, South Chicago, is in its 15th week and business is fine. *Lights! Is* to be given week of January 2, to be followed by *Up in Mabel's Room* and *The Cat and the Canary*. A Ross Robertson and Edith Ambler are doing the leads and Taylor Bennett is handling the stage. Walter Ambler is doing comedy and directing.

THE BUFFALO PLAYERS gave as their first production of the fifth season of the organization, December 15, the pirate comedy, *Woppy's Warf*. In the cast were Lila Herman, Malcolm Barney, Sherman I. Enoch, Marvel B. Donohoe, Jean Howard, Mary Bryan Preston and John D. Coughlin.

RICHARD STEVENSON, who played on Broadway in *White Cargo* and *Kongo* in recent seasons, opened recently at the Empress Theater, St. Louis, as leading man with the National Players, replacing John Warner, who closed with the company several weeks ago. Edward Darnay, second business man, but formerly a leading man, played leads while the company was without a leading man.

LEON DE COSTA has delayed the rehearsals of his new piece, *The Radio Murder*, until after the new year.

ARTHUR WELLINGTON and wife (Lucille Berdell) have left the Stanley Price Players, Hammond, Ind., for a Christmas visit at the home of Mr. Wellington's mother, Mrs. Helen M. Pearson, in New York. Mrs. Pearson was a well-known actress some years ago, but is

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now a confirmed invalid. Mr. Wellington will return to the Price Players after January 1. Mrs. Wellington goes to Los Angeles for a visit with her mother.

KING CALDER, a new addition to the Henry Duffy Company at the President Theater, San Francisco, has been assigned the leading role in *The Little Spiffire*, which opened on December 19. Calder was first brought out to the Coast by Henry Duffy to play leads with his company in Seattle, Wash. After several weeks there he exchanged places with Kenneth Daignault, who was at that time playing in *Almas the Deacon*. This time Calder's first trip to the Pacific Coast. Dale Winter, Earl Lee, Florence Roberts, Thomas Kelly, John D. O'Hara and Joseph DeStifano are the other members of the cast to present *The Little Spiffire*.

Dramatic Notes

(Continued from page 26)

New York bond house. Mr. Wallach will assume his new duties when the offices in the new Paramount Theater Building are completed. *Almas the Deacon* will be continued under his management and he will retain his theatrical connections.

HAIDEE WRIGHT, who is playing opposite E. H. Sothern in *What Never Dies*, at the Lyceum Theater, New York, has been raised to a feature position in the billing by special request of the star. She is the first to receive this distinction since Julia Marlowe retired and Sothern has been appearing alone.

A. E. AND R. R. RISKIN will produce shortly after the first of the year a new play by Dorrance Davis titled *The Bitten Biting*. It is rumored that negotiations are being carried on with Elsie Ferguson for the stellar role, but the Riskins refuse to confirm it.

JOSEPH SLAYTOR, who portrays the friendly innkeeper in the South Sea drama, *One Man's Women*, at the Minerva Central, is not an alien in the theater world. Mr. Slaytor received general recognition as a producer during the World's Fair in 1893, when he staged America at the Auditorium, up to that time the greatest spectacle of its kind and boasting a cast of 600. He next produced for the Kralffy Bros., *Nero, The Fall of Babylon and Around the World in 80 Days*. He was the original valet in the latter production.

LARRY NELMS has been engaged as general manager for Dr. Louis Sunshine's productions.

FRANK MARTINS has abandoned rehearsals of his planned production of *The Black Cockatoo*, the new play by Samuel Ruskin Golding.

ROBERT HOUSUM is dramatizing Louis Couperus' novel, *Old People and the Things That Pass*. It is to be produced later in the season by Charles Hopkins.

PHOEBE FOSTER returned this week to her original role in *The Donovan Affair*, now playing in Pittsburgh. The play is coming back to New York territory next week to fill bookings on the subway circuit.

Australia
(Continued from page 19)
minate his contract at the end of the year.

David Wall, who plays Father Whalen in *Abie's Irish Rose*, was a caller at the Billboard office here this week, and took away the latest copies to see what was happening in the States since he left Frisco.

Jack Merlin, American card manipulator, is now nearing the end of his season under the Tivoli management. He was formerly in this country 11 years ago.

Maurice Moscovitch is presenting *Trilby* at the Criterion this week. Ellen Pollock is the leading woman.

Nat Phillips, well known in America, will present *Robinson Crusoe*, pantomime, in Brisbane at Christmas.

The Aerial Smiths, American circus act, are providing one of the features at the Tivoli this week. On the same bill are Winslow and Steele, American skaters, and Don Alfonso Zelaya, Spanish pianist.

S. W. Edwards, secretary of the Performing Rights Association, is on an interstate tour, during which he is spreading propaganda among theater proprietors and others who have, so far, failed to carry out their obligations to the organization.

J. O'Donoghue, who up till recently was in the publicity department of Fox Films, has retired from that position in order to take over similar duties with a printing company.

Leeds and Le Mar returned last Saturday after an extensive tour of the Far East.

The Hancey Revue Company arrives here early in December for a season on the Tivoli Circuit.

Billy Maloney's *New Ideas* opened at the Garden Theater, Adelaide, last Saturday, with a big company of performers.

Lee White's *Choderella Revel* took place at the Tivoli, Sydney, last Thursday evening, commencing at midnight. This was the artist's final appearance prior to sailing for Africa.

The J. C. Williamson Gilbert and Sullivan Opera Company, playing in New Zealand, is scheduled to begin its Sydney season at the Theater Royal on Saturday, December 18.

Amy Rochelle, touring New Zealand on the Fuller Circuit, is at the Princess Theater, Dunedin.

The Midnight Frolics, touring the Fuller Time in New Zealand, will, in all probability, open in Wellington for the Christmas season.

Carre and Carlotta, whirlwind acrobatic dancers, are playing a season at Cremorne, Brisbane.

J. C. Williamson, Ltd., announce that at an early date they will construct an "intimate" theater on the site opposite His Majesty's Theater, Melbourne. The theater is planned to accommodate 1,000 and will be without the usual dress circle and will probably be on the lines of the little theaters.

An important merger of motion picture releasing interests has taken place in Victoria. The new company, which will carry on business as Hoyts Theaters, Ltd., is an amalgamation of Hoyts Pty., Ltd.; Circuit Theaters Pty., Ltd., and Remown Theaters Pty., Ltd., and the J. C. Williamson group consisting of a large number of subsidiary companies.

It is understood that John McCormack, famous tenor, will give a series of concerts in Australia next year, under the direction of E. J. and Dan Carroll.

Lee White and Clay Smith were granted certificates of discharge from bankruptcy by the Registrar in the Bankruptcy Court, Sydney, last week.

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Burns & Paden Co. For Butterfield Time

MUSKEGON, Mich., Dec. 24.—The Burns & Paden *Cute Little Devils* Company, under the management of Charles V. Turner, opened a four-week engagement at the Regent Theater here, December 12, to gratifying business. The company played the Regent during the Christmas holidays last season and set a record which to date has not yet been touched by any other company.

Following the Muskegon engagement, the *Cute Little Devils* will open a tour of the Butterfield Circuit at the Bijou-Arcade, Battle Creek, Mich. The company played 20 weeks on the Butterfield Time last season and, according to Turner, this will be the first time that a company has toured the Butterfield Circuit for two consecutive seasons, playing two or more weeks in each city. "This in itself is quite a record," states Turner, "but better still is the fact that this season the Burns & Paden Show will play road show houses in a number of towns instead of the usual musical tab houses." At Lansing, Mich., the company will play the Gladner Theater instead of the Capitol, and at Bay City, Mich., the show will be housed at the Regent instead of the Bijou.

The company now numbers 22 people, featuring "Curly" Burns, black-face comedian, Howard Paden is the leading man, and Brandeaux and Daudet, until recently at the Rainbo Gardens, Chicago, are the featured dancers. The dancing ensembles are under the direction of Pal "Mere Brandeaux. The Michigan tour will end May 1, when the company will go into summer stock.

Kerrigan's "Band Box Revue" Pleasing Milwaukee Patrons

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 24.—Tom Kerrigan's *Band Box Revue*, which opened its season of rotary stock in this city, November 7, is moving along nicely and is pleasing the managers and public in general. With three other rotary tabs in town, the company is more than holding its own, and from all indications will remain here all winter.

The company carries 12 people and uses all script bills, running from 30 to 40 minutes, intermingled with plenty of specialty numbers. The comedy is in the capable hands of Percy (Smartz) Lohr and Martin (Adolph) Bowers, well known in tab and burlesque.

Besides Lohr and Bowers, the roster includes Tom Kerrigan, characters, specialties and manager; Billy Cash, producer and straight; Elsie Lohr, ingenue and chorus producer; June Day, soubrette and "blues" singer, and the following choristers: Lillian Knisch, Martha Burns, Loraine Hinke, Babe Malloy, Lydia Killa and Helen Rietz. Margie Schiff is director.

"Chuckles of 1927" Playing Indefinite Run at Duluth

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 24.—The *Chuckles of 1927*, managed by Harry DeWitt, just completed a successful 16 weeks' tour of Western Canada, and is now in its third week of an indefinite run at the Orpheum Theater here. Duluth business has been extraordinarily good for this time of the year, according to DeWitt, and the company is looking forward to a long run here.

The company is carrying seven principals, a musical director and eight girls in line, using all script bills, with lots of scenery and special electrical effects.

The roster: Harry DeWitt, producer, manager and featured comedian; Ruth Vincent, featured character comedienne; Billie Fluhrer, ingenue; Ivy Jackson, prima donna; Stanley Francis, juvenile and specialty dancer; Billy Morris, characters and Irish tenor, and Teddy Curtis, featured Charleston dancer. The chorus is made up of Alma Herdman, Mickey Hordan, Helen DeWitt, Betty Faulkner, Doris Montgomery, Winnie Barclay, Vi Belden and Babe Lewis. Albert Politt is at the piano.



BUD BROWNIE, manager and featured comic with "The Flash Parade", an F. B. H. production, playing the Gus Sun Time.

Le Vance Organizes Motorized Company

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 24.—Cal LeVance, owner of the *Sunkist Stars*, *Sunkist Flappers* and *Sunkist Steppers* companies, has closed his show, which was playing thru Iowa, and has organized a motorized company in this city, to be known as the *Oh You Flossie* Company, playing split-week and week stands thru Northwestern Kansas and Oklahoma.

LeVance has had his company in Iowa for the past three months and declares business to be anything but good in that section. The new show, according to LeVance, is carrying special scenery and equipment.

The *Oh You Flossie* roster includes Cal LeVance, owner, manager and leads; Walt (Snitz) Stanford, comedian and specialties; Blim Norton, general business and specialties; Babe DeShazer, ingenue and song and dance specialties; Jimmie Burke, prima donna and singing specialties, and Donald Boyle and Irva O'Brien, harmony singing, parlé and dancing specialties.

Stock Tabloid Policy In Harlem Movie House

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—What is believed to be the first stock tab, show produced in the Harlem section of the city played to good returns last Saturday at the West End Theater, West 125th street, for years a straight picture house. The production, *Veeping Vampires*, ran as a trial for a single day, sponsored by Harry Bernard, formerly producer of stock burlesque at the new 125th Street Theater, several streets removed from the West End Theater. Bernard took the leading comic role, and was supported by Charley Collins and "Happy Harry" Cook. The West End will inaugurate the new stock tab, and pictures policy beginning January 7, when the 20th Century Dolls will be the opening production.

It is planned by the Harris Theatrical Corporation, operator of the West End, to have twice-weekly changes, shows running six days a week. Sunday concerts will be booked into the house by Edward White and Walter Gordon, a new combination responsible for the projected stock tab's innovation. The White-Gordon office has announced that several other picture houses in Harlem and Brooklyn will shortly be converted to the new tab policy.

AL COLEMAN has sent the writer a card containing some very favorable testimonials from a number of New England house managers on his *Top Top Merry Makers* Company. "They can't all be crazy," says Al.

Coleman's "Honey Bunch" Opens at Tampa, Fla.

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 24.—E. B. Coleman's *Honey Bunch* is scheduled to close at the Phillips Theater here tomorrow night, to open an indefinite engagement at the Risito, Tampa, Monday. The *Honey Bunch* Company will alternate between Tampa and St. Petersburg, Fla., playing three days of each week at each house. The company will alternate with Keith's Vaudeville in both cities.

Coleman's *Honey Bunch* played 14 weeks at the Phillips Theater here this fall and 29 weeks last season, making a total of 53 weeks, a record-breaking run for a city of 31,000 population. The remarkable run was made possible by the fine public spirit manifested by Coleman and his company, which has made the show many staunch friends in this city.

On Monday night the company gave a midnight performance for the benefit of the local post of the American Legion. The *Honey Bunch* Company was supplemented by local legionnaires and other local talent and gave a most interesting entertainment, which drew a nice house.

In commemoration of the company's seventh consecutive season in Orlando, *The Orlando Morning Sentinel* of December 19 carried an eight-page anniversary section in honor of the *Honey Bunch* Company.

Kable's "Yankee Girls" Moving Along Smoothly

HARRY KABLE'S *Yankee Girls* are fast forging to the front among the five rotary tab, companies playing Cincinnati and vicinity. The company, at the beginning of the season, was moving along just so, but some new talent was recently added, which has bolstered the company, considerably. The *Yankee Girls* are at present playing five nights in and around the Queen City, presenting both script and hit bills.

The company is made up of Bessie Belt, ingenue; Guy (Bozo) Hauff, comic; Gus Rapier, producer and comic; Ray Kenneth, straight man; Dolly Belt; Carrie Delmas, chorus producer; Sharlene Fischer; Alice Kable, soubrette; Irma Love; Eva Bishop; Carmen Bell, leader; Harry Brooks, drummer, and Harry Kable, owner and manager. All of the girls step out of line for specialties.

The writer "caught" the show at the Liberty Theater, Cincinnati, on Monday night of last week and witnessed a creditable performance. The chorus, under the tutelage of Carrie Delmas, formerly chorus producer for Fred Hurley and until recently with Sylvan Beebe's *Midnight Frolics*, playing rotary tab, around Cincinnati, is well drilled, peppy and plenty good looking.

Irma Love, petite curly-headed damelet, entertained with some neat toe dancing.

Ray Kenneth, who made his tab debut several weeks ago, worked nicely for a novice. His stage presence is a little awkward, but that will wear off with a few more performances under his belt.

Carrie Delmas, one of the best female "boofers" in tabloid, put over a popular song number and then stepped one off in fine style.

Bessie Belt, ingenue, who last season played a stock engagement with Jack (Coo Coo) Mahoney at the Boulevard, Cincinnati, worked in her same old way, which is always good.

The comick, Hauff and Rapier, worked their fool heads off, but couldn't get a chuckle out of the audience. Something wrong somewhere.

Dolly Belt, a youngster, put over a song number in sweet voice. Dolly works like a veteran, has plenty of pep and is imbued with a heap of personality. Expect to see her in something better than tab, in the near future.

Alice Kable, the shapely blond soubrette, sang *My Dream of the Big Parade* in good voice. The number was intermingled with a military drill by Alice and the girls, which won the biggest applause of the evening.

Cecil Phelps' Co. Opens on Sun Time

COVINGTON, Ky., Dec. 24.—Cecil Phelps' *Derby Winners* Company made its season's debut on the Sun Time at the Hippodrome Theater here Sunday, with a matinee and two night shows, after a season of 44 consecutive weeks on the Spiegelberg Time. Business in the South was fair, according to Phelps, but the railroads got a big chunk of the net receipts.

Following the Sunday show at the local Hippo, the company laid off for three days, playing the Hippodrome at Newport on Thursday night. The company will also play a matinee and two night shows there Christmas Day. From Newport, the company was scheduled to go to the Middelberg Theater, Logan, W. Va., but a last-minute change was made, switching the *Derby Winners* to Grafton, W. Va., for a week's run.

Phelps has a keen outfit this season and his bills are interspersed with plenty of vaudeville specialties, giving the show plenty of speed. While not overburdened with scenery, the company has a raft of pretty wardrobe.

The *Derby Winners* lineup is: Cecil Phelps, owner, manager and first comic; Art Hughes, second comic; Ruth Ellis, "blues" singer; Peggy Craig, soubrette; Clyde Hamilton, Frank Mazer, Walter Nichols, straight man; Gilbert George, dancer, and Lenora Nichols, chorus producer. The chorines are: Josephine Reid, Dorothy Phillips, Helen Cameron, Patricia Mauer, Ruth O'Neil, Lillian Gabriel and Ella Smith. Walter PaDelford is musical director.

Cecil Phelps and Art Hughes, the dispensers of joy, garner plenty of laughs with their work and are one of the best comic teams to visit here this season. Art Hughes is a veteran at the game and runs Cecil a close race for the top honors. Walter Nichols pleased with his singing and handled the straight part admirably.

Ruth Ellis, "blues" singer, is possessed of a good voice and puts her numbers over in fine style. Peggy Craig, soubrette, while a little weak on the singing end, is a rare treat for the eyes. Clyde Hamilton does several song numbers in fair voice and, on the night reviewed, drew the biggest applause of the evening with a "bone" solo, the best piece of work with the "bones" the writer has ever witnessed. Frank Mazer put on a song number and trumpet solo to a good hand. Gilbert George entertained with some nifty hoofing.

A trio, consisting of Hughes, Nichols and Hamilton, put over some comedy numbers that pleased the crowd immensely. Another trio, made up of Misses Ellis, Craig and Mauer, also went over nicely. A highlight of the show was the police drill put on by six of the girls, with Miss Ellis as a captain.

Van Allen's "Town Topics" To Open at Detroit Jan. 2

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 24.—Billy Van Allen's new *Town Topics* Company is scheduled to open at the Colonial Theater here January 2. The company will carry 20 people, including 14 well-known tab performers and 16 girls in line.

Each week, according to Van Allen, the company will be augmented by visiting vaudeville specialties, chosen for their adaptability to the current bill. "No expense will be spared," says Van Allen, "in costuming and equipping the company and with my new show I hope to reach the goal so many of us have been striving for in the miniature musical comedy field."

Dennis Sisters in Houston

The Dennis Sisters, Babe and Faye, after spending a brief but enjoyable vacation with their folks, have joined W. J. Lytle's company at the Royal Theater, Houston, Tex. Buster Graves is producer of the show.

Lord's "Musi-Girl" Roster

WACO, Tex., Dec. 24.—A number of changes have recently been made in the cast of Jack Lord's Musi-Girl Company, now in its 13th week at the Crystal Theater here.

Murray and Murray joined the show, replacing Billy Gilbert and wife. Happy Jack Burns opened Monday, replacing Nelson Barnes, who went home for the holidays. Jack Foley, who has been with the company for the last eight weeks, closed to join Dick Hyland at Moosejaw, Sask., Can.

The present roster of the company: Jack Lord, producer and manager; Jack Burns, comedy; Billy Murray, general business; June Murray, prima donna and general business; Marville Girard, characters; Dorothy Lord, chorus and parts; Rena Mae (Boots) Burns and Fay Wilson, chorus and specialties; Lillian Romans and Helen and Jessie Mae Martin, chorus and numbers, and Fred Baldwin, musical director.

The policy at the Crystal is two bills a week, with two shows daily, except Saturday and Sunday, when four shows are given.

Milt Schuster Placements

The following tab. performers were placed recently by Milt Schuster: Jack B. Wright, with Harry Rogers' Billy Maibe Company, J. L. Davis, manager; Jessalyn Pax, with Buddy Kane, in stock at the Central Theater, Danville, Ill.; Jack Shackleton, with Danny Lind's show; Henri Neiser, with Pete Pate, in stock at the Landers Theater, Springfield, Mo.; Dorothy Fuller, with Greenwald & Weston; Jack Carrington, with the Scott Sisters, Paul D'Mathot, manager; Dorsey Powers, with Halton Powell's Pickers Company, P. E. Johnston, manager; Benn and Allen, with Cecil Phelps' Derby Winners Company; Gloria Lavigne and Ed Sherwood, with Billy Van Allen, in stock at the Colonial Theater, Detroit, Mich.; Art Vernum, with Burns & Paden, at the Regent Theater, Muskegon, Mich.

Tab. Talks From K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 22.—Prince A. K. Richards, of Honolulu, who has been touring the many musical circuits in the States, recently joined the Clark Oldfield Road Show. The Prince has been in this country six years, is the possessor of a rich baritone voice and is also an artist on the Hawaiian steel guitar and ukulele.

MR. AND MRS. ALBERT HOLT (Katherine Armstrong) arrived in the city December 20, to spend the Christmas holidays here, visiting their many friends. They closed with a musical comedy company in Salt Creek, Wyo., and after a vacation here, are planning on touring Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri with their independent vaudeville act.

CARROLL ROBERTS left here December 19 for Furber, Kan., his home, to spend Christmas. He was with the Black and White Revue, which closed recently in Missouri for a Christmas lay-off.

WALLIE REGGIE Whittington, member of the Black and White Revue, spent a few days here after the show's close, before going to Amarillo, Tex., for Christmas.

B. BESSIE HALE advises from Henryetta, Okla., that the "Schnitz" Seymour Midnight Follies Company is meeting with a good reception and good business thru that State.

HAROLD BUTTIMER, recently in advance of Hari's Musical Comedy Company, was an arrival here today from Omaha. Buttmer plans on spending the remainder of the winter in the city.

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Tab. Notes

CHARLIE CARTER is a recent addition to the Verne Phelps Company.

MR. and MRS. DON TRENT (Blanche Burnette), well known in tab. circles, are now in burlesque with *Kongo*, a Columbia Wheel attraction.

POLI AND DE ARTO closed at Kokomo, Ind., December 12, and, after spending a week at Lima, O., joined Irving N. Lewis' *Nifties* of Broadway Company.

"TRIXIE" SAUL is now producing at the Midway Follies Theater, Chicago, formerly a vaudeville house, but now playing musical comedy stock with a change of bill weekly.

THE JOYLAND REVUE, managed by Charles Gramlich, is now playing a two weeks' engagement at the Hippodrome Theater, Hollywood, Fla., after a successful week at the Boneta Theater, Atlanta, Ga.

"CHIC" KENNEDY, "that funny little girl", formerly with Pete Pate's Company, is appearing nightly with a score of Broadway favorites at the Paddock Club, Seventh avenue, New York, where she is billed as "the funniest human in town".

CLAUDE MATTHIS and wife, Marie, are at present playing vaudeville in and around Chicago, and state conditions in the Windy City are very good. They will spend the holidays in Chicago before taking to the road.

JACK GRANT, that veteran black-face comedian of tabs, is at present furnishing the comedy for Delmar's Fighting Lions on the Keith Time, where he is garnering plenty of laughs with his work, according to reports received by the writer.

ALYNE ARDEN, female impersonator, who is convalescing from a nervous breakdown and temporary paralysis of his legs, wishes to thank his many friends who wrote him during his confinement in the Swedish Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn. He especially thanks Babe Montana, female impersonator, and Ralph Musselman for their cheery letters. Arden, who is now located at 2519 N. Sheridan avenue, Minneapolis, writes that he is badly in need of a little financial aid.

TOM (BIMBO) HOWARD, well-known tramp comic, can be seen around the Lincoln Square Theater, Indianapolis, Ind., where Jack Kane's Stock Company is holding forth to good holiday business. Howard is in Indianapolis to spend the holidays with his sisters, after a good season in Atlantic City.

CHARLES H. WERRY, former lead singer with the Melody Four, with the

Lois Bridge Players, playing at the Globe Theater, Kansas City, Mo., wishes to let his many friends know that he has given up the show business to work at his trade, engraver, in Denver, Col. Werry states that the 10 months with the Lois Bridge Players were the most pleasant in his theatrical career, and it was with much regret that he left the company. "The Lois Bridge Company is, to my mind," writes Werry, "the best in the game in several ways—neatness, good fellowship and good people. I hope their present success will always continue."

THE ROSTER of Homer Meachum's *Sensation* includes Homer Meachum, manager and comic; Owen Bennett, straight; Jimmie Oates, juvenile; Buddy Weber, general business; Bert Barry, characters; Cherry Brown, characters; Gladys Rooney, soubret, and Dottie Mayfield, Grace Moxey, Josselyn Lavers, Bobbie Croom, Lillian Bennett and Levora Barry, choristers. The quartet, composed of Homer Meachum, second tenor; Jimmie Oates, first tenor; Owen Bennett, baritone, and Buddy Weber, bass, dish out a mean mess of harmony that never fails to stop a show.

HAROLD SNELL writes: "I notice in the last issue of *The Billboard* that Eddie Ford has me listed as a straight man with his *Broadway Masqueraders* on the Canadian Burlesque Circuit. This is a mistake. For the past 20 weeks I have been with Arthur Higgins' *Folly Tones Meids*. I am still with the Higgins Company, enjoying a very pleasant and unlimited engagement. Eddie Ford wrote me in regard to joining his show, but I did not join. Business with the *Folly Tones Meids* at the Grand Opera House, Alton, Ill., is remarkably good, especially for this time of the year, and Arthur Higgins and his entire company are becoming greater favorites each week."

JIMMIE GALE and wife, Margie June, are enjoying a pleasant season with Jack Lambert's *Pretty Babies* Company, a Mutual burlesque attraction. Jimmie is doing juveniles and characters and Margie is working in the chorus. Gale states that he expects to open a 14-people tab. show in the spring.

THE BIG PARADE Company's roster is as follows: Paul Reno, manager, producer and straight; Jack Croom, general business; Bobbie Croom, character prima; Otto Holland, comic; Hal Stock, comic; Dawn O'Day, ingenue; Earl Aubrey, Charleston specialties, and Lottie and Addie Poe, Jeannette Naylor, Ila Holland, Margie Alban and Mildred Wood, choristers. Jack and Bobbie Croom are closing with the show, after a short but very successful engagement, to spend the holidays with their friends and relatives in Memphis, Tenn.

How To Organize a Jazz Band
 (Continued from page 25)

be piano, drums, saxophone, banjo and cornet. They are the ground work of the jazz band, and are absolutely essential for melody, rhythm and harmony. If your orchestra improves in quality and also financially, you will want to expand it. The next instrument added should be a trombone, then another saxophone, a bass horn, a third saxophone, and finally a violin. You will note the emphasis I place upon the saxophone, and by saxophone I mean clarinet too, as most players double in several reed instruments. When I organized my first orchestra to play for a local dance many years ago in a small California town, I had to play the saxophone, as no respectable musician would daily with this then despised instrument. And from the first I recognized the necessity of the saxophone in the dance orchestra. All my arrangements and instrumentation tended toward more prominence for the lowly sax. In enlarging the 18-piece orchestra the order might almost be progressive. That is, add another trombone, cornet, saxophone, another heavy horn, bass or baritone, and so on. If your orchestra is very large, you can put in some unusual instrument, as a banjo or a harp. Now supposing you have the right proportion of instruments and each musician is moderately qualified to play, I would work solely toward a co-operative effect. Remember, you are playing for dancers, who will notice the slightest alteration in time. I would rather sacrifice the most striking effects than to miss or halt one measure when playing in a ballroom. Sotos are all right in their place, but like football or basketball, it is the team that works together that wins. Play the music as it is written, in accord with your fellow players, and you will secure an effect more pleasing than a lot of grand-stand monkey business. Remember that jazz is no longer in its primal barbaric state. Wrigglings, furchines, slapstick effects are rapidly going out of style; in fact, they never were in style with most of the best aggregations. Softer tones, vivid melodies, definite, en-tente rhythms are the aim of the modern dance orchestra. The individual-player should strive for tone and accuracy rather than for a blare and callithonics; then your orchestra will take on beauty and harmony. My last word is practice! Morning, noon and night, practice!"

A glance at the Hotel Directory in this issue may save considerable time and inconvenience.

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For EDDIE COLLINS MUSICAL STOCK CO., no enlarge Company. Prima Dancers capable of playing strong line of parts, good singing voice essential. Also two more Chorus Girls. Quick engagement. People in all lines write. EDDIE COLLINS, Capital Theatre, Madison, Wisconsin.

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Two Experienced Choristers

Salary, \$17.50. Also Specialty Team, man for Juvenile, wife Chorus. Join immediately. Write, don't write. BILLY WHELAN, Princess Theatre, Shelby, N. C., this week; Strand Theatre, Charlotte, N. C., next week.

AT LIBERTY FOR TAB.—Tall, Boonville Comedian, singing, dancing and musical specialties; Baritone Burlesque Player; wife, lead girl numbers. Join us now. Need ticket, Write or wire. CLAUDE CLARK, Fountain City, Wisconsin.

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Burlesque

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Jack Reid Revives

"Record Breakers"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—J. H. Herk has completed negotiations with Bert Todd and Frank Cummings whereby the latter will cancel their booking of *Over Here* on the Mutual Circuit and replace that presentation with Jack Reid and a revival of his famous *Record Breakers* beginning January 10 at the Gayety Theater, Brooklyn.

Reid as a principal in the presentation will resume his former characterization, portraying his well-known "Ted" and "Information Kid" under the directing management of Todd & Cummings.

Jack Reid and his *Record Breakers* was a big drawing card on the old American Circuit and should draw profitable patronage on the Mutual.

Radical Raymond

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Sam Raymond, directing manager of the Gayety and Star Theaters, Brooklyn, presenting Mutual Circuit shows, is becoming noted for his progressiveness, his latest move being to book his *Happy Hours* show lay-off week between Brooklyn and Philadelphia into Walter Reade's Broadway Theater, Long Branch, for the first three days and Reade's Palace Theater, Trenton, for the last three days of the week, thereby giving his company a Christmas present in the form of a week's work and salary instead of a layoff with loss of salary.

Should Raymond's show play to profitable patronage it may lead up to other Mutual Circuit shows being booked into Long Branch and Trenton.

Boosting Burlesque

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Jack Beck, promoter of burlesque principals, who makes his headquarters at Izzy Hirst's Gayety Theater, Philadelphia, was a week-end visitor to Columbia Corner, seeking talent for shows in Philly.

Beck is a great booster of burlesque and many principals are indebted to Beck for lucrative engagements. Incidentally, Beck is assistant to Izzy Hirst in the operation of the Gayety Theater Stock Company that now includes Billy Tanner, Harry Harrigan, Frank (Rags) Murphy, Betty Palmer, Flo Owens, Elmore Cody, Buehla Viletta, Al Golden, Bennie Fox and Walter Krelger.

Billy Mossey Laid Up: Michaels Show Postponed

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—Because of illness in his family Billy Mossey, comic lead in the Michaels No. 2 show, scheduled to open last week at the Michaels Plaza, was forced to lay off and the show was unable to open. The Plaza will re-open next week with the Michaels No. 1 show. S. H. Dudley's colored show, *Darktown Frolies*, will play the Palace Theater this week in the place of the usual Palace Stock Company engagement.

Changes in Casts

GEORGE BROADHURST opened Monday with the New 125th Street Theater stock company, New York.

A DELINE McKEEVER, ingenue, joined the Palace Theater stock company, Buffalo, on Monday.

BLOSSOM LA VIELLE closed with the Grand Street Theater stock company, New York, Saturday.

HARRY MEYERS and FLORENCE DRAKE closed with *Sky Rockets*, Mutual Circuit show, at Springfield. Les Dunn joined the company at the Gayety Theater, Brooklyn. Billy Aldridge succeeds Miss Drake.

INA HAYWARD, prima donna of Minsky's Apollo Theater stock company, New York, closed December 18.

CAPE HARRY GOLDBERG is making further changes in his cast of *Vamps* of 1927, Mutual Circuit show, by the exit of Bob Snyder and Morris Levine and the entry of Billy Mossey and Sam Lewis.

SAMMY WRIGHT, after fulfilling a two-week engagement with *Baria To Go*, a Columbia Circuit company, will close at the Empire, Brooklyn.



FLO PERRY, last season as *Kitty Mabony*, daughter of *Maggie and Jiggs* in "Bringing Up Father", and this season playing *Cynthia* in "My Girl", both shows on the Columbia Circuit. Previously Miss Perry appeared with the "Midnight Maidens", teamed with Ed Lee's "Big Wonder Show" and for a while appeared in vaudeville with her two sisters.

Jack Beck's Placements

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Jack Beck, artists' representative, has made placements, viz.: Billy (Dutch) Tanner, comic; Bobby De Rose, classical dancer, as added attraction; Brooks and Perry, colored act; Diane Morgan, prima donna; May Leona, acrobatic specialty dancer, and Viola McCoy, celebrated blues-singing recording artist, as added attraction, at Izzy Hirst's Gayety Theater Stock Company.

Ed Johnston, tramp comic, and Viola Frego, with Dave Marion's Columbia Circuit show; Madame Aspen, classical dancer, as added attraction, at the Garrick Theater, St. Louis, Mo., week of December 22, and May Belle, shimmy-shaking specialist, as added attraction, with Walter Scott at the Empire Theater, Cleveland, O., to open January 2.

Clyde Griffith in Cleveland

BUFFALO, Dec. 25.—Clyde Griffith, of the National Vaudeville Exchange, spent part of last week in Cleveland digging up principals and chorus girls for local stock burlesque companies. He signed Billy Miffin and his wife, who joined Jake Potter's *Gandy Kids* Company, which opens in Rochester, N. Y., next week.

Fifi as Added Attraction En Tour Mutual Circuit

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Miss Fifi, classy classic dancer, famous around this city for her extended engagements at stock and circuit houses, has been especially engaged to appear as an added attraction in Mutual Circuit houses, viz.: Mutual-Empire, Kansas City, January 9; Garrick, St. Louis, week of January 16; Empress, Cincinnati, week of January 23; Gayety Theater, Louisville, week of January 29; Empress Theater, Chicago, week of February 6; Cadillac, Detroit, week of February 13; Empire Theater, Cleveland, week of February 20; Academy Theater, Pittsburgh, week of February 27, and the Olympic Theater, New York City, week of March 6.

Burlesquing "Lulu Belle"

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Weber and Folds, likewise Concross and Dixie Minstrels, were noted in their day for their burlesquing of popular topics of the day, likewise plays, and it now appears as if Hurlig & Seaman, directing managers of the Yorkville Theater Stock Company, were preparing to pursue a similar policy with their future presentations.

Beginning Monday the Yorkville Theater Stock Company will present the first part of the show supplemented by the usual run-way numbers with the 25 white members of the company.

A colored company of 25 from Connie's Inn will put on the second part with a burlesque of *Lulu Belle*, a popular play now running in a Broadway house.

If this burlesque attracts profitable patronage the promoters will present burlesques on other popular plays.

Miner's Materialization

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Tom Miner, directing manager of Miner's Empire Theater, Newark, presenting Columbia Circuit shows, with the able aid of A. Johnny Mack, house manager, is now preparing to celebrate the Miner's materialization of its 55d anniversary week, January 23, with the presentation of *Wine, Women and Song*.

The patrons of Miner's, always responsive to any worthy charity, donated more than \$400 to take care of many poor kiddies who otherwise would be minus merriment on Christmas. H. Clay and Thomas W. Miner added materially to the fund.

Brown Vs. Abbott

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Joseph A. Brown, a theatrical promoter of Rochester, was awarded a judgment of \$5,895 against Harry Abbott, Jr., of the same city, by a jury. Abbott induced Brown to finance Abbott's management of the Corinthian Theater for the presentation of Mutual Circuit shows. Brown claimed Abbott misrepresented conditions, therefore the suit.

Season's Greetings

Entering on our 10th year as editor of *Burlesque*, ever striving for the betterment of burlesque, we feel amply repaid for all our efforts by the avalanche of seasonal greetings in the form of cards and personal letters.

We are making our acknowledgments to individual greeters under the general heading of cards received at this office. To one and all alike we reciprocate by hoping that you had a Merry Christmas and that the coming year will bring you prosperity and happiness.

Fraternally yours,

NELSE

Change in Companies

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Sue Milford, heading her *Madcap Burlesquers*, will exit from the Palace Theater, Buffalo, tonight and be succeeded by another company at tomorrow's matinee. The new company will be headed by Billy (Needles) Mossey, a native son.

Seen and Heard

MAY ALLEN, the dazzling blond chorister of Max Field's *Wedding Kates*, Mutual Circuit show, steps out of line in male attire, further camouflages her personality by a black wig for a hard-shoe dancing specialty that fully merits the encores given her, but inadvertently the paragraph commending her in our review of *Wedding Kates* was left out, therefore let it be recorded herein as a justifiable recognition of May's work.

DAVE SIDMAN has been appointed house manager of the Grand Street Theater, New York, presenting burlesque stock.

CAROLINE ROSS, the dazzling blond shimmy-shaking specialist, was an added attraction with the *Baiting Beauties*, Mutual Circuit show, at the Empress Theater, Cincinnati.

ELINOR MARSHALL has forsaken burlesque for an engagement with the Bert Smith Players at the Majestic Theater, Evansville, Ind.

FRANK LOCKWOOD, carpenter of Uncle Tom and Eva, Columbia Circuit company, closes at the Empire, Brooklyn, to return to his home town, Stamford, Conn., where he will operate an attractive dining car on one of the main streets. Homer Boughington, assistant electrician, also closes at the Empire.

BILLY KOUZ, ensemble number producer for Broadway and burlesque shows, was sufficiently successful with the Grand Street Theater stock company, New York, to warrant the management appointing Kouz as ensemble number producer for its new 125th Street Theater stock company in Harlem. Kouz is now producing at both houses.

FRED IRWIN, former franchise-producing manager of Columbia Circuit shows, after losing out on his suit against the Columbia Amusement Company for cancellation of franchise, emigrated for Canada where he has extensive holdings in the minor district of Porcupine. Irwin is now en route his home on Long Island for the holidays.

DIPLOMATIC DAVE KRAUS, of the M. B. A., has secured a lease on the Orpheum Theater, Montreal, where he will present dramatic stock indefinitely.

THE CINCINNATI TIMES STAR in its issue of December 16 carried a leading editorial commenting on burlesque of the past and present in comparison with the so-called Broadway productions of the present in which burlesque is commended, whereas a popular play is criticized caustically.

FLORENCE MILLS, principal in Oh, Papa, on the Columbia Circuit, broke her leg last week in a fall in the lobby of the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati. She was taken to the Good Samaritan Hospital. Miss Mills and her husband, Abe Reynolds, had planned to spend the Christmas holidays in Cincinnati.

Holiday Greetings from the 'OHIO GANG'

MANHEIM Theatrical Enterprises

BERT H. TODD, Gen. Mgr.

Executive Offices
Band Box Theater
Cleveland, Ohio.

"LAFFIN' THRU" with PEACHES	TODD & CUMMINGS Present JACK REID and His "RECORD BREAKERS"	Burlesque Famous BAND BOX REVUE Wm. Dowdell, Mgr.	THE EMPIRE Cleveland's Mutual Burlesque Theater Walter Scott, Mgr.
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COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

RARIN TO GO

Book by Ed E. Daley. Lyrics and music by Freddie Phillips. Supplemental special lyrics and music for *Counting the Hours* by Earl Carroll. Musical numbers produced by Midge Gibbons, Hector and Cooper. Entire production staged and presented by Ed E. Daley at the Columbia Theater week of December 20.

CAST (White Company): Jack (Snooty) Kinneard, Sammy Wright, Lew Denny, George Manning, Midge Gibbons, Dorothy Alexander and Ruby Pilgreen. CAST (Colored Company): Jimmie Ferguson, Tim Moore, Gertie Moore, Atta Blake, Edith Spencer, Harry Lucas and Joe Jordan's 10 Sharps and Flats.

Scenery, lighting effects, gowning and costuming fulfill all the requirements of the C. A. C. The book by Ed E. Daley is a series of comedy-making burlesque bits that have become familiar by previous presentation, but given new twists and turns by Daley for this show.

Jack (Snooty) Kinneard, in a somewhat eccentric Dutch characterization in a Bert Lahr, with frequent changes of custom-tailored comedy clothes, has a slow, droll, dry delivery of lines and action apropos that garners laughter and applause whenever he is on the stage.

Sammy Wright, a short-statured, somewhat eccentric Dutch comique, altogether different in his frequent changes of makeup and custom-tailored comedy clothes from Kinneard, makes an admirable contrast with his fast and funny delivery of lines and eccentric actions. Wright is well set in this show, having plenty to do in comedy scenes with and without Kinneard. With Kinneard Wright makes an able foil, without Kinneard Wright evokes laughter and applause on his own account as an all-round, thoroughly seasoned burlesque comique of exceptional eccentric talent and ability.

Lew Denny, a clean-cut, aggressive straight man, varies his appearances in scenes with the characterization of a Frenchman, in which he creates much comedy.

George Manning, a sweet singer of sentimental songs, leads several numbers effectively, appears to good advantage in bits and distinguishes himself admirably in a singing and dancing specialty with Midge Gibbons.

Midge Gibbons, more personally attractive than ever with her titan-haired beauty, ingratiating smile, puts pep aplenty into her singing and dancing numbers that were fully encoored and enhanced by her Russian acrobatic dancing that included splits and cartwheels that gave a full flash of her slender, sym-

metrical form in innumerable graceful movements that were only excelled by her stately statuesque near-nude pose as the pendulum in the Earl Carroll production and presentation of the picturesque finale entitled *Counting the Hours*, a previous feature of Earl Carroll's Venities on Broadway.

Dorothy Alexander, a pretty, petite, brunet soubret, sang and danced her way into favor with her first appearance, leading a number, and her every reappearance was warmly welcomed by the audience.

Ruby Pilgreen, a slender, shapely, marcel-waved brunet with flirty eyes, proved title to vocalistic soprano and nifty dancer extraordinary.

The three feminine principals, with their contrasting beauty, fully merited the encores given their numbers and the laughter and applause given them individually and collectively in their respective comedy scenes.

The Lewis Sisters, pretty, petite, bobbed brunets, in a singing and dancing specialty, introduced a series of steps never heretofore seen in burlesque that in all probability ere long will carry these clever kiddies in a production on Broadway.

The outstanding comedy bit of the presentation was Dentist Denny's handling of Dutch comique, painstaking, patient Wright for Denny handed Sammy more punishment than George Stone ever did in previous presentations, in which Wright was a glutton for punishment.

The chorus left nothing to be desired in youth, beauty, talent and ability in presenting the picturesque ensemble numbers staged by Midge Gibbons, who can give some of her masculine competitors cards and spades and then beat them in novel staging of ensembles.

The colored company opened part two to the musical selections of Joe Jordan and His 10 Sharps and Flats in the orchestra pit, replacing Hughie Shubert and his Columbia Theater harmonists.

The colored choristers' ensemble started a fast pace for the principals, that included Atta Blake, a natty juvenile dancer; Radcliff and Radcliff, male and female dancers, single and double, with Frank doing a double-voice singing act extraordinary.

A burlesque boxing bout of the man-handling, slapstick, laugh-evoking kind, with Jimmy Ferguson, the promoter, a la straight man; Tim Moore, jovial jester comique; Atta Blake, realistic pugilist; Harry Lucas, dwarf comique; Gertie Moore and Edith Spencer, comedienne, was the highlight of the colored company comedy that went over for a wow.

"The Desert", one of those ghost bits, was draggy and dismal. A cabaret scene, with Jordan's Ten Sharps and Flats as musical entertainers and the colored principals as singing and dancing specialists and number leaders for en-

sembles of pretty, petite, dynamic dancers, made a fitting foreground for the white company, in full evening dress attire, occupying elevated boxes on stage for the closing scene of the show.

MUTUAL CIRCUIT

HAPPY HOURS

—With—

NORMA NOEL

Book by Tom Howard. Produced under the personal stage direction and presented by Sam Raymond at the Star Theater, Brooklyn, week of December 20.

CAST—Norma Noel, Harry Stratton, Freddie Walker, Charles Markert, Bryant Wolfe, Grace Wasson, Evelyn Butler. CHORUS—Nina Doris Hinton, Madge Reed, Violet Kaplan, Shirley Greene, Bobo Markert, Bessie Moore, Margie Levan, Ann Mendell, Loretta Manhoff, Billie Gilmore, Maybelle Girard, Helen Clayton, Alys Sharkey, Buddie Damsey, Bell Bendon, Vera De Vere.

There are four full-stage sets in the first part and four full-stage sets in the second part, supplemented in both parts by drapes and drops for specialties. The scenic equipment, gowning and costuming classy and colorful.

The book is credited to Tom Howard, but it's evident by the stage direction of Sam Raymond that he has taken unusual liberties with the book of bits for the purpose of making the comedy more apropos to the comiques, for by no stretch of our imagination can we see Harry Stratton or his cocomique, Fred Walker, working along the slow, droll lines of Howard, for Stratton and Walker are dynamic in their every line and act, and if there are any faster or funnier comiques on the circuit we haven't seen them as yet.

Norma Noel is being starred in this presentation and fully entitled to the billing, for Norma, with her boyish bob brunet beauty, talent and ability, dominates the stage in every scene, number and specialty in which she appears. Her radiant, ever-present smile captivates the customers. Her pleasingly plump form in near-nude costumes makes a flash that pleases the optics.

Her vivaciousness in numbers puts pep aplenty into her accompanying choristers. Her Spanish costume was apropos for a Hawaiian dance a la native. In a singing and dancing specialty the piano accompaniment of Bryant Wolfe, Norma could have held the stage indefinitely.

Harry Stratton, comique-in-chief, is doing his usual crepe-face Hebrew, and doing it faster and funnier than ever, garnering laughter and applause for his every line, act and patented upper-cut rounding slap to face of his cocomique.

Freddie Walker, a newcomer to us in burlesque, affects a somewhat eccentric

"goof" characterization with a putty nose, wise-cracking sap exclamations, frequent change of custom-tailored comedy clothes in comedy bits, supplementing with song and dance at frequent intervals. Producing managers will do themselves a favor in keeping tabs on this boy for future references when in need of a comique.

Charles Markert, a nattily attired, clear-dictioned straight man, is perfectly at home in many and varied characterizations.

Bryant Wolfe has but little to do in the first part except show himself in classy attire that leads the audience to expect something greater that he finally gives them in a specialty with Miss Noel, for Wolfe manipulates the ivory keys of the piano like a master musician for Norma's singing and dancing, and during her change of costume vocalizes for personal encores, later proving his worth to the presentation by handling minor bits like a thoroughly seasoned juvenile-straight man.

Grace Wasson, a marcel-waved brunet ingenue-soubret, when reviewed by us last season in a Columbia Circuit company gave no indication of her present personal attractiveness, talent and ability of singer and dancer, therefore Grace was a revelation with her pleasing personality, working in scenes like a thoroughly seasoned musical comedy actress, leading numbers with pep aplenty, and putting over a singing and dancing specialty with acrobatic contortional stunts that included a glass of water on forehead while rotating horizontally across stage, which is conclusive proof that a reviewer should see performers in more than one performance ere making a decisive criticism.

Evelyn Butler, altho apparently young in years, hasn't as yet fallen for the boyish bob, in all probability due to the glory she finds in her chestnut brown tresses, that she dresses with care. Be that as it may, Evelyn reads lines distinctly in scenes, leads numbers like a musical comedy star in frequent changes of costly, classy gowns, and steps out with the sex appeal in peek-a-boo black tights that gives a great flash of form while she trips the light fantastic.

Raymond was careful in his selection of choristers, for he has a personally attractive ensemble that has been well coached in novel numbers, and, following the example set for them by "Red-Hot" Norma Noel, puts pep aplenty into their performance.

Chief among the comedy bits speeded up by Producer Raymond for his fast and funny comiques were *At the Races*, *A Friendly Debate With Cleopatra*, *The Haunted Castle*, *The Policeman*, *A la That Man There*, *Madame X*, *Roof Garden*, *A Lesson in Golf*, *Cafe de Zoup*, for Stratton's masterpiece, and *Radio Mania*, a series of bits that evoked continuous laughter and applause from the first rise to the final fall of the curtain.

The Vaudeville Field
In LONDONBy "WESTCENT"
18 Charing Cross Road, W. C. 2

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The annual supper and dance at the Savoy Hotel Sunday last was a success, thru the personality of Lottie Albert, honorary treasurer, who makes her numerous friends and acquaintances pay forfeit. She netted over \$2,500 in donations, of which \$500 came from E. F. Albee.

The income tax people are active toward our alien performers this side. The *Blackbirds* company at the London Pavilion, which has only been here about seven weeks, has been assessed to the hilt. One double act received an assessment of \$7,500 and were asked to pay \$750 each.

R. H. Gillespie, fresh from his American tour, made his first public appearance at the Ladies' Guild Ball, and as usual, made his optimistic speech about vaudeville being very much alive.

His comments on the success of the recent "All British" Palace program in New York caused the comment that the only way to get vaudeville engagements is to get out of England.

Bertram W. Mills, back again on this side, is busy getting ready for the Christmas show which begins on the 25th with the usual luncheon, graced by London's Lord Mayor and the Earl of Lonsdale.

Konorah, of the I. A. L., will be coming over to see the opening of the show as Mills' guest. Mills every year honors representative circus men and other important men and leaders of thought on the

Continent in this manner, and in view of the fact that so many of this year's artists are I. A. L.'s, he invited Konorah.

The Terry Twins are this week making their first appearance in cabaret at the London Club.

Jimmy Russell, who many times has played the Boy in the Box in *Karnos' Muzzing Birds*, took over the Scotch Stores, right facing the London Hippodrome, last night.

With the Palladium closed, Horace Sheldon and his Orchestra are the top of the bill this week at the Holborn Empire.

Harry Weldon has patched up his legal troubles with Moss' Empires, and with his \$1,250 a week contract he will play in revue for 1927. Included in the contract is his wife, Hilda Glyder.

Tennent, for Moss Empires, has to run what are known as bargain basement programs. This means that instead of three or four vaudeville programs he concentrates on one, packing in all the acts he is bound to play, and then sit back and awaits results.

George Egbert, who died recently, was a small-time agent, but of late years had good friends in Fred W. Warden, Karl Hooper and Gus Bauer; also, of Porteus, of the meat market. He was for some years with Harry Day.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—As is her usual custom Lady Stoll will give her Christmas Party to all tenants of the Oswald Stoll War Seal Foundation at Waltham Green.

George Jackley will be at the Grand, Brighton, this Christmas for pantomime.

The Schwarz Brothers, the American act, is back again with their *Broken Mirror*, which was such a big success at the London Hippodrome before the war. A smaller version has been going round, handled by Murphy and Mack,

called *The Major's Reflections*, but Schwarz opines it has not hurt them, as they are here for 13 weeks minimum.

Rigolotto Brothers made one of the hits of the Holborn Empire program last week. They have been an excellent all-round act, of which their posing is no mean item, especially *The Runners*.

Percy Honri is playing split weeks in the Bernstein houses in London's suburbs.

The Skating Nelsons are in Fred W. Warden's panto at the Gaiety, Dublin, this Christmas.

Of course, you have all read about Murray's (the escapeologist) stunt in escaping from a strait-jacket slung head downwards from a crane in Piccadilly Circus. Murray was in *Billyboy's* office within two hours of the event. Such stunts are prohibited by police, and in fact they stopped him the day previous, but Murray eluded them on Saturday.

Animal men on this side are getting ready for the expected campaign against them by anti-performing animal societies, the more so as they (the societies) are infuriated at the home secretary circulating instructions that "special" constables under the Emergency Powers Act must not interfere with the regulations of the Performing Animals Act. This was an attempt to get their inspectors who were "specials" to take upon themselves the work of ordinary "coppers".

Lily Morris is heading at Greenock this week.

Best Nolan, of the George Barclay office and the husband of Duky Taylor, is in a nursing home, recovering from an operation.

Irene Franklin, who returns to America this week, can take to herself the pleasure of knowing that she has made a real artistic and personal success this side, as has also her husband.

Jack Hyton, who is playing one of his

first suburban dates at Clapham, has a good musical number and in a lightning black out all the boys don crepe masks, getting a laugh and a good effect.

The L. T. V. (Gulliver Tour) has declared and paid an interim dividend of five per cent on the ordinary shares less tax for the six months ending September 30.

Harry Marlow cleaned up another \$1,500 thru a matinee at the Stoll Hippodrome, Manchester, for the V. A. B. F.

Daisy James will head a five weeks' panto, tour on the Gulliver tour, starting at Lewisham, with Essie Bartle as principal girl and Tom Reno as chief comic.

It's a sign of things when the L. C. C. is looking into the question of the Sunday opening of cinemas, etc. We have noticed that a correspondent of an English paper supplying it with American notes writes that he hopes we keep our British Sunday clear from show business even to excluding benefit performances. He's kidding about the four shows a day in America. Well, apart from public opinion, the V. A. F. would soon prevent any such thing as the seven-day working. Certain cinemas have been running a seven-day week as regards their employees, which is forbidden, so the L. C. C. has shut for Sundays the Cameo Kinema, for three months, and the Silver Kinema at Shepherd's Bush, because they made their staff work seven days consecutively.

Robb Wilton is back at the Coliseum with his "Fireman" scene. His last act Dope was too clever a skit and it was in fact a burlesque on 9-15, in which Robb's son plays a character, but the audience could not see the subtlety of it. So Robb has gone back to the splay boots, Robin redbreast waltz and his Tom E. Murray actions.

Wilkie Bard is out of the program at the Alhambra this week.

Motion Pictures and Presentations

Conducted by ROY CHARTIER—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

Plan Submitted To Clear Contract

Hays Asked To Print Book Elucidating Contract as Exhibitor Aid

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A recommendation to Will Hays, head of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, for the adoption of a plan which would result in lessening contract disputes and prove a great help to the exhibitor, has been made by A. J. Moeller, president of the American Cinema Association.

Moeller suggests that the Hays office prepare the contract in book form, with an index to its respective clauses and explanatory notes where they may prove helpful. The contract, as printed in this book and approved by the M. P. P. D. A. and Independent Motion Picture Producers and Distributors' Association, giving a list of producers using it, would guide the exhibitor in buying product under the proper contract.

The Film Board of Trade offices would keep a copy of the book and would distribute others thru registered mail to the exhibitors under Moeller's plan. Cost of printing and mailing could be prorated among the respective producers and distributors. The A. C. A. would be glad to pay its proportionate share, Moeller wrote Hays.

The feasibility and desirability of the adoption of Moeller's recommendation is enhanced as a result of the various types of contracts and special clauses now being used, all distributors not adhering to one form throat.

De Forest Phonofilms To Push Suit Against Fox

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Because negotiations between Fox and the De Forest Phonofilms interests, temporarily staying litigation brought by the latter in the U. S. District Court for infringement of patents, have been terminated and no adjustment of the question of patent rights effected, Lowell H. Brown, president of De Forest Phonofilms, announces the pending suit will be prosecuted vigorously, with the purpose of recovering profits and damages suffered.

The De Forest suit is against the Fox Film Corporation, Fox-Case Corporation, Zoephone Picture Corporation, William Fox, Theodore W. Case and Dwight B. Eldred, and alleges infringement of five different patents.

After the suit was filed negotiations were entered into between the respective parties with a view toward an amicable adjustment and consolidation of the interests involved in the litigation.

W. A. Steffes Resigns At Northwest Meeting

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 25.—The resignation of W. A. Steffes as head of the Northwest Theater Owners' unit was offered this week at a meeting of the board of directors of the organization. He wishes to quit next April before the annual convention, and cited as reason the lack of financial support in the organization, and charged that it was a "one-man outfit".

When Steffes' resignation was refused, he demanded a special advisory committee be appointed to handle the finances.

The question of arbitration also arose at the directors' meeting, when it was bitterly denounced as "overwhelmingly favoring distributors." There will be no resumption of the system here unless radical changes are made.

Arabian Picture House Act Of 17 People Rehearsing

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—A pretentious offering for picture houses entitled *Cheerful Arabian Nights*, with a cast of 17, was placed in rehearsal today by Horn & High, producers. Nafis Effendi, Arabian dancer, will be featured, assisted by the Wahabi Arabian Band. The production is staged in several scenes.

Joe Howard, Vaudevillian, Enters Presentation Field

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Joe Howard, of vaudeville fame, has combined the best features of his acts, *The Toy Shop* and *Broadcasting Reuse*, into a presentation, which opened this week at the Branford, Newark, for the Stanley Company of America. Other Stanley dates are planned.

Featured with Howard in his picture-house offering are Jack Hull, Edna Fenton, Lazar Brothers, De Fay Sisters, Anita Case, Betty and Billie Ross, and the Mickey Sena Instrumentalists.

Fabians Get Paterson House; Presentation Policy Stands

NEWARK, Dec. 25.—The Fabian interests, powerful in New Jersey and aligned with the Stanley Company of America, have taken over the Rivoli, Paterson, from H. B. Tekay, independent operator, and will continue it under the same policy. Arthur Fisher has been booking special presentation material into the house since the beginning of the present season. Under the new control the Acme Booking Office will supply whatever attractions are needed.

No "Block Booking" On 7 U. A. Specials

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—For the first time in its history United Artists is asking seven new productions for definite exhibitors' dates under its new policy permitting a theater owner to buy one or as many as are wanted instead of having to take all or none. The United Artists blow at block booking under the plan is expected to result in increase of sales and good will.

Al Lichtman, general manager of distribution, announced definite play dates are available for new films starring Gloria Swanson, John Barrymore, Buster Keaton and Ronald Colman and Vilma Banks, as well as *Inspiration* and *Edwin Carewe* productions.

The *Wishing of Barbara Worth* is released this month; *Swamp* (Swanson), *The General* (Keaton) and *The Night of Love* will be released in January; *The Beloved Rogue* (Barrymore) in February; *Resurrection*, the *Inspiration-Carewe* picture, in March, and *The Circus*, with Charlie Chaplin, the following month.

Roxy Theater Musical Staff Completed—Rapee Engaged

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Erno Rapee, who opened recently as conductor of Fox's Academy of Music, and Frederick Stahlberg have been engaged by S. L. Rothafel to complete his staff of orchestra conductors, which also includes Charles Previn and H. Maurice Jacquet. All four are well known in the musical field. It is Rothafel's plan to use the four conductors on a "rotating" scale, which will focus attention individually. Rapee for a time was conductor for Ufa at the Palais, Berlin, and Stahlberg was assistant conductor of the New York Philharmonic.

New Chicago Theater Opens With Vaude. and Pictures

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—The Drake will be operated on a plan that employs programs of combined motion pictures and vaudeville. Nate Leavitt has been elected as orchestra leader and Gabe Wellner will preside over the organ. Harry Miller, at present managing the Ambassador, has been transferred to the Drake. The new Drake, 3548 Montrose avenue, opened Christmas Day.

Marks Brothers will introduce the charm of old Spain to the west side when the new Markro Theater, which they are now erecting at Madison street near Crawford avenue, is completed next March. It will hold seats for more than 5,500 persons.

\$50,000 Contract For Will Rogers

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Vitaphone Company has issued a \$50,000 contract to Will Rogers to appear in a "talking" film, according to report. It is understood it will be made immediately at the Vitaphone Studio, so that it can be used in connection with the next Vitaphone special, John Barrymore, in *Amnos Lescouf*, which will open, according to present plans, in January.

Concert Violinist Signed For Publix Unit by Spizzi

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Roma Polarinow, concert violinist, who has played a number of presentation dates, has been engaged as a feature of *The Jade Pearl*, Publix unit, opening a tour next week at the Paramount. Miss Polarinow was booked by Arthur Spizzi, who also signed Ray Alynio and Boys, formerly with Eddie Leonard in vaudeville, as an added attraction at the Paramount for the same week.

Other Spizzi bookings include Miriam and Pollock, high-class pianists, recording artists for Duo-Art and Columbia, for the Rivoli, Baltimore, this week, and the Eight Mascots, girl dancers, with Bob Bell assisting. The latter opened a tour of the Eastern houses Thursday at Fox's Academy of Music. The act just came East from Chicago.

Shea's Kensington, Buffalo, Publix House, Has Premiere

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Shea's new house, the Kensington, one of the finest of neighborhood theaters in Buffalo, marks another addition to the imposing Publix chain as it opens today with *We're in the Navy Now*, Paramount special, as the feature attraction. Pictures will be changed three times weekly and special films will be given Saturday afternoons for children. Presentation acts will not be used at the new Shea house for the present, but may be added later on. The Kensington cost \$250,000.

Roosevelt and McVicker's Change Policies Christmas

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Instead of the Roosevelt becoming a road-show house, according to Balaban & Katz, the theater will be operated under a continuous policy, with performances beginning at 9 a. m. and continuing until midnight. Prices will be reduced. The program will change twice weekly, on Sunday and Thursday. This plan is designed to meet the requirements of that portion of the theater-going public which desires to "get in and out" quickly. "errors" run will be shortened by two days to inaugurate this policy, the Pickford film departing on Christmas Eve. The first photoplay to be shown under the new plan will be *The Prisoner of the Storm*. Another change where the continuous policy goes into effect is McVicker's, where *We're in the Navy Now* will be shown for a three weeks' engagement at popular prices, from 9 a. m. and with full orchestral accompaniment.

"Twin Cities" To Be Name of Publix House in Mpls.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 27.—The Twin Cities is the name selected for new Publix house, which will be erected here at Ninth and La Salle streets. It will be part of an office building, but Publix's interest in the structure will be confined only to the theater.

Chanin To Build Roxy Houses

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—The Chant Construction Company, which built the Roxy Theater, opening in February, has been given the contract to build the new Roxy Mansion Theater at Lexington avenue and 58th street, and will erect future houses of the Roxy Chain.

Exploitation Stunt On Fire Film Beats All

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—In recognition with the opening of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's special, *The Fire Brigade*, at the Central Monday night, one of the most realistic and effective exploitation stunts in motion picture history was successfully engineered. Quite by coincidence early in the evening of the opening night, the marquee on the theater collapsed. Firemen and police reserves were called out, so that about 8:30 o'clock the street in front of the house was so blocked by fire apparatus that traffic was interrupted. Firemen could be seen about the theater entrance and on the front of the building, where the unblazoned sign, advertising the picture, shone forth.

All the Tuesday papers carried accounts of the "catastrophe", including *The New York Times*.

Picture Houses Favor Orchestra Attractions

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Picture houses are showing a decided trend toward favoring orchestras of the enterprising type, finding that audiences in the film theaters are as receptive to this type of entertainment as they were in vaudeville when bands swamped that field several seasons ago. Loew is leading the field in preference toward orchestras.

This week in Loew theaters, among other bands are Picard's Syncopters, Charles Strickland, Eight Victor Artists and Al Lentz's Band.

Independent picture theaters are exhibiting a similar preference for bands, and houses of chains like Universal and Publix are equally anxious to book this type of attraction. In the Publix chain the orchestras are confined more to the Middle West, and particularly Chicago, where organizations like Donnie Kreuger and His Orchestra are permanent attractions. Universal is using bands on a similar basis as well as booking them for single engagements.

Bands have also found many spots open to them in Stanley Company houses, principal among them Vincent Lopez, who recently played his third engagement at the Strand, New York.

D. W. Griffith To Produce For United Artists Release

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—D. W. Griffith, whose contract with Famous Players, after the production of *The Sorrows of Satou*, was suddenly interrupted in a maze of rumors concerning an unpleasant rift, is coming back to the United Artists fold. Rumors to the contrary are finally set at rest by the director-producer himself.

Griffith plans making his own productions for release thru United Artists, in which, in spite of his Famous Players' contract, he has been actively interested for years. In connection with this announcement, Griffith states there is little doubt but that he will produce his future productions in Hollywood instead of at his Mamaroneck Studio here, now closed.

Million Mark Reached By Vitaphone Picture

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—According to figures accepted as accurate, Don Joss, the Vitaphone-scored film, has grossed almost \$1,000,000 to date. In 15 weeks at the Warner Theater it has brought in \$400,000; in three and one-half months in Hollywood, over \$200,000; five weeks in Boston, \$100,000, and while in Chicago grossed more than \$275,000.

The Better 'Ole shows promise to reaching the million mark as quickly. In eight and one-half weeks at the Colony it has grossed more than \$250,000, and in Hollywood, in three weeks, it played to more than \$75,000.

Willia Morris Bookings

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The William Morris office has negotiated a number of important picture-house bookings. White and Manning, comedy dancing team, open today at the Palace, Dallas, for a five weeks' tour of Public houses, and Adolphus and Eastman have been signed for the Capitol, Detroit, this week, with the Chicago, Chicago, to follow, also with Public.

With the Loew office, Morris booked the Russian Symphony Choir, opening this week at St. Louis, and the Blue Jay Orchestra, opening next week at the State, Boston, with Pittsburgh and Baltimore to follow.

Among independent picture dates are Rudy Wiedoeft for the Strand, Portland, this week, with Youngstown, Springfield and Columbus, O., following.

Joe Maxwell Signing Acts For Fox's Academy, N. Y.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Joe Maxwell, who succeeded H. O. Stebbins at Fox's Academy of Music, when the house went into a split-week policy, is booking acts himself for the 14th street picture house and issuing contracts there, thus taking the booking partially out of the hands of Max Silver, who bought all the attractions heretofore. Under the changes, however, Silver submits acts to Maxwell for his approval.

Silver continues to be the "last word" on bookings for the Fox ace house in Philadelphia.

Herbert Rawlinson Engaged As Detroit Stage Feature

DETROIT, Dec. 27.—Herbert Rawlinson has been engaged by Public to appear as master of ceremonies at the Capitol, opening his engagement early in January. Rawlinson, former circus, stock and legit. artist, is noted as one of the wittiest "ad libbers" on the stage. He follows into the Capitol the rotund comedian, Walter Heira, who had to cancel his indefinite engagement recently because of a film contract on the West Coast.

Radio Corp. of America Behind New Talking Film

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A bulletin put out thru the regular stock-market channels of Wall street Tuesday said that the Radio Corporation of America will put out shortly a new device which will mark an advance in synchronizing sound with motion pictures. Several weeks ago The Billboard reported exclusively that R. C. of A. tied up with Fox in plans for a talking film company.

Valencia, Baltimore, Opens

BALTIMORE, Dec. 25.—The Valencia, Loew's new roof theater of Spanish architecture atop the Century, his presentation house here, opened Thursday. The house seats 1,475 and will be devoted to first-run photoplays with an occasional stage attraction booked from New York. The decoration and entire atmosphere of the Baltimore house is Spanish.

Selwyn Buys French Film

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—Arch Selwyn, legit producer who is touring the Continent in search of new plays, cabled his New York office yesterday that he has secured an option on a French motion picture which he is sending over for a private showing this month.

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Presentation and Music Notes

EMIL CHAQUETTE and His Orchestra will remain as the feature stage attraction at the Liberty, Kansas City, until after the holidays. It opened the engagement at this Middle Western University house in November.

THE PROGRAM at the Capitol, New York, this week exudes a wealth of Christmas cheer. A group of nine singers, recruited for this week and called the Capitol Singers, offers Christmas carols. Others on the bill are Caroline Andrews, with John Triessult, as Santa Claus, and Joyce Coles in a ballet entitled *The Toy Maker*, which closes with *March of the Toys*.

AMONG BOOKINGS in the Loew picture houses are Russian Symphony Choir, opening at St. Louis; Picard's Syncopators, in Pittsburgh, and Henry Chico and Farrar and Chipell, the Garde, New London, Conn.

AL LEVINE'S Entertaining Orchestra has been booked for the Rialto, Washington, by N. W. Stephens, of New York, for next week. This week the Rialto house is putting on special Christmas features, using a local choir.

WILLIAM MORRIS, JR. is dabbling in the banking business as a side line to his picture house and other booking activities for the William Morris office, New York. Young Morris has an active interest in the Times Square Trust Company and has already secured 300 accounts from acts for this bank.

DOROTHY PALMER'S *Le Jolie Revue*, a special production with a cast of 125 children, pupils of her dancing school in Newark, is the stage feature at the Mosque, that city.

THE DENNIS SISTERS (Ann, Cherie and Ruth), playing the Metropolitan, Boston, with Buffalo, Detroit and Chicago for Public following, have an open week following Detroit, which they will fill for an outside circuit. The act is planned for the Grand, Pittsburgh.

CHARLES IRWIN, who appeared at the Capitol, Detroit, recently for Public, as master of ceremonies, will play a return date after the first of the year, with other Public houses to follow. Walter and Eddie Meyers, New York, are handling Irwin's bookings.

FAY COURTNEY, formerly of the Courtney Sisters, now working with Madeleine Randolph, is being booked into picture house engagements by Ted Braun, of New York, who placed her at Fox's Academy of Music for the last half this

week. Miss Courtney recently returned from London, where she played the Holborn-Empire Music Hall and appeared in a four-week engagement at the New Prince's Supper Club.

JOHNNIE COLLINS, now representing the Alf T. Wilton office, New York, as special scout and booking man, is in Chicago making headquarters at Premier Attractions, Inc., presentation producer. Collins will be in New York shortly after January 1.

THE ELSIE MEYERSON Girl Orchestra has been booked for the Aldine, Pittsburgh, with Loew, for next week. This week the Pittsburgh house, leaning strongly toward orchestral attractions, is featuring Picard's Syncopators, an offering new to the field.

"OKLAHOMA" BOB ALBRIGHT, headliner in vaudeville for the past 15 years, was received with enthusiasm on the occasion of his first presentation date last week at the State, Detroit, where he appeared as master of ceremonies, assisted by Edna Fischer and Babe Farron.

HORN AND BLYTH have produced a high-class offering featuring Prince Tino and Labelle, Spanish dancers, who recently closed with Edwin Royce's musical show, *Bubbling Over*. In the act the team is supported by a string ensemble of seven.

JOHNNT MARVIN, the uncle expert of *Honeymoon Lane*, New York musical show, has been engaged by Fox to make several talking movies for him. His first canned motion picture selection will be *Half Moon*.

AN ELABORATE Christmas program, consisting of Christmas carols and a Public stage presentation entitled *Pearl of Damascus*, is featured at the Paramount, New York, this week.

WALTER AND NORMAN NELSON, comedy team, have been engaged by Public to be featured in a new presentation unit opening at the Paramount Theater on January 8. The title of the stage show has not yet been decided upon.

THE SPECIAL MUSICAL NUMBERS at Atlanta's Metropolitan Theater last week were Robert Earle, popular baritone, and Enrico Lelde and His Orchestra.

THE POPULAR TEAM, Slatk and Blake, of *Shuffle Along* fame, were recently included in the stage attractions at Loew's Century Theater, Baltimore, as were also Easter and Hazelton, the American dancing stars.

FOR THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM at the Allen Theater (Cleveland) a colorful

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REVIEWS OF PROGRAMS
By ROY CHARTIER

Strand
Film: "The White Black Sheep"
(First National)

In the Inspiration picture, *The White Black Sheep*, Richard Barthelme, the memorable hero of *ToFable David*, is called upon to essay a role that might have been chosen with jealous avidity for the late Rudolph Valentino—that of an ostensibly fallen son of a proud English family, who, in ignominy, joins the British forces in far-off India and there becomes involved in various despairing situations not without melodramatic flavor.

Rescued from a brawl in a low cafe by a deaf and dumb beggar and a dancing girl who loves him, he is nursed back to health on the desert, where, quite by chance, his suspicions over a planned uprising of the natives are aroused, with the result that he foils their attempt, clears himself of desertion and wins, or is won by, the cafe girl. For the greater part of the film Barthelme is seen as a *unshaven, tatterdemalion individual*. This he is somewhat out of his meter.

Patsy Ruth Miller appears opposite him. Her performance is far from im-

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Company Notice Prior to Individuals

Some uncertainty has existed as to which class of notice, company or individual, takes precedence over the other. Equity headquarters after considering the situation has ruled that:

"A notice put up by the management affecting the whole company takes priority over individual notices."

In order to make the application of that ruling plainer two cases have been considered in instructions sent to each of Equity's branch offices.

"Example A.—If an actor on Tuesday gives in his two weeks' notice and after receipt of this the manager decides to close his company a week from the next Saturday night and puts up a proper notice to this effect then the actor has no claim for the additional two nights but the management is obligated to pay the actor's return transportation."

"Example B.—If a manager gives an actor a two weeks' notice on a Tuesday and then decides to close the whole company the following Saturday week then the actor has no claim for the additional two nights."

When George Washington Sat Our Front

Recent studies of George Washington indicate that "the father of his country" did not put in all his time on that job, nor did he consider himself a historical character who must model his activities to conform with the ideals of unborn generations. He was, in short, an all-around gentleman of his time, indulging in the sports and amusements of the day. Of this side of his nature W. E. Woodward, in *George Washington, the Jeane and the Men*, wrote:

"Outside of fox hunting he appears to have loved the theater more than any other form of amusement. He went to every play, good or bad, that was produced within his reach. The theaters of the day were rough barn-like affairs, and there were not many of them. However, the acting was usually good; the actors were English, almost invariably, and well trained."

"The Virginians had a passion for the theater which reminds one of the Elizabethan English. Lewis Hallam's company, which, I believe, was the first professional dramatic enterprise of the time in America, went to Williamsburg in 1752 and remained in Virginia for 11 months, playing to profitable houses. The astonishing character of this exploit is shown best by the fact that Williamsburg had less than 1,000 inhabitants. Washington saw Hallam's company in 1752—mostly in Shakespeare's plays—and in later years we find him attending the theater in Williamsburg several evenings a week."

"The dramatic criticisms which appeared in the Virginia and Maryland newspapers are amusing in their solemnity. In them these candle-lit performances in barns are treated as if they were the weightiest affairs in the world. One of the reviewers of the drama, who saw Miss Hallam for the first time, was so stunned by her beauty that nothing could restrain his frenzy. 'Ye gods! 'Tis Cytherea's face!' he exclaimed in print."

Council Will Not Tolerate Misrepresentation
The council is in receipt of communications from managers, especially in the tent and repertoire field, that certain actors seeking work have misrepresented themselves in their telegrams.

This is considered a serious offense by the council, and those who do so may expect severe measures.

On the other hand the council considers it equally serious if the misrepresentation should be made for the actor by his agent and will in such a case hold the agent responsible.

Andre Dumont Suspended for Cause
The council, at its regular meeting on December 14, suspended for cause Andre Dumont. Mr. Dumont is playing with the *What Price Glory* Company over the Columbia Burlesque Wheel.

The usual warning against Equity or Chorus Equity members playing with Mr. Dumont, or any other member on the suspended list, is now issued and will be in force until Mr. Dumont's suspension is lifted and he is restored to good standing.

"Old Homestead" Splits Baptist Church
Despite the admission of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a year or two ago, that actors may be of the theater and yet goodly folk, there are still denominations, or factions of those denominations, where that claim is not allowed, and where any contact with the theater is more than frowned upon.

The Palace Players were putting on *The Old Homestead* in Houston, Tex., late last month. A great factor of appeal in the old play is the scene before the lighted windows of "The Little Church Around the Corner" in which the hymns sung by an unseen choir help to bring about the reform of the prodigal son of the story.

The Palace Players were anxious to make that a good scene and they engaged the Sam Houston Quartet, three of whose members were prominent in the First Baptist and Central Baptist churches. This quartet, in addition to the sacred music sung at that time, sang other odd-time popular rural melodies during the course of the play. They sang these all the week, beginning with the Sunday night performance.

The Baptist churches in Houston had been conducting a campaign of tighten-

ing up on their members and disciplined these three members. Two of the quartet, brothers who had been active in Sunday school work, were asked to resign, and did so, and their resignations were accepted.

Equity does not question the right of the Baptist Church or of any other denomination to prescribe what its members may or may not do. It does object when in the prescribing of its members' duties that church or any church describes the stage as immoral and its people beyond the pale.

The facts are just not so and an impartial investigation would disclose the situation to the Baptists of Houston. An impartial investigation of any subject concerning religious beliefs is difficult to conceive, and yet the Baptists of Houston and elsewhere may well remember that while there have been scandals and disgraceful episodes involving people of the stage as individuals, there have been equally great and degrading scandals concerning bankers, to name an analogous group. Yet neither the Baptists nor anyone else have agitated for the suppression of banks, or forbidden their members to work in them.

To pursue the subject to a logical, if absurd, conclusion, there are scandals which involve certain members of Congress and Senators in Washington against whom the gravest charges have been lodged concerning both their personal habits and their legislative acts. Do we find any denunciation of whatever its character urging its members not to go to Congress, or boycotting the laws for which those men voted? There's a question which need not even be answered.

If the Baptists were to say that they would prefer not to have their members go to the theater because their thoughts were there directed to other than religious channels it would be one thing; to say that the theater is evil and its people immoral is something else, and something not true. It is the latter statement to which Equity objects.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION.

Chorus Equity Assn.

Twelve members joined the Chorus Equity in the last week.

We are holding checks in settlement of claims for John C. White, Rudolph Wackelin, William Perloff and Andrew Forrest.

Bobbie Lee, a member of the Chorus Equity, is playing a part in *The Shanghai Gesture*.

According to a recent council ruling, Chorus Equity members may not waive

security in companies for which the Chorus Equity has thought it wise to ask for a bond. Chorus Equity has asked for bonds only in cases in which the producer was unknown, or in those cases where he was too well known and it was thought that he did not have the proper financial backing. It was felt that in such instances the risk was too great for small-salaried people who have nothing to gain except a weekly salary.

Many times the principals are willing to waive security because of the opportunity the part may give them. Chorus people, working in group numbers, have no such opportunity. Further than that a management that is unable to put up two weeks' salary for chorus people is apt to run into many other financial difficulties.

The Chorus Equity has been hampered many times in its effort to get a bond by members who have expressed a willingness to work without security. Naturally the manager will not put up a bond if he is certain the cast and chorus will remain without one.

Despite the fact that they have waived security we have always found that these same people have expected Equity's aid when the crash came. Equity is powerless to help unless you follow the rules laid down for your protection.

The dramatic classes will open early in January. Members who are interested should register for this class now, as we had to turn many people away from the last class to prevent overcrowding.

Be sure and report at headquarters the day you begin rehearsals. The personnel of the chorus changes so frequently during rehearsal that we cannot be sure of seeing all. This is most important in view of the new bonding rule. It is your obligation to find out from the Chorus Equity office the status of the company with which you are rehearsing. Our members do not seem to understand that it is impossible to maintain an office force large enough to permit of daily calls at the rehearsals of every company organized in New York.

On January, 1927, all rehearsal clothes and shoes left in dressing rooms of the dancing class, which are not marked with the owner's name, will be thrown out. Persons who are no longer taking lessons here have left their practice clothes in the dressing room with the result that there is not enough space for the members who are now taking lessons. Unless the clothes are marked we have no way of telling whether they are still in use.

Members holding cards good to November 1, 1926, will owe \$6.50 on January 1, 1927. The delinquency fine of 25 cents a month increases each month.

DOROTHY BRYANT,
Executive Secretary.

PARIS

By THEODORE WOLFRAM
9, Rue Faidherbe

PARIS, Dec. 2.—*Coeur Partage*, or *Divided Heart*, the new play by Lucien Bernard, presented this week at the Comedie-Francaise, is an excellent comedy-drama. The story briefly is that of a young married couple whose domestic bliss is troubled by the great love of the wife for her father. Jealousy finally impels the husband to leave his wife, but the unexpected announcement of the engagement of the selfish father to a wealthy American widow reveals the true character of the man and the repentant daughter returns to her husband. The subject is so skillfully and delicately handled that even the most finicky of tastes will not be offended.

Another breach of contract suit in which two American artists are involved has just been concluded. In 1924 the tenor Tinayre was engaged by the impresario Strahum to appear at the Mozart Festival, organized by Ganna Walska (Mrs. McCormick). For some reason Tinayre was replaced at the last

minute, by the tenor Meader of New York. Tinayre was awarded 10,000 francs damages and interest in March, 1925, and this verdict has now been sustained by the Court of Appeals.

The Madeline Cinema, one of the Metro-Goldwyn houses in Paris, now showing *The Big Parade*, was visited by robbers early Monday morning, when burglars got away with 60,000 francs.

Dirk Fock, the Dutch musician, has resigned as conductor of the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and will leave soon for the United States.

A French version of *Sally* will probably be presented at the Theatre des Champs-Elysees instead of at the Apollo as originally announced. Rolf de Mare, manager of the Champs-Elysees, will view the London production of the American success.

Rehearsals are well under way for the winter revue of the Moulin Rouge, in which Mistinguett, Earl Leslie, the Jay Sisters and Randall will be featured. The Sparks Ballet will be held over.

Madelaine Keltie, American operatic star, scored a brilliant success in her first appearance at the Opera of Cairo. After her engagements in Egypt Miss Keltie will sing in Italy before returning to Paris.

Marise Damlis, who returned to Paris recently after her New York engagement, will soon be seen at one of the big music halls.

The Eight Princess Girls, a group of English dancers, have been added to the cast of the *Midnight Follies* at the Apollo.

Billy Trittle and his Ticklers are fur-

nishing the dance music at the Restaurant Volterra.

Powder and Tamara, who have been appearing at the Kit Kat Club in London, are now dancing at the Perroquet and L'Ermitage.

Josephine Baker heads the list of stars who will take part in a Christmas benefit at the Folies-Bergers to raise money for the poor children of Paris.

The Grand Guignol is presenting two new thrillers, *Call 13* and *Red Nights of the Tekeko*, and two comedies, *The Boulevardier* and *Clementine Piefarouz*.

The English Players are presenting *White Cargo*, and encouraged by the success of *Juno* and the *Puycok* they will soon present *The Shadow of a Gunman*, another play by the same author. Edgar Wallace's *The River*, running in London, will soon be added to their repertoire.

Medvay, the American scenic artist, and various members of his school in Paris will present their Theatre des Marionnettes at the Salle Comedie. On the bill will be the opera-pantomime, *Tombour-Oracle* of Julian Freedman, with puppets of Kathleen Cannelle and stage settings by Glassgold.

The chorus girls and the musicians of the Casino and the Opera of Nice have

(Continued on page 59)

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ERIE COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE NEWS

The Erie (Pa.) Community Playhouse, Erie's civic little theater, is now in its 11th year and houses one of the oldest, as well as one of the most active, non-commercial producing groups in the country. Since 1919 the Players have owned and operated their present adequate theater building, and since their organization in 1916 have given 152 plays in Erie.

The Playhouse at Erie also maintains a school of dancing and of the drama. It maintains, too, a settlement art and music school for poor but talented people who could not otherwise afford to study. Henry R. Vincent organized the first little theater in Erie and has, from the beginning, been the executive director of the Playhouse activities.

The present season at the Playhouse has included productions of Tarlington's *The Intimate Strangers*, Rachel Crothers' *Mary the Third* and Shaw's *Arms and the Man*. In January the Players will produce *The Detour*, by Owen Davis, and *Hollo's Wild Out*, by Clare Kummer.

The Young People's Saturday afternoon Theater, supported by this group, will give *Little Lord Fauntleroy* in January.

Among recent successful productions by the Players have been *Outward Bound*, *Alone-Sit-by-the-Fire*, *Mr. Pin Pines*, *By The Door Road*, *The Doll's House*, *Ten for Three*, *Mrs. Bumpstead-Leigh*, *Powder Walk*, *Mr. Antonio*, *Seven Keys to Baldpate*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Peg o' My Heart*, *Passing of the Third Floor Back*, *Caddy Nicks*, *Mason's Affair*, *Clarence*, *Seventeen* and others. Among the operas and musical comedies have been many of the Gilbert and Sullivan favorites as well as *The Prince of Pilsen*, *The Chocolate Soldier*, *The Only Girl*, *Very Good Eddie*, *Madame Sherry* and others.

LITTLE THEATER OF CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

The Little Theater of Chattanooga now has a theater building of its own. The total investment represents a valuation of approximately \$50,000. The first production in the new theater recently presented was *Dulcy*, running for one week.

After three years of progress the Little Theater of Chattanooga gained such headway and popular approval that the city government looked with favor on its splendid work, considering it a civic asset.

A fire hall, quite recently abandoned, due to the fact that the fire hall apparatus in that precinct was moved to another location, was turned over to the Little Theater organization on a very liberal basis. The building, two stories, was specially adapted to remodeling. Being on a large city lot, the rear wall of the building was torn away and a stage, 35 by 45 feet, was added, together with dressing rooms, storerooms and boiler room. The interior of the upper story was torn away, steel beams installed and the original building was made into an auditorium and lobby. The theater has an elevated floor with regular theater seats, accommodating 340. Restrooms for both men and women were placed to adjoin the lobby. A specially designed ceiling and ventilation were installed and the building was completely plastered. The stage is covered with hardwood. The building now represents one of the most modern and up-to-date little theater buildings in use at the present time. The proscenium is 25 feet in width and is 15 feet in height. Funds were raised by popular subscription. The reconstruction work required about four months. The organization enjoys the support and assistance of every progressive citizen of Chattanooga. Altho the new \$1,000,000 city auditorium has a little theater, as well as a main hall, it was soon discovered that the Little Theater organization could not progress and make use of the auditorium facilities. Practically all productions have been given in the Blount Theater, the legitimate show house of the city. This necessitated an average expenditure of \$750 for each production, exclusive of the salary of the paid director. With the new building the actual cost of production will be greatly minimized and the new facilities will be much more advantageous to the organization. One feature of the building program, recently completed, was the donation of lumber and materials, including several thousands of bricks, by various concerns in the city.

With the present building the Little Theater of Chattanooga will increase the number of productions annually and it will be enabled to present various miscellaneous programs at intervals. The membership campaign for the season of 1927 is now under way. A limitation of 650 has been agreed upon for the coming year, each member to pay \$10 for the season, receiving two tickets for each production. A waiting list is antici-

LITTLE THEATERS

By ELITA MILLER LENZ—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York



GRAYTE HULL, director of the Huguenot Players, New Rochelle, N. Y., and well known as a dramatic instructor and play director. When in Europe he played juvenile parts with Sarah Bernhardt, and his American experience embraced an engagement with Frank Kennedy in "Virginia" and engagements with road and stock companies under the same management.

ated, due to the local interest in the little theater movement.

The next production will be *Lulu Veilmer's Sins*, which will be offered about February 1. Rehearsals are now under way.

A COURSE FOR THE LITTLE THEATER

With the little theater established as an important asset to smaller cities and colleges, a demand has arisen for men and women trained in theater decoration. To meet the definite need in this field a course in the practical experimentation in theater decoration has been arranged at the Master Institute of United Arts, 310 Riverside Drive, New York, under the direction of Robert Van Rosen. Primarily it is a practical workshop course. In addition to training in the theatrical settings from the theoretic point of view, the students make the models and have opportunity to apply their ideas in co-operation with the dramatic department of the master institute. The theoretical branch of the theater design course takes up the historical development of the dramatic settings, from early days to the most modern times. Period decoration, the psychology of color and the architectural aspect of the theater form an important part of the work. Classes are held day and evening.

CHILDREN'S PLAYERS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Christmas, with all its joys, is essentially the children's festival. This year *The Snow Queen* is to be produced for the second time, by special request, by the Children's Players of Washington. Child actors and actresses play to an audience composed of boys, girls and grownups. The production is one of remarkable beauty, being an arrangement of the Hans Christian Andersen story. About 50 players appear, the youngest being but three years of age. The footlights on the opening night, December 28, will shine on many prominent in Washington's younger set. A number of the cabinet, embassy and congressional children will take part. *The Snow Queen* will be repeated on January 5. This marks the third season of the Children's Players, the group having been organized two years ago this Christmas. The movement is along civic and educational lines. Lenore Marie De Grange is director.

CELLAR PLAYERS IN IRISH PLAY

The Cellar Players of the Hudson Guild, 436 West 27th street, New York, have added another unforgettable portrait to their gallery of successes in *Liz*, a comedy of Ireland, by F. J. Cogley, a political exile from Ireland. The scenes are laid in the Larissey drawing room

above a grocery shop in Clonmore, Ireland, the characters are all typically Irish, and, as acted by the Cellar Players, were true to life. A 14-year-old girl, with saucer-sized eyes and an unstimulated naïvete, namely Sadie Monahan, invested the part of Liz, a slavey who unexpectedly inherits a legacy, with irresistible appeal. Margie Bonnie as Aunt Julia, mistress of her brother's household, acquired for the part an honest-to-goodness brogue and heartiness of manner which she sustained faithfully through the play. Her understanding of the Irish temperament is deep and keen. She is a character actress of genuine ability. Andrew McCarron was perfectly cast as Martin Larissey, a middle-aged grocer of gentility and acquiescence. Frank Carney, one of the prize players in the last little theater tournament, played the role of Larissey's son with his usual facility. John Hayde, as the romantic and chivalrous grocer's boy, who loved and was loved by Liz, contributed a gem of characterization. Herbert Moerler as Alec Mooney, a timorous yet persistent village swain, played a bit very well. Betty Scollon played the somewhat ungracious role of Larissey's daughter with gratifying poise. Fred Riley, as Daniel MacDooey, a twinkling-eyed, sty-humored and rheumatic Irishman, evoked chuckles of delight from the audience with his ludicrous mannerisms and facial expressions. The audience left Liz with regret. Its comedy is clean and continuous, and we would not be the least bit surprised if Mr. Cogley sells his sparkling little play to an up-town manager. Adele Nathan and Alene Erlanger directed the piece with a keen appreciation of its possibilities of characterization and are to be congratulated on the perfectly selected cast. Half the joy of watching the Cellar Players is derived from the happy informality which permits visits to the dressing room during the period of make-up. Each player is made up by the directors with the same concentration and study an artist bestows on a painting. Performances will be given until January 15 on Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, excluding Christmas and New Year.

MEETING HOUSE GROUP IN FERBER'S "MINICK"

The Meeting House Theater, West 110th Street, New York, presented *Minick* on Thursday and Friday evenings, December 16 and 17. The cast, which was directed by Fay Baker, was headed by Ben Davidson in the title role. Mr. Davidson, while thoroly at home in the part, lacked a good makeup. His makeup did not suggest age, a fact which militated against the requisite pathos of the part. Jackie Brill as Nettie Minick was good to look at and played her part with well-sustained vivacity. L. (Pat) Fell as Fred Minick gave a performance characterized by naturalness. Jean Gray as Annie, a slavey, was one of the individual hits of the piece, as was also Mildred T. Davis, who played a colored maid. Edward Bolas as Mr. Dittenhofer played a character bit with fine appreciation of its possibilities. Other members of the cast who gave adequate support were Florence Burgy, Elizabeth Trodell, Howard Tiffany and James F. O'Connor.

LENOX HILL PLAYERS OPENING IN JANUARY

The Lenox Hill Players, New York, will open their second bill of the season, Goldoni's *The Lovers*, the first week in January. This play has seldom been done in America and the Lenox Hill Players are said to be the first to present it to a New York audience.

TOY THEATER OF ST. LOUIS, MO.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 10 and 11, the Toy Theater Players, composed of graduates of the Morse School of Expression, St. Louis, presented Richard Brinsley Sheridan's *The Stools* as their second offering of the present season. Of the 10 parts in the Sheridan play, nine were taken by girls and the other role, that of Sir Lucius O'Trigger, was played by a boy. Three girls understudied the members in their various parts.

The players gave a creditable performance of this old play, Kathryn Trauts, who played the part of Bob Acres, doing perhaps the smoothest and best acting. Therese Wittler as Captain

Jack Absolute carried off second honors of the evening and a word should be said about Mary Ann Jones for her work as Mrs. Malaprop. The other players gave good support, G. Maudean Jones Crane being clever as Lydia Languish.

Others in the cast were Mary Willette Gifford, Wm. J. Cooper, Margaret Frater, Kathleen Walsh and Christine Gray, with Irma Denize, Mary Elizabeth Harnage and Mary Belle McCook understudying the players. Harry R. McClain directed the play, Wm. Cooper acting as stage manager and Kathryn Trauts and Mary Ann Jones looking after properties. Elizabeth Morse is general manager of the group. Music between the acts was supplied by Beatie Bissell Morse at the piano and Jack Dammer on the violin.

The Toy Theater seats about 150. An almost capacity audience was present Saturday evening when the group was reviewed. Snatched girl ushers directed the patrons to their seats. The Players do not aspire to make any money on their work.

The Rivals was played before attractive drapes. For the second scene in the final act a beautiful outdoor drop replaced the back drapes.

The other plays under consideration for presentation during the season are *The Romantic Young Lady*, *The Brest and Why Not?* JACK P. MURRAY.

LITTLE THEATER NOTES

Ten Nights in a Barroom opens at the Triangle Theater, New York, December 31. Special performances of *Reuben* will be given during January on Sunday nights.

The Washington Heights Players, 159th street and St. Nicholas avenue, presented *Kick In* on December 19.

Barrie's *Mary Rose*, the first offering of the Purple Masque Players of Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kan., met with tremendous success, both at home and on tour. A play of this type is seen seldom in Kansas and is appreciated. Later in the season this (Continued on page 41)

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The Beauty Box

Feminine Frills wishes her readers a happy and prosperous New Year. And may each year find them more beautiful than the last.

They are not tweezing, plucking or shaving the eyebrows into a narrow arch, one of the most expression-destroying fashions ever conceived. Only stray lashes are removed.

While the majority of sirens are having their hair clipped closely in the boyish-offensive bob, a combination of the windblown and shaggy bobs, the ragged edges and other extreme fashions, many damsels are permitting the hair to grow. For the comfort and beauty of the latter there has been devised the bandoo, an extremely modish hair arrangement, which conceals the growing bob during the awkward stage. The bandoo is a loose ribbon of hair, softly waved and with rings at each end for the purpose of anchoring to the growing hair. It is put on quickly and is spread wide for a dressy swirl and arranged narrow for other occasions. Comes in browns and blacks for \$4.35. Other shades are more expensive, since they must be blended.

From a Fifth avenue beauty establishment comes a bleaching and nourishing cream made of fresh lemons. Just the thing to use at this cold season of the year, since it softens the skin and keeps it white and smooth. Fresh lemons are unrivaled beautifiers when one knows just the proportion of lemon to combine with other beautifiers. The lemon cream is \$1.25.

Few indeed are the women who can afford to dispense with the weekly shampoo. Not only does frequent shampooing, with pure ingredients, keep the hair soft and fluffy, but it actually keeps the hair from turning gray, say experts. For the convenience of those who travel, a concoction which supplies beauty establishments with beautifiers prepares a special aromatic shampoo, which is put up in tube form and may be carried conveniently. One tube contains enough for three shampoos and we are told by a shampoo expert that the shampoo is so good that it is beneficial to even dyed hair. Price, 50 cents a tube.

Vanishing creams cause a lot of mischief when they are used on some skins. A bit of experimenting will prove this to you. To be on the safe side use a foundation cream which will make powder and rouge adhere without clogging the pores. A foundation cream which will not clog the pores and is greaseless is Beauty Foundation Cream (for normal or slightly oily skins). Thinly applied, it protects and gives to the complexion that enviable "mat" tone. It is \$1, \$2 and \$4.

A tissue builder which gives the skin a healthful, brilliant appearance is a cream made purposely for the woman with a shallow complexion. Applied night and morning, it will work a charm in the way of beautification. \$1 for a five-ounce jar.

When crows' feet appear beneath the eyes and a frown furrow becomes so bold as to show plainly midday should go into seclusion for two 15-minute periods each day. During these periods she should apply beneath the eyes and on that horrid little frown furrow a special cream compounded of eggs and herb oils, patting in the cream gently until it is absorbed. This fragrant cream for the eyes banishes lines and dark circles in a remarkably short time and may be ordered for \$1.

Superfluous hair is no longer a problem to the modern woman. She knows it can be banished as tho by magic, simply by rotating lightly over the offending hair a hair eraser. The hair eraser resembles a rouge compact and is odorless. Dancers find it useful for removing hair from the limbs without irritating the flesh. When used on the face it has a slightly bleaching effect and does not cause redness, \$1.35 by mail. Carry one in your handbag and be ready to banish offending hairs at a moment's notice.

We have so many inquiries from our readers concerning hair waving that a preparation which insures a waving lasting for two weeks, when used according to directions, should prove a timely matter for discussion. One bottle contains sufficient liquid for 25 waves. It does not leave the hair sticky and oily, but on the contrary makes it fluffy. It is of assistance in making the finger wave and is also used on the hair before curling with the iron or the various kinds of patent curlers or wavers used by women. \$1.50 a bottle.

Feminine Frills

By Edita Miller Lenz

(Communication to 1560 Broadway, New York, N. Y.)

Shopping Saunters

How To Order

All articles mentioned in this column and in the column headed "Beauty Box" may be purchased thru The Billboard Free Shopping Service. Remittances should be in the form of Money Orders or Certified Checks, payable to The Billboard Publishing Company, and mailed to Edita Miller Lenz, care The Billboard, 1560 Broadway, New York City. Any cash sent is at your own risk.

ONE'S FIGURE MUST BE SOFTLY ROUNDED

Fashion decrees a slender silhouette with soft, round, natural-looking curves of youth. To achieve this softly feminine effect one's figure must be remade. The flat boyish form must be remade by means of recorsetting if one may designate as corrects the beautiful new figure-molding garments, one of which is sketched here. This is known as a 2-in-1 garment and is developed from Swanee silk (a silk jersey of unusual durability), with a narrow lace border. It hooks at the



left side. Tiny gores of elastic at the hips insure a clinging fit and there is no boning. The brassiere is shaped to insure a softly curving bosom line and a slim body. If milady wishes she may make the garment serve as undervest, brassiere and corset. The 2-in-1, as illustrated, is \$4. Needless to say, the garment is not intended for a stout figure.

HAMMERED COPPER "TAMP PROPS"

Down at the Lou Elizabeth Shop one is sure to discover the unusual and surprisingly modest prices, whether you seek novelty jewelry, antiques, pewter, china, tapestries or wearables. Among the surprises at Lou Elizabeth's are the hammered-copper earrings and bracelet sketched.

The earrings, 2½ inches long and fascinatingly bizarre, are \$2. The hand-hammered bracelet, 1½ inch wide, is \$1, and it may be had in plain copper (unhammered) for 75 cents. These bracelets may be used as anklets, and when used for this purpose, says Lou Elizabeth, some performers prefer them a bit narrower. Those who wish the narrower width may have anklets made to order at the same price.

FUR CHOKERS, A NEW CONCEPT

Almost in the same breath with which we wish you a happy New Year, we introduce one of the concepts which will be worn with the mid-season hat which makes its previous but welcome debut in January. This concept is a fur choker which coils itself snugly about the feminine throat.

The type illustrated is of beige genet, a softly feminine-looking fur, lined with crepe de chine, and is set off with two-tone ribbon (tan and brown), arranged in coquettish rosette with flowing ends. Priced at \$8.50 at a certain shop and priced higher in other



shops. May also be had with a bouquet of tiny pastel flowers instead of ribbon if desired.

A RHINESTONE PURSE FOR THE FASTIDIOUS

Discovered in a New York shop rhinestone purses, like that sketched, for \$2.95. Of course, the rhinestones are not set solidly as they are in similar bags selling for \$15 and \$25, but the effect is almost identical under stage lights. The bag is made of moire silk and may be had in white with white stones,



imitation sapphires on blue moire, pink or rose-colored stones on white, red stones on white, amber stones on white, rose stones on rose and jade stones on green. Please note that these bags are on sale for a short time only.

"BLACK BOTTOM" IN AN ENCORE

Because the price of the black-bottom costume was left out when illustrated in this column several weeks ago, some of our readers have requested a "price encore". The price of this snazzy little frock is \$24.50 and the hat is \$1.75 extra. Cotton-back satin makes the frock, which is trimmed with fluffy marabou. The color range is oriole yellow, rose, pink, light blue, flame red, royal purple, emerald green, tangerine, orchid, black or white. The pert little champagne matches and is trimmed with pom-poms of the marabou.

MUCH APPRECIATED FEATHER FAN

All readers who purchased the Kate Shea fan, which was offered in this column several weeks ago for \$7, have expressed appreciation for the unexpected beauty of the ostrich plumes used in the making. This fan has a 20-inch spread and a 28-inch height. The plumes used in the making are full and luxurious looking. Kate Shea's shop is small, so that she isn't obliged to charge for overhead, as do the larger shops. You may order the fan in any preferred shade or to match a sample of your gown. It is the fashion to have the fan match the slippers.

LINGERIE HOLDER ALSO WELL LIKED

When the chain lingerie holder described in this column as a gift suggestion was received by those ordering it, another order was immediately forthcoming. Every woman who purchased one for a friend realized its practicality and bought another for her own personal use. The holder consists of a slim chain with three clasps, one for each shoulder strap and one to fasten to the top of the lingerie at the bosom. The holder is very well made and may be had as follows: White gold filled, \$1; green gold filled, \$1.24, and sterling silver, \$2.

Before you purchase a fur coat permit The Billboard Shopping Service to send you a catalog, issued by a wholesale fur house. This house is obliged to move to larger quarters and is selling out its present stock at a decided reduction.

With novelty jewelry galore spread before the eyes of the discriminating Parisienne she still remains faithful to pearls, which probably accounts for the display of pearl necklaces which express a versatility quite amazing. Fashion reporters returning from Paris tell us that when the Parisienne can afford it, she wears pearls tinted the same shade as her gown.

Stage Styles

MME. SOREL IN "DU BARRY" ROLE

Mme. Sorel, the French actress, who appeared recently in New York in a repertoire of famous plays, wore costumes of ornate beauty. In *Du Barry*, for instance, she arose from a historical bed (said to be a genuine antique), draped gracefully in flesh-colored chiffon, over which was worn a silver cloth peignoir, which carried out cleverly the silhouette of the 18th century in widely distended hips and molded bodice.

Another interesting gown inspired by the fashion of the 18th century, but with a touch of modernity, is a deep salmon pink moire, shot with gold, the fitted bodice draped in leopard. The décolletage was extremely low and the skirt consisted of a peplum extending to hip length in front, but falling into a long train in back. This peplum, bordered with gold bullion fringe and salmon-colored ostrich tips, was posed over a straight-line skirt of the moire, which was trimmed ornately with tiers of gold bullion fringe set on in scalloped formation, with alternate touches of ostrich tufts. A hat with minaret crown (slender, towering crown), trimmed with a turreted ostrich feathers (salmon color), was mounted on a brim of gold cloth. In a fashion promenade, for the delectation of the luxury-loving *Du Barry*, models wore robes de style in rich metal cloths, lames and colorful broadens.

ETHEL BARRYMORE IN "THE CONSTANT WIFE"

Ethel Barrymore, in *The Constant Wife*, in which she plays a sophisticated modern role, ultra modern, in fact, since she condones her husband's faithfulness and does likewise herself before resuming her place in his affections, wears gowns which are softly feminine. She is seen in a light tan chiffon frock, long sleeves and wide revers and tie belt giving it the suggestion of a coat frock. Insets of ecru lace down the top of the collar and run vertically down the sides of the bodice. The lace also forms scalloped tiers on the skirt.

In another scene Miss Barrymore appears to decided advantage in a frock of hydrangea blue crepe, with appliques of matching satin set in points on the blouse. The full skirt, which has wide scallops, is shirred about the hips and a narrow belt encircles the waistline. Still another frock is of tan chiffon, with long sleeves, four slender tiers composing the skirt. This frock has no trimming, but a large hat of a deeper tone of tan contributes a bit of color in loops of mauve ribbon at one side.

Vera Tessdale, who plays the role of the wife's rival, is very chic, as it behooves the husband's handmaid to be, to make the most of her moth-like existence. In one scene she appears in a jumper costume. The blouse of silver and orchid brocade is set off with a belt, tailored jabot and pipings of violet-colored velvet, matching the velvet from which the tailored skirt is made.

LOTUS ROBB IN "CONSTANT NYMPH"

Lotus Robb, as Florence Churchill, the lady of aloof, but impeccably correct mien, in *The Constant Nymph*, at the Selwyn Theater, New York, wears costumes which symbolize the coldness of the character.

As hostess at an evening occasion she wears a shimmering white satin evening gown of striking simplicity. A deep white fringe skirt is fitted to a bodice which extends to the hips on the sides but is curved to an upward point in the front which gives a raised waistline. The décolletage is cut rather deep oval in front and a panel of the fringe forms a capelet in back which falls in a straight line to the hips.

Miss Robb wears also a formal gown of silver lame. The bodice is fitted in front, with rounded neckline. A deep yoke of white chiffon in back imparts novelty and long narrow panels of strass flow from each shoulder in back and bandings of the lame simulate a low set girdle.

Fashion Notes

Rhinestone brooches, sporting a center motif of pearl, are along new combinations, and a necklace of rhinestones has a rhinestone pendant with sapphire center, and still another set of this type, including earrings, finds contrast in a black stone.

It is amusing to observe the extreme length and size of earrings. The simplicity of the culture influences the ornateness of earrings. Quite a paradox!

Reflections of Dorothea

Do not content with drifting
When life might be worth while;
Shun not your task—then surely
You owe the world a smile.

A Happy New Year! I love that cheerful greeting. Happy. One may be merry and yet not be happy, but one can not be sad and happy at the same time. If we have happiness in our hearts the year is certain to reveal many beauties of life and living. And now, with the new year already on the threshold, I am recalling to mind the multitude of blessings the old year has left with me. Priceless treasures it brought to me; and the richest of these is friendship. New friendships that blossom in loveliness and old friendships that have lost none of their luster; these I am taking with me into the year 1927 and they give me strength and courage.

Not a few of these beautiful friendships I owe to The Billboard, world traveler, that has carried my little weekly message far and wide. Never a week passes but what some reader communicates with me. From the dressing room of a Broadway star, or from the cheerless hall bedroom of some lonely chorus girl, or in a pencil-scrawled note written on a trunk in a circus tent, these messages come straight from some human heart. And I love them all, for the greatest and the humblest alike speak the universal language. It is utterly impossible to answer all of them because my strength and time are limited, but I want you to know, if you ever have written to me, that your letter was appreciated and my thanks go out to you in thought.

Clarence Derwent and Esther Mitchell, starring in *The House of Usher*, in Canada, are meeting with exceptional popularity and have been guests of honor at several social functions.

Mary Tupper and her two sons, Teddy and Paul Jones, are in the cast of Brock Pemberton's *Soy Il With Flowers*, which comes uptown after the holidays.

Wheeler Dryden recently returned from a special engagement with the Garry McGarry Players in Buffalo. Mr. Dryden is at present negotiating for the presentation of *Deep Waters*, which he wrote in collaboration with Edith Talbot, as well as rehearsing in the revival of Arnold Bennett's play, *The Great Adventure*.

Roth and Maureen McCoy, late of *See*, are now playing in vaudeville.

From the bottom of my heart I am wishing all my friends and readers a Happy New Year filled with joy and the blessings of God. Address me any time at 216 West 73d street, New York. Smilingly.

Dorothea Antel

Little Theaters

(Continued from page 39)

Group will do *Shaw's Arms and the Man* or *Lulu Voller's Sloop*.

The Little Egyptian Theater, Centralia, Ill., will do a three-act play some time this month. It plans a musical show for April, probably *Pisaflore*.

The Kansas City Theater, Kansas City, Mo., offered *The Devil's Disciple* as its December presentation. Eight performances were given, closing on December 11. It is estimated that 2,500 people attended the play.

The Association Players, New York City, opened in Bide Dudley's new play, *All Square*, Sunday evening, December 26.

The Denver (Col.) Community Players presented *Pirates of Penzance* on the evening of December 17. This bright little opera is the first of a series planned by the Players for presentation during the season.

The Italian Circle of Hunter College, New York, presented its annual dramatic offering in English in the college chapel the evening of December 11. The play was Goldoni's *O. Honorable Maid*, translated by Professor Clara Byrnes, dramatic director of the Italian Club.

The Washington Square Players, New York University, New York, offered *Roldo's Wild Cat* on the evening of December 18.

Mrs. Warren's *Profession*, by Shaw, was given by the Studio Players, 826 North Clark street, Chicago, December 27 and 18 and will be given again immediately after the holidays.

A YEAR-ROUND GIFT

AN ARMADILLO BASKET MAKES A MOST UNIQUE GIFT.

From the horned shell of the curiously beautiful little animal, which is found in the hills of West Texas, Armadillo Baskets are made. The handle is formed by leading the tail around until it meets the mouth, where it is securely fastened. The illustration shows an attractive silk trimmed wick basket. Our Baskets, including the story of "The Basket Weaver", will be sent free upon request.



THE APELT ARMADILLO CO., Comfort, Texas.

DEALERS—Send for our interesting proposition.

COSTUMERS

By G. M. LELAND, N. C. A.

Communications to 1560 Broadway, N. Y.

DAZIAN'S, N. C. A., New York supply house, has several new and interesting fabrics which are proving particularly popular at the moment with the costumers' trade. One is a gold-spangle cloth that comes in 38-inch widths. The spangles cover solidly a light coffee-colored chiffon, the whole being very soft and pliable. Another item is a soft Rayon chiffon velvet in 40-inch widths that comes in all colors. It is light but still very rich looking and gives a pleasing shade effect as it falls in folds. There is still a third number, and the books show that it is a big seller. This item is a broadened Brillonnette cloth which comes with either a silver or a gold background and with a broadened design in any color. The width is 36 inches. It would seem that for stage use this cloth might even excel in effectiveness the regular type of brocade fabric which, incidentally, costs about twice as much.

EMANUEL I. COHEN, of Waas & Son, N. C. A., Philadelphia, came up to New York on business last week. Things are going bigger than ever with Waas & Son, he declares, and the new year is looked forward to with much anticipation.

WILLIS CROCKER, of the Fletcher Costume Company, N. C. A., Providence, R. I., wants to know "who says there is a holiday slump?". He declares he is too busy to ask more or to tell more, but his little dog barks "May your Christmas be a Wow."

VANITY FAIR COSTUMES, INC., New York, is finishing up the wardrobe for *Listen Dearie* and starting on another Shubert show, *Green Fruit*, which is to be Mitzel's next starring vehicle.

THE HELENE PONS STUDIO, New York, executed the costumes for this week's presentation at the Mark Strand Theater, New York.

GENE LANKES has designed and the Jack Lipshutz Costume Company, New York, has executed the wardrobe for the new floor show at the Melody Club.

THE ISMONDE COSTUME COMPANY, New York, has costumed the burlesque act of eight girls which Erin Jackson, recently outfitted, is to head as a permanent feature at Hurlie & Seamon's 124th Street Theater.

THE EAVES COSTUME COMPANY, N. C. A., New York, has executed all the men's costumes for the two Ziegfeld shows, *Detay* and *No Rita*, and for Charles Hopkins' *The Devil in the Chances*. The women's wardrobe for these productions has been turned out by the Brooks Costume Company.

THEATRICAL MUTUAL ASSOCIATION

By DAVID L. DONALDSON

Philadelphia Lodge No. 3

This lodge laments the passing of two members. Thomas F. Calhoun, died November 17. He was initiated October 20, 1883. The writer was intimately acquainted with him during these 37 years and while he was always a flyman, whom the public never sees and who are seldom seen by members of the profession, he was well known by his friends for his genial being. He was last employed as a flyman at the Arch Street Theater.

Charles P. Lamont died December 4. He was initiated June 22, 1914. He was liked by all who came in contact with

him and his quiet unassuming temperance. He was initiated June 22, 1912. He was last employed as carpenter at the Arch Street Theater.

John P. Schmid, Grand Chaplain, conducted funeral services for No. 3 T. M. A., the T. M. B. A. and I. A. T. S. E. Local No. 8 at both these funerals.

Buffalo Lodge No. 18

At its meeting Sunday, December 19, the following officers were elected for 1927: D. L. Donaldson, president; Charles Staples, vice-president; James Fahy, past president; Donald R. Urquhart, chaplain; J. Walter Fryer, recording secretary; Joseph Bath, financial secretary; Gus P. Melster, treasurer; John Reagan, John Donovan, James Fahy, trustees; Dr. W. Z. Roberts, physician; Charles Phillips, marshal, and John Nirschell, sergeant-at-arms.

There will be a social program at the next meeting, when the officers will be installed.

Cincinnati Lodge No. 33

At a meeting held December 9 the following officers were elected for 1927: Walter Thompson, president; Harry Service, vice-president; J. P. Hawthorne, recording secretary; Harry Schwartz, financial secretary; E. Murphy, treasurer; Dr. Clayre Wilson, physician; Clarence Cummings, marshal; H. Steidle, sergeant-at-arms; Floyd Shelton, outer guard; William Newman, trustee, and Harry Service, press agent. Installation of officers will be held at the next meeting, in January.

STAGE EMPLOYEES & PROJECTIONISTS

By ROY CHARTIER

Communications to 1560 Broadway, N. Y.

CONTROVERSY over the payment of the same salaries at the new Erlanger Theater, Atlanta, as are paid at other houses in that city, developed as a result of the contention of the theater's representative that the house was a mile from town and would lose money, has finally been settled with the assistance of W. P. Raoul, International Alliance man in the South. The theater is about to open, playing legitimate road shows.

Atlanta Local No. 41 insisted from the first that the same scale obtain at the Erlanger as at other houses in Atlanta. Manager Haase, of the Atlanta Theater, representing Erlanger interests, maintained the union should not ask so much money because of the new house's location. Haase wanted to pay grips \$4.75 instead of \$5 a day, head flyman \$5.75 instead of \$6, and for broken time \$1.25 an hour instead of \$1.50. The local's secretary, CHM Clower, claims only three men regularly have been demanded of Haase at the Atlanta, the others necessary working on overtime. Legit shows have been playing one week at the Atlanta.

FOLLOWING his satisfactory efforts in Atlanta, Representative Raoul was sent to Florida to assist Universal's district manager in straightening out various questions and points that have arisen between locals and theaters owned by Universal in Florida cities. Raoul will confer in Jacksonville first and later in Bradentown.

QUESTION OVER UNION WORK involved in remodeling the Tacoma Theater, Tacoma, Wash., has arisen, and in the face of inability between local and management to adjust the matter, the International Alliance has ordered Representative Crickmore on the West Coast to proceed there.

VICE-PRESIDENT BROWN, of the

Alliance, is in Elgin, Ill., on orders of the home office to look into the union trouble with the Great States Theater. In asking for assistance, the local did not specify the nature of the dispute.

A ROAD CALL has been issued against the Liberty Theater, at Ranger, Tex., located in the jurisdiction of Breckenridge. It becomes effective December 27. With this addition to the call list, one is taken off. This is the one against the Olympic, at Utica, N. Y., which has straightened out difficulties with the local union.

H. V. SMOOTS, general manager of the Mt. Vernon Amusement Company, denies the recently published report in these columns that its Opera House had been changed to the Memorial Theater, stating there has not been an "Opera House" in Mt. Vernon in 25 years. When the International Alliance caused a road call to be issued against one of Mt. Vernon Amusement's houses, it was issued against the "Opera House". A later report, when the call was changed, stated the name of the theater had been changed to Memorial. This Smoots indicates was merely a mistake on the part of the union. The Memorial, against which the call was intended, opened April 1, last, and is still operating.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL Stage and Movie Ball of Harrisburg, Pa., Local No. 28, now located in its new quarters at 215 Market street, will be held on January 17, Lawrence J. Katz, secretary-treasurer, announces. Officers of the Harrisburg local, elected for the ensuing year, are: Arthur L. Cobb, president; Harry Formwalt, vice-president; William S. McKay, Jr., corresponding secretary; Harry Wilson, treasurer; W. A. Davis and M. C. Miller, business agents; Ross Green, guardian, and Charles Herbert, Harry Beck and Horace Gladfelter, trustees.

THOMAS RUSSELL, of 329 Wilson avenue, Brooklyn, is anxious to locate Robert Benjamin, scenic artist and stage carpenter, and wishes Benjamin to communicate with him at this address.

THE PROVIDENCE STAGE HANDS'

Union held its annual election December 19, at which Frank E. Paige was elected president and Abramo E. Kroll, vice-president. Fred W. Newcomb, who has been secretary for the last 14 years, and who was president for six years before that, was elected business representative.

Walter L. Delaney, Fred W. Newcomb and Walter B. Smith were appointed to secure a suitable testimonial for the retiring agent. Walter L. Delaney was elected secretary to succeed Mr. Newcomb and Walter B. Smith, Jr., was elected financial secretary and treasurer.

John A. McGrath, Thomas E. Gannon and Charles McPhillips were elected as members of the executive board.

For the first time in the history of the organization the voting was by the Australian ballot system, and members absent with shows were allowed to vote by mail.

Rochester War Veterans Are Given Christmas Party

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Disabled World War veterans had an enjoyable party today at Keith's Temple Theater, the matinee performance being especially for them, at the request of Edwin G. Lauder, son-in-law of E. F. Albee, president of the Keith-Albee Theaters. This Christmas party has been an annual custom at the Temple since 1918.

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Servais LeRoy Against Exposing Magic Secrets

Servais LeRoy, in answer to Dante's interview printed in *The Billboard* of December 18, regarding "Let the Public Know," sends the following:

"Dante is willing to expose sufficiently to bring publicity for his entertainment but is not willing to expose his own secrets for the simple reason such exposures would kill his own entertainment and be disastrous to the box office.

"It is amusing to read and listen to the arguments advanced by propagandists of fast enough but not too much exposing as to the value of such exposures. We are told it creates a great interest in magic and produces more magic fans—that these fans become regular attendants at the magician's theater.

"Now, let us look into this matter deeper than the mere financial aspect. First, it is agreed that to direct a magical effect of its mystery is to also remove 90 per cent of its attraction. Once an effect is understood then does your interest cease, or almost cease. Secondly, the door being now wide open to expose, the next day will see further and greater exposures and in a very short time we will find the best effects in magic, stage effects more especially, being given away, and as time goes on even an original inventor will see his newest and best effects given away before he has time to play out his first contracts.

"Is it not time to pause and reflect? Surely all idealism is not dead in magic."

Magic News From Australasia

MERLIN, the American card manipulator, has concluded a successful season at the Tivoli Theaters, Sydney and Melbourne.

CHRIS CHARLTON, English magician, who appeared recently at the Tivoli, created a good impression with his Magic Kettle. He returned to England having added several novelties and enlarged his act.

GUS QUINN, Australian card manipulator, who played a successful season in Adelaide, has returned to Melbourne.

FRED POLEY, magician and ventriloquist, has joined Bradley's Monkey Hippodrome and is touring the small towns of the South Island. Poley is one of the oldtimers and has toured New Zealand more times than any other magician.

DONALD STUART, the high and mighty, goes out under engagement to African Theaters, Ltd.

CHARLIE YANN, with eight Chinese magicians, arrived in Sydney from Hong Kong and will present an Oriental magic act at the Tivoli.

Blindfold Drive Stopped

Alla Axiom, mystic man, who has been playing at the Mahaiwe Theater, Great Barrington, Mass., was prevented from completing a blindfold street drive as a publicity stunt. The county inspector of motor vehicles interfered, and, after deciding that Axiom could not see, ordered the mystic man off the street. No arrest was made, but Axiom was informed of the Massachusetts law regarding such performances.

Eli Hackman Entertains In Pennsylvania Institute

Eli Hackman, entertainer around Philadelphia, had an unusual audience at the Pennsylvania Institute for the Deaf at Mt. Airy, Pa., when he gave two performances in magic and Punch and Judy to an audience of children ranging from six to 12 years and to a second audience whose ages were from 15 to 18. He arranged his program for such audiences, which proved interesting and intelligent ones, tho they were deprived of their hearing faculties. They quickly responded to suggestions, in their way, that Eli had made. About 500 children and 50 members, comprising the faculty, were present.

Haag Has New Magic Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Arthur L. Haag, magician, has finished rehearsing his new production, which will feature a "vanishing horse and rider" illusion as well as some other magic and juggling routine. The illusion is said to be along other lines than those already seen of this kind and a showing for the act is being arranged for next week.

MAGIC and MAGICIANS

Conducted by FELIX BLBI—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.



EDWARD WAGNER, member of the Society of American Magicians, in which organization he held the office of sergeant-at-arms for the last three years.

Most Spiritualists Classified as "Nothing"

WORCESTER, Mass.—Ninety-nine per cent of the "spiritualists are nothing," said Sir Conan Doyle as a scientist "is not to be taken seriously," but nevertheless there remains unexplained facts awaiting solution, declared Professor Hans Driesch at the last meeting of the Clark University Symposium of Psychological Research. Dr. Driesch, president of the British Society for Psychological Research, is Carl Schurz exchange professor in the University of Wisconsin this year.

"There have been strange occurrences," he said in part. "Their happening cannot be questioned, but what or who caused them is still a point not clearly shown.

"Why, then, are we not all omniscient? The only possible answer to this question may be because it would make us unfit for life; we would be confused by knowing too much.

"The best thing, of course, would be if we could get mediumship as a whole into our hands; that is, if we could make every human being a medium whenever we like. This is not at all out of the realm of probabilities. Every man is probably a potential medium, but we do not yet know the conditions under which they become actualities. We shall know this one day, so I hope."

Hari Rajah on Tour

Prince Hari Rajah is presenting his mystery show, with Joseph Hanuzzi as business manager in advance.

The roster includes Prince Hari Rajah, who features mind reading and magic; Karl Rajah, George Marlowe, Mrs. Rose King, Mr. and Mrs. Billy Wayne, in songs and dances; Anglo Marano, Charleston dancer. The company reports good business thru the West Virginia coal fields.

EUGENE DENNIS, 26-year-old girl psychic, who is making her first tour of the Pacific Coast, is proving such strong drawing power that she is being held for a third week in Seattle at the Coliseum.

London Magicians Elect Will Goldston President

Will Goldston was elected president of the London Magicians' Club to succeed the late Harry Houdini and Louis Gaultier first vice-president. Another record house for magicians at the National Hotel, who with their friends crowded the hall for the second ladies' night of the season, under the chairmanship of the Mayor of Chelmsford, supported by the Mayoress, the Mayor and Mayoress of Guildford, President Will Goldston and First Vice-President Louis Gaultier.

The chairman spoke of the death of President Houdini and the happy choice in electing Will Goldston to the post. Vice-President and Mrs. E. T. Marr proved ideal hosts.

The program included Chum Sheriff, Chris Van Bern, Krals Roma, Harry Heap, Kitty Kenway, Gwen Rogers and her musical dolls, the Vera Sisters, Chas. Vernon, Jack Brooks, Samuel Paul, Percy West, Robert Gordon, Ralph Delvin, Bert Marsden and Jack Barker.

On account of the extra club facilities the membership roll is to be increased and a welcome will be extended to any amateur or professional magician who may apply to the treasurer, Magicians' Club, 14 Green street, Leicester Square, London, W. C. 2.

Magic Notes

WILSON recently appeared at the Strand Theater, Watford, Wis., presenting magic and illusions. He is featuring *Sawing a Woman in Half*.

FRANK LANE advises that he is back in Boston and busy in club work.

JULIAN BOEHM, Atlanta, Ga., society magician, recently entertained the Civitan Club at the Masonic Temple.

PROF. M. M. WHEELDON reports good business thru Colorado on return dates. The show played Rocky Ford December 22, 23 and 24.

TEKARA writes from Tampa, Fla.: "Playing clubs and schools in and out of town, later to the East Coast filling some dates at Miami. Magic here is going over big. Of all the tricks I do the old sliding dice box, known as the sucker box, goes over big, also wine and water. The older the trick, the better it goes over, as they are all new to this generation of children."

SWASTIKA, astrologist, recently appeared at the Virginia Theater, Wheeling, W. Va.

ROBERTS, playing thru Illinois, advises that he will go to Florida next month.

MARIETTA POOLE writes: "Believe me, magic is very much alive around Boston, and all magicians are kept busy. I am the only lady magician in New England. My gowns are sleeveless and I try to convince the audience that I have something up my sleeves, but it cries out, 'you have no sleeves'. Sleeveless apparel makes magic more intriguing."

HEVERLY is spending the holidays at his home in Sayre, Pa.

MYSTIC LAKE is visiting C. J. Haney at Charleston, W. Va., and is playing around Charleston in theaters.

KOLAR, escape artist, writes: "Give my regards to the chief of police." His Challenge Tag Trick is a corker.

HARRY SINDER, Pacific Coast magician, and who has been in the U. S. Government Hospital in Kansas City, Mo., for the past three months, has recovered, and is once more able to be about. He would like to hear from his friends in the profession, who can address him care The *Billboard*, Kansas City, as he has been out of touch with magic and magicians during his illness.

Audience Mystified As Rays Remove Objects

W. H. Chandlee, director of the Washington (D. C.) School of Arts, demonstrated in his 15th street studio December 16 an illusion that he has perfected after five months' work, when a doll faded slowly out of a chair in which it had been seated, leaving the empty chair in full view of a mystified audience. The spirits of other worlds seemed to have been invoked, too, when in another phase of the demonstration a living human hand melted into nothingness, permitting objects behind it to be seen, and all in uninterrupted spotlight rays.

The demonstration was the climax to months of study and experimentation by Mr. Chandlee, who sought thru that period to give to the world of magic a new "trick". It was the first actual showing of the perfected model of the artist's apparatus, and an audience of Mr. Chandlee's friends and fellow artists attended.

Explaining several popular illusions performed on the stage by magicians, Mr. Chandlee said that while most of them require mirrors, his stunt is controlled entirely by the manipulation of colored light rays thru a refraction screen. These lights are changed so smoothly that there is no evidence of it to the audience, and thru that change objects melt and appear with all the mystification of famed India. The inventor declared that with his apparatus built on a larger scale he will be able to "fade" a whole audience out of its seats in a theater while that audience perceives the seats in which it sits apparently empty.

Boy Wizard To Be Member International Brotherhood

Because of his signal ability, and by special dispensation, membership in the International Brotherhood of Magicians has been granted Erwin Fredk Rogers, 9 years of age, whose magical power has brought bewilderment to residents of Marshfield, Wis.

President W. W. Durbin, of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, has requested an outline of the boy's act with a view of having him participate in the program of the brotherhood's next convention at Kenton, O.



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MINSTRELS Y

Conducted by A. HOMER CLARK
Communications to 23 Opera Place,
Cincinnati, O.

CLAIBORNE WHITE, general agent for Rogers' Sunshine Exposition Minstrels, writes that he is spending the winter at Greenwood, Miss.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT is hereby made to the legion of burntorkers for their Christmas Greetings and best wishes for the New Year extended *The Billboard*.

THE ANNUAL MINSTREL show given by the Elks of Wheeling, W. Va., will be staged at the Court Theater, February 20 to 22. Miller & Thorpe, New York producers, are directing.

JACK McSHANE, of the Jolly Theatians, reports that he recently had the pleasure of meeting Al Tint, yodeler, while passing thru Los Angeles to Salt Lake

City. Al has a three-room apartment and entertained Jack at lunch. Al's wife, Mrs. Mabel Tint, is in stock at Ashland, Ky. Al says Eddie Moran, who does a cane dance with the Jolly Theatians, claims to be much younger than Jack McShane, and wants Jack to prove it thru the Minstrel column. Jack McShane also met Happy Benway while in Los Angeles. McShane is known as the Irish tenor. He is making a hit with his song, *Let the End of the World Come Tomorrow*.

H. L. BENSON announces he has contracted for his third season with the Miller Bros. Shows for his Georgia Minstrels. He says the minstrels will be of the same high quality of excellence as heretofore.

CAL COHEN, Culver City, Calif., writes that the Christmas edition of *The Billboard* was the best ever. The minstrel reminiscences and names of old-time minstrels recalled many pleasant and happy associations of the past 60 years.

THE HANK BROWN-DAN SHERMAN combination will commence rehearsal early in the new year for week stands. It is announced. The show will consist of 20 people, band and orchestra. The first half will present Hank Brown's Minstrels and the last half "A Jay Circus".

AL (SLATO) WOODWARD writes that he is now working around Detroit, breaking in an act written for him by Joe Cook, of Earl Carroll's Vaudeville. Al the Cook has not worked in blackface, Woodward says he knows his "stuff" when he writes negro material. The act is for three people, and is a "wow", according to Al.

THE LASSES WHITE MINSTRELS have received many complimentary press notices during the tour in the South. All express appreciation of the performance. *The Morning Star*, Wilmington, N. C., says the crowd's approval in the form of almost continuous applause was sufficiently insistent to almost stop the show, and that the crowd was one of the largest to ever attend a minstrel performance there.

AFTER closing 12 weeks over the Orpheum Time with the Del Ortos, California Spanish dancers, Irving J. Gealand is spending the holidays at Clinton, Ia. About the first of the year he will go to the Coast to rehearse a new act with the Del Ortos, which, it is expected, will be on Pantages Time. While dancing at the Riviera Theater, Chicago, he met his dancing instructor, Sam Johnson, of Coburn's Minstrels.

APROPPOS the playing of the J. A. Coburn Minstrels at Vicksburg, Miss., recently, a newspaper of that city took occasion to comment upon "Slim" Vermont and "Hi Brown" Booby Burns as follows: "The act of 'Slim' Vermont and 'Hi Brown' Booby Burns was one of the cleverest seen here lately. Abounding with the humorous sayings and mirth-invoking jokes, it would be hard to find words to express the hearty laughing that was to be heard from the large audience."

ANENT the recalling of old times in minstrelsy, George R. Guy, veteran minstrel man, asks: "Why not go back to the time when most of the large cities, between '60s and '70s, had a first-class minstrel theater? Today there is only one in existence, and that in Philadelphia. New York City had Brynars, Woods, Campbell's and Hooley's, and later San Francisco's, Kelly & Leon's, George Christy's, Griffin & Christy's, Philadelphia had Coopers & Dixie's, Simmons & Stocum's, Boston had Morris Brothers; St. Louis, Wilson's; Chicago, Arlington's; Cotton & Kembles; Brooklyn, Hooley's, and later on Welch, Hughes & White; San Francisco had Emerson's; London, England, Pony Moore's and Christy's minstrels. Liverpool had Sam Hughes'. Today Philadelphia has Welch's, formerly Frank Dumont's, the only minstrel house open. Those were happy days with such fellows as George Christy, Dan Bryant, Jerry and Will Bryant, Little MacCool White, Eph Horn, Notoe Seymour, Dan Emmett, Dave Reed, Billy Birch, Charley Backus, Dave Wombold, George Guy, Sr.; Sam Price, Sam Purdy, Archie Hughes, Edwin Kelly, Leon Unsworth and Eugene, William Henry Rice, George and Willie Guy, Dick Sands, Billy Arlington, Dick Carroll, Bill Budworth, Sam Sanford, Ben Cotton, W. H. Brockway, G. W. Griffin, John Donker, Ainsley Scott, Chas. Shattuck, J. W. McAndrews, the 'watermelon man'; George Swain Buckley, Cool

SCENIC ARTISTS

By G. M. LELAND
Communications to 1560 Broadway, N. Y.

OFFICERS FOR the ensuing year were elected at the last meeting of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829, at New York headquarters. A gratifying number of members turned out to cast their ballots. Charles E. Leasing was re-elected president and head of the claim and research department. Others re-elected were George Williams, vice-president; Charles Roman, treasurer; August G. Vols, business agent; Frank Conklin, warden; George Hyde, conductor. John Quinn and William Hobbs were also returned as trustees. R. Karnott succeeded Karl Ramet as financial secretary, and Oscar Regy replaced Walter Perelval as recording secretary, the two former officers not having run this year.

EDDIE EDDIE AND C. MILLARD have been elected into the membership of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829.

CHARLES SQUIRES has succeeded Dan Finch as artist at the Weller Theater, Zahesville, O. Finch has taken up a new post at the Princess Theater, Toronto.

SHIRLEY BRAITHWAIT is working at the Princess Theater, Montreal.

FRANK CLARK is to be the artist at the New Evanston Theater, Evanston, Ill.

MILO B. DENNY is set at the Majestic Theater, Waukegan, Ill.

HORACE ARMISTEAD has joined the Majestic Theater, Elmira, N. Y.

THE SCHAFFNER & SWEET STUDIOS, New York, are executing *The Poulidus* for A. Ebbets.

FREDERICK JONES III is to have some settings in the Ziegfeld show, *Desty*, coming to the New Amsterdam Theater, New York.

THE R. W. BERGMAN STUDIOS, New York, are executing *Ballyhoos*, designed by James Reynolds, for Russell Janney. Bergman is also splitting the work with the Triangle Scenic Studios on the forthcoming production of *Horsing Glory*.

CLEON THROCKMORTON is designing and executing the settings for *In Abraham's Bosom* at the Provincetown Playhouse, New York.

THE WOOD MacLEAN-SUNDQUIST STUDIOS, New York, are turning out settings for one of Marty Brooks' new acts and for Phil Arnaut's new vaudeville vehicle.

MEL MORAN has completed the decorations of the new Venetian Room at the 44th Street Club, New York.

ROBERT BENJAMIN, scenic artist and stage carpenter, sometime of Brunswick, Canada—please communicate with your uncle, Thomas Russell, at 329 Wilson avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Also look for letter in *The Billboard* letter list.

RAYMOND SOVRY is designing the settings for the next Theater Guild production, *The Brothers Karamazoff*, to open shortly.

DAZIAN'S, the New York supply house, receives the credit for the most unusual cyclorama being used in the new Beatrice Little show, *Oh, Please*, at the Fulton Theater, New York. The material is new to theatrical use and is called watered silk. It is a heavy moire faille, gorgeous red in color for the on-stage side, and the solid is broken with a rippled effect in the surface of the silk. A lining of heavy green satin on the reverse side of the eye is permitted to show here and there, and the combination is very effective.

Burgers, Jack Hilton, Charley Church, Hogan and Hughes, Johnny Booker, Guilford and Goldrich, Cooper and Fields, Johnson and Powers and many more that I can't think of at present. The writer, who is probably the oldest minstrel performer before the public, having served 43 years blacking his face, worked with most all of the above-mentioned and is still at it, doing his dancing and bone solo with the oldest minstrel organization in the world, Guy Brothers."

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PRESS and ADVANCE AGENTS

By FELIX BLEI
Communications to 25 Opera Place,
Cincinnati, O.

THE GENESEE PUBLICITY BUREAU is the latest organization of its kind formed in Rochester, N. Y. Thomas J. Bell, who has had considerable experience in handling theater publicity, and Edwin H. Gooding, fair publicity man and theatrical reviewer, both of the staff of *The Democrat and Chronicle* and *Rochester Herald* are operating the bureau.

W. J. MURPHY, formerly with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in San Francisco, succeeds Edwin Fitzgerald as publicity manager of Pantegau Theater, San Diego, Calif., who resigned to accept a position on the staff of *The Chicago Tribune*. During his sojourn on the Pacific Coast Fitzgerald served as dramatic editor of two San Francisco newspapers, after which he associated himself with the Pantegau Theater in Los Angeles. From there he became publicity director and assistant manager of the San Francisco house and for the past three months has been in San Diego as publicity director.

WILLIAM FIELDS, general publicity representative for Stuart Walker and advance agent of the *Greenwich Village Follies*, has arranged to spend Christmas with friends in Cincinnati. His attraction will be at the Shubert Theater the week commencing January 9.

GEORGE BENEKE, of Pallow Amusement Company, McCreehy Stock Company and Pine Beach Amusement Company, is handling publicity for the Paradise Amusement Enterprises, Inc., colored amusement park in Miami, Fla.

DUKES-BROWNELL advises that he has closed with the Wise Shows as press agent and promoter at Orlando, Fla., and is returning north this spring.

S. W. PAPERT, Dallas, was named president and treasurer of the Texas Daily Press League. Other officers chosen include D. W. Sterlich, *The Texarkana Gazette*, vice-president; Lowry Martin, *The Corsicana Sun*, secretary; J. L. Greer, *The Decatur Herald*, chairman of the board, with other directors as follows: W. C. Edwards, *The Denton Record Chronicle*; Bernard Hanks, *The Abilene Reporter*; Houston Harjo, *The*

"Look in Umbrella." Says Art. "When They Lose Tickets"

Art Phillips, manager of the Olympic Theater, Cincinnati, is also press agent of the house and therefore entitled to a place in this column. Art has a new yarn concerning the ladies who attend his matinees, for which special coupons are issued. It seems that Art has quite a number of patrons who either willfully neglect to bring these coupons to the theater or—well maybe there are other reasons. The other day four ladies were having a slight fuss with the doorman. They had no special coupons. The lady who was evidently giving the party stoutly maintained: "I never got any coupons; the man in the box did not give me any more than I am offering the doorman. There's no use arguing; I know what I am talking about. We're going into the show anyway, so you needn't start any more talk about coupons. I got the tickets myself, and surely I know whether I got any coupons or not." Art Phillips was confounded for a moment. He always tries to give lady patrons the best of any argument. A happy thought struck him, so he said to the lady: "Open up that umbrella and see whether you did not drop the coupons in there in your hurry at the door." In a defiant mood the lady opened up her rain shelter and out dropped the elusive coupons. Art never said a word, but the lady remarked: "Well, what do you know about that? The very idea!" Then the curtains dropped on the comedy scene, and Art was ready for the next anxious moment.

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San Angelo Standard, and Wilbur Hank, *The Amarillo News Globe*.

FRANK BRADEN, last season press agent of the 101 Ranch, is director of publicity for the Loew theaters at Baltimore.

HI TOM LONG, last season publicity director for the Abner K. Kline Shows, has been re-engaged in the same capacity for season 1927. Altho he is resting at the Soldiers' Home, Savielle, Calif., he will take up his duties at San Bernardino, Calif., about February 1, when he will begin preparation of newspaper copy prior to the show's opening at the National Orange Show February 17.

JOE KNIGHT, rodeo publicity exploiter, is on the staff of Famous Players in New York.

FRANK B. HILDEBRAND and George Gorman are making plans for the coming season in connection with the advance of West's World's Wonder Shows. Hildebrand will direct the publicity and Gorman the promotions.

PAUL M. CONWAY, press representative of the Walter L. Main Circus, is in Jackson, Tenn., for the winter.

MOLLIE B. STEINBERG is press agent for the Earl Carroll enterprises, succeeding Charles Bochert, who resigned a few weeks ago.

J. J. MOONEY is the manager and W. P. Croucher press representative for James Thatcher's *Aloma of the South Seas* on the Columbia Circuit.

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NATHANIEL SHILKRETT'S Orchestra will present a program made up entirely of the works of French composers over WJZ Wednesday night, December 29, at 9 o'clock.

JACK DENNY and His Orchestra, together with Frank Mann and Virginia Rea, were scheduled to be heard over WJZ Tuesday night, December 28.

GODFREY LUDLOW, Australian violinist and staff artist of WJZ, and Lolita Cabezas Gainsboro, Spanish pianist, were heard in a joint sonata recital thru WJZ, WGY and WBZ Sunday night.

THE COMMODORE ENSEMBLE, under the direction of Bernhard Levitov, on Sunday night entertained the listeners of WJZ and WGY with a rendition of *The Xmascracker Suite* of Tschalkowsky. On Wednesday night of this week at 7 o'clock the Commodore Ensemble is scheduled to present a number of selections from Franz Lehar's operetta, *The Merry Widow*, over WJZ.

WALTER DAMROSCH and the New York Symphony Orchestra will be heard thru WEAF, WEEI, WGR, WTAM, WFL, WSAI, WGN, WOC, WCCO and WCAE Saturday night, January 1, at 8 o'clock, Eastern standard time. George Gerchow, widely known pianist and popular songwriter, will be the soloist of the evening and will play his *Concerto in F*, accompanied by the New York Symphony Orchestra.

HARRY BESER and his Cleopatra Club Eskimos are featured each Thursday evening at 9 o'clock, Eastern standard time, thru WEAF, WEEI, WCCO, WJAR, WTAG, KSD, WGR, WFL, WWJ, WSAI, WOC, WCAE and WGN.

VINCENT LOPEZ, well-known orchestra leader, will celebrate his 25th birthday with an hour's program of dance music from the Casa Lopez, New York, thru WEAF at 11 o'clock Thursday night, December 30. Lopez will reverse the usual order of giving instead of receiving a birthday present. Between now and the 30th he asks that musicians send him their best compositions. Out of these he will select one which he will publish, feature in all his concerts and play nightly at the Casa Lopez and on the air. "The only conditions are that the compositions shall be all-American, written in modern Americanese and tell an American story," explains Lopez. "I am hunting the great Yankee musical epic," continues Vincent, "and will not consider anything borrowed from the old masters or flavored with the classics."

RUDOLFO HOYOS, one of the foremost Mexican baritone, will make, what is said to be, his radio debut over WEAF and WJAR at 8:15 o'clock on Wednesday night of this week. Hoyos appears in Spanish operas at the Lyric Theater, New York, every Sunday night.

BEN BERNIE and His Orchestra, playing at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York, were booked to be heard in an hour's program of dance selections by the audience of WEAF, WGR, WFL, WCAE, WTAM and WWJ at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday evening of this week.

THE GOLD DRAGON ORCHESTRA, now playing an indefinite engagement at the Egyptian Ballrooms of the Kossak Hotel, Louisville, Ky., recently scored a big hit over WHAS in a program put on by *The Louisville Courier-Journal* and *Times*. The Ramblers, under the direction of Jack Gozenbach, appeared on the same program.

EDDIE ROSSON and his Syncopators are heard frequently over WHAS. Rossion's orchestra includes Katherine Rossion, piano; Robert Seaton, sax; Clarence Albus, trumpet; Roy Lawrence, trombone; Raymond Lawrence, sax; James Hunter, sousaphone, and Lawrence Lois, banjo.

PAUL ASHLEY'S ORCHESTRA, consisting of Cecil Witherspoon, piano; Stanley Moore, Claude Wilson and Fred Pennington, sax and clarinet; Jack Wallace and Gene Hammell, trumpet; Jack Minten, trombone; Floyd Garner, basso; L. E. Adler, violin; Guy Ashley, drums; C. F. Poe, banjo, and Paul Ashley, director, is now a regular feature over WRR, the Jefferson Hotel studio, Dallas, Tex.

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Unsolicited Testimony to the Worth of Advertising in Hotel Directory of The Billboard

Los Angeles, Calif., December 14, 1926.

R. J. REINHART,
Advertising Manager *The Billboard*,
1540 Broadway, New York City:
Dear Mr. Reinhart—Enclosed is check for \$9.50, covering 15-time order for advertisement in your paper.
I wish to call your attention to the fact that during this year we have received close to a thousand dollars from *The Billboard* advertisement. Consequently we are well satisfied with the results.
With best wishes we beg to remain,
Very sincerely yours,
MORGAN HOTEL,
E. R. LEON (Gen. Mgr.).

BERLIN

By O. M. SEIBT
183 Uhlard Str., Charlottenburg

BERLIN, Dec. 7.—The passing year sees a further decline in big-time vaudeville in Germany. The Apollo Berlin goes over to a male stock company, the Elite Saenger, after having played vaudeville for the past five months with indifferent success. Another big-time house, the Reichshallen Cologne, is abandoning vaudeville for revue and burlesque shows, although reopened with vaudeville a few months ago. The Leebich Theater Breslau, one of the standards of decades and in pre-war days known to every American act that visited this country, is in the hands of a receiver and will probably play shows only on a percentage basis hereafter.

The Vaudeville Managers' Association is undergoing a crisis that may result in a severe shakeup. The trouble started with the resignation of its president, M. Friediger, of Munich, and the attending resignation of the Wintergarten, the Scala and a number of provincial managers from the board of directors following an encounter with the secretary of the Union. Since the whole association is of little if any importance to the vaudeville magnates on account of 90 per cent of its members belonging to the cabaret trade, with no achievement for a good many days, it is reported that the long overdue split of the two interests will be the outcome of the affair.

Sieger's Midgets are headlining at the Centralhallen, Stettin, and business is said to be excellent.

The Italian Marionets are giving performances at the Gloria Palace after having played the Theater des Westens; Schicht-Chariton's Marionets, a first-rate German act, is at the Scala, and Braun's

Marionets Muenchner Kuenstler will open in a few days at the Secession on Kur-fuerstendamm.

The Dodge Sisters will leave the middle of January for America, opening on the K-A. This February 6.

Another American act at the Scala going very strong is Miacaba, the Brazilian wonder on the wire, who arrived from Holland after playing a number of dates in Paris and Southern France. Miss Miacaba is in receipt of offers from German managers and will have little difficulty in arranging a long tour in this country.

Max Reinhardt, now in America, will bring the entire company of the Odeon Theater, Paris, under Gouler, to Berlin next spring, with the full company of the Deutsches Theater playing the Paris house in exchange.

The much-touted Jean Gilbert concern has broken down, and the composer's idea of imitating the Shubert brothers in this country by securing the leading musical comedy stages under his management has found a sudden end. Business in some of the houses was extremely poor. The main difficulty, of course, has been the lack of good, catchy songs.

Cologne expects to stage a carnival early next year—the first real one for 13 years. It could not be revived during the occupation that ended last March. Nearly a thousand Americans have, according to an announcement made by the carnival committee, signified their intention of visiting the fair.

Circus Hagenbeck, of Stellingen fame, is giving performances in the Busch Building, with a real old-fashioned circus put on by Heinrich and Lorena Hagenbeck and their general manager, Richard Sawade. The program includes the best animal acts seen for a long time, in addition to a number of specialty acts and comedy turns and clowns. Hagenbeck intends to stay in Berlin the entire season.

LYCEUM and CHAUTAUQUA

Communications to 25 Opera Place,
Cincinnati, O.

MAUDE WILLES, Chicago, has completed her Lyceum time and has gone to Orlando, Fla., to spend the winter, driving thru in her automobile.

WALLACE GRAHAM, manager of the Community Chautauques of Canada, was in Chicago recently on business. He expressed himself well pleased with the business his organization did last fall, the rebookings being 100 per cent, with several towns added for next year. His circuit is a three-day indoor chautauqua.

CLASSIFICATION blanks have been sent to all members of the I. L. C. A. by Secretary Harold Kramer in preparation for the new year book. No one but paid-up members of the association will be listed—and all are requested to send in checks.

JEANNETTE KLING is spending the holidays with relatives in Cincinnati, after a fall season with Swarthmore. She will spend the remainder of the winter in Chicago.

PLANS for the next I. L. C. A. Convention are going forward, and there is said to be reason to believe it will be the biggest convention in years. It will be held at Winona Lake, September 6 to 9, 1927. New members are coming into the association in surprising numbers, 19 applications having been received since the last convention.

CHARLES ARGANBRIGHT, of Chicago, has joined the company of Pere Pelletier in New York, presenting two Shakespearean plays. Arganbright leaves for Florida in February opening on the Radloff Chautauqua. Time with *Give and Take*, playing the leading juvenile role of Jack and acting as manager of the company. During his stay in New York Arganbright has made his home in Greenwich Village where he is a welcomed guest at many professional and fraternal affairs, in company with Mrs. Wrigley, of Wichita, Kan., who is becoming famous in the village for her dramatic readings.

ADA WARD has been invited to lecture before the Holland-English Society in Holland during her European tour in February and March, according to word from her manager, Gerald Christy.

THE AMERICAN INDIAN Concert Band, Mt. Pleasant, Mich., under direction of David Russell Hill, expects to be on the chautauqua circuit next year. The organization, with its soloists both in vocal and instrumental numbers, is said to be an unusual novelty.

A **LYCEUM COURSE** is being successfully sponsored by the Philomathean Society of the Groves City (Miss.) High School. The course not only included professionals, but a number given by the school grades in the form of a Christmas cantata.

LETTERS FROM chautauqua and lyceum talent are always welcome to this department because of their news value. *The Billboard* does not book attractions or features, and makes this statement because there seems to be a frequent misunderstanding to that effect. Those desiring to enter upon this field should get in touch with the various bureaus, that make the work a specialty.

GLEN MORRIS is lecturing thru Wisconsin with the University of Extension of that State. He reports splendid audiences and enthusiasm.

THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH of Palestine, Tex., is fostering a home-talent lyceum course, and is said to be meeting with success. John H. Luck, educational director of the congregation, and the pastor, J. Williams, are promoting the affair.

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New Theater Plans and Activities

ATLANTA, Ga.—Loew's, Inc., obtained a 60-year lease December 17 on central city property, including the Grand Theater, and a statement was issued to the effect that a theater to seat 4,000 will be built. The DeGlive Investment Company owns the Grand Theater property. Edward A. Schiller, recently elected vice-president of the Loew concern, confirmed the report of the projected new theater. He said the company would take over the site January 1. The rentals to be paid during the term of the lease aggregate \$60,000,000. While the construction date is indefinite, it was stated that work would begin soon and the theater would be the finest in the South.

BRISTOL, Conn.—Construction of a theater to cost \$500,000 will be begun in a short time, according to a statement issued by A. H. Lockwood, D. A. Peters and L. M. Gordon, of Colonial Theaters, Inc., for which concern the house is to be built. The Bristol Theater, recently destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt as soon as plans are prepared.

BROOKLYN.—The Park Slope Amusement Corporation will build a three-story brick theater on Eighth street, near Sixth avenue, to cost \$550,000.

CAMAS, Wash.—Construction of a motion picture theater, financed by local interests, has been begun on the C. E. Farrell property.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia.—The Frank Amusement Company, of Waterloo, announces the erection of a 2,500-seat vaudeville and photoplay combination theater for Cedar Rapids, to be operated jointly by the Frank Amusement Company and the Orpheum Circuit of vaudeville theaters. The theater will be built according to plans prepared by W. P. Whitney, Chicago. These plans are to be approved by the Orpheum Circuit architect. The Frank Amusement Company, which operates a number of theaters throughout Iowa, also has approved plans for the new Orpheum Theater for Waterloo, with a seating capacity of 2,600. Construction of the Waterloo Orpheum Theater will commence on or before November 1, 1927.

CHICAGO.—The Chicago Turn-Gemeinde, founded in 1852, will build a 2,500-seat theater and Chicago will give annual seasons of 15 weeks of opera in English. Announcement of the project was made by Joseph A. Schwickrath, director of the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra. The theater will be part of a 17-story structure on the site of the historic North Side Turner Hall, North Clark street. Work will start next fall, after the 75th anniversary of the Turn-Gemeinde has been celebrated in the old building. All Chicago architects have been invited to compete in submitting plans. In addition to the playhouse there will be two concert halls, one seating 1,000, the other 500.

CHICAGO.—Accompanied by his wife, son and daughter, Frank A. P. Gazzolo, for 30 years one of the foremost figures in Chicago's theatrical history, who has returned to Chicago after a two months' sojourn in California, intimated that he may construct a new loop theater within the next 18 months. Before leaving for California Mr. Gazzolo sold his lease on the Studebaker to Mrs. Samuel Insull's repertoire company.

CINCINNATI.—Albert Harris, investor, has acquired the property at 16 East Seventh street, paying \$85,000, and announces that he will build a motion picture theater unless he resells. The theater proposed would seat 600. This block is occupied by the Shubert, Capitol and Cox theaters. With the Harris theater built, the entire north side of the block would be given to amusement houses.

DALLAS, Tex.—Directors of the Dallas Little Theater announce that the building project of the organization is assured, \$55,000 having been subscribed of the \$65,000 needed. Fifteen architects have submitted plans from which a selection will be made.

DALLAS, Tex.—C. W. Snider, of Wichita Falls, and J. Fred Smith, of Dallas, will build a theater to cost \$300,000 in the business district, they announce, withholding the location and other details for the present.

ELWOOD, Ind.—Permit has been issued to R. D. Smith, of Greentown, to

build a theater on the site of the old Kremer Opera House. Construction contract was awarded to W. M. Dickson. The estimated cost is \$50,000. Work will begin at once.

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—Plans for building a new theater on the site of the Strand, recently destroyed by fire, are under consideration by the Wells-Bijou Realty Company, owners. A lease on the property, held by Charles Sweeton, expires in May. An Eastern theatrical concern desires to purchase the property. Clint F. Rose, manager of the realty company, says—

GAINESVILLE, Fla.—R. C. Armstrong, manager of the Lyric Theater, announces that the Saenger Theaters, Inc., headquarters New Orleans, will build a new theater here. Work is to commence on the house early in January. The plans have been drawn and accepted.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—Jacob Freeman, owner and operator of a group of motion picture theaters, announces that he will build a theater at a cost of \$300,000, seating 1,200, on a lot just purchased by him on Shelby street.

MARION, Ind.—Plans are being drawn for the construction of a motion picture theater to cost about \$150,000. The theater will be owned and operated by the Frank J. Rembusch Enterprises of Indianapolis and will seat about 1,500.

MERKEL, Tex.—H. T. Hodges, Abilene theater owner, will build a motion picture theater here at a cost of \$20,000.

NEW ORLEANS.—The Jai-Alai Club will build a theater at Friscoville avenue and North Peters street for general amusements. Contract for construction has been awarded to Gliz & Geier, this city.

NEW YORK.—A new theater for the Bronx is expected to rise on a site purchased by a client of Schwab & Company, the block front on the west side of Third avenue, between 155th and 159th streets. The theater proposed will seat 2,000. Stores and offices will be embraced in the project.

New Theater Openings

ALGONA, Ia.—The Algona Theater, built by M. Morness, a motion picture house, has been opened under his management. The theater is equipped with a stage suitable for general amusements.

ASHDOWN, Ark.—The New Palace, motion picture theater, built by Sam Dudley, has been opened for business.

BAIRD, Tex.—Jeff Custer is opening a motion picture theater here.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Shea's Kensington Theater, latest link in the Public Theaters chain, was formally opened Christmas Day. The house was built at a cost of \$250,000 and is Buffalo's finest neighborhood theater.

CHALLIS, Id.—The Challis Theater, motion picture house, has been opened with Rodger Brasseur, the owner, as manager. Doors were thrown open to the public on the opening night, no admission fee being charged.

DUPONT, Pa.—The Lincoln Theater, motion picture house, was formally opened December 18 with an address by Albert Strucke, town burgess. Louis Pilost is managing the new theater.

HAPPY, Tex.—The theater for motion pictures is nearing completion and will be opened at an early date.

HOLIDAYS COVE, W. Va.—W. H. Morgan, manager, announces that the Lincoln Theater, nearing completion, will open about the middle of January. The house will play fair-sized road attractions as well as motion pictures. It has a seating capacity of 600. Road shows are now being booked by Morgan.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—With the new Ritz Theater on North Illinois street nearing completion, plans are being made for the opening about February 1 by Oscar Markum & Son, the owners. The theater cost about \$150,000.

McCOOK, Neb.—The World Theater, which is rapidly nearing completion, will

NEW YORK.—Zimmer, Reznick & Locker, builders, have purchased for about \$1,000,000 the property at 241 West 43d street, with abutting land running thru to 43d, as a site for a theater to seat 2,000. Thomas W. Lamb, architect, is preparing the plans.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Alton C. Emery will build a movie house at Linwood avenue and Cranston streets, the cost of which is not stated. Permit to build has been granted by the zoning board.

ROCHELLE, Ill.—A modern theater, with restaurant and dance hall annex, will be built here by W. P. Landon. The Rochelle Theater Company, to be incorporated, will take over the house. The stock will be sold to citizens of the town.

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—Construction work has started on the \$900,000 Orpheum Theater.

SHREVEPORT, La.—The Werner Company, Inc., has filed contract and bond for construction of a motion picture theater to cost \$25,000.

SPRINGDALE, Ark.—Work has been started on the theater to be built here, as announced last week. The plans show a \$10,000 building, which will be owned by a group of local business men. They will lease the house to Ray Morrow, manager of the Gem.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo.—The Stevens Motion Picture Theater interests will build a theater at 206 Boonville avenue.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Permit has been issued to Thomas Hogan to build a theater to cost \$90,000 on the site of the old System Theater, South Salina street. E. A. Howard is the architect.

WAUKEGAN, Ill.—Contract to build the new theater which will occupy the site of the old Y. M. C. A. Building has been let to Peterson & Weeks, of this city. The theater is to be ready for occupancy by October 1, 1927. It will seat 1,750. The Great States Theaters has taken a 15-year lease.

WINTER HILL, Mass.—A theater to be known as the Capitol will be built by local business men.

YUMA, Ariz.—Harry and Alfred Nace, of Phoenix, will build a motion picture theater here, in which David Swing and M. Solomon are also interested.

be opened January 15. M. Goldberg, president of the World Realty Company, the owner, announces.

MANBASS, N. D.—The Altona Theater, new motion picture house, was opened December 15.

NEW YORK.—The Royale Theater, construction of which was begun only three months ago, will be opened early in January, it is announced. The Royale is at 242 West 45th street. It is equipped for dramatic and musical productions and will seat 1,200. The Royale is a Chanin house.

PORTLAND, Ore.—Christmas has been set as date for the dedication of Multnomah Theaters Corporation's new Bagdad Theater. The opening will be under the auspices of the East Side Business Men's Club.

UTICA, N. Y.—The James Street Theater, motion picture house, seating 850, has been opened by Slotnick & Perlman, of Syracuse, owners of a chain of movie houses.

VENICE, Fla.—The new theater, built at a cost of \$175,000 and for which a name is yet to be selected, is receiving its finishing touches and will be opened about February 1, it is announced.

WESLACO, Tex.—The National Theater, motion picture house, has been opened by M. Benitez.

WICHITA FALLS, Tex.—The new suburban theater acquired by H. N. Roberts will be opened by January 1.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—The Lincoln Theater, motion picture house, built at a cost of \$50,000 by Tony Martone and sold to M. Pilost, of Old Forge, has been opened, with Pilost as manager.

WOODWARD, Okla.—The Terry Theater, motion picture house, has been opened. Vance and Ben Terry and L. N. Sewell are the owners. The house was built at a cost of \$30,000.

Theater Deals

CATTARAUGUS, N. Y.—The Palace Theater, motion picture house, has been sold by Dan Cunningham to Robdo, Rathjoh and Wallace, Inc., owners of the Playhouse, Ellipticville. The name of the Palace will be changed to the Playhouse.

CHICAGO.—The Halsted Theater, 6168 S. Halsted street, has been sold by Mitchell and Murtangh, of the F. B. O. Chicago office, to Philip Tague.

COLLINSVILLE, Okla.—L. H. (Hap) Luckett has sold the Grand Theater to D. A. White, of Henryetta, who recently disposed of a chain of motion picture houses which he owned. His purchase marks White's return to the theatrical business.

DECATUR, Ill.—Percy W. Gebhardt announces that his two theaters, the Alhambra and Crescent, will be leased to a Chicago concern January 1 for a period of five years. Identity of the lessee was not disclosed. The Alhambra will be closed for repairs.

DALLAS, Tex.—Simon Charninsky has sold his interests in the Pastage theaters in Dallas and Fort Worth to Ray Stinnett and U. M. Simon. Stinnett will manage the Dallas house and Simon will conduct the theater in Fort Worth.

HOLDENVILLE, Okla.—The Dixie Theater, motion picture house, has passed to the control of C. E. Moman and A. H. Moman, of Shawnee, and J. W. Cotter, of Tulsa. Cotter will manage the theater.

PUEBLO, Col.—An order for the sale of the Colonial Theater to the Nolan Amusement Company has been issued. The order provides that the sale price shall not be less than \$2,169.21, and the purchaser shall assume all the encumbrances and taxes against the property. The theater was a part of the estate of the late Frank Taylor.

SEATTLE, Wash.—The Meridian Theater, motion picture house, has been sold by H. Pace and J. Biancardi to Harry Bergman, who will manage the theater.

SEATTLE, Wash.—Confirmation of the report that nine suburban theaters and one downtown motion picture house have been purchased by the Universal Chain Theatrical Enterprises is given by H. W. Brown, general manager of the Pacific Theaters Company, which has been operating the houses. Brown says the sale will be effective January 1. The Universal will take over the Cheerio Theater, the Queen Anne, the Mission, in Georgetown; the Grey Goose, Beacon Hill; the Arabian, Woodland and Ridgeland, in the North End; the Portola, in West Seattle, and the Madrona Garden, 39th avenue and Cherry street. No real estate changed hands. The properties are covered by long-term leases.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—S. E. Wilhoit has purchased the Grand Theater from W. W. Smith. With this purchase, Wilhoit now has control of 15,000 theaters here, the others being the Princess and Jefferson, which are owned by him.

WAUCHULA, Fla.—The Royal Theater has been sold to the owners of the Star Theater, Arcadia, Fla., and H. B. Clark, who is financially interested in the deal, will come from the latter city to take over the management of the house here.

Theater Alterations

CINCINNATI.—The Forest Theater in Avondale will be remodeled and converted into a modern pictures house. The seating capacity will be doubled. Moritz Saxs is the architect.

HANCOCK, Mich.—The Star Theater is being remodeled and will be enlarged. Extensive alterations and improvements will be made in the old house.

SANTA ROSA, Calif.—The old amusement hall, Fourth street, is to be remodeled and opened as a motion picture theater by Mrs. W. W. Peit. Contract for the rebuilding has been given to Proctor & Cleghorn.

Theater Staff Notes

CHARLES ROSE, formerly of Corning, N. Y., is now manager of Smalley's Theater in Cooperstown, N. Y.

FRANK CASSIDY, for many years associated with Warner Bros., is now manager of the Colony Theater, New York.

FRED S. MEYER, formerly manager of the Universal Film Exchange in Minneapolis, Minn., has been made managing director of the Alhambra Theater, Milwaukee.

CARL KRUEGER, formerly manager of the Columbia Theater, Detroit, is now managing the Lincoln Square Theater in that city. J. Barley, assistant manager at the Columbia, will succeed Krueger as manager of that house.

RAY HENDRY, former assistant manager at the Victory Theater, Salt Lake City, Utah, has taken charge of the Paramount Theater, Ogden, Utah, succeeding Emmett Sorg, who has gone to California.

HARRY SILVER, manager of the Palace Theater, Hamilton, O., has just returned from a two weeks' vacation with his former "buddies" in Detroit.

ROY FRAZEE, who has been organist at Loew's State, Boston, has been appointed organist at the new Granada Theater, Malden, Mass.

FRANK L. SELTZER, who for a short time was manager of Warner Bros.' Metropolitan Theater, Baltimore, has returned to Philadelphia to assume his duties as publicity director for the Fox Theater there.

ANTOINETTE WARD, former manager of the Grand Theater, St. Catharines, Ont., and later manager of the Griffin Theater in that city, is now at the helm of the Tivoli Theater, St. Thomas, Ont., filling the place left vacant by Thomas Forhan, who is now at the Capitol Theater, Welland, Ont.

JACK QUINLAN, for several years manager of the Main Street Theater, Kansas City, Mo., has resigned from that position to become manager of the Pantages Theater, Kansas City, succeeding Earl T. Cook, who has been transferred to the home office of the Pantages Circuit in New York.

FRANK CASSEL has been named as manager of the Sedalia Theater, Sedalia, Mo., a Universal chain house.

MURRAY A. PENNOCK will this week leave his post as manager of the Music Box, Portland, Ore., to go to New York, where he plans to continue in the theatrical business. William H. Byars, assistant manager, will have charge of the theater until Warner Brothers appoint another manager.

E. V. RICHARDS, JR., general manager of the Saenger Theaters, Inc., has been appointed a member of the commission in charge of the erection of the new \$3,000,000 public auditorium in New Orleans.

L. S. GOOLSBY, formerly manager of the Princess Theater, Opelousas, La., is now in Memphis operating the Deoto Theater, which he recently purchased.

SAMUEL TISHKOFF, manager of the new Madison Theater, Rochester, N. Y., entertained 1,400 children of the West

Side at the Madison last week. Charles Harris, assistant house and stage manager, put on a song and dance number for the kids.

N. W. REMOND, of the Scenic Theater, Lake Wales, Fla., has bought the Royal Theater at Wauchula, Fla., and took charge December 5. H. B. Clark, formerly manager of the Star Theater at Arcadia, Fla., will be manager of the Royal.

JACK MARSHALL, manager of the Grand and Jefferson theaters at Huntsville, Ala., has been appointed manager of the new North Birmingham Theater, Birmingham, Ala., operated by the Joe Steed Amusement Company.

T. A. Wilson, manager of the Gem Theater, Red Bay, Ala., is erecting a new 500-seat theater in that city, to be named the Red Bay Theater.

NEW BOOKS

Communications to 1560 Broadway, N. Y.

SAPPHO AND PHAON, a lyrical drama, by Marion Osborne. The Macmillan Company, New York.

SHERIDAN TO ROBERTSON, by Ernest Bradley Watson. A study of the 19th century London stage. Harvard, New York.

THE WORD OF GOD, a miracle play, adapted from the medieval York cycle by Paul H. Wright. Tannarrow, Ltd., London, England, 1s.

THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR and other plays of Nikolay Gogol from the Russian, by Constance Garnett. Chatto & Windus, London, England, 7s. 6d.

THREE PLAYS by Edna St. Vincent Millay. *Two Sisters and a King, Arcturion and The Lamp and the Bell*. Harper, New York, \$2.

THE WAY, a mystical play, by Prin-

cess Lazarovich-Hreblianovich. Stanford University Press, New York.

A PLAYGOER'S WANDERINGS, by H. M. Walbrook. Leonard Parsons, London, England, 16s. 6d.

EACH IN HIS OWN WAY AND TWO OTHER PLAYS, by Luigi Pirandello, translated from the Italian by Arthur Livingston. E. P. Dutton & Company, New York, \$2.

VINCENT CRUMPLES: HIS THEATER AND HIS TIMES. Arranged by F. J. Harvey Darton. Wells, Gardner Company, London, Eng. 42s.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY, a carol play, by Percy Dearmer. S. P. C. K., London, Eng. 6d.

THE BEGGAR'S RIDE, a tragedy, by Edward Shanks. Collins, London, Eng. 5s.

SAYONARAOLA, a dramatic poem, by Charlotte Elliot. Cobden-Sanderson, London, Eng. 5s.

FROM ATLANTIS TO THAMES, an epic drama, by W. P. Ryan. Theosophical Publishing House, London, England, 6s.

Theaters Reopen

DENVER, Col.—The Gilpin Theater, renovated and redeccored, was reopened under the new ownership of Robert Speers and John Shoup. Saturday and Sunday vaudeville is proving popular with the neighborhood clientele.

PERRY, Okla.—The remodeled Lyric Theater has been reopened. The seating capacity is 500. The house will continue to play pictures.

SAN FRANCISCO—The St. Francis Theater reopened Christmas Day with the first showing here of *The Sorrows of Satin*.

SEATTLE, Wash.—The Liberty Theater, now undergoing extensive repairs and alterations, redeccoring and refurnishing, will reopen as United Artists Theater early in January. Harry C. Arthur, president of the Pacific Northwest Theaters, Inc., announced.

SIoux CITY, Ia.—The Star Theater, recently damaged by fire, has been reopened after undergoing a thorough overhauling.

Bad Stage Diction

By OTIS SKINNER

TO SAY that the diction of the present generation of actors and actresses is lamentably bad is merely to give utterance to a recognized fact.

I have recently gone on record for the statement that the modern stage, modern acting and the productions of today are equal and often superior in thoroughness and artistic perfection of detail to those of 20 or 25 years ago. But in justice to the actors of yesterday, I frankly acknowledge that they were masters of diction. They not only understood how to use their voices, but they had, at the same time, a metrical sense which enabled them to carry to the audience the full beauty of blank verse lines.

Nowadays the stage is devoted almost entirely to modern dramas. Blank verse plays are indeed rarities. The one point required of the actor is that he shall appear natural—that he shall seem on the stage what he and every other modern man is on the street; heroes are out of place, to elocute is the unforgiven sin.

Consequently, while we have many actors of great talent and absolute knowledge of technique, the speaking on the American stage is about as bad as it could be. Your modern actor mumbles under his breath, his inflections are wrong; his use of his voice ignorant and careless; your modern actress, no matter how clever she may be, is affected to the last degree in her speech. The success of some women of genius on the stage straightway inspires a school of imitators, and the worst faults are more carefully aped than the best qualities of this idol.

Then there is a growing tendency to cultivate a British accent. Instead of being satisfied with our own high standards of pronunciation of English words, many of our young American actors affect a hybrid pronunciation that is ridiculous in the extreme. And our actresses—particularly some of our leading women—offend even more grievously thru their willful neglect of the rules of pronunciation and enunciation.

In blank verse and poetic drama this defective elocution is absolutely fatal. The actor who can speak Shakespeare's words is almost as extinct as the dodo, the buffalo and the Irish wolf hound.

He had his faults, did the old-time Shakespearean actor; he would often tear a passion to tatters, but he had this one virtue—he was invariably distinct, his words would always be heard and his training gave him the power of expressing the beauties of blank verse.

I recall three men who never have been equaled on our stage for the splendid significance and full value they gave to the lines of Shakespeare. They were Edwin Booth, James E. Murdoch and E. L. Davenport. It must not be supposed that they were mere elocutionists—mellow, well-toned phonographs. They were not only masters of diction, but they gave the impress of their personality to the character they assumed.

—WASHINGTON STAR.

New Incorporations

Delaware

Roxy Circuit, Inc. operate theaters, \$150,000,000 (1,500,000 shares of Class A and common stock, \$60,000 of Class A and 1,000,000 common, all no par); Richard Bennett, C. S. Winters, Peter O. Brennan, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Publix Saenger Theaters, Inc., theatrical proprietors, \$200,000; T. L. Croteau, Wilmington.

New Jersey

Hyatts Amusement Corporation, Atlantic Highlands, \$25,000; David Tumen, John F. O'Neill, Mildred D. Herbert, Atlantic Highlands.

Plaza Theater, Jersey City, \$5,000; Judson Nagelbaum, Bayonne; Leon Yuckman, Elizabeth; Helen Levine, Jersey City.

Community Theater Corporation, Hawthorne, \$100,000 preferred and 2,000 shares, no par; Ernest W. Rutan, Paterson; Henry Wiegors, William Marns, Hawthorne.

New York

Tricities Theater Circuit, Manhattan, 100 common, no par; H. E. Hughes, C. E. Palne, S. Sedran.

L. & S. Lyric Theater Corporation, \$5,000; H. Schaffer, I. Lillian.

Bemat Amusement Company, Rochester, motion pictures, \$30,000; W. Tishkoff, M. Fogel, F. Bieger.

Industrial Theaters Managing Company, Manhattan, 100 common, no par; A. Gottesman, H. H. Stern, D. Shalok.

Falls Theater Corporation, Niagara Falls, \$50,000; A. Ellis, I. W. Mathews, R. H. Wiggall.

West Haven Theater Corporation, Manhattan, 100 common, no par; A. B. Cohn, F. Gold, L. E. Bobker.

Ivan L. Wright Productions, Manhattan, theatrical enterprises, 100 common, no par; I. L. Wright, C. Keller, M. M. Lipp.

East and West Hudson Theaters Corporation, Newburg, 100 common, no par; F. Muscato, C. Suozzo, W. Gold.

William Theater Ticket Corporation, Manhattan, ticket agencies, \$20,000; C. Osgood, Jr.; L. M. Cooks.

States Cinema Production Corporation, \$10,000; C. S. Goetz, S. Citron, M. Kerr, Kimono Productions, Manhattan, dramatic entertainments, 300 common, no par; F. Stanhope, J. Froelich.

Homeric Productions, Manhattan, theatrical, 200 common, no par; M. Machlis, M. Miller, S. M. Helmann.

Silver Eagle Productions, Manhattan, motion pictures, \$100,000; H. D'Agostino, A. and C. Morrales.

Lastable, Bronx, theatrical, 100 common, no par; N. and A. Zanchelli, J. Pagano.

Henderson Amusement Park, Brooklyn, 2,000 shares, \$50 each; 4,000 common, no par; N. Vase, T. E. Morrissey, Jr.

Washington

Seattle Recreation Company, Seattle, \$100,000; W. L. Carpenter, Charles E. Congleton.

25-Piece Orchestra Is Engaged For New State Theater, Hartford

HARTFORD, Conn., Dec. 24.—The new State Theater, which opens tomorrow (Christmas), will have a 25-piece orchestra, with Bert Williams as leader; Willy Weiss, leader string section; Howard Prutting, Roy Tuttle, cellos; Henry Bobowski, Morris Landerman, first violins; second violins, George Heck and Louis Gagliato; violas, Frank Graf and George Miller; cello, William Colburn; basses, Al Heck and Herman Brandenburg; flute, Henry Zlotnik; oboe, M. D. Adeld; clarinets, John Corvella and William Brandenburg; bassoon, Alvin Kirchner; trumpet, A. Congiuno and Fred Berman; horns, Joseph Piccolo and Harold Phoenix; trombone, O. Schumann; percussion, Jack Wills; piano, William Tomkinson; organ Arthur Kennedy and William Tomkinson. Mr. Wills will also act as librarian.

AUTHENTIC OFFICIAL NEWS AND UP-TO-DATE METHODS HAVE MADE "THE PERFORMER" A VITAL NECESSITY TO BRITISH VAUDEVILLE.

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The Legitimate Stage In LONDON

By "COCKAIGNE"
Sheerham, Sevenoaks, Kent

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Andre Charlot, disgraced at being unable to find a theater into which to remove his *Charlot Show of 1926* when his lease of the Princess of Wales expires December 18, will sail on the Wednesday after with several of the principals, including Herbert Mundin and Jessie Matthews. They will join in the Earl Carroll *Frédéric*. Charlot criticizes the methods in regard to the renting of London playhouses, which, he implies, are doing the show business harm by holding houses up to ransom, encouraging inexperienced and rash speculators, while keeping the men with good shows and sound business instincts on the mat.

I have several times referred to the good investment prospects of West End theater building and now learn that in addition to the houses the Shuberts are rumored to have arranged to build here, a big contracting firm is considering acquiring prominent sites for more theaters. The projected deals are not yet thru, however.

Following her recent retirement, Nellie Melba makes a return to the operatic stage this week to fulfill an old promise to help the Old Vic. Some years ago she arranged with Lillian Baylis to sing there but could not, so she will appear tonight in the third and fourth acts of *La Bohème* and the last act of *Giulio*. An augmented orchestra under Percy Pitt and a company including Gertrude Johnson, Browning, Mummery, John Brownlee, Frederic Collier and Thomas Minogue will support Melba, who requested that regular patrons of the Vic should have priority in the bookings which range from 25 cents upwards. The proceeds go to the Sadler's Wells fund. Needless to say the house was sold out within a few hours of the announcement of the event.

Sunday night's Green Room Club Bag proved one of the most successful ever held. The Globe was packed with an appreciative audience in which the theatrical element prevailed, and the American contingent was well to the fore. Ronald Jean's clever skit on Pirandello's *Six Characters* was the success of the evening.

Charles Gulliver and Albert de Courville jointly hold the rights of *The O'Donovan Affair* for early London exploitation. *Breadth* is another American play due here shortly.

Happy-Go-Lucky, English version of *When You Smile*, is not to have a male chorus. George and Harry Foster's decision will be welcome to many playgoers, for the male chorus is a spectacle which seldom adds to the pleasantness of musical shows.

H. H. Gillespie is interested with Leo Ephraim in the London production of *Lady Fair*, which, however, will be done before the Hippodrome is likely to be free for a new show, since *Sunny* is well in its stride here.

Aspidochelone, Joan Temple's suburban domestic comedy, has a somewhat familiar and uninviting "repertory" atmosphere, but the piece, which has sensitiveness and promise, was redeemed by the author's handling of the central character, and particularly by Allison Leggett's performance of it.

Evie Lynn, who plays principal boy in the Lyceum pantomime this year, is appearing in the new *Pleasantly Reviled*, where also is Glenn Elynn, whose dancing has proved a hit and who I hear is also being sought by West End legit. managers. This is Miss Elynn's first European appearance.

Most of the London musical shows, including *Sunny*, *Tin-Toss*, *Lady Be Good* and the *Blackbirds* of the Pavilion, have entered octets of girls for the Albert Hall Charleston Ball, December 15.

Henry Arthur Jones, recently recovered from severe illness, has now been under the surgeon's hands. The 75-year-old dramatist is said to be doing well.

The Irish Players, operating under J. B. Fagan's management, will follow the *Scottish Lady* into the Criterion. Marie Tempest has not done well with the latter piece, which has only run 10 weeks. The Irish Players will revive *The White-headed Boy*, Sara Allgood, Maire O'Neill, Meyna McGill, Fred O'Donovan, Sidney Morgan and Arthur Sinclair being in the cast.

Lillem, with Ivor Novello and Fay Compton starring, has done well on its

provincial tryout and will be in the West End by Christmas. When formerly given in another version and entitled *The Daisy* the piece was a frost here.

Recently Wycherley's bold comedy *The Country Wife*, as toned down by David Garrick into *The Country Girl*, was done at the Birmingham Repertory Theater. Now the Everyman Theater is rehearsing the play for presentation next week with Athene Seyler in the name part.

The Jewish Drama League's prize play, *Israel in the Kitchen*, by Noah Elstein, presented at the Pavilion Theater, East, last Sunday night, proved no great shakes, partly because of the poorness of the league's production. It has plenty of Jewish local color, but unfortunately the action is local too. Fanny Waxman, as the mother, gave a distinguished performance.

Owing to Godfrey Tearle's illness the presentation of *Alonso* had to be postponed till tomorrow.

A provisional arrangement of great interest is that for the reappearance of Jane Cowl in London during the early spring. The Selwyns and William Gaunt will probably present Miss Cowl at His Majesty's in *Romeo and Juliet* and it is suggested that this will be followed by her appearance in *Smiles Through*. Following her great success in *Romy Virtue*, good support for these ventures seems assured.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—The principal events of the week are: Wednesday, *Alonso* (Adelphi); Saturday, revival of Wycherley's *The Country Wife* (Everyman); Sunday, Fellowship of Players *Romeo and Juliet*; the Stage Society's presentation of *The Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd*, by G. H. Lawrence; Monday,

women, they are terrorized by these roughs and dare not protest.

Song plugging, which has developed enormously of late in London, reaches its climax in *Lido Lido*, where the expedition of microphoning the leading song numbers in the bars and taverns during the intervals has been adopted for the first time in a London theater.

June's return to the stage after a long illness has been again delayed, for she was unable to appear in the Birmingham tryout of *Happy-Go-Lucky*, English version of *Smiles Through*, last week. Her part was taken at short notice by Rita Page. Marian Saki got away with big notices and Billy Taylor also kept the Stars and Stripes floating to good effect.

Walter Peacock, representative of the English branch of Elizabeth Marbury's and Golding Bright's play-broking business, has collaborated with Miles Malleon on a play, *Paris Nights*, which is shortly to be given at the "Q."

The Everyman production of Wycherley's *The Country Wife* has been badly slugged. The piece limped sadly on the first night, and Isabel Jenns' performance did not improve matters. Athene Seyler greeted the piece with some genuine 18th century art, and Philip Desborough, Nell Carter and Louise Holbrook did some admirable work.

After many vicissitudes, Laurence Cowens' Irish play, *Biddy*, is to be given at the Fortune Theater December 23.

Young Buffalo is appearing next week at the Elephant, with the "Todd" Slaughter Company in *The White Man*.

Melba's appearance at the Old Vic last Tuesday night to sing operatic excerpts in aid of the Sadler's Wells Fund was

D. H. Lawrence, novelist, has not done so well as a playwright to judge from *The Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd*, presented jointly by the Stage Society and the 300 Club on Sunday evening and Monday afternoon. The play is of the definitely psychological and undramatic variety, and, although the characterization is good, it does not seem to have been conceived in terms of the theater.

Godfrey Tearle's performance in *Alonso* at the Adelphi assures that the house will be a flagger's paradise for some time to come. Also it is a very good performance. Frances Carson is the only American in this revival, and she got away with her part in fine style.

Rev. Harold Davidson, who has been closely associated with actors' church affairs, and is a keen playgoer, created a sensation at the Regent Theater by interrupting a performance of *The Outcast* to defend the woman character's position. He appealed to the audience for tolerance in their moral judgments, and his speech was applauded.

Concert and Opera Notes

(Continued from page 23)

Rabinovitch, a pianist favorably known to New York concertgoers.

FRANCIS MACMILLEN, American violinist, will be heard in recital on February 17 at Cambridge, O.

A FIRST-TIME recital by Beniamino Gigli, tenor of the Metropolitan Opera, in Atlanta, Ga., is announced for January 29, under the auspices of the Music Club.

A SERIES OF SEVEN recitals will be played at Steinway Hall, New York, January 24, 31, February 7 and consecutive Monday evenings, by Katherine Bacon, when she will perform the 22 pianoforte sonatas of Beethoven.

ROLAND HAYES appears in recital in Detroit the evening of January 12.

UNDER THE LOCAL management of Kathryn Dickard, of Cleveland, three noted artists will be heard in that city. The first will be Roland Hayes, January 9, followed by Fritz Kreisler, January 21, and February 9, Sergei Rachmaninoff.

FOR THE PERFORMANCE of the German opera *The Ring of Polycrates*, by Kornegold, being presented for the first time in America, by the Philadelphia Civic Opera Company, February 10, the tenor role will be created by Judson House.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the holidays Marie Sandelius leaves New York for a tour, to appear in concert as far south as North and South Carolina.

ON JANUARY 10 Idelle Patterson, Paul Althouse and Arthur Middleton will sing in Lancaster, Pa.

THE FIRST PERFORMANCE this season in the States by the Cherkovskiy Trio, recently arrived from Europe, will take place January 11, at Paterson, N. J.

ALLEN McQUHAE, tenor, on December 20 will broadcast for Atwater Kent from Toronto.

THE SEASON of concerts by the Rochester (N. Y.) Philharmonic Orchestra, Eugene Goossens directing, will be resumed January 6. On the program will be featured the first performance anywhere of Dr. Howard Hanson's concerto for organ and orchestra, with Harold Gleason at the organ.

A JOINT RECITAL is announced for the evening of January 6 by Louise Homer, contralto, and Alfred Cortot, pianist, in the Eastman Theater, Rochester.

MARY LEWIS, soprano of the Metropolitan, will be heard in recital in Miami, Fla., January 27.

THE SOLOISTS for the next musical morning in the Kinsolving Series in the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, are announced as Gulomar Novzes, pianist, and John Charles Thomas, baritone, and this concert will take place January 4.

THE DANISH SOPRANO, Povla Frish, will present four Monday evening song recitals in Aeolian Hall, New York, January 17 and 24, February 7 and 14. She will have the assistance of Frank Bibb at the piano.

FRIDAY EVENING, January 7, is the date of the New York recital of Charles Naegele, pianist. This is scheduled for Aeolian Hall.

A. B. Walkley, Critic

OUR dramatic critics might learn much from the pattern of the late Arthur Bingham Walkley, reviewer for *The London Times*, and acknowledged head of his profession in England. Since his death, a short time ago, the British press has been filled with tributes and praise. Saint John Ervine recently said of him in *The Morning Post*:

"He seldom left his stall after he had seated himself until the end of the play.

"He never made any comment on the piece during its performance. He was conscientious in his attendance. He did not, as less well-bred persons do, come late to the play, nor did he rush away from it before the curtain fell. He endured to the end.

"He was not one of those critics who can scarcely sit in their seats until curtain fall, because they are eager to be out in the vestibule and running around, asking this one and that one what he or she thinks of the play.

"He did not care what this one or that one thought of it, and he resented the action of people who, on occasions, had the impertinence to ask him at the end of the first or the second act what he thought of it."

And *The Manchester Guardian* wrote of Walkley:

"Against the infective dullness of a bad play he was totally immune, and an audience which had groaned in spirit thru a mispent evening in the playhouse would have its compensation in the morning, if it had seen in the stalls a small, dapper, slightly Frenchified man, abstractly fingering a wisp of hair upon the chin. For the same fingers would an hour or two later spurs as if it had been fire-giving flint."

The White-headed Boy (Criterion), revival by the Irish Players; Scottish National Players, in *Sandy*.

On the heels of the news that America is lending us Jane Cowl to appear as Juliet in the West End comes a marvelous performance of the part by Jean Forbes-Robertson, daughter of the Shakespearean veteran, Sir Johnston. On Sunday night the Fellowship of Players presented this piece and placed Miss Forbes-Robertson at one bound among the great Juliets of the English tradition. On one of the earlier stage appearances of this actress I predicted she would make a Juliet of a generation, and she has bettered the prediction. Her youth, beauty and sustained skill made a notable event of this special performance.

Sir Alfred Butt has returned from the States full of optimism for the development of British films, and considers that if a great commercial corporation were formed here, to include production, exhibiting and the bricks-and-mortar side of the industry, British films would not only succeed here, but have a market on the other side.

Theater pests in the West End have adopted new tactics. Several stalwart roughnecks take good places in pit and gallery and accomplices hang about until the queue lengthens, then approach latecomers and offer to sell the front places to would-be playgoers, who find that, after parting with their money, the bunsy holders of these places refuse to give them up. As many of the queueists are

greeted with tremendous ovation and the fund benefited to the extent of \$1,500.

Notice has gone up for *The Queen Was in the Parlor*, so Lillem will be seen at the Duke of York's two days before Christmas.

Granville Barker's one-act farce, *Reverie*, recently presented at the Everyman, will probably figure in a Coliseum bill before long.

Joan Temple's comedy, *Aspidochelone*, recently given by the Repertory Players, has been bought for West End production.

Most of Us Are, the play which Frederick Lonsdale wrote for Ronald Squire, will probably be presented at His Majesty's in February.

Grabam Moffatt brought his new Scottish comedy, *Grossy*, to the Royalty last week. The piece promises to attract the Scottish contingent in full force. Mrs. Moffatt gives an excellent show in the name part, the whole of which is played in bed.

Another management from north of the Tweed now appearing in town is that of Andrew P. Wilson, who has brought his Scottish National Players to the "Q." in his own comedy, *Sandy*. Pat Wilson used to be connected with the Stoll management, and his Scottish Nationals have made several appearances at the Coliseum, but this is his first offering in a legit house. The piece is admirably written, witty and convincing, the production brisk and the playing, especially Pat's handling of the name part, first-rate.

THE NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY

JOHN GOLDEN

Beginning Monday Evening, December 26, 1926

THE SILVER CORD

A comedy by Sidney Howard. Directed by John Cromwell. Scenarist suggested and directed by Charles Froedling. Presented by the Theater Guild, featuring the Theater Guild Acting Company and Guest Players.

Marie Gilmore Edith Cabot
 David W. Elizabeth Risdon
 Robert Earle Larimore
 Mrs. Phelps Laura Hope Crews
 Maid Barbara Brown

ACT I—The Living Room on Sunday Afternoon.
 ACT II—Scene 1: Scene. Party That Demands. Scene 2: David's Bedroom. Later That Same Evening. ACT III—Scene at Act I. The Monday Morning After.
 PLACE—Any Eastern City. TIME—The Present.

After considerable floundering and weak-kneed reliance upon melodrama in an effort to further the promise shown in *They Knew What They Wanted*, Sidney Howard again gives definite sign of

being among our front-rank dramatists with his latest contribution to the Theater Guild repertoire. And, incidentally, *The Silver Cord* should prove to be a contribution to the Guild's coffers as well. It not only demands serious consideration as drama, but also has a certain box-office value in its theme.

Those who flocked to see *Craig's Wife* will find here a sort of *Craig's* mother, who knew what she wanted—a strong combination, despite the weakness of its phrasing in this review. Moreover, Howard's daring treatment of such an almost sacredly considered subject as mother love will unquestionably raise discussion that will aid business.

The piece is a profound and deeply interesting study of the not uncommon parent who would hold her children exclusively to herself. A full justification is allowed the mother in a fair-and-square last-act speech, yet it is in this very justification that is the crowning proof of selfishness already strongly marked in the tragedies which has loosed the silver cord in the earlier scenes. The case is more exaggerated, of course—a little too much so for the good of the play's arrangement—but it bears much truth that will hit home. From the disclosures of the premiere there undoubtedly will be a toning down of the extremities to which the author has gone to underscore his characters. It is unbelievable that any human being could be as self-centered as is the mother at the tag of the second act, and there are a number of other

reception has been made one of the most important factors in the production by the skillful work of John Cromwell, who not only found the best effects, but set a pace that is a certain strength of the performance. The script needs a little fixing, and it could stand considerable cutting, but altogether it is a job that increases hope in the native theater. Sidney Howard has yet to write a great play—but he approaches.
 GORDON M. LELAND.

Chicago Premieres

STUDEBAKER

Reviewed Tuesday Night, December 21, 1926

DICE OF GOD

A melodrama in five acts by James Joseph Malin. Presented by the Repertoire Theater Company at the Studebaker, December 20, 1926, with this cast:

Marie de Valois Mrs. Samuel Insull
 Paul Hesser W. Fred Wagner
 Julie Marie Ika
 Jean le Rouge Frederick G. Lewis
 M. Robert Joseph McNamee
 Robert Ardoin John Hall
 Jules Desros H. J. Baker
 Leon Simon H. E. Kuhlman
 M. Talery John Daly Murphy
 Michel Marchand John Hall
 Rosa Marchand Virginia Howell
 Suzanne Tours Helen Strickland
 Miss Vigneron Violet Manning
 Agnes Lacombe Anna Porter
 Father Ardoin John Lott
 Antonette Eileen O'Shea
 Emilie Garon John Daly Murphy
 Marguerite Verne F. C. Robinson
 Margaret Caspar Charles Hainford
 Philippe Dore H. J. Baker
 Pierre Jardin Van O. Browne
 Postman Jack Bennett
 Beaudet George A. Heane, Jr.
 Leland John Hall

bombs destroyed the village and killed his neighbors. Jean weakens as war progresses. Regeneration suddenly sets in and when he returns to find his home destroyed and Marie a mother he becomes all that conventions demand and all ends well.

Mrs. Insull assays a Kiki type, free with tongue and free with liquor of the cheap cafe hanger on; one of gaudy dress and vile tongue disclosing in her mood new charms and ability.

Mr. Lewis is just what one would expect of this seasoned actor. He is handsome, his stalwart figure and delightful acting making him an outstanding figure of the organization.

The character work of the men less prominent was particularly good, especially in two scenes where George A. Heane, Sr. was prominent. The women have no important parts, but all are excellent.

James Joseph Malin has been fortunate to have this play, said to be his first, produced under such favorable auspices. Mrs. Insull has taken a step forward to give Chicago its proper place in the world of stock presentations.
 BOB MORNINGSTAR.

Musical Comedy Notes

(Continued from page 37)

in the company. The audience apparently did not suspect that anything unusual was taking place.

GENE BUCK is having movies made of all rehearsals of his new piece, *Years Truly*, to keep as an record of his first independent production.

LUPINO LANE, featured in the Hollywood Music Box Revue at the Music Box Theater, Hollywood, Calif., is spending his off-matinee days in working on a series of two-reel comedies for Educational Pictures.

JOHN HARWOOD staged the book and Max Schenck directed the dances for *Merry Ann*, the University of Detroit's show presented last week at the Shubert Detroit Opera House. They have returned to Broadway much enthused over their work with the amateurs.

WILL ROGERS will resume his tour January 6, reopening in Detroit. He is booked for every night until June 10.

LEWIS GENSLER is writing the music for the new musical comedy book just completed by Norma Mitchell and Russell Medcraft. Robert Simon will furnish the lyrics for the show, which is to be titled either *Baby Face* or *Morphy*. The producer's name is still being withheld, altho assurance is given that the piece has been accepted for Broadway.

THE SHUBERTS added 20 more singers last week to the chorus of *The Nightingale*, which is still being shaped out of town for its Broadway premiere.

NAOMI Y. WINTER, a protegee of Theodore Croo, New York dance tutor, is to make her bow as one of the principals in *China a Long*, the musical with an all-Oriental cast which Arthur Lyons, Roy Turk and William Seabury are preparing for Broadway.

MARCEL VARNEL, one of the stage managers of *Countess Maritza* at the Shubert Theater, New York, was last week presented with a wrist watch by the members of the chorus.

LYLE D. ANDREWS has had completely renovated the entire lower floor of his Vanderbilt Theater, New York, while awaiting the arrival of *Peggy Ann*, the new Rodgers-Hart-Fields musical. The capacity of the house has been increased 24 seats by the changes.

IRVING BERLIN has written a new song which will be interpolated into the score of Ziegfeld's *Betsy* at the New Amsterdam Theater, New York.

MARGARET IRVING, now playing in *The Desert Song* at the Casino Theater, New York, has signed to go with the San Carlo Grand Opera Company next season.

EDWIN MICHAELS of the Broadway cast of *Queen High* was rushed to Boston last week for the premiere of the touring company in that city. Don Tompkins, who plays Michael's role on the road, was taken suddenly ill on the day of the opening, but was able to resume for the second performance.

EARL LINDSAY, who has been staging the dances for L. Lawrence Weber's new musical, *Eye, Eye, Bonnie*, claims to have invented a new step which he calls the Tampico Tap. It is said to be wilder in the routine than either the Charleston or the Black Bottom.

Long Run Play Records

Number of performances up to and including Saturday, December 25

IN NEW YORK

Dramatic

PLAY.	OPENING NO. OF DATE.	PERFS.
Abbey's Irish Rose	May 22	1,975
American Tragedy, An	Oct. 11	22
Autumn Fire	Oct. 20	21
Beyond the Horizon (H. v. Hall)	Nov. 29	31
Broadway	Nov. 18	113
Caponacci	Oct. 26	71
Captive, The	Nov. 29	105
Constant Nymph, The	Dec. 3	25
Constant Wife, The	Nov. 23	32
Daisy Mayne	Oct. 23	73
Dybbuk, The (Neighborhood)	Dec. 16	9
Emperor Jones, The (Revival)	Nov. 10	85
Herbert Jew, The	Dec. 20	8
First Love	Nov. 27	57
Gentlemen Prefer Blondes	Nov. 28	104
Gertrude	Nov. 15	48
Great Adventure, The	Dec. 22	5
Honor of the Family, The	Dec. 12	14
Howdy King	Nov. 9	4
John Galt, The	Nov. 27	104
Judge's Husband, The	Dec. 19	3
La Dame aux Camellias	Dec. 6	5
La Locandiera	Dec. 22	27
Ladder, The	Dec. 16	13
L'Avantier	Dec. 19	3
Le Demi-Monde	Dec. 19	3
Le Misanthrope	Dec. 9	3
Lily Rose	Nov. 16	47
Little Clay Cart, The	Nov. 16	38
Little Spitting, The	Aug. 16	133
Loose Ankles	Nov. 16	133
Lulu Belle	Nov. 30	13
Maitresse de Roi	Nov. 3	7
Master Builder, The	Nov. 29	24
Ned McCobb's Daughter	Dec. 29	1
New York Exchange	Dec. 29	1
Not Hawk	Nov. 20	24
Nose, The	Oct. 20	77
On Approval	Oct. 18	82
Play's the Thing, The	Nov. 3	63
Placens Turandot (Second Engagement)	Dec. 20	8
Pygmalion	Nov. 13	43
Saturday Night	Nov. 28	46
Say It With Flowers	Dec. 3	2
Seed of the Brute	Dec. 3	64
See, The	Nov. 28	289
Silver Cord, The	Dec. 20	8
Squall, The	Nov. 11	32
This Woman Business	Dec. 7	23
Three Sisters	Oct. 28	20
Twelfth Night	Dec. 30	3
Two Girls Wanted	Nov. 9	34
We Americans	Oct. 12	83
Yellow	Dec. 23	107

Musical Comedy

Americana	July 29	176
Castles in the Air	Sep. 6	128
Countess Maritza	Sep. 18	113
Ohio Cross	Oct. 12	88
Desert Song, The	Nov. 20	31
Gay Paris	Nov. 9	82
George White's Scandals	June 14	129
Homeyman Lane	Dec. 24	113
Isabelle	Apr. 19	201
Katie	Oct. 15	80
La Fille de Madame Angot	Dec. 20	7
Oh, Kay	Nov. 8	66
Oh, Pussie	Dec. 21	7
Pirates of Penance, The	Dec. 6	21
Queen High	Sep. 6	125
Rambler, The	Sep. 20	113
Twinkle, Twinkle	Nov. 16	47
Vandice, Earl Carroll	Aug. 24	143

IN CHICAGO

Dramatic

Abbey's Irish Rose	Dec. 18	47
Butter and Egg Man	Nov. 22	40
Dice of God, A	Nov. 29	3
Jazz Singer, The	Oct. 3	508
One Man's Woman	Oct. 11	94
Peer Nat, The	Aug. 29	163
Shell, The	Oct. 24	82
Young Woodley	Nov. 22	45

Musical Comedy

Calico	Dec. 5	17
Great Expectations	Dec. 19	20
No. No. Nanette	Dec. 19	8
Vagabond King, The	Sep. 5	127
Yes, Yes, Yvette	Dec. 6	28

National Theater and Art

MOST of the new things in the theater have come from Central Europe, but people forget that the creators of the new have been thoroughly trained in fundamental theatrical technique. Anything original to be worth while must be founded on a great classic tradition. We sometimes forget that and experiment too much without knowing what we are doing.

There is a passion for the new in England and here which is misleading. Some one will go to Russia, for instance, and see a new ballet school in which there is very little dancing but rather a rapidly changing series of plastic poses. "Ah," they exclaim, "that is new," and they rush home to get together some untrained dancers and put on something which is a travesty on art. The same thing is done in the theater.

What we need is not a constant effort to be original, but a thoro groundwork in essential principles of dramatic art. Out of that will come new and original work guided by intelligent experience and knowledge of the medium in which we must work.

That is why I believe America should have a national theater, a theater in which there should be a striving for artistry first, for technical excellence, for knowledge of the theater. Actors would be trained there, directors trained there, and from such a theater would then spring the originality which is sought so unsatisfactorily at present.

—BASIL DEAN.

unconvincing incidents in the drawing of this character that must now be obvious to those in charge. That the two sons could have grown to full age and still remain so billed and passive to the devastating apron strings that their love for their mother could so completely sway them away, the one from his fiancée and the other even from his pregnant wife, are also points that seem a bit too thick. A little rewriting could shade them, and an added subtlety in the acting might help. However, Elliot Cabot and Earle Larimore do extremely well with the sons. They can hardly be held to task for getting too far under the skins of their parts. And Laura Hope Crews, altho her habitual light touch occasionally intrudes in this role so strange for her, gives a remarkably successful and persuasive performance of the mother, all things considered.

The characters of the fiancée and the young wife are masterfully drawn by the playwright and as highly played by Margalo Gilmore and Elizabeth Risdon. Strangely enough, perhaps to a fault, most of the drama lies in these two roles instead of in the central characters under the microscope. In the vernacular, they are "fat" parts to the last speech. Miss Gilmore gets full measure out of the hysteria scene in the second act and attains a realism that must be much appreciated, while Miss Risdon shows complete intelligence of her rich opportunities.

A minor bit of the maid is capably handled by Barbara Bruce, and Cleon Throckmorton has contributed entirely appropriate settings. The matter of di-

Carrot Van O. Browne
 Dupre Charles Hainford
 Salvation Army Captain Joseph McNamee
 Soldier, nurses, refugees, etc.

Mrs. Insull with her repertoire company has put on another play (the second) and again it is one from the pen of an American. In the production there is a large cast of competent players and the two scenes with properties show fine attention to details. Every effort has been made to make this a worthy contribution to the drama. Old stuff it is, but acted with convincing simplicity and seriousness, much of it is melodrama. There is every indication of good stage direction.

The play deals with conditions in France before, during and after the World War. It concerns Marie, a woman, and Jean, a man, played by Mrs. Insull and Frederick Lewis, who in the earlier scenes are social outcasts. She is a coquettish woman of the street who smokes, swears and drinks liquor. He is a Socialist, a pacifist, or what is equivalent to an I. W. W. of World War time. Jean's uncle dies, leaving a will with the provision that the beneficiary marry. Jean marries Marie only to find when he returns to his uncle's cobbler shop that the trustee has been a victim of the roulette wheel. There was no money. Marie, who falls for demagoguery, becomes a frugal spouse and has saved enough to purchase the shack which answered for home and shop. Hardly had she accomplished this when the war came on.

This found Jean a pacifist agitator, incessantly preaching the gospels of pacifism and Socialism until the boche

32D YEAR

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Going on the Stage

If the number of requests for advice and assistance received by *The Billboard* is any criterion, the desire to go on the stage is as widespread and as strong as it ever was.

Hardly a day goes by without at least one of these hopeful, and sometimes pitiful, pleas coming in, and there have been days when there were enough to provoke a desire to answer all such communications with a form letter instead of individually.

It makes little difference to these aspirants to be told that the theatrical profession is appallingly overcrowded, and that only the exceptionally talented can ever achieve any great amount of success.

When a person has a fixed idea about a thing it is hard to make him see a different view, and "stage-struck" youths usually remain that way until they get their opportunity, or until long years of fruitless striving and hoping finally dulls their desire.

Getting the opportunity nowadays is more difficult than ever.

With so many experienced actors to pick from and fewer small companies which are not so fastidious about standards, the beginner is up against it when it comes to looking for a chance to get some practical experience.

Theatrical activity in this day is a highly specialized business. Producers and directors invariably must work against time and cannot give their attention to coaching newcomers.

So, except for the talented few, as well as those who have the good fortune to gain recognition thru amateur activities, and the occasional neophyte who falls into a stage career more by accident than anything else, the quickest expedient is thru the medium of a recognized school of the theater.

Here the aspirants can acquire not

only the first principles of acting, but also a certain amount of practical experience which can serve as a test to determine whether or not it is worth while for them to pursue their foot-light aspirations beyond that point.

If they establish a claim to further consideration, well and good.

If not, they can turn to some other field of endeavor while the spark of ambition is, still in them.

Either way, the training acquired in a dramatic school will do nobody any harm.

Stock Managers

O. D. Woodward, whose name is synonymous with dramatic stock, has proposed an organization of the managers in this field, including both the United States and Canada.

The usual purpose is behind the idea, namely, mutual protection, exchange of suggestions, co-operation for the advancement of the business in general.

Among the matters which the association would take up are four that should particularly interest stock managers.

One is the royalty on plays—in many instances still too high for the good of the business.

The second is the working out of a plan to protect each manager in his own locality where he has an established business.

Next comes a scheme whereby the association will be able to contract, for perhaps an entire season, one or more Broadway stars to tour the stock houses in their best-known successes.

Fourth is the encouraging of playwrights to turn out cleaner and better plays—the kind that mean the most money for everyone in the long run.

Buzz Bainbridge, recalling the failure of a similar attempt on his part about 10 years ago, is somewhat skeptical about the chances of bringing the stock managers together. The reason his plan fell flat was because it was impossible for everyone to agree on what constituted a good play.

There are bound to be minor differences like these in any organization, but they needn't prove a stumbling block so long as there also are some points of agreement.

If only two or three of the troubles now faced by stock managers could be solved by an organization, the venture would be worth while.

Newspaper Advertising

A lively discussion is in progress in the newspaper and moving picture advertising fields over the rate charged by most daily papers for movie ads.

The subject is one that should have had attention long ago, but the film people were making so much money that it was not necessary for them to holler about the high cost of anything.

Incidentally, while this has been going on, many of the newspapers have not been backward about boosting the rate on some other classes of amusements, including a few which are far from financially fortified like the movies are.

Now, however, a New York advertising agency has started a big controversy over the point that movie advertising is entitled to the run-of-the-paper rate.

The arguments put forth on behalf of the film people include, among other things, that they use a tremendous amount of space, and that they want to use even more space, but cannot do it under present rates.

The newspapers defend their position by saying that the high tariff is necessary because of the many columns of publicity that must be given gratis to the movie people.

It should not be difficult to settle such an argument.

The volume of film advertising certainly is enough to command consideration.

The "free-space" matter, while regarded as publicity, is nevertheless of enough reader value to be admissible

on that score alone. Anything that hasn't some reader value should not be used anyway.

If newspapers can't lower their rate and still give the amusement people a certain amount of space for the legitimate news of this field—and for a reasonable amount of exploitation matter with a public interest, even tho it isn't strictly news—let them cut both the tariff and the reading space.

The advertiser can then use the difference in rate to buy additional space thru which he can convey his messages to the public.

Look at the amount of free publicity given the book publishers—and the small amount of advertising derived from this source. Yet these people enjoy the nominal rate.

Same with the automobile industry. There is no good reason for the amusement trade continuing its present method of bargaining with newspapers.

It should get down to the same businesslike system of advertising employed by the distributors of all staple commodities.

Facial Rehearsals

Actors who desire to learn how and when to mug should practice this art regularly before a mirror.

Knowing the value of a smile, a twinkle, a pout, a demur sigh, dimpled cheeks, a glistening tear, and the numerous other histrionic tricks, has enabled many artists to hold themselves in public favor year after year.

The general run of actors let their facial expressions fall into a rut. They employ very much the same characteristics in every role they play, and as a result their mugging becomes stereotyped and patently affected.

Facial rehearsals will remedy this. Every time an actor receives a new part he should put in a long session before a mirror, giving visual expression to all the emotions called for by that particular characterization. At the same time the actor should make a special effort to introduce expressions and movements never before used by him.

Of course, if the artist has an individual line which hits the public fancy unusually strong, it is good business for him to humor his followers. Even the most likable mannerisms, however, grow monotonous after a time unless they are given an occasional variation.

Nowadays, especially in the movies, there are specialists in various classifications of expression. But the system is not a good one. The popularity of these artists, with but few exceptions, is limited to the period in which the public is pleased with their specialties. Versatility endures longest.

So, as Leatrice Joy says, "mugging before the mirror may be vain—but not in vain."

Civic Spirit

The success of *The Miracle* in Kansas City has prompted *The Journal-Post* of that town to remark that the civic spirit which advertised and rallied to the support of the Morris Gest spectacle ought to manifest itself regularly in behalf of the other attractions presented in the Kansas metropolis.

Entertainment is one of the city's biggest drawing cards. *The Journal-Post* points out, and good shows will attract to a town many persons from the outlying districts—just as *The Miracle* did.

Two Kansas City houses play attractions which seldom get to the surrounding towns, but without a civic spirit to pass the word around and urge attendance, only a few of the widely known shows ever get all that is coming to them.

The public, as well as the shows, lose out by this.

It is up to the operators of amusement places to impress upon their patrons that first-class entertainment will bring visitors and prosperity to the town, and continuous boosting by the public will insure a plenitude of first-class entertainment.

Cores and Encores

Where is the new dramatic technique that radio was supposed to bring about?

No city is abreast of the times nowadays unless it has—or is getting—a municipal auditorium.

One of the great tragedies of life is that every child who has spoken a piece in school thinks he has the qualifications for a theatrical career.

There is always someone who has something to be thankful for. Now it's the publisher. When plays are no longer presented in the theater at large, the public is expected to turn to drama in book form.

Will Rogers is a hero who will go down in cinema theatrical history as one man who dared to be free. He entered the movies on the tacit understanding that he would never kiss any woman except his wife, and he has managed to hold his own.

It is up to the civic, community and amateur theaters to bring about an improvement in public taste. The commercial theater can do very little in this respect, because the public is averse to being educated to better plays at its own expense.

Israel Zangwill once said that the reason English producers get most of their plays from America is because they want someone else to pull the chestnuts out of the fire. Apparently the British are fond of American chestnuts, but have plenty turkeys of their own.

Henry Arthur Jones candidly admits that, altho he has ideas, he carefully keeps them out of his plays. Ideas have been the ruin of the English theater, he avers. This, undoubtedly, will prove a shock to the large army who think the trouble with the stage, in America as well as in England, is due to lack of ideas.

In the provinces going to the theater constitutes an evening's entertainment in itself, while in New York it is sandwiched in between a dinner-dance and a visit to a midnight rendezvous. So plays intended for the New York trade should be short, and those planned for the folks in the provinces should be long.

The radio will soon become a public nuisance unless something is done to put a halt to the installing of loud speakers in front of stores and shops in the business sections and permitting them to screech and rasp all day long—and part of the night—without consideration for the thousands of office slaves who are being driven to distraction by the noise.

Germany has let up the bars on historical plays, and the first to be produced, *The German Tragedy; or, Bismarck and William II*, is proving a tremendous success. This has provoked several newspapers to express surprise that historical plays are so scarce in America. The explanation is easy. America has never created a keen demand for historical plays by placing a ban on them.

In support of the argument that the theater of today is not much different in moral quality from the theater of any other period, here is an extract quoted from the preface to a book on theatrical art written by William Cooke and published in England in the year 1775: "I have a greater object in my view—a wish to be foremost in recovering the theater from usurpers and restoring it to that respectable character it originally possessed—a public school of virtue and of manners."

Consider the Playwright By CLARENCE MANSFIELD LINDSAY

"WHO writes plays?"
Well, if you really wish to know, suppose the next time you're strolling down Fifth avenue, Beacon street—or what have you?—that you stop the first friend you meet—or enemy for that matter—slap him jovially on the shoulder and inquire:

"How's the play getting on, old chap? Ten to one his face will light up like an incandescent lamp as he replies with enthusiasm:
"Fine! Just finished the second act! Drop around to the room with me and I'll read it to you!"

The only way you can escape is by dropping down a coal chute or making a wild dash for a trolley car.

If, however, you permit yourself to be inveigled to the room, depend upon it you'll never be asked to sit in at the third act—assuming three to be the projected total. No, indeed! Your amateur playwright, having gotten the first two completed, will—dollars to doughnuts—run out of ideas, chuck the blamed thing in the furnace and relieve his overwrought feelings by swearing at friend wife. But—better luck next time! Presently he'll be seen sneaking up to the attic, where in peace and quiet he can start a new masterpiece.

For the lure of immense royalties is always with us, and there is always the possibility of turning out another *Abie's Irish Rose* or *White Collars*. Of all the arts playwriting may be considered as the most difficult in which to achieve genuine financial success; and yet the calm confidence with which the half-baked aspirant for dramatic honors will sit down and hammer away at the "great American play"—judging from the flood of scripts produced—can only be matched

by the assurance with which a youthful bride places her first batch of biscuits before her doomed hubby.

AUTHORITIES seem to differ as to whether or no playwriting can be taught. Paul Armstrong once declared: "As soon as a young playwright gets hold of a good, new smashing story, let him grab hold of a pencil and a big wad of paper; let him seat himself in front of that pencil and that wad of paper, and let him write his story in dramatic form as best he knows how." But he adds: "Mind you, he has got to have the 'instinct'!" (By which the reader is to understand "dramatic instinct".) "Let him tell his story in any way he wants. Let him forget every didactic rule he ever heard. He may succeed, and he may not; but in the latter event 'rules' could not have possibly had anything to do with saving him. Good drama is not mechanical."

Be that as it may, I believe it will be generally conceded by the knowing ones that a good, stiff course in construction—say at the Harvard Workshop—or a year or so behind the footlights in a stock company will prove of inestimable value.

Another factor is the amount of work you are willing to devote to your drama. Rupert Hughes once declared: "No one who knows how it's done believes that the professional writer works from inspiration."

How is it done?
"By working like a dog and sweating blood over a stack of paper."

Yet once you've grabbed the big idea by the tail, once you've got your theme in plain sight, it is not always necessary to slave for weary months. Armstrong

wrote *Alas Jimmy Valentine* in exactly four days—and took plenty of time for his meals, too. *The Deep Purple*, produced by the same writer in collaboration with Wilson Mizner, was completed in three!

First make sure that you've got the dramatic instinct! Assuming that you have and that your play is finally finished, the next question is where and how to sell it. And there's the rub!

NOW if you had written a short story you could stick the blooming thing in an envelope and post it to an editor; and if the editor be one of true discernment and good judgment in due course you will receive a handsomely engraved check. If, on the contrary, he is unable to appreciate high-class literature and your story is returned, it's an easy matter to shoot it out again. But when you mail your finished dramatic masterpiece to a producer, what happens?

Who answers: "Why nothing at all, my dear sir!"

Of course, if you happen to live in the same city as the producing manager, you can call around and "see about it". And the office boy, who is likely to a "10-minute egg", will inform you briefly and concisely that the great man is out. You take a seat and say that you will wait his return. You continue to wait. At the end of perhaps 45 minutes you venture to ask just when the manager will be back. And the hard-boiled one replies that he doesn't know. Inasmuch as the party in question sailed for Europe the week before! And there you are!

No! If your aim is to gain the attention of a producer of plays, you should devise some strategic and Napoleonic

coup—such as gaining admittance to his house and banging on the door when he's taking a bath; or you might even hold him up at the pistol's point in some dark alley! Any method that is out of the ordinary and which will serve to distinguish you from the mob which writes plays—and doesn't sell 'em!

ABOVE all, don't give up! If you're absolutely convinced you've got it in you, keep plugging away, by all means! "To playwright is to persist!" Or, as George Broadhurst once put it: "A man who is going to become discouraged over a few failures and lose heart has no business trying to write plays. Even a good play is likely to be a failure; it may be presented at the wrong time or at the wrong theater, and in either case it is bound to fail, no matter how good it is!"

But if a man is a dead game sport it is the greatest game in the world! Just one success pays for all the years of failures, and it is not only the money which counts, altho a successful play will make the author rich for life these days, it is the satisfaction, the personal vindication, that the success brings!

Exactly! Today you may be sitting on a park bench, tomorrow rolling down the avenue in a limousine, if you have the dramatic instinct, plus perseverance and the ability to do without most of your meals, to wear celluloid collars and be satisfied with one new suit a year till success is attained. That being taken for granted, grab your pad of white paper and your pencil, sneak up to the attic and go to it!

And good luck to you!

Making the Public Pay

New York, December 15, 1926.
Editor *The Billboard*:

On the first news page of *The Billboard*, under date of December 11, there is in the lower left hand corner, a news item from St. Cloud, Minn., stating that the Miner Theater had been taken over by a firm under a 10-year lease of \$60,000 and that the house will be closed. The article goes on to say: "This practically cuts off theatergoers of St. Cloud and vicinity from traveling shows."

This incident is only one of many that has happened, and is happening all over the country, in the smaller cities especially. The citizens of the little city of St. Cloud, in paying for their amusement, are carrying upon their backs a taxation of \$60,000 per year to satisfy the avarice of the local manager or owner of whatever theaters are open, so that they can monopolize the style of amusement the citizens of that city shall enjoy, and to dictate as to what these same citizens shall pay for it.

And yet the wall goes up from these selfish greedy individuals to tax the street fairs, carnivals, traveling exhibitions, circuses, tent dramatic shows and vaudeville, to say nothing of dramatic stage attractions, to such a point that it will keep them out of the community—all for the reason "that they take too much money out of town."

These same individuals seem to think it all right to lease a theater, cancel its bookings, acquire a monopoly and tax the citizens \$50,000 a year by increasing the admissions and cheapening the show to permit them to hog the town. There is no use disputing the well-known fact, "the public pays the overhead," no matter what business.

The city of St. Cloud, from the last census, has between 18,000 and 19,000 inhabitants. If that lease holds for the 10 years the citizens will have paid \$600,000 tax for which they get nothing in return.

Now in *The Billboard* of December 18, 1926, from Poplarville, Miss., comes a news item stating, in part: "The Board of Aldermen has barred all tent shows, good, bad and indifferent," for the reason, the article goes on to state, "that they take money out of town."

The Paul English Players, it appears according to the article, "played Lumberton, Miss., after being informed they could not show here, and more than 600 Poplarville people visited the show in Lumberton." Ergo: The Poplarville Board of Aldermen in this instance forced that much money out of town! Say that more than \$60 spent a half dollar each, which is ridiculously low,



The FORUM



that makes over \$300! "Who stole the ham?"

Well, what's the use? Maybe they will all wake up some time, and when they do, oh, what a noise!

(Signed) CHARLES M. SEAY.

The Term "Star"

Louisville, Ky., December 9, 1926.

Editor *The Billboard*:

This is not a complaint, but rather a request for information. Why is it that

even the very least known, and, often, but meagerly talented, actors and actresses from the legitimate stage, are always referred to as "stars" when they appear in vaudeville or on any program outside of their regular field?

I suppose the idea is to create a flash, as they call it, but it seems to me that nowadays the people are pretty well educated as to who's who on the stage and screen, and these petty misrepresentations do more harm than good.

(Signed) BEULAH MILLERAND.

Gas for Movie Projection

En Route, Pikeville, Ky.,
December 16, 1926.

Editor *The Billboard*:

Sir—Being a user of gas in motion picture projection, I read with interest the article on light improvement by C. E. Lundoll and am enclosing some instructions for saving pastils that may prove a help to some exhibitor.

Instead of using the pastil as it comes from the factory, I cut it in two with a small thread, using a sawing motion to do this, thereby making four new faces for the light instead of two, as one-half of the pastil will last as long as the whole.

Keeping acetylene generator clean and dry before using will prolong the life of pastils wonderfully. I have been using gas oxygen and acetylene since 1915 and have little trouble with projection lighting. I use gasoline in the filter often, as this makes the gases mix readily without any hissing noises.

(Signed) EDGAR EGGERS,
Magician and Ventriloquist.

Importing Acts

Columbus, O., December 16, 1926.

Editor *The Billboard*:

In a recent issue of *The Billboard* I noticed that one of our American booking agents has engaged 60 or more outdoor acts of 1927 for our American parks and fairs.

There is one question I would like to ask thru the columns of the faithful *Billboard*, and I don't care where the answer comes from just so it will ease my mind. Why, oh, why, do the American agents go to foreign countries for outdoor free attractions when we, the people of America, have right here on our own soil some of the greatest and the most daring outdoor performers among mankind? Furthermore, they are all American born and bred and possess the qualities that make first-class showmen.

In citing some of them I wish to mention Oscar V. Babcock, who loops the loop while riding down an incline on a bicycle; Dare-Devil Doherty, another bicycle rider; Rita and Dunn, high-wire artists; James E. Hardy, Great Calvert, Marvellous Mills and others whose names I can't recall just now.

Among the flying acts we have the Five Fearless Flyers, Lavins, Floyds, Meisera, Millers, and I could name dozens of others. For riding acts we have the Rooneys, Hobsons, Hodgins, Costellos, Hanneford Family and several more. Then Jack Payne, high diver; May Collier, Dare-Devil Oliver, the Diving

(Continued on page 53)

The Press Agent Never Told This

By WILL W. WHALEN

WE read about so many escapades of actresses, real or supposed high jinks, that we are apt to forget many of them are very pious women. Margaret Anglin is one of the ultrareligious. She came to Harrisburg, playing *The Awakening of Helena Richie*. The Orpheum Theater stands not far from the Catholic Cathedral. It was the first Thursday evening of the month, and the first Friday of every month is a day of special devotion to Catholics. Around the confessionals in the Cathedral were grouped crowds, largely women.

A closed auto drove to the stone steps, and a bizarre-looking creature got out and went into the church. She caused a breath-taking pause. Dressed in something akin to a hoopskirt, with long dangling earrings, and in full stage war paint, her eyes looking like mine caverns, her cheeks the soul of scarlet, she was an arresting object.

She went quickly to one of the girls nearest the confessional. "I've just run off the stage, my first act over," she explained. "I must be back for the second act. Do you mind if I take your turn?"

The girl shyly withdrew, and Miss Anglin slipped under the shadowy confessional curtain in her stage costume.

Maude Adams usually, if not always, stays at a certain Catholic convent in New York, tho Miss Adams isn't a Catholic. She lives almost the life of the cloistered sister. She's very fond of those nuns at the Cenacle, so much so that a couple of years back she gave them her estate on Long Island.

So the sisters weren't surprised when another mild-faced young lady of the stage came to their hospitable boarding house. The new actress seemed to be quite taken with a younger nun and clung to her side religiously. She remained with the sisters for weeks, then departed abruptly.

Those nuns rarely leave their convent, but one of the sisterhood had to go out to visit a dentist. She got a shock in the subway when she saw a poster of Frances Starr, dressed as a nun in *Marie-Odile*. Her manager, David Belasco, sent Miss Starr to the convent for local color. The actress copied every move and intonation of the young nun with whom she consorted—how the novice rang the angelus bell and said the prayer, even in Latin.

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SCENIC ARTIST—Open to accept an engagement. Dramatic Stock or Musical Comedy Stock. Can take at once. Address HEMLEY, Brooklyn Ave. and O. K. Line, R. F. D. No. 2, Jefferson Park, Pa. Jan1

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3c WORD, CASH (First Line Large Black Type) 2c WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Black Type) 1c WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

PRINCE RAJAH, THE HINDOO MAGICIAN, will answer questions. Time of act, 20 minutes. Picture shows a specialty. W. BROADBENT, 25 Hammond St., Roxbury, Mass.

AT LIBERTY M. P. OPERATORS

3c WORD, CASH (First Line Large Black Type) 2c WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Black Type) 1c WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

A-1 Projectionist, Electrician—Six years' experience; any equipment. Steady, reliable. Misrepresentation came of this ad. Permanent position. BOX C-85, Hillboard, Cincinnati. Jan1

A-1 Theatre Trumpetist—Fully experienced vaudeville and pictures. Good tone and intonation. Young, union. BOX C-102, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

A-1 Banjoist—Sing, Read, fake, improvise. Can do some arranging. Thoroughly reliable. Union. Young. Details on request. Photo. RALPH E. MERRILL, Steubenville, O.

A-1 Trumpet—Experienced, reliable, young, good appearance. Theatre, dance, concert. Legit. and joke. Locate or troupe. PAUL JOHNSON, General Delivery, Ft. Worth, Tex.

A-1 Violinist—Leader or Sideman for pictures and vaudeville. 15 years' experience. All lines. \$2,000 library. Correct synchronization. Consider any reasonable offer. Union. EDW. DAWKINS, 3201 McKinney Ave., Dallas, Tex. Jan2

A-1 Male Organist Desires Position in picture house. Prefer Wurlitzer or Barton three-manual organ. Age 25, union. Address ORGANIST, 628 So. Burdick St., Kalamazoo, Mich. Jan2

A-1 Drummer—Union. 13 years' experience vaudeville and pictures. Tympani, Bells, etc. BOX C-99, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

A-1 Theatre Trumpetist—Fully experienced vaudeville and pictures. Good tone and intonation. Young, union. BOX C-102, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

Influence of the Audience

HENRY JAMES once wrote a story to show that the audience was everything. Without one the narrator ceased to exist, and, in fact, when he closed a door behind himself and found himself alone he simply went out like a candle. Stacy Aumonier goes on to show how in the end the change in the character of the audience influences the character of the story: "A musician may practice in an empty room, but he could not do so if he thought that what he had to say upon his instrument was never to be heard by the outside world. You might put a landscape painter on a most beautiful island, but he couldn't paint a stroke if he were convinced that his painting would never be seen by anyone else. A story-teller of all these people would perish from a state of spiritual starvation. "For the value of all good story-telling lies in the power of presenting the scenes, characters, and situations which we all know, but the telling of which nevertheless causes surprise that we have not viewed them in quite that way before. They delight us by flattering us. "The listener or reader must always be considered to be in the game. Much good fiction falls thru this lack of power to bring the reader into it, or as the actor says 'to get it across the footlights.' " —BAKER'S DRAMA-GRAM.

At Liberty—Operator. Man who has been on the road for 5 years with one of the theatre supply houses installing, repairing and demonstrating moving picture machines and theatre equipment, desired to locate in small or fair-sized town. Nounen, Ind. will join. BOX 500, care Hillboard, Chicago.

OPERATOR—CAN HANDLE ANY MAKE projector, switch board or power plant. Salary reasonable. Results guaranteed. VEO MORLAND, 460 Park Blvd., Louisville, Ky. Jan2

OPERATOR—TEN YEARS' EXPERIENCE. Locate anywhere. Write or wire FRANK J. MCNCROW, Jefferson St., Marion, O.

PROJECTIONIST DESIRES POSITION—10 years experience on all equipment. Address PROJECTIONIST XYZ, care of Hillboard, Chicago.

100% PROJECTIONIST, January 1. Fully up to date. Go anywhere. Handle all equipment. Fifteen years' experience. Highly accomplished. References. Please state salary. EDW. WARTMAN, 1119 E. College Ave., St. Louis, Mo. Jan2

AT LIBERTY MUSICIANS

3c WORD, CASH (First Line Large Black Type) 2c WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Black Type) 1c WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

At Liberty—Girl Musicians. BOB JOHNS PRODUCTIONS, Loop East Bldg., Chicago. Jan1

A-1 Cellist—Experienced in all lines. Desires permanent engagement in picture or vaudeville house. Union, references. CELLIST, 2106 Sinton Ave., Cincinnati, O. Jan1

Alto Sax. Man, Doubling Eb Soprano. Fair reader. Good tone. One year's experience. Sobor, reliable. Tur-ede. Age 22. Do not play bulky. First Sax. preferred. HARRISON FORBES, Staatsburg, N. C.

At Liberty—Violinist, Leads; wife Pianist. Union. Account of theatre closing. Thoroughly experienced vaudeville and pictures. Large library. Pictures correctly coded. Reliable. Best references. Joint or single. Address VIOLINIST, 904 South 4th, Noblety, Mo.

At Liberty—A-1 Cellist. Ten years' experience, with the best picture libraries of vaudeville. Here four months. Conditions not so good. Experienced trombonist, prefer Pennsylvania. Age 26. FRANK EVANS, 3506 1/2 St., East Chicago, Ind.

At Liberty—Hot Trumpet Player. Union. Read, fake. Three years' dance experience. First chair College Symphony Orchestra. Student Directors' College Band. Harmony student. Present contract expires January 1. Interested only in reliable bands. BUD JOHNSON, 314 Sixth St., Peoria, Ill.

At Liberty—Hot Trumpet Player. Union. Read, fake. Three years' dance experience. First chair College Symphony Orchestra. Student Directors' College Band. Harmony student. Present contract expires January 1. Interested only in reliable bands. BUD JOHNSON, 314 Sixth St., Peoria, Ill.

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At Liberty—A-1 BB Sousa—phone, doubling euphonium. Experienced all lines. A. P. of M. Troupe or local. ERIC H. STANSON, 3010 St. Charles St., New Orleans, La.

At Liberty—Trumpetist. Experienced vaudeville, pictures. Young, union, reliable. J. HUGH, 1010 Howard St., Chicago, Ill.

At Liberty—Good Reliable theatre Trumpet. WM. JOHNSON, 845 E. 7th St., Des Moines, Ia. Jan2

Band and Orchestra Director desires position with factory or municipal band. 18 years' experience, neat, congenial, no boomer. Compose and arrange; good library. 3 years a soloist with well-known American bands. Further information write to DIRECTOR, Kansas State Band, Lansing, Kan.

BbB Sousaphone String Bass at Liberty Dec. 25th, for theatre, hotel or dance. Experienced and capable. No trouping. Will join live dance orchestra. Union. ED WORT, Seven Twenty East Marshal St., Richmond, Va. Jan1

Bishop Ruland, Organist, at Liberty January 1st after year as solo featured organist at the Ricoll, Denver. Youth, appearance. Original copyrighted play and novelty specialties. Will work for present salary, one hundred twenty-five dollars, if location and instrument are satisfactory. Wire Ricoll, Denver.

Cellist, Doubling Saxophones, Alto and Soprano. A. F. M. Experienced hotel and theatre. EDWARD ROACH, 612 Julia St., Jacksonville, Fla.

Cellist—Very Fine. 15 Years' experience. Union. Want good steady engagement. Prefer California. West or South. BOX C-100, Hillboard, Cincinnati. Jan2

Competent Clarinetist Desires steady position in theatre, vaudeville preferred. Union; single; age 38. Use one clarinet. Join immediately. OTTO JACOB, 274 Park St., Bridgeport, Conn. Jan1

Competent French Hornist wishes to make change. Dependable. Address HORNIST, 903 Baum Ave., St. Petersburg, Fla. Jan2

Dance Drummer, Entertainer youthful man, snappy rhythm, hot cymbal, plenty sock, good reader, union. ED LEE, Arcadia Theatre, St. Charles, Ill. Jan1

Dance Drummer, Plenty rhythm. Cymbals. Young, union; no representation. All replies answered. Write LLOYD PARKINS, care King's Entertainers, Minot, N. D. Jan2

Leader (Violin) or Sideman—Long experience pictures, vaudeville. \$8,000 library. Reliable. FONTAINE, 9 Clinton St., Hartford, Conn. Jan1

Oboe at Liberty—Wishes first-class theatre engagement. Experienced in theatre and symphony. Address BOX C-45, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Jan2

Organist—Experienced, Versatile picture player; large library; can tune and repair. Straight or unit. Go anywhere. GALE SMITH, Box 53, Centralia, Ill.

Organist of International reputation and experience. Concert and feature soloist. Picture player of exceptional ability. Box-office attraction. Clean. Modern organ and good salary essential. Wire or write ORGANIST, 117 South 11th St., Cambridge, O.

Texas or Southern States—Violinist leader and wife pianist want permanent location. Pictures timely coded. Fine library, union, experienced and reliable. BOX C-92, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Jan1

Trombonist, Union, and Electrician, amateur winder. Experienced vaudeville, pictures, band and dance. Location only. MUSICIAN, 689 Cooper St., Atlanta, Ga.

Two Hot Boys—Alto Sax., doubling Soprano; Banjo doubling Fiddle. Now working New York cabarets. SAXOPHONIST, 1211 50th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Jan1

Violinist Leader; Wife Pianist. Union; large library; pictures correctly coded; reliable and congenial. BOX C-91, Hillboard, Cincinnati. Jan1

Violinist, Leader or Side. Experienced vaudeville and pictures. Large library. H. VICKERY, 414 West 25d St., New York City.

Trombonist—Vaudeville or pictures preferred. TROMBONIST, 114 Green St., Lancaster, Pa. Jan2

A-1 ALTO SAX, DOUBLING SOPRANO. DESIRES location theatre. BOX C-105, Hillboard, Cincinnati.

A-1 TRUMPET, BANJO AND PIANO PLAYER. Experienced in dance, hotel and vaudeville work. Will accept with either. Hat, sweet, head and fake. Will locate or travel. No. 1, roomy, sober and congenial. Refer to be together and will consider only high-class organizations. JAMIE O'HEILL, Eufaula, Ala.

A-1 SOUSAPHONE AT LIBERTY AFTER January 1st. Head, fake, play jazz and classics. Union and reliable. Have been with the big ones. Would like to hear from good reliable orchestra. EARL E. HURST, care Grand Hotel, Jackson-Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

A-1 TRAP DRUMMER - PLAY BELLS, MARACA, TRAMPOLINE. Complete outfit traps. Thirteen years' experience vaudeville, pictures, concert. Union; reliable. TRAP DRUMMER, 612 Main St., Richmond, Ind.

A-1 TROMBONE-YOUNG MAN, UNION, EXPERIENCED IN VAUDEVILLE, PICTURE THEATRE. Head and fake. I. LEBEL, 55 Jan 1023 St., New York City.

A-1 VIOLINIST-GOOD CLEAR TONE IN TUNE. Hotel, pictures, vaudeville, comedy, burlesque. No triflers. Dependable, strictly temperate. Moderate distance. Replies enclosed. BOX C-47, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Jan 15

AT LIBERTY-A-1 LEGITIMATE TRUMPET for pictures, vaudeville, after December 12th. FRED BRADY, Jefferson, S. D.

AT LIBERTY, AFTER JAN. 1ST-ALTO SAX, Sockling Clarinet and Flute. Drummer playing Hand Saw. Have white and gold outfit. Hat, cymbal ticks and flash. Both young, union, read and fake. Good band experience and prefer joining arrangement with recognized dance band. Address BOX C-82, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY-VIOLINIST, LEAD OR SIDE. Thoroughly experienced and reliable. In the U. S. Union; library available. ROBERTSON, 205 N. East St., Bloomington, Ill.

AT LIBERTY-A-1 VIOLINIST. TEN YEARS' experience. Jazz, fake and good night reader. Would like to secure position in Chicago or suburbs at once. Nonunion, but can join. State salary. Dance orchestra preferred. WM. KOURL, 1922 Estes Ave., Chicago, Ill. Jan 8

AT LIBERTY-A-1 SOUSAPHONE; DOUBLE string bass. Recording experience. Playing new style Big Starling Bass. Young, single and reliable. References furnished if necessary. Flashy instruments. At Liberty December 24th. A-1 soloist or with R. WHERLEY MARSHALL, care Rose Garden Orchestra, Roseman, Mont.

AT LIBERTY-A FIRST-CLASS CLARINET Player. Legitimate pictures and vaudeville. JOHN SCHMIDT, 1115 Clifton Blvd., Cleveland, O. Jan 15

AT LIBERTY-TROMBONIST. THEATRE preferred. Good experience, good time and slight reader. JESSE NICHOLS, 714 E. Third St., Anderson, Ind.

BANJOIST-PIECES. HEAD, FAKE, TRILLING, WORK. Also music, sober and reliable. Last job three years. Single, some. BANJOIST, 212 G Ave., West, Cedar Rapids, Ia. Jan 1

C MELODY SAX. DOUBLE SOPRANO. Union. Good time, read and improvise. Play two seasons with J. Doug Morgan. Have car. BOB TURNER, 2412 West 14th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

CLARINETIST-EXPERIENCED PICTURES, vaudeville and concert; double Alto Sax. MUSICIAN, Central Hotel, Lima, O.

CLARINETIST-EXPERIENCED VAUDEVILLE and pictures; soloist. Address CLARINETIST, 199 Glen Place, Ithaca, N. Y.

DRUMMER-EXPERIENCED ALL LINES. Age 24, sober and reliable and want something steady; theatre preferred. Sing and double piano. J. LOUIS SMITH, Hanover, Ill. Jan 8

EXPERIENCED VIOLINIST - YOUNG AND reliable fine tone, excellent schooling, desires position in theatre or hotel. Available at once. MORRIS LEVENSCHIN, 3029 West Susquehanna Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

EXPERIENCED TROMBONE-PREFER THEATRE. Address JOE GOETZ, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

FLUTE AND PICCOLO-BAND, ORCHESTRA. Theatre experience. Prefer West. Music side line. References. MUSICIAN, care A. Kinsley, Stevens Point, Wis.

TROMBONIST - PICTURES AND VAUDEVILLE or anything legitimate. Union. TROMBONIST, 300 American Bank Bldg., Lima, O.

TROMBONIST-EXPERIENCED ALL LINES. Union; age 26; have tuxedo. Troupe or bands. Job on wire. DEL SMITH, 359 Dart St., Toledo, O.

TRUMPET PLAYER. EXPERIENCED IN vaudeville or dance work. F. BELL, 1320 10th St., Altoona, Pa. Jan 1

TRUMPET-EXPERIENCED DANCE, THEATRE and hotel. Head, Improvising, play modern style. Good time. State all particulars. W. G. HART, Gen. Del., New Castle, Ind.

A-1 DRUMMER-Vaudeville, pictures, ball dance orchestra. Union. Frank Bell, Martinsburg, W. Va. A-1 reference. Reliable offers only. Also have A-1 picture library. What have you? BOX C-1, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

A-1 TROMBONIST-Union; easy, experienced; age 29; single; prefer vaudeville or picture house; slight reader; has time; good habits; A. E. F. band experience. Would consider music as side line. Experience in playing leading picture trumps and string work. TROMBONIST, 222 East 8th St., Winona, Minn. Jan 1

A-1 DRUMMER-Union, Pictures, Vaudeville. Real dance orchestra. A-1 reference. Formerly in large Public House, Tampa, Fla. Martinsburg, W. Va. BOX C-1, Hillboard, Cincinnati, O.

AN EXPERIENCED VIOLINIST-Dance, Theatre or club. Broadcasting and recording experience. Formerly with Original California Ramblers. Age 27; appearance, wardrobe, etc. Have ticket. Will go anywhere if offer is suitable. Write or wire BOB TAYLOR, 125 Frank St., Dayton, O.

AT LIBERTY-Competent Theatre Manager of wide experience desires to hear from a reliable proposition. State full particulars. No agencies; reliable. BOX NY-29, Hillboard, New York.

AT LIBERTY-A-1 Trombonist, experienced in all lines. Reliable, union, age 26-27. CICHL, H. FAHR, 404 Leona Ave., Omaha, N. Y. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY-Experienced Routine Violin Musical Director desires permanent year-round theatre engagement. Congenial personality. Good standard H. group. HARRY MASON, General Delivery, Albany, N. Y. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY-Competent Routine Theatre Orchestra Violinist desires steady year-round engagement. Good sight reader. Union. Masters U. S. preferred. J. HARTFORD, Hillboard, New York City. Jan 22

AT LIBERTY-A F. of M. Baritone Player. Prefer concert band, Florida. D. CARRAPIELLO, 822 Brown Ave., Chicago, Ill. Jan 8

FLUTE, doubling Saxophone, wishes permanent engagement in theatre. Reliable and thoroughly experienced. Address BOX C-144, Hillboard, Cincinnati, Ohio.

LADY CORNETIST for orchestra or vaudeville act. A-1 soloist; good instrument. Experienced. LOTT DELMORE, 323 15th St., North St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dance Pianist-Arranger-Age 25, single, union, neat, tuxedo. Late style arrangements. Three way or single, hot choruses, sympathetic stuff with good ideas or anything. Proven ability. Play late style diet on piano; good rhythm and read anything. Plenty stage and dance experience. State all in first. BOX 427, Hillboard, 1560 Broadway, New York. Jan 8

A-1 PIANIST-LEADER DESIRES CHANGE-Excellent library; cues pictures perfect; absolutely first class. Years experience. State salary, particulars, size of orchestra. BOX 15, Monroeville, Pa. Jan 1

A-1 PIANIST AT LIBERTY-EXPERIENCED and reliable. Good sight reader; also work in acts. Well schooled and refined. Write or wire W. A. NUGENT, Dale, Wis.

AT LIBERTY-SIGHT READER PIANIST. Specialties: change for week; first-class music wardrobe. MISS FLORENCE GREENE, 513 1/2 Ninth St., Sioux City, Ia.

AT LIBERTY-PIANIST. MEDIUM ABILITY. Experienced in dance work. Go anywhere after January 1st. HERMAN HARLOW, 14 Holly St., Charlottesville, Va.

AT LIBERTY-Piano Player; good reader; play any kind of show. Go anywhere. Best reference. Double 5, good Nurely Act; wardrobe. GRAHAM GOODMAN, General Delivery, Dubuque, Ia.

DANCE PIANIST-YOUNG EXPERIENCED College man. Good rhythm; play hot or sweet. Tuxedo. At Liberty January 2. JESSE AKER, Paola, Kan. Jan 22

Preparing the Actor for His Career

HOW can the ambitious youngster, eager to become an actor, lay the foundation for a career on the professional stage? How can the actor learn his trade? A difficult problem. Today the director searches for types. Long runs deprive the actor of systematic training. In contradistinction to this present method, the actor of our father's time had the advantage of the repertoire system. It is interesting to read the biographies of John Drew, E. H. Sothern and Otis Skinner. What a variety of parts these men played. Even during my novitiate I had the opportunity of many roles-for in my first four years I appeared in over 200 leading characters. This work I did in two very good stock companies-the Alcazar, in San Francisco, under Fred Belasco, and the Castle Square, in Boston, under Winthrop Ames' direction. Two hundred leading parts in four years!-a repertoire including Portia, Beatrice, Rosalind, Lady of Lyons, Mrs. Tanqueray, etc. Where can the debutante of 1926 find such an opportunity?

There are but few stock companies in the country today, the moving picture having practically eliminated a demand for them. The young actor, therefore, must have a dramatic school to fill the place of the oldest institution. Some facetious person has said that actresses happen in the best of regulated families, and this is no doubt true-not even the first families can feel safe. But the most talented, imaginative beginner must acquire a technique-must have training.

There is really only one way to learn to act, and that is to act-not one-but many roles. The school of acting seems the only present hope. Of course, to rehearse under skilled directors-this would be an ideal training, but our directors have time only for experienced actors and a preparatory schooling is necessary. In a good school the aspirant can make a beginning, acquire some technique and learn to speak English. Certainly correct English should be a part of every actor's equipment.

Far too little attention is given to diction in this country. It is appalling to hear some of the slovenly English in our theater today. We know that in France a member of the Comedie Francaise is required to speak perfect French. In England a man playing the part of an English gentleman certainly would not be allowed to speak with a cockney accent. But we in America are not always so exacting. I hasten to say that it is not only the American actor who offends. We have many English actors speaking bad English. The actor's speech should be free from any accent-any dialect-I should say-as the Southern, Middlewest or cockney.

Walter Hampden, an American actor, speaks perfect English. George Arliss, an English actor, speaks perfect English. Such men our young actors should emulate, and in so doing take the first step on the ladder -THAIS LAWTON, in The Spokesman.

AT LIBERTY PARKS AND FAIRS 25 WORD, CASH (First Line Large Blank Type) 25 WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Blank Type) 15 WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only

Bonette Brothers, Aeronauts, Bradford, N. H. Feb 12

NETE CORNALLA TROUPE, FOUR GIGS AT LIBERTY, Fair, indoor shows. Address Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Feb 12

3 FEATURE ACTS-HIGH DOUBLE TRAPS, Sensational Believing and European Controversial Act. Write for special advertising. HIGGINS & COOPER, 124 E. Walnut St., Kalamazoo, Mich. Jan 25

THE LA CRUX (Lady and Gentleman)-Novelty Theatre Artists, now booking Indoor Circus and Barns, etc., engagements. A real act. Address 1204 Walton Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY PIANO PLAYERS 25 WORD, CASH (First Line Large Blank Type) 25 WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Blank Type) 15 WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only

A-1 Dance Pianist. Read, fake; young, reliable. Reliable dance bands wanted. Union. State all. ROY H. BIERMAN, Macon, Ill. Jan 1

DANCE AND VAUDEVILLE PIANIST - Modern style, good rhythm, age 21, neat appearing, union. Head or fake anything; take hot choruses. Sober and reliable. Band closing for the winter season for this ad. Can furnish good references. Please don't interrupt. KEN MUEHNFELDT, Box 66, Marshfield, Wis. Jan 1

EXPERIENCED PICTURE PIANIST-Cue pictures. References. Work alone or with orchestras. Also experienced as small vaudeville organ. State salary and hours. ANNE LEAR, 2525 Prairie, Chicago, Ill. Jan 1

GIRL MUSICIAN AT LIBERTY-YEARS EXPERIENCE orchestra pianist, vaudeville, pictures, and club shows. Own library. Can accompany. Union. Twenty-three years old. MUEL CLAM, Box 295, Walling, Ia. Jan 8

PIANO LEADER AND VIOLINIST DESIRE change location. Young men. Experienced pictures and vaudeville. Extensive library. Cue correctly. Union. BOX C-94, Hillboard, Cincinnati, Jan 15

YOUNG DANCE PIANIST-EXPERIENCED. Have all essentials. Real dance rhythm. Write WAXNE BOKER, Marshall, Mich. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY-A-1 Dance Pianist, modern style, good time, steady bass and rhythm. Union. Age 22. Five years' experience, 100 years work present band. Write or wire CLAUDE KING, 520 Elm St., Peoria, Ill. Jan 1

RELIABLE YOUNG MALE PIANIST-Experienced Vaudeville, Pictures, Dance. Library to play Vaudeville, Pictures alone. With conductor reliable behind them. PIANIST, 211 45th St., New York, N. Y. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY-A-1 Pianist. Head, fake and trans-pose. Take down from voice and arrange. Wife A-1 choros. Some dancing specialties. Experienced in small parts, lead numbers. Height, 5 ft., 5 1/2, weight, 120. Both aged 23. Head of wardrobe on and off. Thoroughly experienced in all lines. Don't ask my level, but state your best salary. Write or wire JOE D. RIDER, Box 45, Walker, Mo.

AT LIBERTY SINGERS 25 WORD, CASH (First Line Large Blank Type) 25 WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Blank Type) 15 WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad. Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only

AT LIBERTY-A-1 Bass and Baritone Character Comedians; both 4 feet tall. Formerly with Chatham Comedy Troupe. Characters, songs, etc. No band arrangement. JAMES LA CLARE, 8511 125th St., Richmond Hill, N. Y. Care Station. Jan 1

AT LIBERTY VAUDEVILLE ARTISTS 25 WORD, CASH (First Line Large Blank Type) 25 WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Blank Type) 15 WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25c) Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only

At Liberty - Musical Comedian with Manda Picture Machine. Plenty film. Will partner with a good team. Write or wire MOVIE MAC, Lincoln, Neb.

At Liberty - Vaudeville Artists. Hot Guitar player and Harp-Piano Comedian; also do straight and double on other stringed instruments; Handsaw and Ring-Played fourteen months on Keith Time without lay off. Just closed with Public Presenting 1500 gauge for this ad. Would like to team with established act. Amateurs save your stamps. Address W. HOWARD, 666 39th St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

AT LIBERTY-A-1 COMEDY TRICK CYCLIST. Will work in a big act or double with a good straight cyclist who can get work and money, or will do single on Tel., Vaudeville or Minn. Write or wire WM. H. SHERTZER, 607 Elizabeth St., Dayton, O.

AT LIBERTY - PARTS, SPECIALTIES, PIANO; thoroughly experienced. First-class wardrobe; age 29. MISS FLORENCE GREENE, 513 1/2 Ninth St., Sioux City, Ia.

A-1 PIANIST AT LIBERTY-Head, fake and trans-pose. Take down from voice and arrange. Wife A-1 choros; some dancing specialties. Experienced in small parts, lead numbers. Height, 5 ft., 5 1/2, weight, 120; both aged 23. Best of wardrobe on and off. Thoroughly experienced in all lines. Don't ask my level, but state your best salary. Write or wire JOE D. RIDER, Box 45, Walker, Mo.

AIRIAL COWBOYS, Fat Double Troupe, sensational Electric Ladder and Funny Clown stunts. Three good acts. Descriptive literature on request. Address care Hillboard, Cincinnati, O. Jan 1

AMATEUR FEMALE IMPERATOR, doing Oriental Hawaiian dancing, desires work with reliable vaudeville act or revue. Also good Charleston dancer. Age, 27; height, 132; hair, 5 ft., 7 in. Permanent waves. Willing to work and learn. Write; state all in the letter. HAZARD SHINN, 1214 Wagon St., Loganport, Ind.

AT LIBERTY-Man and Wife. Man six novelty acts, songs, traps, etc. Wife Pianist. Both work acts. HERT NEW, 218 Winona Ave., Detroit, Mich.

AT LIBERTY-All Around Comedian, Dutch, 25-29 yrs. KID, Burlesque Comedist in acts; change often. Reliable managers address JOHNNY BALDWIN, care Hotel Marlborough, 1108 Walnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

AT LIBERTY-Female Impersonator and Dancer. 5 ft. 8 in. Three specialties. Exceptional wardrobe. Desires for vaudeville, revue or burlesque. Can also do solo work. Two specialties. Will try anything. State all in first letter. Would like to try dramatic work. Have no experience but am willing to learn. BOX 426, Hillboard, 1560 Broadway, New York.

MAGIC AND ILLUSIONS. Change for work. Operates here films. Will locate places. House act, stage, concert, reliable. Join at once. BOX C-101, Hillboard, Cincinnati.

COMMERCIAL ACTS, SONGS AND PARODIES 25 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 25 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

ANY ACT WRITTEN FOR \$10.00 - CASH with order. WALTER WEISS, Author, 287 Third Ave., New York.

FOR SALE-SHORT CAST SCRIPTS; SMALL Brooklyn Bridge Drop. BILLY BRYANT, Elizabeth, Pa.

ANY ACT WRITTEN FOR \$25.00-WRITE NAT GELLER, Author, 325 East 175th St., Bronx, N. Y.

LIVEN YOUR ACT FOR 1927-MY GAS BOOK I will do it \$1.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. Successful New Year to all customers. BRADLEY, 5103 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.

NEW PLAYS-WOODARD PLAY CO., EAST Toledo, O. Jan 1

3 NEW MONOLOGUES, ORIGINAL HOKUM Song, Two Choruses, 20 real Wise Cracks, Parody, Wasp Punch on "Remember", page Character Stories; all \$1.00. FRANK LANE, 41 Kenwood, Brookline, Mass. Jan 1

GENUINE SIOUX INDIAN COSTUMES AND
 headwork. Buying direct from the Indian,
 our prices are reasonable. Write for complete
 price list. LYON CURIO STORE, Chicago, Neb.
 Jan2

TUXEDO SUITS, LATEST, \$15; FULL DRESS
 suits, \$12; Overcoats, \$2-35; beautiful Heavy
 Gowns, \$10; HATS Gold Dress, \$75; Heavy
 Winter Suits, \$5; English Walking Suits, \$12.
 HARRY BRIDGE BROS. WALLACE, 1334 North
 Halsted, Chicago.

FORMULAS

BOOK FORM, PAMPHLETS OR SHEETS.
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Secret Formula to Manufacture
 guaranteed Razor Strip Dressing to
 sell your own business. I will pay
 you \$1.00 money order. RALPH LITZER,
 225 W. 126th St., New York.

AUTO POLISH—FORMULA AND YEAR'S
 subscription to Worthville, 25c. FRANKLIN
 G. WATHE, Dept. 3, 120 Cady Street, Roches-
 ter, N. Y.

MONEY-MAKING FORMULAS, \$1.00 LIST
 for stamp. Anything analyzed, \$2.50. AS-
 SOCIATED CHEMISTS, Indianapolis, Ind.
 Jan2

STATOCOME FORMULA, 25c—WRITE TO
 KICKETT, 2674 Rarp St., Philadelphia, Pa.
 Jan1

50c—ANY FORMULA 50c—WRITE TO
 DIME INFORMATION BUREAU, Colorado
 Springs, Col. Jan1

500 FORMULAS, 25c. CATALOG FREE.
 IDEAL BOOK SHOP, Park Ridge, Ill. Jan1

FOR RENT, LEASE OR SALE
 75 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 50 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Ozark Land—Ten Acres, \$100;
 50 monthly. Fine fishing, hunting, trapping
 territory. ART ZIMMERMAN, 1800 N. Fifth
 Kansas City, Kan. may28

FOR RENT—A PICTURE-VAUDEVILLE
 Theatre, fully equipped except the machines.
 BOX 517, Billings, Mont. Jan10

SALE OR TRADE—PRACTICALLY NEW 20-
 Room House, situated on 1/2 acre of ground.
 House overlooks the beautiful city of Peru,
 Ind., called "The Circus City", the home of
 the American Circus Corporation. House close
 to new 200-acre park. Ground unimproved with
 electricity, an excellent highway, 10 minutes walk to
 court house. Peru has 3 railroad centers, 25
 factories operating. This is good site for
 hotel. J. OMER BARNHART, Peru, Ind.

FOR SALE—SECOND-HAND
GOODS
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Corn Poppers—Peerless and
 others, cheap. NORTHSIDE CO., 1306 Fifth
 Des Moines, Ia. Jan2

Corn Poppers—Lowest Prices.
 Terms, Dept. M. NATIONAL SALES CO.,
 Des Moines, Ia. Feb5

Counter Money (Dial) Ma-
 chines, rebuilt, \$25.00. AUTOMATIC COIN
 MACHINE SUPPLY CO., 542 W. Jackson, Cal-
 cago. Jan15

For Sale—Penny Arcade Com-
 plete, all ready to operate. Write to E. W.
 BARNED, 502 Lincoln St., Hastings, Mich.

Target Practice Machines.
 brand new, \$12.00. AUTOMATIC COIN MA-
 CHINE SUPPLY CO., 542 W. Jackson, Chicago.
 Jan15

Slot Machines for Sale—New
 and rebuilt. Machines bought, sold, leased,
 repaired and exchanged. We also do machine
 repair work of all kinds. Send in your old
 machine to be rebuilt. We charge you factory
 list price for all repair parts, and are very
 reasonable with terms. Write to J. O. BOX No. 573,
 York, Pa.

Operators' Collection Books,
 300 leaves, dozen \$2.00; single, 50c. AUTO-
 Matic COIN MACHINE SUPPLY CO., 542 W.
 Jackson, Chicago. Jan15

Two Attractive Electric Games
 for sale, called Aeroplane Wheel. Write or
 call any time. MULLERHEIN, Taylor St.,
 Chicago, N. J.

5c Bell, \$40.00; 25c Bell, \$70.00.
 Rebuilt by experts. AUTOMATIC COIN MA-
 CHINE SUPPLY CO., 542 W. Jackson, Cal-
 cago. Jan15

ALL KIND BOWLING ALLEYS AND BOWL-
 ing Games. Lister's Alley, 1000 N. W. Ave.,
 "Huge Pin Alley" combination billiard
 and bowling. SHEARS AMUSEMENT CO.,
 Oklahoma City, Okla.

COMPLETE PENNY ARCADE, CONSISTING
 of Athletic, Fortune, Picture Mutoscope and
 all kinds of up-to-date Machines for sale.
 MILTON BROOKE, 120 Broadway, New York,
 N. Y. Jan1

BALLOONS AND PARACHUTES NEW AND
 used. CONTINENTAL BALLOON CO., Find-
 lay, O. Jan1

GAILY NEW SUPERIOR BELLS, 25c AND
 30c play, \$22.50; Cello, \$2.00; Violin, \$1.50.
 Vendors: center handle, \$47.50; Cello new
 Penny Nickel-Dime Machines, \$42.50; Columbia
 Penny Nickel-Dime Machines, new, never used, \$7.25.
 All machines in A-1 condition, could not be sold
 from new. Examination allowed, 25c cash
 with order, balance C. O. D. Write SCHUBB &
 COMPANY, 1208 Fifteenth, Detroit, Mich.

INVENTORY SALE—100 MILLS BELLS, 25c
 play, at \$65.00; 10 Mills Vendors, 5c play, at
 \$20.00; 10 Jennings Vendors, 5c play, at
 \$50.00; 1,000 cases of Mills, assorted, \$10.00
 per case; 1 Red-Penny, like new, at \$12.50.
 50 A. H. T. Target Guns at \$20.00; 1 Whard
 Fortune Teller, Mills, \$10.00; 50 Target, with
 ball gum for each shot, at \$1.50. Write
 LIBERTY NOVELTY CO., 3303 W. 23d St.,
 Chicago, Ill. Jan1

MILLS OR JENNINGS MINT VENDERS, M-
 echanically perfect; cheap. Address: OHIO
 NOVELTY CO., 40 Stone Rock, Warren, O.
 Jan2

MILLS AND JENNINGS 5c MINT VENDOR,
 \$35.00; without vendor, \$30.00. Dime and
 Quarter Bells, \$25.00. Half-Dollar Bells,
 \$30.00. 5c Iron Bells, \$25.00. Penny Iron
 Bells, \$25.00. All machines rebuilt by factory
 experts, 25c deposit, balance C. O. D. Re-
 pair, Rebuilding, Refinishing. LONDON NO-
 VELTY CO., 68 No. Whitehorse St., Gallegsbay,
 Ill. Jan1

RESULT TRUNKS, WARDROBE, DRESS
 and Salesmen's Samples at prices that will
 save you half. REDINGTON CO., Scranton,
 Pa. Jan15

VENDOR RACKS FOR ALL MAKES OPERA
 Chairs at prices that save you money.
 REDINGTON COMPANY, Scranton, Pa. Jan15

1 PAN LIFTER MACHINE, 1 BANICO MO-
 e Cream Sandwich Machine, 1 Road Trunk,
 O. H. KICKEY, Grosse, Mich.

Wanted — Girl Musicians.
 Young, attractive. BOB JOHNS PRODU-
 TIONS, Loop 842, Chicago. Jan1

LEADERS, VIOLINISTS, PIANISTS, CEL-
 listas (doubling Saxophones or Harp)
 preferred. Saxophonists and Drummers for open
 hours. ROOM 714, 1482 Broadway, New York.
 Jan2

SAXOPHONISTS, CLARINETISTS, CORNET-
 istas, Trombonists — Get "Free Paintings".
 Name instrument. VIRTUOSO MUSIC SCHOOL,
 Dept. 37, Buffalo, N. Y. Jan1

WANTED—MUSICIANS FOR THEATRE OR-
 chestra. Must be well experienced in the
 entire business. Don't misrepresent. All in-
 struments answer. State full particulars.
 BOX NY-40, Billboard, New York.

WANTED AT ONCE—RED-HOT SAX. MAN.
 One that can double hot Clarinet and Saxo-
 phone and can do some entertaining. Reliable
 hand and steady work. A good entertainer
 preferred. MIKE GIBBS AND HIS GLOBE
 TROTTERS, Havana, S. D.

WANTED—GIRL MUSICIANS, ESTABLISHED
 vaudeville act. Immediate bookings. BURN-
 SIDE, 686 Peterboro, Detroit, Mich.

INSTRUCTIONS AND PLANS
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

DOLLARS TO CORNETISTS; TROMBONISTS;
 High notes, attack, guaranteed made easier.
 Write for instruction. I send it mailed. PAUL
 D. FLAICHE, 623 East 29th St., Baltimore,
 Md. Jan2

THEATRICAL SCENE PAINTING TAUGHT
 by mail. Practical low-priced correspondence
 courses. We sell Lithographs, Colored Engrav-
 ings, Red Stamps for Illustrating. EMER-
 SOUL ART ACADEMY, Omaha, Neb.

Repertory Theaters

I HAVE no doubt at all that repertory theaters could and should be established in cities other than New York. The present system, under which the country outside of New York looks mainly to the managers in that city to provide it with theatrical entertainment, is not only undesirable from many points of view, but is proving less and less successful.

I know of no good reason why people living hundreds, or even thousands, of miles away from Manhattan Island, in differing environment, with differing impressions, problems, and conditions of life, should not provide and prepare, at least in part, their own dramatic fare according to their own disposition and propensities.

It is incongruous, unfair and undesirable that American dramatic talent (which term includes playwrights and producers as well as actors), in order to demonstrate itself adequately, should be compelled to squeeze itself thru that narrow neck of the bottle—Broadway.

It is not only the competition, so called, of the "movies", nor the increase in expenses, which has wrought devastation to "the road" and has brought it about that in a number of our larger cities the theater of the spoken word has ceased, or almost ceased, to exist as a popular patronized institution. The causes lie deeper. One of the means, the chief means, in my opinion, of counteracting and ultimately eliminating them is to enlist local pride, to discover and give opportunity to local talent, and to bring into concrete existence sentiments, aspirations and interests which are latent among the people thruout the country.

By the term "local" I do not mean necessarily one single community only. I can readily conceive arrangements and methods by which a number of communities would combine to have, each one for a certain period, their theatrical season.

—OTTO H. KAHN.

50c EACH, UNITED STATES WOOL AND
 Mercantile Signal Flags, 2x2 1/2 inches, and
 Pennants different sizes. Great for decorations,
 Evergreen buying them. Orders sent anywhere.
 WEIL'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 20 South 2d St.,
 Philadelphia, Pa.

55c.00 GENUINE BUFFALO ROBE, GOOD
 condition, large size. Other fur-mounted Heads
 and Rugs. WEIL'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 20 So.
 2d St., Philadelphia, Pa.

\$1.45—RICHARDSON BALL-BEARING RINK
 Roller Skates, large quantity, all sizes. We
 will buy 10,000 pairs skates, any make and
 sizes. Give details. WEIL'S CURIOSITY
 SHOP, 20 So. Second St., Philadelphia, Pa. x

FURNISHED ROOMS
 25 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 50 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

RITON, CANAL 5522, FOR ROOMS OR
 come to RITON'S Queen City Hotel, 25 East
 Ninth St., when in Cincinnati.

HELP WANTED—MUSICIANS
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Good, Strong Solo Cornet or
 Trumpet. Write or wire. Best wire, ED-
 DIE WOEKENER, Musical Director, Lido
 Hippodrome Circus, Ambassador Hotel, Mem-
 phis, Tenn.

Wanted — Saxophones That
 double. Location. State all particulars in
 full. Do you sing? Send photos. Other mus-
 cians also write. WOODY MEYER MUSIC
 CORP., Provident Bank Bldg., Cincinnati, O.

VENTRILOQUISM TAUGHT ALMOST ANY
 one at home. Small cost. Send 25 stamp
 today for particulars and proof. G. W.
 SMITH, Room 8-150, 125 North Jefferson,
 Peoria, Ill. x

MAGICAL APPARATUS
 FOR SALE.
 (Nearly New and Out Priced)
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Laurice Magical Shop—Tricks
 of all kinds. 708 Broadway, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Jan23

ACTS THAT MAKE GOOD—LOWEST PRICES.
 Mind Reading, Crystal Gazing, Magic, Juggles,
 Acts, Secrets, Plans, Drawings, 5c selection.
 Six cents brings catalog, name free. Prompt
 service. GEO. A. RICE, Ashburn, N. Y. Jan23

MAGIANS' FULL DRESS SUITS, COM-
 plete, \$12; Tuxedo Suits, \$15; Cheongsams,
 \$5; beautiful Evening Gowns, \$10; Overcoats,
 \$5. WALLACE, 1334 North Halsted, Chicago.

MANITO, \$4.50. OTHER BARGAINS, STAMP
 for list. VERNON LUX, 377 Park, Niles, O.

'NEEDLE EATING TRICK', 50c—ORDER
 now. AHLM, 2340 Darnmore Road, Cleveland
 Heights, O.

PROFESSIONAL MIND READERS, CRYSTAL
 Gazing—Send 20c for 40-Page Illustrated
 Catalogue (with Horoscope sample), containing
 largest selection of mind-reading apparatus
 and supplies in the world. NELSON ENTER-
 PRISES, 198 S. Third, Columbus, O.

STAMP BRINGS LIST OF MAGIC AND
 Books for sale; bargains. FRANK LANE,
 41 Kenwood, Brookline, Mass. Jan1

SMALL TRUNK NEW AND USED MAGICAL
 Effects and Secrets, Slide Tables, Blue Prints,
 Mind-Reading and Magic, 2000s, Trunks,
 First \$50.00 sets H. ROSCON GAYLORD,
 Travelers Hotel, Norfolk, Neb.

MISCELLANEOUS
 75 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 50 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

ROSEY—MAIL CHECK \$1.35, WILL PARCEL
 post 5-cent mail White Clover Honey.
 Finest you ever tasted. SPEAR, Buckland,
 Mass. Jan2

SKEELED PECANS, NEW CROP—WHOLE IN
 5-pound cartons, 10c per pound, 10c per
 pound your orders. HILARIO CATAZOS &
 BRO., Laredo, Tex.

50 BATHING GIRL PICTURES, \$1.00; 20
 Moving Picture Actors \$1.00. ROSE SALES
 CO., Box 634, Cedar Grove, Ia.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
AND ACCESSORIES
 FOR SALE—WANTED TO BUY.
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Boehm Clarinet—Have a Few
 high-grade French make regular \$60.00
 value that we are offering at \$50.00 as long
 as they last. Standard Boehm, Grenadilla
 with low pitch B-flat, if keys, C rings. Here
 is your chance to get a fine new Clarinet at a
 second-hand price. Sent for trial on receipt
 of \$2 deposit. CRAWFORD-RUTAN COM-
 PANY, 1012-14 C. McGee Street, Kansas City,
 Mo. Jan2

BARGAINS IN BAND AND ORCHESTRA IN-
 struments; Corn, Holton, Olds, Bach Trumpets
 and Cornets, Olds Trombones, all metal
 horns, big selection of new and old Violins,
 GIOVACCI MUSIC COMPANY, Waco, Texas
 Jan1

BAND AND ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENTS—
 Deal with the professional house. Special
 offer of popular and standard models. Also
 free subscription to our "musicians' magazine,"
 "The Musical Reporter", if you write for it.
 This is the house owned and operated by
 professional musicians and one place where every
 professional will receive prompt and personal
 service. Now located in our new quarters with
 bigger stocks in all lines, larger and better
 equipped repair shop. Try us on your next
 job. Get acquainted with our catalog; we'll
 send it on request. It lists the best profes-
 sional line—Saxophones, Saxacorns and other
 Band Instruments, the Holton, Hylvar, Premier,
 Pedler and other Clarinets, Ludwig, Deagan,
 Vega, other best makes; also big stock of
 slightly used standard makes at sacrifice
 prices. Your old instruments taken as part
 payment at full valuation. Easy terms when if
 desired. Drop us a line today and be sure
 to call on us the next time you are in Kansas
 City. CRAWFORD-RUTAN COMPANY, 1012-
 14 C. McGee St., Kansas City, Mo. Jan2

BUFFET BOHEM SYSTEM, LOW PITCH OR-
 chestra Piccolo, A-1 condition, \$20. PIC-
 COLO, Strand Theatre, Shreveport, La. Jan2

CORNETISTS, TROMBONISTS, SAXOPHON-
 istas, Clarinetists, get "Free Paintings". Name
 instrument. VIRTUOSO SCHOOL, Dept. 37,
 Buffalo, N. Y. Feb5

TANGLEY CALLOPE FOR HIRE, ADVERT-
 ising. Thirty colored lights, Decca Records,
 Chevrolet Truck, DOXIER, Ploze Pennsylvania,
 Pa., 103, H. 4.

TUXEDO SUITS, LATEST, \$15; CHORUS
 Wardrobe, \$5 set; beautiful Gold Silk Dress,
 flashy, \$75. WALLACE, 1334 North Halsted,
 Chicago.

UNA-TONS FOR SALE CHEAP—WRITE
 to W. DUCHERIN, Lock Box 806, Indian-
 apolis, Ind.

\$12.00 GENUINE CHINESE VIOLIN AND
 three keys, 1st class, Great bargain.
 We have 1,000 other musical instruments, all
 kinds. Read for new list. WEIL'S CURIO-
 SITY SHOP, 20 South Second St., Philadel-
 phia, Pa.

ORGANS REPAIRED
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Organs Repaired and Rebuilt
 with new music. Any make, crank cylinder,
 cardboard or paper. Full particulars on re-
 quest. J. S. GIEHARDT ORGAN CO., Tacony,
 Philadelphia, Pa. Jan15

PARTNERS WANTED FOR
ACTS
 (NO INVESTMENT)
 50 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c.
 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE.
 Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Wanted — Lady Partner.
 Vandeville. State what you do. JOHN
 SMITH, 700 Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa.

LADY PARTNER FOR VAUDEVILLE ACT.
 Address FREDERIC, Plaza Hotel, Indian-
 apolis.

LADY, TEACH DANCING PRIVATE STUDIO.
 Rapid-response basis. Will be coached. Re-
 sults essential. BOX 151, Station 1, New
 York City.

PATENTS

35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

PATENTS—WRITE FOR OUR FREE GUIDE... Books and "Record of Invention"...

PERSONAL

35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

GEORGE BARKLEY, 655 GRATIOT AVE., Detroit, Mich., writes.

SALESMEN WANTED

75 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Salesmen - New Invention... beats vacuum sweeper and all its attachments...

SCENERY AND BANNERS

35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

ARTISTIC MODERN SCENERY, DYE DROPS, Banners, at greatly reduced prices...

CLOTH BANNERS—\$1.40, 3x5 FEET, 3 COLORS, air copy up to 10 words...

USED SCENERY BARGAINS. KINGSLEY STUDIO, ALTON, ILL.

2ND-HAND SHOW PROPERTY FOR SALE

35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

For Sale—Water Show and Miniature City, complete in every detail...

CAROUSELS AND BAND ORGANS... CAROUSELS—Park and Portable Carousels...

FOR SALE—BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY RIDE... at a big bargain, or will trade for portable Merry-Go-Round...

FOR SALE THE FOLLOWING SHOW PROPERTY... stored near Minneapolis, consisting of the following—Horse Tracks, six Fords, three trees...

FOR SALE—MATTHEWS 10 K.W. PORTABLE Light Plant, used only 3 months...

ROSEMARY AT A SACRIFICE; TWO BEAUTIFUL Stern Cyclorama, made for a rental, one with rose color with decorative design...

RARE SIBY SHOW ILLUSION — IF YOU get an unusual illusion at a bargain write ALI HASSAN, Marietta, O.

SONGS FOR SALE

75 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

COMPOSERS—WILL BUY OR PLACE BLUES... Hot Tunes, CHARLES KOTNEY, 3129 S. Springfield Ave., Chicago.

HOKUM SONGS — FREE LIST. WRITE JOLLY BERT STEVENS, 1614 Board, Cincinnati, O.

JUST ISSUED! — "MY MOTHER", FINEST ballad of the age! beautiful sentiment set to appealing music...

SONG OF THE OLD-TIME DANCE — VERY catchy, good music... BILLY PATIENCEK, 174 Maple St., Springfield, Mass.

TATTOOING SUPPLIES

(Business Machines, Formulas) 35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

ELECTROCAL COMBINATION MACHINES, patented, cheapest. WAGNER, 11 Chatham St., New York City.

TATTOOING SUPPLIES DIRECT FROM MANUFACTURER... "WATERS", 985 Tuxman St., Detroit.

TENTS FOR SALE

(SECOND-HAND) 35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

\$4.50—NEW HEAVY KHAKI WATERPROOF Government Canvas Covers, 2x15 feet, hemmed with rope...

ARCANE MACHINES OF ALL KINDS — CHARLES BARON, 125 E. Fourth, New York, N. Y.

I WANT YOUR OLD WATCH THAT WON'T run for just price, or say how much... P. M. ARNOLD, P. O. Box 375, Troy, N. Y.

LOCATION WANTED FOR PENNY ARCADE... LOUIS RABKIN, 928 East 180th St., New York City.

MERRY-GO-ROUND AND FERRIS WHEEL in good condition, for cash... JACOB BLOCHER, Chelmsford St., Methuen, Mass.

MILLS, JENNINGS, WATLING OR CAILED... Best Vendors wanted. Latest patterns and 2 to 25-cent. Send illustrations and state lowest price... BETTI, 115 Waverly Place, New York City.

PUSH FOLE TENT, 40x60 or 40x80. MUST be good condition. Must be cheap... WALTER DE HOMAN, 938 Penn St., Reading, Pa.

RED BAND COATS, RED BAND CAPS... What have you? WALLACE, 1584 North Halsted, Chicago.

WANTED — TENTS, CANDY FLOSS MACHINES, Cars Poppers, anything in carnival line... JAMES ROBERTS, Albany, O.

WANT 6000 BALL RING TENT—MUST be good and the price right... ADDRESS TERRY OWENS, Box 624, Leavenworth, Ia.

WANTED — ALL KINDS VENDING AND Amusement Machines... HARRY SOAPY, 44 S. Summit St., Akron, O.

WANTED TO LEASE—A MERRY-GO-ROUND for 6 months from May 1, 1927... WILL pay operator. Address BOX 98, Crumpton, Md.

WANTED TO BUY—3 TARGET PRACTICE 5 Gunter Bowling Alley... Must have gun ball attachments... BENJAMIN GILINSKY, 339 Reservoir St., Trenton, N. J.

ARCADE MACHINES ALL KINDS. BEST cash price paid... LOUIS RABKIN, 928 East 180th St., New York City.

TYPEWRITERS — DON'T BUY TILL YOU get our list. All guaranteed machines... REDINGTONS, Scranton, Pa.

WANTED PARTNER

(CAPITAL INVESTED) 35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

PARTNER WITH SMALL TWO-BREAST Jerry Go-Round... Have location at Beach for summer. BOX C-98, Billboard, Cincinnati.

WANTED TO BUY, LEASE OR RENT

35 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 35 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Custer Cars Wanted—Good second-hand cars! lowest price... LOVEDALE, 1400 56th Avenue, New York City.

Wanted — Mills or Jennings... Best Vendors, paying \$35 to \$50. Address LEO MILLS, 1518 First, Dallas, Tex.

Wanted To Buy—Whip. Tell all first letter... BOX E, Billboard, Kansas City, Mo.

Wanted To Buy—Small Mon... by Speedway. BERT WOODS, Ft. Branch, Ind.

Wanted — 5c and 25c Mills... Best Vendors; A-1 condition. N. OORO-WITZ, 25 Barrett St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Wanted — Merry-Go-Round, no track. Address NEEDHIS, care Box 225, Williamsburg, O.

ARCANE MACHINES OF ALL KINDS — CHARLES BARON, 125 E. Fourth, New York, N. Y.

I WANT YOUR OLD WATCH THAT WON'T run for just price, or say how much... P. M. ARNOLD, P. O. Box 375, Troy, N. Y.

LOCATION WANTED FOR PENNY ARCADE... LOUIS RABKIN, 928 East 180th St., New York City.

MERRY-GO-ROUND AND FERRIS WHEEL in good condition, for cash... JACOB BLOCHER, Chelmsford St., Methuen, Mass.

MILLS, JENNINGS, WATLING OR CAILED... Best Vendors wanted. Latest patterns and 2 to 25-cent. Send illustrations and state lowest price... BETTI, 115 Waverly Place, New York City.

PUSH FOLE TENT, 40x60 or 40x80. MUST be good condition. Must be cheap... WALTER DE HOMAN, 938 Penn St., Reading, Pa.

RED BAND COATS, RED BAND CAPS... What have you? WALLACE, 1584 North Halsted, Chicago.

WANTED — TENTS, CANDY FLOSS MACHINES, Cars Poppers, anything in carnival line... JAMES ROBERTS, Albany, O.

WANT 6000 BALL RING TENT—MUST be good and the price right... ADDRESS TERRY OWENS, Box 624, Leavenworth, Ia.

WANTED — ALL KINDS VENDING AND Amusement Machines... HARRY SOAPY, 44 S. Summit St., Akron, O.

WANTED TO LEASE—A MERRY-GO-ROUND for 6 months from May 1, 1927... WILL pay operator. Address BOX 98, Crumpton, Md.

WANTED TO BUY—3 TARGET PRACTICE 5 Gunter Bowling Alley... Must have gun ball attachments... BENJAMIN GILINSKY, 339 Reservoir St., Trenton, N. J.

ARCADE MACHINES ALL KINDS. BEST cash price paid... LOUIS RABKIN, 928 East 180th St., New York City.

MOVING PICTURE

FILMS FOR SALE—2ND-HAND

75 WORD, CASH. NO ADV. LESS THAN 25c. 75 WORD, CASH. ATTRACTIVE FIRST LINE. Figure Total of Words at One Rate Only.

Attention! Film Men! Attention! 500 Features never before on the market... Westerns, Dramas, Action, Comedies and Specials...

Comedies, Westerns, Weeklies and Sensationals, \$2.00 to \$5.00 per reel. Will ship subject to examination. Send for bargain list... MAIL... Box 222, Union City, N. J.

ACTION WESTERNS — BIG STARS. FINE condition, \$3.00 reel up. Advertising gratis. Shipped subject examination. Lists, STAR FILM CO., Allentown, Pa.

BEN TURPIN, ETC., \$5 — WRITE TO SALES, Gibcocton, Pa.

COMEDIES, FEATURES, WESTERNS, ETC. Send for our bargain price list of Film-Movie Supply Co., 844 So. Wabash, Chicago.

BANKRUPT STOCK — STAMP FOR LISTS. Prices dirt cheap. BOX 5836, Westport Station, Kansas City, Mo.

BARGAINS IN PICTURES AND REELT Machines, Independent Pictures, 601 MURFORD COURT, Kansas City, Mo.

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The Forum

(Continued from page 51) Ringens and all kinds of other free attractions which space won't permit me to mention. Take any of the above five acts and put them together and you have a program that will do justice to any fair association program, bar none. It would be a difficult matter for me to pick the outstanding star among this above list of performers. In my mind they all are stars in their particular line of work, not overlooking the many others whom I have failed to mention here. I had occasion to meet several foreign acts last summer and their cry was: "Me for the old country again as soon as my contract expires." Well, in a way, I don't blame them when their contracts call for 16 weeks' work and they worked only four weeks and got paid for just four. However, understand me correctly. I do not want to criticize the booking agents, as I have found thru my contact with them that they are gentlemen of the first water and aim to cater to the wants of our fair managers to the best of their ability. Furthermore, I wish to state that I'm not in the performing racket, as my performing days ceased a good many years ago thru an accident, but I handle a good many acts off and on. So that's the reason I ask "Why go abroad for acts when we have good goods right here in our own land?" U. S. A. FAN.

Reviews of Programs

(Continued from page 37)

fantasy of the holiday season. In *The Toy Shop*, was presented by Phil Spitalny and Boys. Other stage features were Christine Marson, Joe Termini, playing a return engagement, and Bob Stickney and Willie Robyn, held over for another week.

CHARLES HEDLBY, principal tenor of the Rochester Opera Company, is a featured soloist this week at the Eastman Theater, of Rochester, singing a group of popular songs.

EDWARD NELL, JR., Indianapolis, son of Mr. Nell, voice instructor at the Metropolitan School of Music, has been called to New York to take the leading role in *The Vagabond King*, with the company now playing in Hartford, Conn., and going to Philadelphia next week. Mr. Nell has been studying the role with the Chicago company, where he appeared last fall. He has been placed under a two-year contract.

CLARKE B. FELGAR has been re-engaged for the role of the "toymaker" in the Christmas production, *The Toy Shop*, the Newman Theater, Kansas City Public House, is presenting for Christmas week, opening December 25. The last season Mr. Felgar was assistant manager for the Walter Savage Amusement Company. Kansas City is his home and he and his wife and family are there for the winter.

THOMAS SACCO, who does the producing at Ascher's Commercial, Chicago, as well as filling the position of master of ceremonies, has arranged a pretentious holiday program.

LEO TERRY, who spent four years at the Orphans of Chicago moving picture theaters and who has been playing on the Great Lakes, Inc., Circuit, is now organist at the New Varsity Theater in Evanston. It opened December 23 and is a 2,500-seat house.

Presentation and Music Notes

(Continued from page 37)

pressive, but then, too, she is called upon to play a part unbecoming to her. Sidney Olcott directed. He has done better on many occasions. Subtitles for *The White Black Sheep* pass muster.

The Mark Strand Frolic in support of the screen fare runs to entertainment of a highly diverting character, served in several inviting courses and in the atmosphere of tasteful settings. Pauline Miller opens with *The Waltz of Long Ago*, sung admirably, and is followed by Mile. Klemova and Nikolas Daks, supported by the theater's ballet corps, in a nicely-routined number to the music of *The Blue Danube*. Estelle Carey, soprano, and Charles Massinger, counter in a fantastic bungalow setting, assisted by the Mark-Strand Male Quartet. This scene is one of the best in the Frolic.

The Ten Original London Palace Girls appear in a cleverly executed tap ensemble dance, and Feon Van Mar and Leonard Workman, assisted by these dancers and the ballet corps, bring the presentation to a close in a number entitled *Clowning*. The ballet corps appear in clown costumes that would make it appear they are walking on their hands. Miss Van Mar offers a high-kicking number. She makes a highly pleasing appearance and combines grace with ability in her work.

Hippodrome

Film: "Butterflies in the Rain"
(Universal)

The Laura La Plante and James Kirkwood vehicle, *Butterflies in the Rain*, from the novel by Andrew Soutar, is based on the consoling thought that all that glitters in print is not gold. As a wife who married for conventional rather than for sentimental reasons, Miss La Plante finds the publication she has been reading, *The Broadminded Age*, points a way that is not all beer and skittles. She becomes involved in what appears to be an ignominious scandal, jeopardizing the loss of her husband, whom she suddenly begins to cherish, and then like a flash realizes *The Broadminded Age* in spite of its protagonists was simply the bunk. Another happy ending results.

The picture starts out unpromisingly, but gathers interesting momentum about

the middle and proceeds to its saccharine finish in a more than diverting manner. As a program picture it measures up to the average, perhaps a shade above, and will hold its own in practically any theater. It is almost entirely lacking in comedy, however.

Characterizations are drawn with care, and the direction by Edward Slossan is good on the whole. Photography passes muster, as does continuity, but the titles proved somewhat mediocre in spots.

Paramount

Film: "The Poplar Sin"
(Paramount)

A sophisticated, subtle farce reminiscent of Lubitsch's *The Marriage Circle* and dealing with the ups and downs of consubial relations, *The Poplar Sin* will delight the so-called upper intelligentsia in the larger towns, but doubtless go somewhat unappreciated in the smaller, less modernistic communities, tho' the picture has merit to feed the most voracious movie fans. Malcolm St. Clair, whose subtlety of direction, placing him in the Lubitsch class, has been clearly demonstrated in several of his recent productions, is the director. He handles his story and his characters with a charming ease and accepts every opportunity for an artistic touch. St. Clair is anything but commonplace in his directorial efforts, proving that a good man behind the megaphone can do a lot with a poor story.

The Poplar Sin is not an ordinary story, however. It was written by the M-G-M. director, Moots Bell, and is beautifully patterned for the screen. Adapted for the stage, it might make a first, toothsome farce. Its plot concerns, in a modern way, the platitude of marrying in haste and repenting at leisure.

Florence Vidor and Clive Brook interpret with finesse the leading roles and are supported by Greta Nissen, Philip Strang, Andre Beranger and Iris Gray. Through the acting is superb.

The picture should be booked without fail and as heavily exploited as possible. First-day viewers will help advertise it a lot.

The Paramount's presentation program features John Murray Anderson's revue, *Victor Herbert Melodist*, embracing portions of well-known Herbert operettas. The presentation is lavishly and beautifully staged, radiating in colorful scenery and costumes. As in most Anderson units, no expense in this direction has been spared.

A special prolog written by Frederick Truesdale and spoken by Eunice Harper precedes the first scene, in which Robert C. Cloy sings *Elvira* from Act II of the Herbert operetta of the same name. With Dorothy South he appears in *These Alone* from the same work, and Isabelle Graham and dancing supernumeraries, including Mary Downs, Helen Parker, Mary Parker and Madeline Cane, top with a nicely executed dance number. Scene II concerns selections from *Mlle. Modiste* and closes with a dancing trio—Norma Maxam, Dorothy Prondlock and Delza Davies—in a particularly fetching routine that drew a good hand when reviewed.

Selections from *Nutoso* and *Pan Americano* feature the final scene, with Eunice Harper rendering nicely *Intoxicatio* from the former and Norma Maxam and others offering a dance to music from the latter. Jacques Cartier, well-known dancer, offers an Indian number of merit as the presentation draws to its close, accompanied by a scenic delight representing a crystal waterfall.

Hans Hanke, concert pianist, appeared earlier in the program as an added attraction, offering a brace of selections. He has a touch as light as a feather, is master of his instrument at all times and makes an impressive appearance.

Jesse Crawford proved as big a hit as anyone or anything on the bill in a special organ arrangement entitled *Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Feeling? Sure is a wiz*, this Crawford.

Hippodrome

Film: "Corporal Kate"
(P. D. C.)

Vera Reynolds' latest starring vehicle, as a trade proposition, is an unquestionable flop; its sponsors could do nothing more humane than discard it. We've had enough World War pictures since *The Big Parade* made its appearance.

The photography is inferior, the direction lacks that free and easy quality

that has saved many another picture from the abyss toward which this product is surely bound. The film is replete with comedy relief, but it is the sort of comedy that evokes scarcely more than a tolerant smile at its best. The characters are artificial and the plot is not blessed with even a smattering of suspense. If Paul Sloane made a poor job of it the players are not to be regarded as artists led astray by poor direction. It's an even break—mediocre direction allied with indifferent characterization.

As a manicurist, Miss Reynolds leads the call of duty and enlists with a colleague, a fictionalized type of Jewish girl in the Red Cross soldiers' entertainment corps. She meets a society chap in a French village in the line of fire. The girls find life hard in their new habitat, a stable in peaceful days. The wealthy young fellow is hooded by a woman of his set, but, harkening to the call of his heart, pledges his troth to Corporal Kate, as the manicurist is known. The society woman's second fiddle is killed in an air crash, and the Jewish girl also meets her death. Other bits of tragedy are limned, but the situations are not inductive to any appreciable depth of feeling; their sequence is so arranged as to make them stand out as inconsistent with the remainder of hodge-podge comedy action.

Corporal Kate might draw by its name power the first day, but nothing of the spectacular should be expected in box-office receipts after the folks have had a chance to tell their friends about it. Julia Faye is seen as the artificial Jewish girl, Kenneth Thomson shows a faint breath of life as the society chap turned buck private and Major Coleman is the other representative of the "400". The film was adapted from the story by Zaida Sears and Marion Orth. The DeMille Pictures Corporation shares the sponsoring burden with P. D. C.

E. E. S.

Capitol

Film: "Summer Bachelors"
(Fox)

From the story by Warner Fabian dealing with the vicissitudes of lonely days during the summer for men whose wives have gone vacationing—men of the telephone number brigade—Allan Dwan has shaped an exciting, comical, fast-moving farce, not without its love element. The romance centers around Tony Lander, a real bachelor, and Derry Thomas, whose apartment afforded a pleasing rendezvous for the summer bachelors, where potent drinks might be mixed with freedom and zest. Against the background of the Fabian story, Dwan had ample opportunity and seized it on every occasion for scenes of near Bacchanalian favor in cafes, mountain resorts, motor boats, roof apartments and the like. In these "shots" he injected the majority of the comedy in the film.

As the bachelors for the summer only, Matt Moore, Hale Hamilton, Charles Winniger and Walter Catlett fit their roles snugly. Madge Bellamy plays the leading female role and Allan Forrest the part of Lander. A notable feature of the picture is its fine cast and the free, unstrained, always natural interpretation of the various roles.

General handling, photography and subtitles are entirely satisfactory.

Celia Terrill, Capitol standby, in *Voices of the Woods*, a transcription from *Melody in F*, by Rubinstein, with a pantomime by Joyce Cole and John Tricassat that occasionally overshadows the vocal efforts of Miss Terrill; Pietro Capodiferro, first trumpeter of the Capitol Orchestra, in a brace of selections, rendered with his customary excellence, and a dance extravaganza, entitled *Caprice D'Harlequin*, comprise the presentation features. The dance number, with Miss Coles and the Capitol and Chester Hale Girls supporting, proved tasteful entertainment. The Chester Hale Girls took the honors in a "gallop". They dance with such precision as to remind one of finished cadets at drill. Miss Coles offered a "dance of Columbine", and the Capitol Ballet Corps a number entitled *Caprice*.

Central

Film: "The Fire Brigade"
(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

All the ingredients of pictures featuring fires have gone into the making of *The Fire Brigade*, starring Charles Ray and

May McAvoy. These include the heroism of fire fighters, spectacular conflagrations, rescue against odds, corrupt politicians, and a pleasing romance between a fireman and a millionaire's daughter. Again Ray is the half-brother, shy lad of *Old Siamon's Hole* days. Without him, in spite of the good direction and action, it is doubtful what the picture might have been. He carries it along beautifully.

A notable feature of *The Fire Brigade* is its sudden ending. When reviewed, patrons were heard to remark that it seemed short, which it does. It is as long as the average program film, however.

William Nigh directed from a story by Kate Corbaley, adapted for the screen by Robert Lee. A number of the scenes are beautifully colored and in those of the big fire add not a little to the realism.

Paris

(Continued from page 38)

gone on strike for higher wages, obliging the managements to postpone openings of the winter season.

Mme. Georgette Leblanc has been forced to postpone her recital, *From Bach to Jazz*, on account of a severe attack of the gripe.

Mlle. Spindely will soon appear at the Edoard VII in a new play entitled *Knock-Out*.

Gaby Montbrun, who is singing at the Odeon de Paris, will soon leave for America.

Lola Fuller's ballet will be the attraction at the Gaumont Palace during the run of Buster Keaton's *Go West*.

Robert Quinl, the French dancer who recently returned from New York, has accepted an engagement in Finland.

Ruth Thompson, prima donna, of Omaha, recently made her operatic debut in Rome.

Power's elephant comedians will appear on the next bill at the Empire Music Hall.

Michael Arlen, the American playwright, is in Paris on a vacation.

Marion Gould, the American dancer, is appearing at the Olympia Music Hall.

Shirley Kellogg, the English artist, was judge of the dance competition at the ball of the Paris Branch of the British Legion.

PARIS, Dec. 14.—One of the outstanding individual successes of the year has been the bronze American dancer, Josephine Baker. Not only has she held an uninterrupted engagement at the Folies Bergere for more than a year, but she has appeared at practically every big benefit given in Paris. The remarkable part of her success is that it seems to be with the Parisians rather than with the visiting foreigners, and proof of this is that no less than three French authors have collaborated with her on French books, *The Black Cyclone*, which has already appeared, and now her *Memoires*, which will soon be off the press. Besides dancing at the Folies Bergere Miss Baker directs two night clubs in Montmartre, Josephine Baker's Imperial on the Rue Pigalle and Chez Josephine Baker, which opens tonight at the former Mlleona on Rue Fontaine.

Gilbert Miller, New York theater manager, has arrived in Paris from London and is studying the new plays on the Paris stage. *Enter Vocations*, now playing at the Theater Michel, has already been acquired and two other plays, *Lawyer Solbec and Her Husband* and *Bon Garcon (Good Boy)*, are under consideration.

Mrs. Richard Harding Davis, better known as Beanie McCoy, the "Yama Yama Girl", is wintering on the Riviera with her daughter, Hope. Miss McCoy is preparing a new dance number for her return to the stage next year.

The Theater du Vaudeville, which has been demolished to make way for the big new Paramount movie house on the Grands Boulevards, will be replaced by a new and bigger Vaudeville to be built on the Place de la Madeleine.

The Moulin Rouge is closed until next week, when the winter revue, *Tab 15 Paris*, with Mistinguette and Earl Leslie, assisted by a host of well-known artists, will have its opening.

Fay Harcourt and her partner, Nicolas, will appear with Billy Arnold's Band at the Restaurant des Ambassadeurs at Cannes next week.

Nell Martin, former "Juvenile", is now in Paris looking up antiques—that being his line at present.

Al Brick, Paris editor of *Fox Films*, has left for New York to act as cameraman in the filming of *Seventh Heaven*.

VAUDEVILLE

JAMES & Kelly (Pan.) Tacoma, Wash.; (Pan.) Portland, Ore., 3-8.
Abbey, Richard, Tacoma (Keith) Toledo, O.
Acad. Four, & a Queen (Keith) Philadelphia.
Acad. 3 (Keith) Ottawa, Can.

Route Department

Managers and artists are respectfully requested to contribute their dates to this department. Routes must reach The Billboard not later than Friday of each week to insure publication.

When no date is given the week of December 27-January 1 is to be supplied.

Brallier & Patis & Orsh (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.; (Orph.) Seattle 3-8.
Bradley, M.H., Co. (York) York, Pa.
Breen, Harry (Columbia) Park Rockaway, N. Y.

Callie, Marton (Leric) Indianapolis.
California Night Hawks (State) New York.
Calm & Gale Revue (Maj.) Bloomington, Ill.
Calvin & O'Connor (Pal.) Bridgeport, Conn.

Carroll, Flo & Band (Davis) Pittsburgh.
Carroll & Bennett (Victoria) New York.
Carroll Sisters (Ethel) Elizabeth, N. J.
Carson & Williams (Pal.) Brooklyn.

Cole, Indson (Pal.) Milwaukee.
Cole & Ward Co. (Temple) Rochester, N. Y.
Coleman, Clancy (Hesper) Bradford, Pa.

Cook & Casey (Davis) Pittsburgh.
Cook & Vernon (Mecha) Dallas, Tex.
Cook & Ottman (State) Norfolk, Va.
Cook's Circus (State) Newark, N. J.

Dagage, Kirby, Co. (100th St.) Cleveland.
Dahl, Sherry, Revue (State) Jersey City, N. J.
Dale, Billy, Co. (Maj.) Meriden, Conn.
Daley & Nace (Orph.) Wichita, Kan.

Danzon, Wm. Co. (Embassy) Port Chester, N. Y.
DeLoe, Billy (Golden Gate) San Francisco.
DeLoe, Billy (Pal.) New Haven, Conn., 30-Jan. 1; (Pal.) Springfield, Mass., 3-5.

East, Maudie (Empire) Lawrence, Mass.
Eddy, Dimple (Orph.) Los Angeles.
Eddy, Marion (National) New York.
Edrice, Gertrude (Pan.) San Diego, Calif.; (Pan.) Long Beach 3-8.

Elliot & LaTour (Practor) Albany, N. Y.
Ely (State) New York.
Elliott, Julia (Pan.) Kansas City.
Emmy, Carl, & Pats (Keith) Philadelphia.

Faber & Wales (Pan.) Long Beach, Calif.; (Pan.) Salt Lake City.
Falls, Archie & Gerrie (Roanoke) Roanoke, Va.
Fargo & Richards (American) Denver; (World) Omaha 3-8.
Farnum, Franklin, Co. (National) New York.

Ford & Grace (Bay Ridge) Brooklyn.
Foster & Peggy (Franklin) New York.
Foster & Seaman (Strand) Ithaca, N. Y.
Four of Us (Keith) Philadelphia.
Foy, Eddie, Co. (East) Philadelphia.

Galehouse, Les (Jefferson) New York.
Gallatin & Slater (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.; (Orph.) Seattle 3-8.
Garden, G. & L. (Pal.) Pittsfield, Mass.
Garden of Melody (Capital) Shamokin, Pa.

Hackett & Delmar (Orph.) Seattle; (Orph.) Portland 3-8.
Haines, Nat. Co. (American) New York.
Haines, Mary (Pan.) Los Angeles; (Pan.) San Diego 3-8.
Hale, Willis, & Bros. (Orph.) San Francisco.

Bobette & Design (Pan.) Butte, Mont.; (Pan.) Spokane 2-8.
Hobby & Goss (Proctor) Newark, N. J.
Robin & Hood (Pan.) Salt Lake City; (Orph.) Ogden 2-8.
Robinson & Pierce (Flatbush) Brooklyn, Robins, A. (New York) New York.
Robinson, Bill (Pal.) Milwaukee.
Rockwell, Dr. (Pal.) Chicago.
Rodere & Maler (Keith) Winston-Salem, N. C.
Rogers & Donnelly (Orph.) Germantown, Pa.
Rohrer, W. J. (Hill) Co. (Keith) Texarkana, Ark. (Maj.) San Antonio, Tex. 2-8.
Rohrer, W. J., Lucille, & Girls (Sheridan Sq.) Pittsburgh; (Keith) Cincinnati 2-8.
Roos, Homer (Pan.) Bellingham, Wash.; (Pat.) Tacoma.
Romans, Three (Keith) Asheville, N. C.
Romantic Youth (Capitol) Windsor, Can.
Rose & Dunn (Maj.) Houston, Tex.
Rose & East (Hipp) Brooklyn, Pa.
Roseny & Heat (Hess) Brooklyn.
Rouale, Ross, & Co. (Ave. B) New York.
Rose & Thorne (Hill St.) Los Angeles.
Rosenmont Troubadours (Pan.) Seattle; (Pan.) Vancouver 2-8.
Rosenmont Troubadours (See All) Lexington, Ky.
Rosenblatt (Pan.) Long Beach, Calif.; (Pan.) Salt Lake City 2-8.
Roth (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
Rosa Hayes (Hill) Woonsocket, R. I.
Roth, Lillian (Margand) Baltimore.
Rowden, Boyd, Co. (Pan.) Hamilton, Can.
Roy & Arthur (Broadway) New York.
Royal Hawaiian Orch. (Hippo) Joliet, Ill.
Royal Polka Troupe (Orph.) Germantown, Pa.
Rays & Rays Revue (Pal.) Akron, O.
Rays, Rhea (Broadway) New York.
Ruba, Harvey (Maj.) Wichita Falls, Tex.
Rubin & Ross (Keith) Jackson, Miss.
Ruby Trio (Fremder) Brooklyn.
Russell & Armstrong (State) New York.
Russell, Marie (Hill) Chicago, N. Y.
Ruth, Babe (Pan.) Salem, Ore.; (Pan.) San Francisco 2-8.
Ryan, Thos. J., Co. (Orph.) St. Louis.
Ryan, W. Jimmy, Co. (Fairmont) Fairmont, W. Va.
Ryan & Ryan (Delancy St.) New York.
Ryan & Lion (Orph.) Paducah, Ky.
Ryan, D. & R. (Capitol) Trenton, N. J.

S

Sa. Claire, N. & W. (Grand) Montgomery, Ala.
St. George, Joe, Trio (Delancy St.) New York.
Sailors, B. (Hamilton) New York.
Sailor Boy (Harris) Pittsburgh.
Sampsel & Leebart (Liberty) Lincoln, Neb.
Samuels, Rae (Orph.) St. Louis.
Sanderson, Everett, Revue (Capitol) Hartford, Conn.
Santiago Trio (Victrola) New York.
Sargent & Lucia (Riverdale) New York.
Sartin & Lewis (Grand) Montgomery, Ala.
Savvy & Mann (Hess) Montreal.
Saxo, Polly, Co. (Keith) Passaic, N. J.
Seaton & Dennis (Galey) Utica, N. Y.
Schoeder, Dave, & Girls (Lyric) Mobile, Ala.
Schreck, Geo., Co. (Grand) Atlanta, Ga.
Secrets of 1926 (Pal.) Brooklyn.
Sebacks, The (Columbia) Denver, in.
See & Austin (Capitol) Hartford, Conn.
Seely, Blossom, (Orph.) St. Louis.
Seldin & Allen (Orph.) New Orleans.
Senora, Primrose (Hill St.) Minneapolis.
Seriky Troupe (Negrot) Detroit; (Hill) Detroit 2-8.
Serrany Twins' Co. (Liberty) Lincoln, Neb.
Sevour & Howard Revue (State-Lake) Chicago.
Shadograph (Keith) Boston.
Sharples, Wally (Keith) Atlanta, Ga.
Shaw, Billy (Hess) Union Hill, N. J.
Shaw, Ruddy (Lincoln Hipp.) Chicago.
Shawn Bros. (Hill) Bangor, Me. 30-Jan.
Shaw, Phillips & Anger (Alhambra) Milwaukee.
Shaw, E. Co. (Keith) Texarkana, Tex.
Shaw, Frank (Pal.) Lockport, N. Y.
Sheldis, Ella (Imperial) Montreal.
Shone, R. Co. (Regent) New York.
Shubert, Ed. Co. (State) Boston.
Silks & Satins (Kew) Charleston, W. Va.
Silver, George, Band (Hill St.) New York.
Silverstone Orch. (Maryland) Baltimore.
Simpson & Dean (State) New York.
Singer, Katherine, Co. (Greedy Sq.) New York.
Sleas & Blake (Hess) New York.
Sleazy & Hill Revue (Proctor) Youkers, N. Y.
Sodette Bros. (Hill) Toledo.
Sofka & Sawyer (Hill St.) Cleveland.
Smith & Cantor (Maj.) Debuque, Ia.
Smith, Tom (Temple) Detroit.
Smith & Strong (Fremham) New York.
Sodgrass, Harry (Hill) Cincinnati.
Solaz, Willie (Hess) New York.
Sollards Revue (Greenpoint) Brooklyn 29-Jan.
Sommer, Fred (Novelty) Topeka, Kan.
Somers, Jean (Amber) New York.
Spencer, Nibs, & Co. (Keith) Toledo, O.
Spurling & Rose (Englewood) Chicago.
Spencer & Williams (Harris) McKeesport, Pa.
Spangler, Les (Columbia Sq.) Rochester, Mass. 29-Jan.
Spangler, Hal (Maj.) Houston, Tex.
Stacey & Fay (Rocky Co. Olympia) Boston.
Stanback Bros. (Low) London, Can.
Stanley & Douglas (Vivian) Dayton, Va.
Stanley, Joe, & Co. (Orph.) Los Angeles.
Stanley, Allison (Hill St.) Los Angeles.
Stanley & Quinette (Linsola Sq.) New York.
Stanley & Albee (Hess) Brooklyn 30-Jan.
Stanley, Albee (Hill St.) Los Angeles.
Stanley, Frank (Pal.) Milwaukee.
Stanley & Dolores (Victoria) Wheeling, W. Va.
Stattman, LaFay & Co. (Young R. Toledo.
Stedman, A. & P. (Hill) San Antonio, Tex.
Step, Strp. Revue (Hess) Louisville, Ky.
Step, Strp. & Korolets (Washington St. Olympia) Boston.
Stepfa & Sea (Victory) Holyoke, Mass.
Stephens, Sharon, Co. (Hess) Brooklyn.
Stepping Out (Hess) Lawrence, Mass.
Steping Along (Hess) Lawrence, Mass.
Stewart & Olive (Hess) Minneapolis.
Stewart & Nohlet (Orph.) Tulsa, Okla.
Stewart, Marie (Orph.) Vancouver, B. C. (Orph.) Seattle 2-8.
Stiles, Irene (American) Denver; (World) Omaha 2-8.
Stose & Losen (Emery) Providence, R. I.
Stop Thief (Pal.) Wichita Falls, Tex.
Strain Sisters (Orph.) Ogden, Utah; (American) Denver 2-8.
Stuart & Olive (Columbia) Danvers, Ia.
Stuart & Lash (Keith) Passaic, N. J.
Stutz & Egan (Kew) Charleston, W. Va.
Stylish Scupper, Seven (Hill) Worcester, Mass.
Sully & Thomas (Lyric) Mobile, Ala.

Sully & Tracy (Victory) Holyoke, Mass.
Sun Fun Lin Co. (Orph.) St. Louis.
Surprises of 1926 (National) New York.
Suter, Ann (Keith) Orlando, Fla.
Swaris & Clifford (Pan.) Seattle; (Pan.) Vancouver 2-8.
Swift & Daly (Novelty) Topeka, Kan.
Swift, The (Maryland) Baltimore.
Swar Revue (Orph.) Huntington, W. Va.
Swell & Spooty (Albee) Brooklyn, Ill.
Swanlana, B. (Proctor) Troy, N. Y.
Taylor, Laurette, Co. (Pal.) New York.
Tall Tales (Orph.) Germantown, Pa.
Temple Four (State) Memphis.
Terry, Helen (Low) Montreal.
Tess, The (O. H.) Jamestown, N. Y.
Texas Chicks (Delancy St.) New York.
Texas Four (Orph.) New Orleans.
Texasian, Pat, Co. (Empress Grand Rapids, Mich.
Thernton, Jim (Keith) Dayton, O.
Tiber's Seals (State) Jersey City, N. J.
Tirman's, Ted, Tennessees (St. Louis) St. Louis.
Tills & LaRoe Revue (Maj.) San Antonio, Tex.
Tihon, Corinne (Pal.) Akron, O.
Timberg, Herman (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
Tink & Toy (Hipp) Cleveland.
Toney & Norman (Melba) Dallas, Tex.
Tortie (Orph.) Ogden, Utah; (American) Denver 2-8.
Tortoise, Edna & John, Co. (Hipp) New York.
Trotter (Pal.) Cleveland.
Trubin & Wallace (State) Buffalo.
Tramp, Tramp, Tramp (Orph.) Oklahoma City.
Travers, Ed & Lew (Orph.) Los Angeles.
Travis (Fremder) Lima, O.
Travelling Clowns (Noren) Norfolk, Va.
Turner Bros. (Willard) Woodlawn, N. Y.

T

Tabor & Green (Indiana) Terre Haute, Ind.
Tahar, Ste. Troupe (Lincoln Hipp.) Chicago.
Talbot, Wm. Revue (Orph.) Boston.
Talent & Beck (Maj.) Birmingham, Ill.
Tambulana, B. (Proctor) Troy, N. Y.
Taylor, Laurette, Co. (Pal.) New York.
Tall Tales (Orph.) Germantown, Pa.
Temple Four (State) Memphis.
Terry, Helen (Low) Montreal.
Tess, The (O. H.) Jamestown, N. Y.
Texas Chicks (Delancy St.) New York.
Texasian, Pat, Co. (Empress Grand Rapids, Mich.
Thernton, Jim (Keith) Dayton, O.
Tiber's Seals (State) Jersey City, N. J.
Tirman's, Ted, Tennessees (St. Louis) St. Louis.
Tills & LaRoe Revue (Maj.) San Antonio, Tex.
Tihon, Corinne (Pal.) Akron, O.
Timberg, Herman (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
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Trubin & Wallace (State) Buffalo.
Tramp, Tramp, Tramp (Orph.) Oklahoma City.
Travers, Ed & Lew (Orph.) Los Angeles.
Travis (Fremder) Lima, O.
Travelling Clowns (Noren) Norfolk, Va.
Turner Bros. (Willard) Woodlawn, N. Y.

V

Vadie, Marlon, Danvers (Lyric) Indianapolis.
Vagrants, 3 (Keith) Lowell, Mass.
Vaid, Moery & Vaid, Keith, Syracuse, N. Y.
Vale & Belle (Grand) Clarksville, W. Va.
Vale & Beat (Princess) Nashville, Tenn.
Valentine & Bell (Fox) Anvers, Ill.
Van Hoven, Frank (Pal.) San Diego, Calif.; (Pan.) Long Beach 2-8.
Vano, Sybil (Orph.) San Francisco.
Variety Blossoms (Kedzie) Chicago.
Venezian Maqueraders (Pan.) Minneapolis.
Verne, Adis (St. Louis) St. Louis.
Verona (Empire) North Adams, Mass.
Verona, Florence (Keith) Philadelphia.
Vero, Marie (Keith) Lowell, Mass.
Villa & Strigo (Rite) Birmingham, Ala.
Violet & Pastor (Keith) Jacksonville, Fla.
Vilas & Mann (Hess) Maryland.
Volunteers, The (Empire) Lawrence, Mass.
Vox & Walters (World) Omaha.
Voyagers, The (Pal.) South Bend, Ind.

W

Walters, Australian (Proctor) Newark, N. J.
Walton, Ted & Al (Pal.) St. Paul.
Walt & Hill (Crosskeys) Tulsa.
Waltz Sisters (Hipp.) Buffalo.
Walters, Walter, Co. (Hiviera) Chicago.
Walters, Joe, Co. (Leroy) Canton, O.
Walters, Fie & Orie (Grand) Omaha, Ga.
Walters, S. (Hillside) Jamaica, N. Y.
Walton & Brand (Albany) Philadelphia.
Walzer, Rae, Trio (Gates) Brooklyn.
Ward, Selby, & Co. (Orph.) Kansas City.
Ward, Wm. H. (Lyric) Hebecon, N. J.
Ward, T. & D. (Hess) Newark, Conn.
Ward Bros. (Poll) Worcester, Mass.
Ward & Dooey (Pal.) Bridgeport, Conn.
Wardell & L'Acadie (Hess) New York.
Warren, Herbert, Co. (Pal.) St. Paul.
Warren & O'Brien (Keith) Cincinnati.
Watson, Joe, K. (Hiviera) Brooklyn.
Watson Sisters (Pal.) Salt Lake City; (Orph.) Ogden 2-8.
Webber's Revue (Columbia) Far Rockaway, N. Y.
Weaver Bros. (Pal.) Chicago.
Web's Entertainers (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
Wedding Ring (Orph.) Oklahoma City.
Weeping Willow (Capitol) Stambrecht, O.
Wen's Euphonia (Hipp.) New York.
West & Stanton (St. Louis) St. Louis.
West, Sine & Co. (Orph.) Oakland, Calif.
Werner & Mary Ann (Grand) Macon, Ga.
West, Gates & Lane (Melba) Dallas, Tex.
West & McElroy (Albee) Brooklyn.
Westerner, The (Empire) North Adams, Mass.
Weston, Gleda (Pan.) Salem, Ore.; (Pan.) San Francisco 2-8.
Wheeler & Pette (Keith) Ottawa, Can.
Whirl of Syncopeation (Temple) Rochester.
White, Dancer Danny (Scribble) Brazil, Ind.
White, Black & Uccles (Earle) Washington.
White, Arthur (Nixon) Tulsa.
Whiteoff's Band (Pan.) Kansas City.
Wightsville (Keith) Orlando, Fla.
Whit, Raymond (Keith) Cincinnati.
Williams & Wilkins (Greedy Sq.) New York.
Wilks, Marlon (Keith) Youngstown, O.
Willard (Broadway) Parkersburg, W. Va.
Williams, Mildred (Hill) Grand Island, Neb.
Williams, H. & Co. (Lyric) Richmond, Va.
Williams, Roger (Pal.) Akron, O.
Willie Bros. (Bellevue) Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Wilson, Bob, Co. (Maj.) Chicago.
Wilson, George & Addie (Orph.) Boston.
Wilson, Jack, Co. (Hillside) Chicago.
Winchester & Ross (Keith) Jackson, Miss.
Winchill & Trice (Young R.) Toledo.
Wingfield & Co. (Hess) New York.
Winifred & Mills (Hillside) Jamaica, N. Y.
Wirth, May & Phil (Hillside) Louisville, Ky.
Withers, Charles (Hipp.) Buffalo.
Wong, Prince (Earle) Washington.
Wong, Wong (Pan.) Butte, Mont.; (Pan.) Spokane 2-8.
Wright & Dietrich (American) Chicago.
Wright, Louise (Nora) Norfolk, Va.
Wright's, Jack, Lash & Lashes (Alhambra) New York.
Wyoming Four (Orph.) Boston.
Wyse, Jr., Ross, (Golden Gate) San Francisco.

Y

Yates & Carson (Rialto) Chicago.
Yeaman, George, & Linnie (Pal.) South Bend, Ind.
Yee, Paul, Co. (Hiviera) Detroit.
York & King (Fordham) New York.
York's, Max, Dugs (Keith) Cincinnati.
Young, Joe, Co. (Proctor) Nagskeeper, N. X.

MOTION PICTURE PRESENTATIONS

Aaronsen's, Irving, Commanders (Strand) Brooklyn.
Adolphus & Eastman (Capitol) Detroit.
Al, George (Strand) New York.
Andrews, Caroline (Capitol) New York.
Ann, Paul (Central) Chicago.
Barzard Polles (Newman) Kansas City.
Book of Dreams (Shea's Buffalo) Buffalo.
Calvert, Cass. (Met.) Houston, Tex.
Capitol Singers (Capitol) New York.
Carp, Estelle (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Chicago, Henry (Gard) New London, Conn.
Coger & Mote (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Coles, Joyce (Capitol) New York.
Corp, Estelle (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Courtney, Fay (Academy of Music) New York.
Dances of the Hour (Capitol) Des Moines, Ia.
Dennis Sisters (Met.) Boston.
Dorsey, Louis (Colonial) Reading, Pa.
Eddie & Bill (Colonial) Reading, Pa.
Edward's, Gus, Revue (Pal.) Washington.
Elkins, Eddie, & Orch. (Fadden) Paterson, N. J.
Falks & Howard (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Farrar & Colpell (Garden) Newark, N. J.
Fay, Billy, with Fanchon & Marco Co.; San Francisco, Calif.; Oakland 2-8.
Fowler, Art (Met.) Washington.
Garden of Dreams (Hill) Chicago.
Gard, Sam (Palace) Memphis.
Gardner, Victor, Melodies (Olympia) New Haven, Conn.
Holla, Mabel (Met.) Houston, Tex.
Hopper, Edna Wallace (State) Memphis.
Howard, Ed (Broadway) Newark, N. J.
In a Persian Garden (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Imanette (Met.) Houston, Tex.
Kana, Sammy, & Orch. (Central Park) Chicago.
Karavay & Co. (Aldine) Wilmington, Del.
Kroover, Beanie (Uptown) Chicago.
Kubrick, Henry (Gard) New London, Conn.
Ladry, Cy (Albion) Pittsburgh.
Lawyer, Cooper (Rialto) New York.
Lovers, Myrtle, & Co. (Hess) Houston, Tex.
Luna, Al, Orch. (Roger Sherman) New Haven, Conn.
Lynn, "The" Low (Regent) Harrisburg, Pa.
Manson, Christian (Century) Baltimore.
Moor, Ben, & Co. (Central) Newark, N. J.
Oram & Pollock (Rivier) Baltimore.
Miracle of Youth (Howard) Atlanta, Ga.
North, Jack (Aldine) Pittsburgh.
O'Donnell, Hugh (Regent) Harrisburg, Pa.
On Off Broadway (Hess) Philadelphia.
Orpheus & Beethy, Le Scile Revue (Mosque) Newark, N. J.
Peabody, Eddie (Met.) Los Angeles.
Pearl of Damascus (Paramount) New York.
Pearl's Syncopeation (Aldine) Pittsburgh.
Friske Love (Uptown) Chicago.
Poll & Dearto (Indiana) Kokomo, Ind.
Quelan, John (Met.) Houston, Tex.
Rea's, Joe, Calif. Nighthawk Revue (State) Houston.
Reverend Boys (Broadway) Newark, N. J.
Roaming Gypsies (Michigan) Detroit.
Roby, Willie (Albee) Cleveland.
Royal Weth Choir (Pal.) Dallas, Tex.
Rothoff, Dave (Albion) Pittsburgh.
Rump & Evans (Capitol) Brandon, Can.; (Capitol) Port Arthur 2-8.
Russian Symphony Choir (State) St. Louis.
Sarg, Tony, Marionettes (Broadway) Newark, N. J.
Scala, Myron, & Orch. (Read's Hipp.) Cleveland Jan. 2-8.
Reasons, Four (Met.) Boston.
Short, Al, & Bet (Capitol) Chicago.
Songs of Long Ago (Central) Des Moines, Ia.
Star, Hae (Uptown) Chicago.
Stokes, Melvin, Co. (Imperial) Newport News, Va.
Streichland, Chas. Orch. (Century) Baltimore.
Stickney, Joe (Century) Baltimore.
Troy (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Turland, Joe (Century) Baltimore; (State) Boston 2-8.
Tudo Twins (Stanley) Philadelphia.
Trespass, Marguerite (Omaha, Neb., Jan. 6.
Dilling, Mildred (Playhouse) Chicago Jan. 2.
Draper, Ruth; Rockville Center, N. Y., Jan. 4.
Stetefeld, Mass. 7.
English Singers (Pal.) River, Mass., Jan. 2.
Wainwright, D. C. 8.
Gabriellitch, Ossip; New Haven, Conn., Jan. 5.
Glennin, Dorothea; (Carnegie Hall) New York 30.
Hess, Myra; Glasgow, Scotland, Jan. 4.
Homer, Louise; Rochester, N. Y., Jan. 6.
Johnson, Edward; Pittsburgh, Jan. 4.
Kortovak, Hops; (Avalon Hall) New York 2.
Leut, Sylvia; Philadelphia Jan. 4; Providence, R. I., Jan. 5.
Lewis, Mary; Pittsburgh, Jan. 4.
McQuash, Allen; Toronto, Can., 20.
Maxwell, Margery; Worcester, Mass., Jan. 4.
Mills, Walter; New York, 20.
Molius, Lucille; Detroit 29-30; Danbury, Conn., Jan. 8.
Mordkin, Mikhail & Ballet; Boston, Tex., 30.
Munie, Gladys; Louisville, Ky., Jan. 6.
Nagels, Chas.; Boston Jan. 5; New York 7.
New York Philharmonic Orch.; Pittsburgh Jan. 7-8.
Norvas, Guisomar; (Orch. Hall) Chicago Jan. 4.
Louis 6.
Orloff, Nicolai; Washington 5; New York 6.
New Rochelle, N. Y., 7.
Reisenberg, Naida; (Avalon Hall) New York 4.
Reisenberg, Chas.; Dallas, Tex., Jan. 2.
San Carlo Opera Co.; Coral Gables, Fla., Jan. 2-5.
Spalding, Albert (Carnegie Hall) New York Jan. 2; Boston 3; St. Paul 6.

St. Denis, Ruth & Co.; Denver, Col., 6.
Thomas, John Charles; (Orch. Hall) Chicago Jan. 4.
Tipica Orch. of Mexico; Kansas City 1.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL

Able's Irish Rose; Memphis, Tenn., 27-Jan. 1.
Able's Irish Rose; (Adolph) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 2.
Arliss, George; (Hillmore) Los Angeles 27-Jan. 8.
Artists & Models; (Chestnut St.) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Blossom Time; (Shubert) Cincinnati 27-Jan. 1.
(Casa) Detroit 2-8.
Blossom Time; (Carran) San Francisco 27-Jan. 1.
Carroll, Earl, Vanities (Alvin) Pittsburgh 27-Jan. 1; (Auditorium) Baltimore 2-8.
Castles in the Air; (Auditorium) Baltimore 27-Jan. 1.
Cecanans, The; (Amer.) St. Louis 27-Jan. 1.
Cradle Snatchers; (Hess) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Cris's Wife; (Orch. Hall) Chicago 27-Jan. 1.
Daisies Won't Tell; (Plymouth) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Dunover Affair; (Pitt) Pittsburgh 27-Jan. 1.
Dumbells; (Royal Alexandra) Toronto, Can., 27-Jan. 1.
Fanny; (Broad) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Faverham, William, Co.; (Princess) Toronto, Can., 27-Jan. 1.
Fire, Mrs.; (Delancey) Washington 27-Jan. 1.
(Louis) Rochester, N. Y., 2-5; (Wisting) Syracuse 6-8.
Green Hat; Selma, Ala., 29; Pennsylvania, Fla., 29; Mobile, Ala., Jan. 1; (Tulane) New Orleans, La., 2-8.
Green Hat; (Hess) Cleveland 27-Jan. 8.
Greenwich Village Polles; (Shubert Rialto) St. Louis 27-Jan. 1; Columbia, O., 2-3; (Auditorium) Toledo 6-8.
Jan. Singer; (Davidson) Milwaukee 27-Jan. 1; (Shubert) Kansas City 2-8.
July Ethiopeans, Geo. Chandler, mgr.; (Natl.) Wilmington, Del., 30-Jan. 1.
Johnson, Al; (Shubert) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Just Life; (Walton) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Karl, Oscar; (Cumberland) Md., 29; Lancaster, Pa., 30; Harrisburg 31-Jan. 1; Reading 2; York 4; Wilkes-Barre 5-6; Scranton 2-8.
Laff That Off; (English) Indianapolis, Ind., 27-29; (Brown) Louisville, Ky., 29-Jan. 1; Toledo, O., 2-8.
Lander, Sir Harry; (Alvin) Pittsburgh 2-8.
LeMaire's Affairs; (Nixon) Pittsburgh 27-Jan. 1.
Love in a Mist; (Natl.) Washington 27-Jan. 1.
Mamie, Billy, Co.; (Congress) Chicago 29-Jan. 1; Aurora 2; (Rialto) Elgin 2-5.
Mantel, Robt. B., & Genevieve Hamper Co.; Birmingham, Ala., 27-Jan. 1; Albany 2; Florence 4; Columbia, Tenn., 5; Hopkinsville, Ky., 6; Charleston, W. Va., 8.
Mayfair; (Garrick) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Miracle, The; San Francisco 27-Jan. 15.
Night in Paris; (Majestic) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Pigs; Rochester, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1; Washington, D. C., 2-8.
Princess Flavia; (The) Buffalo 27-Jan. 1.
Queen High; (Wibler) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Rio Rita; (Colonial) Boston 27-Jan. 8.
Rose-Marie; (Princess) Montreal, Can., 27-Jan. 1.
Rose-Marie; (Shubert) Kansas City 27-Jan. 1.
Sensations of 1927, Chas. George, mgr.; (Shubert) Wis., 29-31; Manometon, Mich., Jan. 1-2; Marquette 3; Calumet 4; Hancock 5; Ishpeming 6; Escanaba 7.
Shufflin' Sam From Alabama (Eastern), Geo. L. Barton, mgr.; Homestead, Pa., 29; (Grand) Canton, O., 30-Jan. 1; Akron 2; New Philadelphia 3; Wheeling, W. Va., 4; Beaver Falls, Pa., New Kensington 6-9.
Shufflin' Sam From Alabama (Western), Geo. L. Gardner, mgr.; (Star) Shreveport, La., 27-Jan. 1; (Lyric) New Orleans 2-8.
Song of the Flame; (Shubert) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Stacy, Miss. Cecile; (Boston O. H.) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Student Prince; (Tulane) New Orleans 27-Jan. 1; Natchez, Miss., 3; Vicksburg 4; Jackson 5; Meridian 6; Columbus 7; Greenville 8.
Student Prince; (Lyric) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
Stony; (Forest) Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
They Know What They Wanted; (Columbia) San Francisco 27-Jan. 1.
Tommy; (Park) Boston 27-Jan. 1.
Vagabond King; (Poll) Washington 27-Jan. 1; Baltimore 2-8.
White's, George, Scandals (7th Edition), Howard Ingram, mgr.; West Park Beach, Fla., 27; Miami 29-Jan. 1.
Woman Disputed, The; (Garrick) Detroit 27-Jan. 1.
(Hartman) Columbus 2-8.
Yours Truly; Detroit 28-Jan. 8.

BURLESQUE COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

Around the World; (Gayety) Rochester, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1; (Temple) Syracuse, N. Y., 2-3; (Colonial) Utica 6-8.
Alma of the South Seas; Open week 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) St. Louis 2-8.
Battling Butler; (Hartig & Seaman) New York 27-Jan. 1; (Mines) Bronx New York 3-8.
Big Sensation; (Casino) Boston 27-Jan. 1; (Pitt) Worcester 2-8.
Broadway Revue; (Columbia) New York 27-Jan. 1; (Empire) Brooklyn 2-8.
Bringing Up Father; (Gayety) Buffalo 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) Rochester 2-8.
Cooper, Humble; (Empire) Cleveland 27-Jan. 1; (Empire) Toledo 2-8.
Daley's, Lena, Show; (Mines) Bronx New York 27-Jan. 1; (Casino) Brooklyn 2-8.
4-11-4; (Star & Garter) Chicago 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) Detroit 2-8.
Gerrils, Two; (Empire) Newark, N. J., 27-Jan. 1; (Hartig & Seaman) New York 2-8.
Kango; Open week 27-Jan. 1; (Capitol) Albany 6-8.
Kosher Kitty Kat; (Lyric) Dayton, O., 27-Jan. 1; (Olympic) Cincinnati 2-8.
Lucky Sambo; (Hyperion) New Haven, Conn., 27-Jan. 1; (Casino) Philadelphia 2-8.
Let's Go; (Park) Bridgeport, Conn., 30-Jan. 1; (Hyperion) New Haven 2-8.
Linda, Dave; (Gayety) Washington 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) Pittsburgh 2-8.

Merry Whirl (Gayety) Toronto 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) Buffalo 3-8.

Friendship of 1927 (Grand Opera, O., 27-Jan. 1; (Empire) Cleveland 3-8.

Enlita & Kisses (Savoy) Syracuse, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1; (Gayety) Montreal 3-8.

MINSTRELS
Coburn's, J. A.; Wilmington, N. C., 29; Mar-
ton, S. C., 30; Florence, 31; Sumter Jan. 1.

BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS
Colonial Club Orch. Geo. B. Bearick, mgr.;
Shelton, Cal., 27-Jan. 1.

REPERTOIRE
Chicago Stock Co., Chas. H. Roskam, mgr.;
(Opperm) York, Pa., 27-Jan. 1; (Oceana)

MISCELLANEOUS
Becker, Wm. F. Jr., Magician; Emmetsburg,
la., 27-Jan. 1.

MUTUAL CIRCUIT

Bathing Beauties (Gayety) Louisville 27-Jan.
1; (Mutual) Indianapolis 3-8.

Knitting Katties (Troceaders) Philadelphia 27-
Jan. 1; (Gayety) Baltimore 3-8.

ROUTE NO. 1 - Acrostown, Pa., Monday;
Shamokin, Tuesday; Williamsport, Wednes-
day; York, Thursday; Reading, Friday

TABLOIDS

Burns & Paden's Cuts Little Devils, Chas. V.
Turner, mgr.; (Regent) Monticome, Mich., 27-
Jan. 1.

WINTER-QUARTERS LIST

Owners and managers of shows not represented in this list will confer a favor by
sending The Billboard the address of their winter quarters. Use blank below for that
purpose.

CIRCUSES AND WILD WEST SHOWS
Atterbury & Michty Hooge Trained Animal
Circus, E. L. Atterbury, mgr.; Dakota City,
Neb.

All-American Shows, Nip Batts, mgr.; Me-
Alexander, Okla.

Dawley, C. B. Amusements, C. B. Dawley,
mgr.; Bath, N. Y. (Office address, E. R. 2.

Yler Greater Shows, Louis Iler, mgr.; Chap-
man, Kan.

Where Are You Wintering?

Kindly give the information on this blank and mail to The Billboard, Cincinnati,
O., for publication in our Winter-Quarters List:

Name of Show
Name of Prop. or Mgr.
Description of Show
Address of Winter Quarters
(Give address of offices here if you have any)

(Continued on page 65)

Circus and Side Show

Conducted by CHAS. WIRTH—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

J. W. Swafford To Pilot The Downie Bros. Circus

One of the best-known old-time Eastern agents, J. W. Swafford, has been engaged by Andrew Downie to pilot the Downie Bros. Circus for the 1927 season. Mr. Swafford has, for many years, been ahead of tent and hall shows thru the East. For the last few years during the summer season he has had the Swafford Players in New England. He will assume his new duties the early part of the year.

The rest of the advance department is nearly all engaged. George E. Caron will be back again as manager of advertising trucks. There will be four cars ahead, with 15 men. Three billposting trucks will be used, which are now in the paint shop at Havre de Grace, Md., for the final touches of gold leaf and wild animal pictures. In addition to the three trucks the general agent travels in a machine about six weeks ahead of the show.

Caron has signed several members of his 1926 billposting crew, including Harry Frazer and the Rosenheim Brothers.

The Downie Bros. Circus has nine stands of special paper from the printing houses at this writing and several more are in the making. It is Mr. Downie's intention to have all special paper this season, using no stock circus printing at all.

Austin C. King Will Manage Barnes' Circus Side Show

Austin C. King has been re-engaged for the A. G. Barnes Circus for the coming season and will be in charge of the side show. Last season he was assistant kid show manager. King has been with the Barnes show for seven years and during that time has been principal and producing clown, bannerman, 24-hour man and advance press agent. He will have some acts working in presentations on the West Coast this winter.

New Business Agent Named For St. Louis Billposters

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 26.—At a meeting of the Billposters' Local for this district, held recently, Joseph Danecek was elected business agent, replacing Edward Sachs. A change in the ruling affecting the theaters has been made. Heretofore it was necessary for the houses to have a billposter on their payroll in order to have their paper handled, but according to the new ruling this is no longer necessary. The houses may put on a man permanently or employ one on a temporary or "piece" basis, or give their entire billposting work to one of the local billposting concerns. This ruling was brought about to aid in finding employment for the many billposters in good standing who were staying in town.

Clarkonians Will Not Be With R.-B. Circus Next Year

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Edward Clark, of the Clarkonians, gymnasts, with the Ringling and Barnum & Bailey circuses for the past 25 years, has informed *The Billboard* that the members of the troupe have decided to take a rest and will not be one of the features with the big show next season. Mrs. Edward Clark, sister of "Foodies" Hanneford, will appear with her brother in *The Circus Procession* when it opens in New York next March. Charles Clark, a member of the Clarkonians, will spend some time with his wife and children at their home in Madison, Wis. Percy Clark, the equestrian, will continue.

Emery Back in the Fold

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 22.—Edward Emery, who has not done any trouping for eight years, will be superintendent of elephants with the Orton Bros. Circus the coming season. He had charge of the elephants on the Yankee Robinson Show before the war, and also was with the 101 Ranch Wild West Show, under the direction of Miller & Arlington.



—Photo, W. H. Walton, Homestead. Pa. HARRISON RILEY, superintendent of reserved seat tickets with the Sells-Floto Circus the past season.

London Hippodrome Circus Under Harvey's Management

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—R. M. Harvey, head of the London Hippodrome Circus, Inc., has announced there has been no change of title or ownership in the organization, and that it will open the season January 10 at Memphis, and continue its bookings under his management. George L. Meyers, last season with the Sells-Floto Circus, is now in St. Louis directing the ballet for the circus. Frank Braden, recently general press representative for the 101 Ranch Wild West Show, will be in charge of publicity for the St. Louis engagement of the Harvey organization, which will open January 17. He will be there January 5.

Mr. Harvey declares the show will be one of the greatest efforts in this line that has ever been attempted, and that he is positive it will be a financial success beyond the imagination of himself and all interested.

So certain is he of its success that he is already planning for the 1927-'28 season.

With Omer J. Kenyon, of Des Moines, Ia., Mr. Harvey expects to operate also a fair booking agency to be conducted along original lines.

Pacheco Circus in Santiago

The Gran Circo Hermanos Pacheco, which opened at Santiago, Chile, S. A., October 21, and remained there through November, did fine business, writes Rosalie Pacheco. It is possible the show will be taken to Argentine. With the circus are Martes, Miercoles and Jusuey; Pacheco Family (Bobby, Delfin and Rosalie); Los Delphinos, Castro, Hodor Trospe, Miss Rosalie, Sierra Saw, La-Farruquita, Tanke and Titonin, Abus Hans, Cantarito and Ranito, Chaparrito, Los Almaraz, Los Hermanos Cruz and Hnos. Arrico.

The Engessers in Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 22.—Mr. and Mrs. George E. Engesser arrived here this week, planning to be here for the Heart of America Showman's Club's Christmas tree Christmas night and the seventh annual banquet and ball New Year's Eve, leaving here about January 3 for their home in St. Peter, Minn., where their daughter attends school. Mr. Engesser is the owner-manager of Zellmer Bros. Circus, said to be one of the finest motorized circuses in America.

Betty Retlaw Recovers

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Betty Retlaw, who was seriously injured in a fall from her apparatus while doing her free act last fall at the Frederick (Md.) Fair, has been discharged from the Irvington (N. J.) Hospital and has returned to her home in Hillsdale, N. J.

Santos & Artigas Playing To Good Business in Havana

HAVANA, Cuba, Dec. 21.—Santos & Artigas, despite general depression here, which affects the amusement business, are having generally good houses. Their bill consists of 12 numbers in two parts, with a 20-minute intermission, while the nets are being stretched for the opening of the second act, the Flying Codonas, aerialists.

The show opens with Christian Fleuret, French balancing act. Next is Strathmore, from Holland, on a bicycle; balances two heavy chairs in his teeth while riding around the stage, and another with five chairs in his teeth, swinging them aloft and down. Next are Les Cardenals, in tumbling and general acrobatic work. Prof. Walthie and his dogs perform the usual dog tricks.

Planet has a novelty act and is assisted by a woman. Comes in fully dressed, then undresses on stage; woman suspends pole by one hand on which man performs, poses and does his disrobing act. Later the man juggles with a heavy ship anchor, the climax being a shot from a cannon on the stage in view of the audience and from which a shell is apparently thrown, the man catching this in his hands. He dresses in an aviator's costume to receive the shell, with his face and head protected.

The second half opens with the Donadas aerial act. They do twists and somersaults. Those Kids have a posing and acrobatic act. Christian Christensen has a pedal-running machine act, with a man and two girls, who compete. Lio Hot Trench is a Chinese act, with three girls and two men. They do knife throwing, etc. Les Sambers is a Spanish strongman act. Show 'closes with the Bon tamer, Herman Weedam, and his five lions, and is the only real circus act in the show, the rest being vaudeville turns. There are the usual clowns and a circus band.

Picked Up in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Feron Williams has gone to Memphis with the other five men comprising the advertising brigade of Harvey's London Hippodrome Circus. Reports here are to effect that Christy Bros. Circus will have 25 cars next season. Permanent quarters have been secured at Houston, Tex.

Dr. Edmund Heller, assistant curator of the Field Museum, is reported on his way back from the Belgian Congo with about 1,000 specimens of mammals for the museum. There are among the trophies gorilla, chimpanzee, buffaloes and elephants. Dr. Heller was a member of the Roosevelt party on the African hunt in 1909-'10.

Jos. Miller To Visit New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Col. Joseph Miller, of Miller Bros. 191 Ranch Wild West, expects to pay New York a visit during the holidays, accompanied by his wife. C. W. Finney, general agent of the show, will probably accompany Mr. Miller.

Doc Waddell Goes to Memphis

Doc Waddell, press representative, who has been in Columbus, O., since the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus closed its season, left last week for Memphis, Tenn., to join R. M. Harvey's London Hippodrome Circus. En route to the Southern city he stopped off in Cincinnati and paid a call at *The Billboard* offices.

Thompson's Act in Vaudeville

CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—Harry Thompson, formerly of the Ringling Bros. Circus, has been playing vaudeville engagements in Chicago and territory with his Barnyard Circus. The act was a feature of Medinah Temple's Shrine Ceremonial bill last week. A Pathe weekly release, just out, shows one of the pigs making an 18-foot dive, which indicates the remarkable training of the animal. There are five pigs, two goats and one goose in the act. Mrs. Thompson went to New York for a visit during the holidays.

Lew Graham Improving

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Lew Graham, announcer with the Ringling-Barnum Circus, who was compelled to leave the show last summer because of heart trouble, is improving under the care of Mrs. Graham, who says her husband will be able to resume work when the big show opens in Madison Square Garden next March.

At Downie Bros.' Quarters

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md., Dec. 22.—Hy Nichols, painter and decorator, has finished work on the calliope and advance trucks. Pete Hiner and Floyd Card are in the carpenter shop repairing cages and truck bodies before they are sent to the paint shop.

Chas. Williams and family are enjoying the home fireside at Eldon, Ia. Jim Goodwin and wife are spending the winter in Denver. Billy Faust and wife are in Rochester, N. Y., after playing a few indoor dates.

Word has been received in quarters that Jack Cronke's mother died in Ann Arbor, Mich., recently. Andrew Downie is spending Christmas at home, Medina, N. Y., and will return to Havre de Grace after the holidays. Peck Amsteden, legal adjuster, is hunting and fishing in Florida.

New animals are arriving at quarters every day. The latest additions are eight Piney Ridge Rooters (Arkansas razorback hogs), which are being broken and will be worked by Bob Johnson.

Raymond (Brigham) Young, woodworker with the Downie Show, is spending a few weeks at his home in Cherry Valley, Ark. G. E. Wilson, dog and pony trainer, has been under the weather the last few days.

W. H. Stokes has a mixed group now well broken, including a lion, leopard, goat, lamb and collie dog. The show will have three elephant acts, two singles with elephant, dog and pony, and the big act with three elephants.

Bill Bowen has settled here for the winter. Wm. W. Grant, contortionist, is enjoying the winter at his home in Ellwood City, Pa.

L. C. Holt and Chas. Griswold, members of clown alley, are doing well with their vaudeville show, playing small towns in Maryland and Delaware. They have a small band for a ballyhoo and put on a pleasing performance.

I. A. B. P. & B., Local No. 5

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—The following officers have been elected for the coming year: O. Lindholm, president; Frank Dalley, vice-president; Walter Gazzola, financial secretary; Harry Smith, recording secretary; Sam Lowenstein, treasurer; Joseph Danecek, business agent; George Denton, sergeant-at-arms; Bonnie Miller, Frank Smith and Walter Dix, trustees; Walter Gazzola and Leroy Cluse, delegates to the central body.

Kid Koster is here arranging the billing for Glee and Foke, which opens at the Gayety Theater December 25. E. C. (Pat) Shuler, after a three weeks' stay in the Barnes Hospital, is up and around again. Harry Cook, of Kirkwood, Mo., attended the last meeting.

Tex Gordon, veteran circus billposter, last season on the No. 1 car of the Sparks Circus, is in Oklahoma City.

A Correction

In the advertisement of the Pneumatic Calliope Company, 345 Market street, Newark, N. J., which appeared in the Christmas number, the firm name was misspelled. It was Pneumatic, whereas it should have been Pneumatic.

Louis Chase in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—Louis Chase, formerly of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Show, and later with the Lee Bros. Circus, is in Chicago, at the Sherman.

With the Circus Fans

By **KARL KAE KNECHT**
Secy.-Treas. C. F. A.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 22.—With the white-ground season rather than the white-top season here, members of the Fans are still giving thought to the circus, for joy mail is as heavy as during the summer. Christmas cards from members began to pour in a week ago.

HOW DID YOU LIKE the Fans' greeting? It was suggested by President King and one went to every member, as well as to department heads and others on all circuses, likewise to others who are interested in us and with whom we have something in common.

THE ROCKFORD (ILL.) REGISTER-GAZETTE, of which Lieut.-Governor Fred Sterling, of Illinois, is publisher, recently carried an editorial on the death of Charles Ringling. The late circus king and Mr. Sterling were the closest of friends. The Evansville (Ind.) Courier also published an editorial on Mr. Ringling.

COPIES OF CITY ordinances, regulating circuses, have been received from State Chairman Wagner, of Des Moines, Ia.; that of Rocky Mount, N. C., from H. D. Baugh, and J. V. Chloupek, of Oakland, Calif., sent a package of ordinances from many California towns, and promises more. John Gibson, of Detroit, sent a copy of that city's municipal manual. Chas. Foss, of Laconia, N. H., and Vice-President Bob Johnson, of Concord, N. H., have sent the information for their cities.

I HAVE HAD a most interesting letter from Dr. Speers, our member at 270 13th street, Santa Monica, Calif., who has returned from an 11 months' trip abroad. In the lingo of the circus he told of his trip and of things as he found them on his return home.

DIRECTOR GEORGE DUFFY and William T. Linney, State chairman of New York, have made reservations at the West Baden (Ind.) Springs Hotel for our convention in April.

WALTER DRIVER, of the Driver Bros. Tent Company, Chicago, will attend the banquet and ball of the Heart of America Showmen's Club, at Kansas City, on New Year's Eve. He will also represent the Fans while there.

MEMBER JOE COOK, comedian of Earl Carroll's Vaudeville, spent Sunday in Evansville, his home town, recently.

AN INTERESTING BOOK that many members will want is to be issued by Vernon Reaver, of 1611 East 13th street, Des Moines, Ia. It is to be a complete route book of the past five seasons, including 1924, and it will show every town including 3,000 or more population, with every circus listed playing there in that period.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you all, and as President King says, may you "turn away" all troubles in 1927.

A NOTE OF SADNESS has entered upon our holiday joys in the announcement of the death of our vice-president, Nils P. Walters, of Helena, Mont. This is the second of our members to make the final close of "their season" here on earth. Hon. W. W. Workman, of Richmond, Va., having been the first. Nils Walters was a splendid man and a well-known personage in his State, city and among many show people of all branches. He always entertained many of the distinguished visitors to his town and State. He was the head of the Walters Detective Agency, prominent in State politics, interested in ranches, stock raising, mines and banks. His Royal Order of Jesters was well known the country over. He was born in Onslunda, Sweden, 61 years ago. Since 1886 he represented the Pinkertons in his section. He was a 3rd degree Mason. His genial self and his famous hospitality will be missed and the Fans have lost a great and valuable member. To his daughter, Mrs. Scheaffer, of Helena, and a son in California we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

ADD TO OUR roster member No. 269, Eugene W. Smith, Jr., 5050 Washington boulevard, Chicago, salesman for the Hoagland & Hardy Molders' Sand Company.



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To All Circus Managers

Would it not be advantageous to arrange for New 70-Ft. Cars now so you can get them promptly?



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3-RING WILD ANIMAL CIRCUS

THE LARGEST MOTOR CIRCUS IN THE WORLD, WANTS FOR SEASON 1927, CIRCUS ACTS

Of all kinds, especially good NOVELTY ACTS that can be featured. Performers with own cars and sleeping accommodations given preference. 300-Show Manager, Boss Prop., Man to handle Cook House, first-class Camp Cook, two more Billposters. Those driving trucks preferred. FOX HALL—Two new Fordson Tractors, rubber tires, first-class condition, three Animal Cages, open both sides. A large tent. WANTED TO BUY—Two small Messing High School Horses. Address DOWNIE BROS., Haver de Grace, Maryland.

The Circus in Central Europe

The circus business in Central Europe is of quite respectable magnitude. In Germany alone about 1,000 performers in summer time earn their living tenting and in the sawdust ring.

An interesting description of these enterprises was given in the recent special circus number of *Das Progress*.

In this article we are told that Germany has quite a number of tented enterprises, for there are, besides the big cities, hundreds of good-sized towns where a variety theater, a vaudeville house, or a music hall cannot be made to pay all the year around, but where the amusement hankering of the populace is, in a sense, "hoarded up" and given vent to once or twice a year, in summer time, when a circus strikes the town. And if the show is a good one, well reputed, it can stay from three days to a week, for beside the townspeople, the farmers and peasants from the surrounding country will also come in and help to fill the tent.

These circuses are not such huge affairs as the Ringling-Barnum & Bailey show in America, yet some of the larger ones, like Krone or Sarraani or Strabberger or Henny are of quite respectable size, even when compared with their American rivals, while many others, like Blumensfeld or Corty-Althoff or Barum-Kreiser or Hagenbeck, are also not only capacious but well stocked with wild animals, horses, and give performances in one ring, with a large number of feature acts of prime quality, among them a number of equestrian acts, wild animal acts, and similar real circus acts generally belonging to the management direct.

Most of these shows take pride in their stables, and it is nothing unusual to find 50, 60 or even more horses with one of these one-ring circuses. They are able to run liberty horses in squads of 16, 12, eight or six, splendidly matched, into the ring and a well trained invariably

there are from four to a half-dozen high-school horses.

Shows like Krone, Hagenbeck and Kreiser, we are told, make a specialty of wild beast acts, having groups of from eight to 20 or more lions, tigers, Polar and brown bears, and herds of from six to 20 elephants.

The biggest wild animal act extant is Capt. Alfred Schneider's lion act, which, as will be recalled, was one of the attractions at the last Olympia Circus of London. Captain Schneider has no fewer than 65 lions in his act.

The biggest tent show in Germany is the Circus Krone.

Krone was the first—since Barnum & Bailey's European trip a quarter of a century ago—to try a circus with more than one ring, and has made a success, financially and otherwise, with his three rings and two stages, all of which are cleared away toward the end of the program to convert the whole center into an arena for chariot races, games on horseback and similar feats. Krone has also a fine menagerie, open to the public all day, a veritable zoological garden.

Sarraani, second in rank, returned six months ago from a two years' tour of South America, where he is said to have lost a good many of his animals. He makes up this summer by showing ethnological exhibits, negro tribes, American Indians, Arabs, Hindus, Chinese and other exotic aborigines.

Nearly all traveling circuses, big or little, have troupes of Japanese jugglers, Chinese balancers, Arab tumblers. These are particularly useful for publicity purposes. In small towns they parade the streets in native costumes, arousing curiosity.

Some of our circuses have, in the last few years, increased their automobile parks, and some travel entirely by motor power, making themselves independent of the railroads. Traveling by motor is of-

ten quicker, or at least more expedient, for where the circus lot is not on or near a railway siding all the work of transporting everything to and from the lot, also loading and unloading the train, is saved. Moreover, it is not necessary to wait until the whole show is stowed away on the train. Every motor car can start on its way across country as soon as its own load is ready, and in the same way the unpacking and building up can begin and continue successively as the various cars arrive.

A specialty in Germany is the "Arens", of which there are quite a few. These are played without a tent in the open air. A stage without scenery, a big platform with trappings for trapezes, bars, swinging rings, tight ropes, slack wires, etc., is erected. Before it a number of benches are put for reserved seats and sold at a reasonable price. All the rest of the public can attend free of charge, but they must stand up. As the artists finish their acts, they pass among the crowd with collection boxes. Of the contents the performers—who are paid a regular salary—retain a small percentage, the rest goes to the proprietor. These shows often do as well, sometimes even better than, as the small tent circuses. The fact that the spectator does not have to give anything if he does not like the show seems to have some attractive power, and, besides, it also forces the proprietor to give a good show, else his audience, if it feels bored, will dwindle away.—*The Performer*.

Concerning R.-B. And Other Showfolk

Just heard from Everett Hart and Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Silbon, who are on their trip to California via all "wet ports", south and west. In their communication they declared they were having the time of their young lives at Havana.

Saw Al White, Frank McStay, Billy Hart, Fred Bradna, Mommus Grady, Limy Murphy, May Wirth, Philip, Freddie Freeman, George Hartell, the Clarksons, John Slater, Jimmy Spriggs and Major at Philadelphia while I was looking over the Seagull.

At Cleveland I ran into the young son of Eddie Martin, who told me that his uncle, Al Martin, of Tom fame, was spending the holidays at Cleveland.

Had a fine visit with Harry Strauss, burlesque proprietor and banner King, at Cleveland, and strange to relate, the next day I ran into Billy Exton, who has been some banner man himself.

George Gallagher, former general agent of McCaddon's Circus, gave me a hearty welcome at Cleveland, and in Detroit I was royally entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. "Mutt" Thompson. The Thomasons had just returned from Hot Springs and reported a fine visit. "Mutt" gave me permission to tell the world about the "civilizing" influence his wife has wielded over him since his marriage four years ago, and speaking from personal experience the writer never entered a home where good fellowship and cheer radiated more freely.

In Columbus, O., I saw Clarence Dawson.

(Continued on page 66)

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Under the Marquee

W. L. (SLIM) GRIFFIN, who was with the Christy Bros. Circus the last three seasons, has quit the road and gone into the chicken-raising business.

ED LOLLIS, who closed the season as boss hostler with Lee Bros. Circus, is breaking on the Alton R. R. between Kansas City and Slater.

THE McKEONE FAMILY, who closed the season with the John Robinson Circus, will be connected with that show again the coming season. They are located in Cincinnati, O., at 421 E. Third street.

GEORGE KELLY, for years with the white tops, is stage carpenter with the Queen High Company, playing an indefinite engagement at the Wilbur Theater, Boston.

W. J. AHEARN, canvasser with the Ringling-Barnum Circus, is engaged in the poultry business for the winter. He will be back with the white tops in the spring.

HARRY DUQUETTE, porter of the John Robinson Circus, and a World War veteran, will sail shortly for Europe and visit France, Belgium and Germany. He will be gone six weeks.

H. L. ANDREWS, who was on the John Robinson and Hagenbeck-Wallace advertising cars last season, is managing one of William F. Aldrich's troupes of Imperial Hawaiians.

THE DeKOS report a wonderful time in Los Angeles. They met George Davis, who took them over the Educational Comedy plant. They also met Olga Celeste.

JIM MARTIN writes that a new Mayor has been elected in Fall River, Mass., and an effort will be made to have the Ringling-Barnum Circus visit there the coming season. The Big Show, he says, has not played Fall River in five years.

GEORGE EDWARDS, who was with the 101 Ranch Show season of 1925 and part of 1926, and with the Sells-Floto Circus at the close of the 1926 season, is now with the John V. Ruggio Express Company, at 544 N. Clark street, Chicago.

BILL KOPLIN, clown, who has suffered two paralytic strokes in the past several years, is now in the County Infirmary, Hartwell, Cincinnati, O. His last engagement was with the Sells-Floto Circus. Letters from his friends will be appreciated.

WILLIAM JEROME FISHER, of Shelbina, Mo., who was one of the world-famous circus clowns, is now 36 years of age. He was with the Dan Rice Circus years ago, and made his great hit in singing such songs as *Blue-Eyed Mary*, *The Girl I Left Behind Me*, *Sleigh Bells* and *Sweet Mary*.

PAPE AND TURPIN finished their engagement at a department store in Baltimore last week, where they did a comedy acrobatic turn. They will work in and around Cincinnati for a few weeks and then go to Cleveland. The boys say they will work in an act with the Ringling-Barnum Circus the coming season.

G. BURKHART, who managed the Gentry Bros. Circus Side Show, was compelled to leave the show September 18 to appear in a court hearing concerning property. He has disposed of most of his property holdings in Brooklyn and Queens, N. Y. It is his intention to take to the road next season with a circus.

FRANK A. ROBERTSON, formerly with the Barnum & Bailey, Sells-Floto, Sparks and other shows, writes: "I am now a first-class 'villager' and playing at Codman Square Theater, Boston. The old trumpet still has a few high ones left in it, but you ought to see me shoot 'em with a machine-ribble. Just a warning to anybody coming this way after April."

ALBERT AND FRANCES McGEE, with the Christy Bros. Circus last season, are spending the winter at Grand Rapids, Mich. Mr. McGee left the St. Joseph Hospital at Houston, Tex., December 6, and says his leg is healing nicely, and he expects to have the cast removed about February 1. The McGees will be back with the Christy show the coming season.

C. W. (RED) SELLS, a clown and acrobat, of the Sparks Circus, recently

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made a hit with Macon (Ga.) children in a joint appearance with "Santa Claus" in the toy department of a big department store. He appeared at the Capitol Theater in Macon for two days in connection with a circus picture. Sells and his wife will remain in Macon until January 7, when they will go to Florida, where they have several dates.

DOLLY CASTLE, animal trainer, last season with the Sparks Circus, writes: "Little Jackie, a victim of infantile paralysis, and who has not walked for 10 years, will enter the Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta, Ga., shortly after Christmas, and will be under the care of Dr. Michael Hoke, of the Scottish Rite Hospital. Both limbs will be broken at the knees and ankles in order that he may wear braces more comfortably. Jackie will be very much pleased to hear from friends. He can be addressed, Jack Castle, 263 Glenn street, S. W., Atlanta, Ga."

A NUMBER OF CIRCUS BOYS are in St. Louis this winter, among them Arthur Stahlman, of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, at the Famous-Barr Department Store, and using circus methods in advertising; Earl Shipley, clown, with the H.-W. Circus, is clowning at the Barr store. George Davis is in town, and R. M. Harvey is seen there occasionally, arranging affairs for his winter show dates. George Paige, ticket seller of the Sells-Floto Circus, can be found either at the American Annex or the Shrine Temple. Doc Aldrich, of the Ringling show, is seen around the Mayfair Hotel.

"OLD BILL", the famous Indian armored rhinoceros, which spent 19 years with the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circuses, and which died while the Big Show was at Ft. Worth, Tex., last fall, is to be placed in the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale. The Museum authorities plan to place on exhibition "Fatima", hippopotamus, which accompanied "Old Bill" around the country on his many trips, and which died not long after the former. "Old Bill" was

22 years of age, weighed 2,500 pounds, and was considered one of the finest specimens in existence.

HENRY HOWARD, known as "The Hamburger King", last season with several outdoor shows, and Willard C. Morgan, late of the Sparks Circus, have a freak animal show, the Georgia Mystery, a hog nine months old, having six legs and weighing 150 pounds. They have built a platform body, mounted on a truck chassis, and will leave Statesboro, Ga., January 1, to play fair dates in Florida, following which they will return to Statesboro. The wives of Howard and Morgan will be with them. Morgan and wife will return to the white tops when the season opens.

MRS. MARY WILLIAMS, of Omaha, Neb., has a life-time pass to the Barnum & Bailey organization for herself, her husband and her family, because she saved 75 people in the show from death in a fire in York, Pa., 43 years ago. The pass was written, signed and acknowledged before a notary by James A. Bailey. It says Mrs. Williams saved the lives of 75 Barnum & Bailey performers and that of Mr. Bailey himself, when a hotel, the Morter House, caught fire. Mrs. Williams ran the hotel elevator through the flames and carried the performers to safety. The pass is on heavy bond paper and written with ink. After the death of Mr. Bailey the new owners of the show kept on honoring the pass. Mrs. Williams is 77 years of age.

FOREPAUGH WHITE admits a list of circus press agents, past and present, viz.: Charles Gayler, A. O. Starr, Harry Cordova, Matt Leland, Charles H. Day, James B. McIntosh, H. D. DeBelle, W. H. Hough, Harry Evaris, C. M. Pratt, W. S. Crum, C. W. Kidder, F. H. Rose, J. W. Hamilton, W. W. Durand, A. J. Guilford, R. S. Thomas, Frank J. Pilling, Fred Lawrence, Sam Day, J. R. Boyd, W. C. Scott, J. A. Daves, O. W. Daves, William Andrews, J. A. Knapp, Ed Cooke, James H. Kelly,

J. C. Boyd, W. C. Boyd, R. F. (Tody) Hamilton, Charles Ringling, Pete Sells, Warren A. Patrick, Frank V. Lemen, H. E. (Punch) Wheeler, Major J. M. Burke, Louis E. Cooke, C. L. Dean, J. Rial, Dexter W. Fellows, H. Watkins, Otto Floto, Courtney Ryley Cooper, Frank Braden, Roland Butler, Townsend Walsh, Lester Thompson, Edwin P. Norwood, Charles Bernard, Fletcher Smith, Harry Mack, Eddie Jackson, Floyd King, Walter D. Nealand, Skinny Dawson, William D. Coxey, Bruce Chesterman, William Lester and R. B. Dean.

AN OLDTIMER WRITES — "Back Leary in the Christmas issue of *The Billboard* asks 'who remembers when James O'Rourke had the bulls with the Harris Nickel-Plate Shows; also when Ernest DeEpa leaped with the Cole Bros. Show?' James O'Rourke or 'Jim the Bum', as he was called, had charge of the lions and the elephant called 'Gypsy' for several seasons with the Harris show, and in the late fall of 1903 was killed by 'Gypsy' in Valdosta, Ga., just after the night performance, the closing stand of the season. The show went into quarters at the fairgrounds. Bill Mincer also was hurt by the elephant shortly after she had killed Jim. With the show at the time were C. C. Wilson, manager; Uncle Dan Costello, equestrian director; Indiana Fatty, boss canvasser; performers—Ed and Maude Millette, double traps and headbalancing; Little Ira, clown whistler; Orton Family, riding wire, double traps; Pete Jenkins; Billy McLoose, rider; Ernest Mooney, double somersault leaper; Fatty Shea and Bill Mincer, clowns; Harry Armstrong, Sr., played cornet in the band, and with his family did Swiss bell ringing in the concert. Whiffle, Big Lou White, Arkansas Slim and Uncle Bob Terry also were with the show. Ernest DeEpa was principal double somersault leaper with the Sells & Downs Show, and remained with it when it went out under the name of the Cole Bros. Show. With the show were Joe Berris, Mike Rooney, Winslow, Scharr Troupe, Pacheco Family, Aerial Shaws, Emory Goyt and wife, Bill Dutton, George Whitby, the Racketta Bros. and others. Later DeEpa was with the Mighty Haug R. R. Show. He was the principal leaper and had a five-people casting act. Met him in Erie, Pa., last year and saw him do ground leaps."

Concerning R.-B. And Other Showfolk

(Continued from page 65)

son, who is employed at his old-time position of cigar salesman for the holidays. Saw Nick Albanese several times, and his cousin, Nick Francisco. Had a nice visit with Charley Bragg, who is managing the Lyceum, and renewed old friendships with John and Lena Shannon. While in camp at Celina reservoir I talked on the phone with Roy De Haven and he was coming over to see me, but the roads were too bad for flivvering. Mrs. Shannon and Ethel Dora had just returned from the Showmen's League Convention. At Washington, D. C. saw Joe Ennis, Jr., and Arthur Houghton, boys well known on the bill cars. Billy Driver writes of a big catch daily at Safety Harbor. He has as a playmate Uncle Hiram Birdseed. Had a nice visit with Marshall King at Alexandria and expect to see him on my way east. Just heard that Bob Courtney was wearing some very loud ties at the Showmen's Convention in Chicago.

Have learned that Leo Haggarty is at Los Angeles. Harry Overton, Dick Jeffers, Fred Faerber and Sweeney were seen at Hot Springs, as well as Crawford, who worked for Clyde Ingalls last season. Carl Hathaway is making his yearly visit to the Hoosier State and I expect he and Roy Feltus will spend many an hour talking over "Do You Remember When?"

George Brown, fast banner puller, and wife were recent guests of Clarence and Kitty Dawson at Columbus, O. If you go to London, O., this time of year you will find Tony Ballenger busy with either his radio or his car, at least that was my experience. Dr. Harry Chapman, 30 years young, is still going strong in Columbus.

Col. Sam Dawson, after visiting some of the larger centers of Virginia after his season closed, is now "rusticating" in New York. I have invited him to spend the year end with me at my humble abode on Staten Island.

I take this opportunity of thanking the hundreds of readers of *The Billboard* who send me letters and of asking them to continue letters.

Vernon Weaver is in Des Moines, Ia., and don't overlook his route book. It contains a world of information, writes Stanley P. Dawson.

CHAS. G. DRIVER, Pres.



He Knows How because of 27 years' practical experience with shoes and tapemeasure.

FRED G. JOHNSON, Vice-Pres.



He Knows How because of 15 years' practical experience painting circus and carnival pictorial banners.

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Each Man an Artist in His Department.

No order too large for our facilities—none too small to receive our prompt and personal attention.

Our factory is equipped with the very latest modern new machinery, individual motors and direct lighting system on all machines. Showfolk are cordially invited to call and look over our plant.

CHAS. DRIVER SERVICE SATISFIES

The CORRAL

Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

KANSAS CITY.—Dead Shot Profer, the Orarks' rifle shot, was a caller at *The Billboard* last week and said he would like to hear from friends.

ALPINE, Tex.—The Wild Horse ranch in Culberson County, consisting of about 100,000 acres, has been sold to Dallas purchasers. The consideration announced was \$198,363.

JOSE BOHR and his musical Argentine Gauchos arrived in New York December 26. The cowboys of the Pampas all play musical instruments, including violins, guitar and bandorreones. There are four girls and four men who excel in the Argentine tango, and one in hurling the boleadoras, which takes the place of a lasso.

HACKBERRY SLIM JOHNSON writes from Pampa, Tex.: "Have been out all season with Wild West. Wintering here and sending my boys to school. I have one of the best string of bronks and hocking steers anywhere in Texas and two half-breed buffaloes that unback all the boys. Would like to hear from my old friend, Lee Ford. Regards to all Corral readers."

LAS CRUCES, N. M.—The death of William P. Gordon, 36, "Navajo Bill," occurred at his home in Deming. Gordon was known as an Indian fighter during the frontier days of the West. Born in Jefferson City, Mo., in 1830, he was a veteran of the Mexican and Civil wars, and in many of the campaigns against the Apaches in Southern New Mexico during the '30s.

PONCA CITY, Okla.—Major Gordon Lillie (Pawnee Bill) has announced that he received splendid support, not only from newspapers, but from other publications and from the various organizations as well, in his recent campaign to prevent the extermination of a buffalo herd on Antelope Island in Great Salt Lake. Major Lillie made the campaign

after receiving a letter to participate in a buffalo hunt, intended to wipe out the herd. He had the assistance also of Boy Scouts, the Izak Walton League, the American Legion, the Associated Sportsmen clubs, governors of several States, mayors of various large cities and other men of prominence. So great has been the clamor against the extermination of the herd that Major Lillie says an organization is being formed throught New England to raise funds with which to buy the herd and move it to New England as a national exhibit.

THE BUFFALO HERD, by Bert Hedleston, in *The Oklahoma City Oklahoman*:

When Pawnee Bill received a note inviting him to go
And help a gang of hunters kill
A herd of buffalo,
He read the note with tear-stained eyes

And said, "They cannot slay
This great, big herd of buffalo
In any sort of way."
So Gordon Lillie, "Pawnee Bill",
Decided he would strive
To see that all the hunters left
The animals alive.
The campaign was a grand success,
And now he plans to take
The herd to a New England park—
Away from Great Salt Lake.

G. E. HARRIS writes: "King Bros.' Rodeo is on the fairgrounds at Bradenton, Fla. Col. King has just completed a new arena and is using two canopies, one seating 1,200 and the other 2,500. These, with a set of bleachers with a capacity of 1,000, places him in a position to take care of crowds. Chief Cowboy Joe Webb has plenty of work these days, as the pasture in this part of the country is not fenced and most of the stock must be herded. Earl Beasley is slowly recovering from an injury received at the Tampa engagement and is doing his bulldogging in old-time form. Col. Leon Lemar, of the I. X. L. Ranch on the Johnny J. Jones Exposition, is spending his vacation visiting Col. Jack King, and has been assisting in building the new outfit. His help is greatly appreciated by the organization. Eddy Harnay and Tommy Cropper, our two star trick riders, will soon have a double trick. The roster of the company in-

cludes Joe Webb, chief cowboy; John Crauthers, Frank Meany, Earl Strasher, Carl Beasley, Eddie Jones, Ray Adams, Pinsky Oax, John Pheasant, Texas Slim, Shlone Lipscomb, cowboys; Alice Roberts, Pauline Lorenza and Ethel Bear, cowgirls. The trick riders are Eddy Harnay, Tommy Cropper, Joe Webb, Hazel Bills, Mary Webb and Maud Bloom. Billie King is busy training her horse, Silver, to jump a loaded automobile."

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.—"To the present generation of Australians," according to Scerpones, "the North American Indian is almost an unknown quantity. Readers of fiction have revealed in the doings of American cowboys, scouts and their natural enemy, the Red men, but very few, apart from those privileged to world travel, have seen any members of this fast-vanishing race, prior to the advent in this city of the small band of Indians now engaged by Paramount for an Australian season. Oldtimers will probably remember Dr. Carver's Wild America, which pitched its tepees, tents and other paraphernalia in Moore Park. The area was enclosed by a seven or eight-foot galvanized-iron fence, and a goodly portion of the area was surrounded by seating accommodation which extended 30 feet above the fence, so that those who were not privileged to see the show could gaze upon the vast audiences which supported the entertainment. And it was a real show! Thirty-nine Indian braves, one squaw and two papposes. By a strange coincidence, the company at the Prince Edward includes but one woman and her two children.

The Carver show also had a considerable number of American and Mexican cowboys, and these were augmented by several Australian boundary riders who, in feats of horsemanship, were even superior to the others—who rode in saddles from which it was almost impossible to fall off. At the same time, there were some of the visitors who were wonderful riders, and whose feats, while traveling at a very fast rate, were amazing. The Indians, however, were the big noise in more ways than one. They embraced several tribes including, if we remember rightly, Sioux, Cheyenne, Crows and Blackfeet. Only five or six of the number could speak any English. All were very wild—some of them really

savage—and, due to this never allowed outside the grounds unless accompanied by Mexican or American guards."

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.—Will Rogers, cowboy humorist, was inducted into office here December 21 as mayor after many and allegedly ambiguous promises concerning the "stand of my administration." After the cowboy-humorist had taken the oath to the tune of *The Old Gray Mare*, played by the Los Angeles Fire Dept. Band, Douglas Fairbanks, chairman of the reception committee, sternly demanded that the new executive lay plans to provide for the poor of Beverly Hills and engineer a movement for private swimming pools, bridle paths and golf courses, to be cared for out of the public fund. Replying, Will said his first official act would be to enlarge the suburban jail. Rogers told his constituents he would be "the only Mayor who is purposely funny" and promised the city a "real-estate administration." "What we need is a good murder here; some good-looking woman to shoot someone," said the new Mayor, outlining his "reform" policy. He added: "I could pick the victim." Some of the other flashes of the wit of the humorist-Mayor were: "I'm for the common people, and as Beverly Hills has no common people I'll be sure to make good. This town is progressing. I remember when I first came here there were not more than 25 mortgages in the whole municipality—but it's a unique town; we've got two swimming pools to every Bible. I won't say that my administration will be exactly honest, but I'll agree to split 50-50 with you and give the town an even break. Concluding, some of you wonder why I've been running around the country exhibiting myself, and I'll tell you the answer, I'm God's gift to those who didn't see Queen Marie."

ROUND THE WORLD, Wembley Rodeo Wild West, under the direction of Harry E. Handy, has reached India and is playing Christmas week in Calcutta with Bombay to follow. Jack Burroughs

(Continued on page 86)

IMITATION FUR CHAPS, \$12.00
Real Fur, \$15.00, khaki backs. Tom Mix Five-Gallon Hats, suits lined, \$18.00; others, \$4.00 up. Gaudin Assara and Genuine All-Leather Chaps, \$25.00 up. STANLEY, 208 West 23d Street, New York City.

Fairs and Expositions

Conducted by J. WILSON ROY—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Should Balance Sheet Govern Success or Failure of Fairs?

Texas Daily Raises Point That Expositions Foster Spirit of Neighborhood Friendly Rivalry Which Means Much in Encouraging Betterment in Local Produce—Financial Status Secondary

During the discussion of the papers read at the recent convention of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions in Chicago, with its attendant questions and answers, probably the most pertinent query brought into the proceedings was that by J. W. Rosswurm (Tennessee State Fair), when he asked: "What is a successful fair?"

Various responses were given by seasoned fair secretaries and managers, and the answer seemed to be complete when C. E. Cameron (Iowa State Fair) replied: "A successful fair is that which makes both ends meet."

From a purely commercial aspect this answer would seem to cover a multitude of points relative to the success or failure of a fair, yet the point may be taken from another angle. This latter phase seems to be intelligently and interestingly covered in a recent issue of a Texas daily—*The Beaumont Enterprise*—and the editorial deductions are worth noting.

We select below excerpts from this logical and feasible article:

"The question has been raised as to whether a fair, any fair, pays, and how. It seems to us to look into the cash-box for the answer is the last place to find the real value and the genuine nerve fits derived from a fair. It has never been the disposition of Beaumont people to seek the answer in the balance sheet of the fair itself. If the fair can pay its own way it is very gratifying. If a fair does pay its own way it is done by affording the people an amusement along with the real purposes of the fair. If a fair can sell enough entertainment, fun and frolic to pay for it there will be none to question the wisdom of so doing. But if we wiped out the receipts entirely, gave a fair absolutely free, it would still be a splendid investment for any ambitious community.

"It seems to us sometimes that too much stress is laid upon the amusement features of fairs, but, of course, that can be true only to the extent and when the fair management conceives that the fair is a big carnival. We think that no community effort that can be made does more for the development of the country round about than the fair; that is to say, that phase or section of the fair which centers around the exhibits. The influence set in motion by the exhibits, by the competition, knows no limits as to area or time. Every phase of human industry is stimulated by a competitive display of the fruits, the efforts of industry. From the school boy or girl thru the whole range of humankind there persists the urge and the lure to excel. Where it is lacking nothing is left. The incompetents, the human derelicts who roam the country,eking out a bare and barren existence represent the type that has no interest in making something worth while, something better than someone else can make. The poverty-stricken farmer is one who has no interest in producing the largest pumpkin or raising the most cotton on an acre of ground. In other words the fair stimulates competition and creates incentives to do all the things worth while, all the things that keep the world moving and makes life a merry and enjoyable existence.

"It is so easy to think of the fair as a show, an enterprise bent upon justifying itself by its gate receipts. We fall inevitably into that habit unless we offer resistance to the thought and concentrate upon the intangible benefits of the fair. No individual need go outside his own consciousness for the answer. Few persons with a real purpose in life can go thru a well-ordered fair without being inspired to greater effort. Few can go thru the poultry exhibit and come away without feeling an urge to become a poultry raiser. No matter what department of the fair it may be it will have its inspiring effect upon somebody and it will be someone strangely immune to all

progress who cannot find in the fair something that will stimulate to greater effort.

"We haven't the slightest hesitancy in saying that the fairs that have been held in Beaumont have helped tremendously to develop the agricultural resources of this and adjoining counties. Back there a few years ago when Capt. E. I. Kelle displayed a few vegetables and other products of the soil on tables in the Masonic building the real fair was started. Before that Beaumont had been having its annual carnival. It took first one form and then another, but always it was a carnival idea. It corresponded to the harvest carnivals the world over, and throut all time. The big idea was to bring people to town that they might do their trading.

"The carnival idea has been carried along with the fair. Sometimes it rather gains in the conception we have as to what a fair should be. Always there is invisible contest between the two theories of a fair—the carnival on the one hand and the exposition of agricultural products, industry, art, science, housekeeping and a wide variety of the things which seriously affect the lives of the individuals and the community on the other hand.

"The combination of the carnival idea and the exposition purposes creates an ideal enterprise. Properly balanced the one can be made to pay for the other and thus we can use our play to good purpose. But the failure of the carnival feature for whatever reason ought not to influence us to think less of the exposition feature. If the community had to put up the money to hold the agricultural, industrial, art and other exhibits it would be a splendid investment. It speaks for our good judgment if we can make a fair support itself and we can do that if we contrive well enough and if we do not lose sight of the realities, or permit the carnival spirit to attain the control that will cast a blight upon the real substance, the real benefits of the fair."

Court Decision Hits Racing At North Dakota Fair Meets

GRAND FORKS, N. D., Dec. 26.—Altho horse racing at North Dakota fairs has been practiced ever since fairs have been held in the State it is not authorized by law when done for prizes, rewards or betting, according to a decision handed down by the Supreme Court.

The court holds that laws appropriating State money for fairs and exhibits of live stock, agriculture and horticulture may not be interpreted as permitting horse racing.

The decision was in connection with the case of John D. Erickson versus the North Dakota State Fair Association at Fargo. Erickson had sued for damages claiming as the result of the association calling off a race in which he had horses entered.

Balance Shown for Palmyra Fair

PALMYRA, N. Y., Dec. 26.—The Palmyra Fair has a balance of \$5,203.14 for 1926. Included in expenditures of \$16,178.51 were \$515 for attractions and \$225.88 in improvements. Receipts totaled \$15,475.65, according to the report of Treasurer Harry G. Chapman. Robert Coveney was elected a director to succeed the late John Walton, and Hiram Young was re-elected.



J. F. SELDONRIDGE, secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Association of County Fairs and secretary of the Lancaster Fair.

E. Indiana Circuit Elects Officers; Names Dates

MUNCIE, Ind., Dec. 26.—F. J. Claypool, of this city, was re-elected president of the Eastern Indiana Fair Circuit at the meeting here recently. W. A. Marshall, of Middletown, was elected secretary.

Attending the meeting were H. H. Parks and W. A. Depoy, Converse; H. L. Kelley, Montpelier; A. C. McCord and F. E. Lewis, Warren; W. A. Marshall, Middletown; J. E. Green, C. W. Galbiter and F. J. Claypool, Muncie, and F. A. Wischart, Middletown. The latter had been secretary of the circuit for a number of years and declined it again because of other business matters.

Dates claimed for fairs comprising the circuit in 1927 follow:

Montpelier, July 19 to 22, H. L. Kelley, secretary. Warren, July 26 to 29, E. E. Priddy, secretary. Middletown, July 24 to 29, W. A. Marshall, secretary. Muncie, August 2 to 5, F. J. Claypool, secretary. Portland, August 9 to 12, secretary not named. Connersville, August 18 to 19, Jap Kennedy, secretary. Decatur, August 23 to 26, secretary not named. Converse, September 13 to 16, W. A. Depoy, secretary.

Bar Shows and Carnivals

STUART, Fla., Dec. 27.—The county fair this year will have no carnivals or side shows, according to Theo. Dehon, president of the Chamber of Commerce, under whose auspices the exhibition will be held, the intention being to make it strictly an agricultural and dairy products meeting. The fair will receive \$1,000 from the county, and the Chamber of Commerce has authorized \$500 to aid in defraying the cost of the booklets to be issued.

Fair Had Largest Profit in 1926

PLYMOUTH, Wis., Dec. 26.—The Sheboygan County Agricultural Association cleared more than \$1,500 last fall. It was revealed in the annual financial statement. This profit is one of the largest in the history of the fair organization.

Favor Community Fairs

ENID, Okla., Dec. 26.—At a meeting here representatives of 24 of the 36 townships in Garfield County voted unanimously to hold community fairs next fall. Definite action is to be taken at a meeting of the executive board soon. The question had been raised as a result of suggestions that fairs be abolished because of lack of interest.

Fail To Advance Dates For Arkansas State Fair

LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 16.—A proposal to advance the dates of the 1927 Arkansas State Fair from the second to the first week in October was rejected at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors. It is likely, however, there will be a change in 1928, according to Secretary-Manager E. G. Bylander.

The proposed change had been suggested that the fair might be linked with the Tri-State Fair, Memphis, and the Texas State Fair, Dallas, which would enable the Association to secure attractions which have been unavailable because of conflicting engagements. The proposal failed because carnival and show bookings for next season have already been arranged.

A general committee appointed by W. A. Hicks, chairman of the board, has been authorized to appoint other committees and subcommittees. It is composed of W. E. Lennon, chairman; Roy L. Thompson, Alfred G. Kahn, Ben D. Brickhouse and W. A. Hicks.

A committee to plan a dinner for the Chamber of Commerce, Fair Association and the Arkansas Legislature, which will meet soon, is composed of Roy L. Thompson, C. F. Holland and John Baird.

Stockholders of the Association recently elected: W. A. Hicks, chairman; Conway Scott, first vice-president; Mayor Charles E. Moyr, second vice-president; Milton L. Altholmer, third vice-president, and W. W. Dickenson and John P. Baird, members of the executive committee.

Planning Colored State Fair

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 26.—At a recent meeting of the board of commissioners of the Tennessee Colored State Fair a report of the receipts and disbursements was made and appropriations determined that a greater fair may be held in 1927. Many high-class attractions have been contracted for the next season and the catalog is due from the press shortly.

The secretary is negotiating with railroad companies for reduced rates and running special trains from Chicago and other cities to Nashville.

Name Officers for Coming Year

TIPTON, Ia., Dec. 26.—Officers for the Cedar County Fair Association for 1927, have been named as follows: President, Charles Thompson, West Branch; vice-president, James Cary, Tipton; secretary, C. S. Miller, Tipton, and treasurer, F. W. Spear, Tipton.

Dates for the fair have been set for August 10 and 11 and September 1 and 2. Report of the secretary showed the deficit for 1926 has been wiped out.

New Secretary for State Fair

PUEBLO, Col., Dec. 26.—J. J. Clark, who has been an official of the La Junta Chamber of Commerce, has been selected secretary of the Colorado State Fair and was in Pueblo a few days ago preparing for the establishment of his residence. He has been prominent in business circles in Southeastern Colorado.

Minnesota State Fair Meeting January 12 to 14

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 26.—The annual meeting of the Minnesota State Agricultural Society-Minnesota State Fair will be held here at the Nicollet Hotel January 12, 13 and 14. Thomas H. Canfield, of Hamline, is secretary-manager.

Elected for Sixth Successive Terms

SHERMAN, Tex., Dec. 26.—Leo Simmons, president, and L. L. Robinson, secretary of the Red River Valley Fair, were elected for their sixth successive terms at the recent meeting of the association.

Plans for the 1927 meeting, October 4 to 8, inclusive, were discussed.

Board of Directors Named For Texas State Fair Body

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 24.—Stockholders have elected these members to the board of directors of the State Fair of Texas Association: T. E. Jackson, Rosser Coke, Frank L. McNary, Harry L. Seay, Otto Herold and Frank M. Smith. Retiring directors include R. E. L. Knight, J. B. Adams, D. W. Griffiths, S. T. Morgan, Royal A. Ferris and Williams Dovan.

A meeting of the new board of directors was scheduled for an early date when it is expected officers for the coming season will be named. Two tickets had been presented for the selection of board members, President A. A. Jackson, E. J. Kiser, C. E. Calder and J. J. Eckford being four directors on both tickets who were thus practically re-elected.

The retiring board members were given a vote of thanks for their service and one of commendation of the fair administration was also adopted.

Discuss Plans for Expo: Elect Officers for 1927

MACON, Ga., Dec. 24.—Altho tentative plans for the Georgia State Exposition were discussed at the annual meeting of the stockholders here, no definite action was taken in the matter of selecting dates for 1927.

Officers elected were E. G. Jacobs, president; L. M. Rossignol, first vice-president; Lawrence Loh, second vice-president; C. S. Canon, third vice-president; Francis E. Williams, treasurer; E. Ross Jordan, secretary-manager; J. H. Brown, superintendent.

The president named as an Advisory Committee, F. E. Williams and L. M. Rossignol. That the 1926 Exposition was financially successful was shown thru the reports of the secretary and treasurer.

1927 Plans Discussed

MARION, O., Dec. 24.—Officers for 1927 were elected and plans discussed for the year's activities at the annual meeting of the Marion Agricultural Society here. H. S. Mahaffey was named president; A. L. D. Brady, vice-president; Harrison Kramer, treasurer, and Roland Leeper, secretary.

Plans for the 1927 fair were discussed and arrangements will be made for revising the premium list at a meeting to be held February 9.

Board Organized for 1927

COSHOCOTON, O., Dec. 24.—The Coshocton County Fair Board has been reorganized as follows: E. C. Darling, president; M. A. McConnell, vice-president; Glenn Darling, treasurer, and W. B. Miller, secretary.

The new officers have announced additional features for the program, and that the premium list will be increased. Dates for the 1927 fair have not as yet been fixed.

Fair Officials Reappointed

DAYTON, O., Dec. 24.—Four members of the Montgomery County Agricultural Board reappointed by the City Commission are Frank Hamberger, Minnie L. Shaffer, E. A. Leonard and Charles MacFarland. All were given two-year terms. Plans for the 1927 fair will be outlined at a meeting to be held soon after the first of the year.

W. Va. Convention January 20

WHEELING, W. Va., Dec. 24.—The annual convention of the West Virginia Association of fairs will be held at the Ruffner Hotel, Charleston, January 20 and 21, following the Virginia meeting. Bert H. Swartz, of Wheeling, is secretary of the West Virginia organization.

AT LIBERTY

SEASON 1927.
CAPTAIN, The Wonder Horse

Address CAPT. SPURSER, 411 Lake Det Circle, Orlando, Florida.

WANTED Good Rides

And a few Independent Shows, for Fred du Lar County Fair, Sept. 13 to 16, Indiana. Address CHARLES BINTZ, Secretary, Fred du Lar, Wis.

<p>5 Different Clown Acts</p>	<p>FAIRS—BOOKING DIRECT—PARKS I Ain't Got a Bit of Sense—That's the Reason I Advertise</p>	<p>ONE MAN 8 PIECE CLOWN BAND</p>
	<p>AL NUTTLE, MUSICAL CLOWN</p>	
	<p>USING 12 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Cash Band Furnished. Address care The Billboard, Cincinnati, O.</p>	

Run of Hard Luck Follows New York Race Horse Man

DUNDEE, N. Y., Dec. 23.—The long run of hard luck that has beset William Pierce, race-horse driver, well-known thruout the Central New York Fair Circuit, scored again December 19 when fire destroyed his barn, automobile and his last race horse.

Pierce, unable to get about since he was injured in a stinky collision at the Dundee Fair in 1925, was obliged to watch his belongings burn. The loss was only partly covered by insurance.

His father, injured in a racing accident at the Trumansburg Fair last summer, died recently.

Baby Show To Be Fair Feature

DE LAND, Fla., Dec. 27.—A baby show will be staged for the Volusia County Fair, February 15 to 19, by the De Land post of the American Legion. An automobile, jewelry and other articles will be prizes. The feature will close with a coronation ceremony, when Miss Volusia will be crowned queen of the fair.

CHM Curran, acrobat, who does stunts on a 110-foot steel pole, has been engaged.

Dates for Meridian Fair Set

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 22.—A. H. George, secretary and general manager of the Mississippi-Alabama Fair Association, has announced that the 17th annual fair will be held week of October 10-15. A contract has been signed for the Johnny J. Jones Shows to provide the midway attractions.

New Feature for Winter Expo.

KENTON, O., Dec. 24.—The Annual Midwinter Fair and Exposition of the Hardin County Corn and Grain Improvement Association will be held in the Armory here January 13, 14 and 15. D. C. Holtsberry, secretary of the association, has announced. A new feature will be an auto show.

Dates Set for Winter Fair

SCHALLER, Ia., Dec. 24.—Dates for the Farmers' Institute and Winter Fair have been set for January 6, 7 and 8. Liberal premiums will be offered in all departments it has been announced by officials.

Plan New Departures

WAHPETON, N. D., Dec. 24.—Several departures from the customary entertainment program will be made for the 1927 Richland County Fair, following decision of the directors, who have set the dates for June 29 to July 4, inclusive.

N. Y. Commission Backs Fair

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Dec. 27.—The State Fair Commission has pledged its support to plans of the New York State Agricultural Society for the erection of a \$70,000 building to house the society's collection of old-time farming implements and machinery.

Legion To Stage County Fair

ROCK HILL, S. C., Dec. 23.—Frank Roach Post, American Legion, will again stage the York County Fair, plans for which were laid at the recent meeting of the directors. Negotiations with the Johnny J. Jones company for midway attractions were authorized.

Will Hold Fair Next Fall

EUNICE, La., Dec. 22.—The Eunice Chamber of Commerce has decided to hold an agricultural fair next fall and has directed Prof. A. A. Sibby, secretary, to promote the affair.

Fix Dates for 1927

JACKSON, O., Dec. 27.—The board of directors of the Jackson County Fair has fixed July 24 to 26, inclusive, as the dates for the fair in 1927.

Among the Free Acts

MRS. E. V. HOCUM and daughter, Lucille, whose novelty lady riding act proved a successful attraction last fall, will attend the Wisconsin Association of Fairs Convention at Milwaukee January 4 to 6, and also the convention of the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs at Minneapolis the following week. Their permanent address is Baraboo, Wis.

THE TWO LILLEPETS, well known among free-attraction performers, are playing the Eastern Carolina Peanut Exposition week of December 27.

All Officers Re-Elected

SUPERIOR, Wis., Dec. 27.—All officers of the Tri-State Fair Association were re-elected at the recent meeting of the association. They are Wilbur Ross, president; R. B. Johnson, vice-president; Leslie O. Ross, secretary, and J. T. Roth, treasurer.

All members of the board of directors also were re-elected, as follows: N. A. Thompson, Dairyland; J. Vogelberg, South Range; Roy Guest, Gordon; George Babb, Lake Nebagamon, and Philip Nelson, Maple, Wis.

President Ross presented the annual report of the association, and plans were discussed for the coming year.

Will Keep Fair in Operation

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 24.—Farmers of New London County are determined the annual fair shall not be abandoned and have reorganized the New London County Agricultural Association with this end in view. The executive committee consists of President Hiram Schriver; First Vice-President Edwin W. Higgins, of Norwich; Secretary Frank T. Maples, of Norwich; Treasurer J. Frank Corey, of Norwich. Chairmen are Ray L. Harding, of Lyme; cattle; Dr. J. Manwaring, domestic; James K. Shaughnessy, of Groton, horses; Wesley A. Gordon, of Montville, poultry; Daniel Polsky, of Norwich, manufacturers; Charles J. Dulcy, of New London, merchants.

Fair Has Balance for 1927

CALDWELL, Kan., Dec. 27.—After all expenses were paid the Caldwell Fair Association has a working balance for the 1927 fair of \$158. The fair was made possible by subscriptions amounting to \$1,177 by merchants of the city.

Fair Elections

DESHLER, Neb., Dec. 26.—These officers have been elected for the Thayer County Fair for 1927: President, John Albrecht; vice-president, R. W. Rodenburg; secretary, E. J. Mitchell; assistant secretary, E. Preston Bailey; treasurer, L. Krutz; secretary of speed, R. W. Rodenburg; assistant, Dr. F. S. Rinkler. The fair will be held at Deshler August 23 to 26, inclusive.

FREDONIA, Kan., Dec. 27.—Following the election of directors for the Wilson County Fair, officers for 1927 were named as follows: President, W. D. Pratt; vice-president, Max J. Kennedy; treasurer, Fred Chambers. A secretary will be named later. Directors for 1927 are W. D. Pratt, Max J. Kennedy, W. G. Fink, Silas McPherson, Dr. P. L. Ervin, C. V. Ladow and Walter C. Cantrall.

JACKSON, O., Dec. 25.—George F. Lucas was elected president of the Jackson County Fair at the recent meeting of the directors here. He succeeds the late A. J. Cochran and has been vice-president for a number of years.

Other officers are T. C. White, vice-president; Ed T. Evans, treasurer, and John B. Bain, secretary. A. M. Scott has been named a member of the board.

PENN YAN, N. Y., Dec. 25.—Directors of the Yates County Agricultural Society are considering dividing the work of secretary between two men, so that office has been left temporarily vacant.

(Continued on page 73)

Fort Lauderdale To Have Fair

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Dec. 24.—Broward County's first fair in recent years will be held January 25, 26 and 27, it has been announced. A site in Crossant Park has been selected. Charles E. Matthews is general manager. Awards of between \$1,500 and \$1,800 in cash will be made for exhibits. Premium lists are being distributed.

Fair Association Meetings

Wisconsin Association of Fairs, J. F. Malone, secretary, Beaver Dam. Convention at Republican Hotel, Milwaukee, January 4, 5 and 6, 1927.

Indiana Board of Agriculture, Meeting in State House, Indianapolis, January 5, 1927.

Minnesota Federation of County Fairs, R. F. Hall, secretary, Minneapolis. Convention at New Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, January 11 and 12, 1927.

Ohio Fair Managers' Association, Don A. Detrick, executive secretary, Bellefontaine. Annual meeting at Columbus, January 12 and 13.

Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs, George W. Wescott, secretary, Bangor. Annual meeting at Bangor, January 12 and 13, 1927.

The Texas Association of Fairs, J. J. P. Castellaw, secretary, Ennis, Tex. Annual meeting at Dallas, January 13 and 14.

Colorado County Fairs Association, J. L. Miller, secretary, Rocky Ford. Annual convention at Albany Hotel, Denver, January 13.

Virginia Association of Fairs, C. B. Ralston, secretary, Staunton. Annual meeting at Suffolk, January 17 and 18, 1927.

Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs, Annual meeting at Danville, January 18 and 19, 1927.

Indiana County and District Fairs, E. J. Barker, secretary-treasurer, Indianapolis. Annual meeting, Hotel Severin, Indianapolis, January 4, 1927.

Michigan Association of Fairs, Chester M. Howell, secretary, Saginaw. Annual meeting, Hotel Tucker, Detroit, January 19 and 20.

South Texas Fair Circuit, Geo. J. Kempen, secretary, Seagun. Annual meeting at New Braunfels, January 24 and 25, 1927.

Western Canada Association of Exhibitions, W. J. Stark, secretary, Edmonton. Annual meeting at Brandon, January 24, 25 and 26, 1927.

Western Canada Fairs, H. Huxley, secretary, Lloydminster, Sask. Convention, Brandon, January 25 and 26, 1927.

Massachusetts Agricultural Fair Association, A. W. Lombard, secretary, Boston. Annual meeting at Colonial Hotel, Gardner, January 27 and 28, 1927.

Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs, J. F. Seldombridge, secretary-treasurer. First meeting, Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, January 24-27; second meeting, Adelphia Hotel, Philadelphia, February 2 and 3, 1927.

Association of Tennessee Fairs, W. F. Barry, secretary, Jackson. Annual meeting at Nashville, February 1 and 2, 1927.

Association of Northwestern Fairs, Annual meeting at Billings, Mont., February 1, 1927.

New England Agricultural Fairs Association, H. T. Hyde, secretary, Southbridge. Annual meeting at Kimball Hotel, Springfield, Mass., February 15, 1927.

New York State Association of County Agricultural Societies, G. W. Harrison, secretary, Albany. Annual meeting at Albany, February 15, 1927.

Association of Georgia Fairs, Annual meeting at Atlanta, February 18 and 19, 1927.

Secretaries of State and District Fair Associations are invited to send in dates and places of meeting of their associations.

If you have something interesting to the other fair officials, don't hesitate—send it while the news is "hot".

Parks, Piers and Beaches

Conducted by J. WILSON ROY—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Many Park Managers Realize Value of Courtesy to Public

Costs Nothing and Is Certain To Bring Increase in Business With Resulting Dividends—Is Gradually Replacing Old-Time Carelessness and Neglect

More and more are American park managers coming to realize that one of their biggest assets is courtesy. They have found and are finding that it costs nothing, and that it is a dividend payer, and, consistently used, will pay big dividends. It is within the memory of most of us when courtesy was a rare feature indeed, not alone in the park business, but in many other lines of endeavor. But one day some fellow who was an observer came to find out that courtesy was a good thing to insist upon so far as his employees and attaches were concerned. He put it into practice, and other park men followed suit, until now it is doing its great part in making money for the man who cares not for the seeker of outdoor amusements.

Yet there are some parks—and they are by no means small ones—where this is lacking. Patrons are greeted, not with smiles and a willingness to be friendly, but with coldness and an indifference that is marked; in fact, there are instances where it seems to be studied.

There are parks also where it seems to be the rule for employees, both of the park management and of concessionaires as well, to ridicule the visitor—to "guy" him or to make him the butt of jokes that are anything but jokes. At any rate it seems to be the desire of the alleged jokers to keep the patron in an uncomfortable state as possible during his visit as a pleasure seeker.

There may be instances where patronage of a park has dropped off as the season has advanced or as new seasons open. The management may wonder at the cause. He argues: "I have the same and a lot of new amusements. Things physically are better than they have ever been and outside business conditions are good. I cannot understand why my business does not keep up to its mark."

There is a very good chance indeed that the thing that is wrong in this man's park is the lack of courtesy, or it may be rather the enthusiastic efforts on the part of attaches to raze patrons.

There was a new park opened in a city of more or less prominence some four or five years ago. It was a beautiful spot, just close enough to the city and not difficult to reach. The first season was very good, despite the fact the owner did not have a great many amusements.

He was so encouraged with his success that he began to build in his mind a great big park and a good-sized fortune for himself. Yet today all that remains are the shells of a few buildings and some unused roads and walks.

The cause? Not a wide knowledge of parks and nothing at all of courtesy. The owner was a great stickler for courtesy when he talked with his employees, yet when there was some slight infraction, he did not stand upon ceremony and chat it out in private with the employee, but at the top of his voice, and no matter how large the crowd, he made a practice of "bawling out" the offender, interspersing his cautions with a choice line of billingsgate—so choice, indeed, that it would have made an old-time sea captain jealous.

And it was the same way when a patron with a complaint came to him. Most generally his answers were curt and decidedly of the sort that did not make him friends. The consequence was that soon employees and attaches of the park fell into his habits, and patrons had a hard time indeed enjoying their visits.

The last year that he operated his park receipts fell so low that his loss was too much. He has, since he ceased operations, tried to alibi his failure by blaming it on the weather, but the same year that he failed his opponent made more money than he had ever made before, and, to be frank about it, there was even some lack of courtesy in this fellow's park, altho it was not so marked as was that of the failure.

It seems to the writer that every park manager should insist on courtesy and patience among employees. And not among employees alone, but among con-

(Continued on page 72)

Casino of Unusual Nature Near Completion in Bahamas

NASSAU, Bahamas, Dec. 24.—Hewn from rock at the sea's edge, the Lucayan Casino and Pools here, one of the most unique amusement projects of its kind, will open early in January. The project undertaken by H. N. Chipman, pioneer on the island, was begun in 1924.

The pool is separated from the sea by a natural wall of rock. A tunnel slightly below sea level permits the water to pass thru, making a miniature inland surf. Around the wall of rock 30 dressing rooms have been cut. The pool is 103 feet long and 30 feet wide.

Over the pool a three-story pavilion has been erected, on the first floor being a dance hall, on the second floor a cafe, while the third will be made into a roof garden. A modeled frieze around the edge of the pool freezes the buccanier history of the Bahamas.

The pool is located at the mouth of Nassau harbor.

Denver Park Being Wrecked

DENVER, Col., Dec. 26.—The historic ball park of Denver is in the hands of a wrecking crew. Built in 1891 by the League of American Wheelmen, Broadway Park has been the center of many events, serving first for bicycle races. It was later transferred to the Denver Club of the Western Baseball League. Two other ball parks and grand stands were erected and demolished within that period, leaving the Broadway Park again the sport center in 1905. Located at Sixth and Broadway, it has been forced to give way before the encroachments of business that has grown up around it.

Manager Named for Club

CORAL GABLES, Fla., Dec. 24.—A. C. Tilton has been appointed resident manager of the Coral Gables Golf and Country Club. He will have supervision over all activities. Jan Garber and his Orchestra have closed their vaudeville season and have returned to the club, replacing Joe Astoria, who has taken his musicians to the Venetian Casino.

Plan New Park in Utah

MYTON, Utah, Dec. 24.—Dr. M. C. Campbell and associates have purchased the Ward spring and have announced plans for a summer resort, including dance pavilion, swimming pool and tourist park. It has for some time been one of the needs of the Uintah basin, and the promoters expect to have it ready for a May Day opening.

Elrod With Advertising Counsel

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24.—C. W. Elrod, newspaperman and park manager, well known in amusement resort circles, has become associated with Rosette Azael, advertising counsel, in this city, and will devote his attention to park and outdoor amusement advertising, offering managers a complete layout for all occasions.



TWO FAVORITES in the coyote riding act of the E. V. Reckon Attractions, of Berea, Wis.

Speculate on Future of Park

ERIE, Pa., Dec. 24.—There is some speculation here as to the future of Exposition Park, which it is understood is on the block because of bankruptcy. It is one of the best equipped parks in the country, all buildings being first-class in every respect, and there is little doubt that some promoter with modern ideas would be able to make a go of the proposition.

This city has also in Waldmeer Park one which is well equipped with all the latest rides and amusements, included being a number of rides for children. It is being profitably operated. There is also a bathing beach.

Peninsula Park is also numbered as one of the finest in this section, having from one end to the other a boulevard, along the line of which are two bathing beaches.

New Manager for Hull Park

HULL, Que., Dec. 20.—Stuart E. de la Ronda, Jr., well known in amusement circles in this section, will direct the destiny of Luna Park. He was manager of the Centennial Celebration at Ottawa and had charge of the attractions of Central Canada's Exhibition.

Building Program for Brighton

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The extension of the Coney Island Boardwalk has given impetus to Brighton Beach building activities, with an outlay of \$2,000,000 planned for apartment and other buildings. A large portion of the development section has been accomplished by Sam W. Gumpertz and the Realty Association. Gumpertz recently completed the Parkway Baths at Brighton Beach.

Devices Shown at Exposition

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Proprietors, representatives and buyers of kiddie amusement parks and devices have been attracted to the plant of the W. F. Mangels Company, West Eighth street, Coney Island, where the Annual Exposition is being held. On exhibition are products of the concern.

New Manager Named

DAYTON, O., Dec. 24.—Arthur Miller, proprietor of Forest Gables ballroom, at the former Forest Park, announces the engagement of Robert Eckhart, of Dayton, as manager of the ballroom. It operates daily, except Sundays, and plans to play the best of traveling bands.

New Amusement Park Under Construction

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Rapid strides are being made in the construction of the new amusement park in the Bronx, at Westchester and Whitlock avenues. Opening is set for Decoration Day, altho no name has yet been designated for the park.

The salt water pool, to be under the direction of Prof. H. C. Wilson, will be 100 feet long and 250 feet wide. A modern bathhouse will be in use and will be sufficiently large to accommodate 5,000 bathers. There will also be a miniature pool for children. The grounds are to be landscaped and otherwise beautified. A terra cotta entrance with myriads of incandescent lights will be part of the adornment. All buildings will be fire-proof and of steel construction.

Elmer I. Brown will direct the rides and concessions, and has established offices at 226 West 47th street. A manager for the park has not been selected, altho it is understood several candidates are under consideration.

Mr. Brown declares there will be 40 up-to-date concessions. The merry-go-round will be erected in a steel building and there will be other special buildings for riding devices. For the first season from six to eight rides will be operated.

It is the intention of the owners of the park to put on the best free attractions available, supplemented with revues, on a modern open-air stage. Particular attention will be directed to the illumination.

It is estimated \$1,000,000 will be expended on the project, including the purchase price and valuation of the land, virtually in the heart of the residential section of the Bronx, with a large drawing population at its very doors. William H. Weissauer is the guiding factor.

Plans Ready for New Pier

ASBURY PARK, N. J., Dec. 24.—Plans for the \$2,500,000 convention pier to be constructed on the Boardwalk at the foot of Sunset Lake have been accepted by the city commissioners and bids are soon to be asked.

Announcement has been made by Mayor C. E. F. Hetrick that the pier will have at least 43,000 square feet of floor space, a convention hall with a capacity of 4,200, a theater with a capacity of more than 2,000, and 44 booths and stores. The pier is to be the last word in construction, architecturally and mechanically, the mayor declares.

Jarvis Leaves for the South

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—Arthur Jarvis, manager of Luna Park, Coney Island, who recently returned from abroad, has gone south for a six weeks' inspection tour, covering Barron G. Collier's interests. He will start at Miami, and on his return trip will stop at Albany, Ga., where Collier has acquired the former Sky Blue Park, otherwise known as the French Lick Springs or the South, located between Atlanta and Jacksonville. New rides and attractions are being prepared for the coming season, when this will blossom into a modern summer resort.

Fairground To Be Park

MECHANICSBURG, O., Dec. 24.—Public-spirited citizens have preserved the old Central Ohio fairgrounds as a park. Some time ago the fairgrounds, owned for many years by the Mechanicsburg Matinee Club, was up for sale. Shortly afterward the Mechanicsburg Community Park Association was formed and purchased the site, in which there are 35 acres. A racetrack, natural amphitheater and amusement features are to be installed.

New Amusement Concern

BELLEFONTAINE, O., Dec. 24.—The Bellefontaine-Lake Worth Amusement Company has been incorporated at Columbus by E. R. Albaugh and M. C. Harrold. Plans of the company at this time are indefinite.

AUTO SKOOTER

IN FULL DISPLAY AND OPERATION AT OUR PLANT

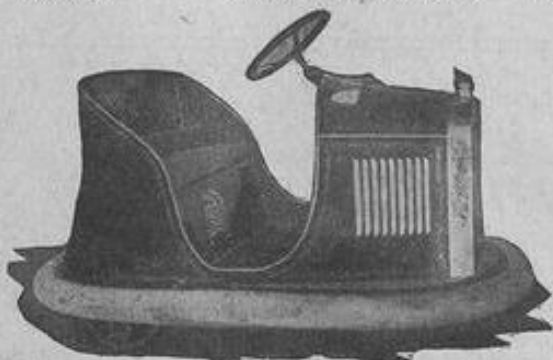
COME, SEE AND OPERATE YOURSELF

SKOOTERS

IN SEVERAL SINGLE OR DOUBLE SEATING STYLES

! HERE IT IS
1927 Double Seating

Exclusive in Appearance as Well as for Its Mechanical Construction Guaranteed as in the Past for Quality as Well as Supreme Popularity Write for New Booklet, Price and Terms.



A Brand New Attraction for Any Park PLUS a Lasting Repeater for Large Returns for Its Owner. Don't Delay--- Order Now.

LUSSE BROS., INC.

2809-13 N. Fairhill Street,

Philadelphia, Pa

ON THE BOWERY AT CONEY ISLAND

Corner space available for large Amusement Device. 65 feet on the Bowery; depth to suit. Inquire H. BERGOFFEN, W. 10th St., Coney Island, N. Y. Tel., Coney Island 2700.

SPILLMAN MONEY-GETTER RIDES

The **MAGIC CARPET** A Ride and Fun House combined. Biggest hit in recent years. Investigate now. The **HEY-DEY** Greatest Money Maker Out. It's a Winner. Six million people rode it in 1926. **OVER the JUMPS-CATERPILLAR** Permanent-CAROUSSELLES-Portable

SPILLMAN ENGINEERING CORP., N. Tonawanda, N. Y.

FOR YOUR PARK--1927

CUSTER CARS—Over 100 rides. CUSTER ZOOMER—Built to Suit Location. CUSTER SPECIALTY CO.

119-121 Franklin St., DAYTON, OHIO

PREPARE FOR NEXT SEASON

Watch the DODGEM JUNIOR

In any of the 184 Parks and Beaches in which it is now operating, said you'll be convinced of its exceptional riding capacity, gross receipts, durability and low operating cost.

STANDARD PARK EQUIPMENT.

DODGEM CORP., 706 Bay State Bldg., Lawrence, Mass.

TUXEDO PARK, BIRMINGHAM, (ENSLEY) ALA.

Opens its third successful season early in April. This Park is owned and operated by the Ho-Hill Attractions, an all-white organization, but Tuxedo Park caters exclusively to colored people. Park located at Ensley, the steel city, a part of Greater Birmingham, and the pay-roll center of the Birmingham District. Ensley is the home of the great steel plants of the United States Steel Corporation, with a weekly payroll of millions from steel plants, coal mines and other U. S. Steel subsidiaries. On our block and road, 127,000 colored population in this county. We have Caterpillar, Merry-Go-Round, No. 18 Big Ells and Chairplane rides; Dance Hall, Penny Arcade and Refreshment Stands. Many improvements planned this year. WILD HOOK Whip, Scooter or Dodgem, Jr.; Miniature Railroad, Miniature Midgets, Custer Cars, Shooting Gallery, Walking Charley, and a few legitimate Grand Stairs and Skill Games. CAN USE Over-the-Falls, Glass House or any Walk-Through or Fun House, Skating Rink. Exceptional opportunity for Swimming Pool. Address all communications to HUGH W. HILL, Manager Ho-Hill Attractions, P. O. Box 206, Birmingham, Ala.

ANNOUNCEMENT SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF KIDDIE RIDES

For Amusement Parks.

OPENS DEC. 1st, CLOSES JAN. 1st

All Devices Shown in Full Operation.

W. F. MANGELS CO., CONEY ISLAND, N. Y.

—Foremost Builders of Kiddie Rides—

New Catalogue Now Ready.



PHILADELPHIA TOBOGGAN COMPANY AMUSEMENT PARK ENGINEERS

COASTERS—CARROUSELS—MILL CHUTES

130 East Duval Street, Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.

HARRY C. BAKER, INC. AMUSEMENT PARK ENGINEERS

SPECIALIZING IN DESIGNING, PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION

AMUSEMENT PARKS OLD MILLS CAROUSEL BUILDINGS
COASTERS MILL CHUTES DANCE PAVILIONS
AMUSEMENT PARK BUILDINGS AND FRONTS
Suite 3041, Grand Central Terminal Building, NEW YORK CITY.

ELECTRIC—MINIATURE RAILWAY—GASOLINE Not a REPEATER—a MULTIPLIER

A GO-GETTER.

Interested in Fun House Equipment? Our new Drive Drive saves half the cost of installation. Ask us for particulars.

THE DAYTON FUN HOUSE & RIDING DEVICE MFG. CO., DAYTON, OHIO

WORLD'S GREATEST RIDES

CYCLONE COASTER-BOBS COASTER—Fastest and safest. Deep spiral dips on curves. Track backed fifty degrees. All records broken. Steel and wood construction. Steel tracks. **TUMBLE BUG**. A circular Coaster with wonderful details, taking top money next to Coasters New Haven, Newark, New Castle, Scranton, Bayama, Tulsa, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Kansas City. **CATERPILLAR**. Splendid trick ride. 42 built since 1923. Grossed over \$1,500,000 many days. Coney Island grossed over \$1,000,000 first season. Many good spots left. One used machine. **SEAPLANE DE LUXE**. Wonderful new design. Most beautiful car ever seen. See it at Kennerwood, Pittsburgh; Glenlany, Columbus; Saris Rock, New Haven. 257 Seaplanes all over the world. **JAZZ RAILWAY**. Latest novelty steel Coaster ride. Finest ride on the market. Taking top money Rocky Glen Park, Scranton. A wonderful laugh maker and thriller combined. **MERRY MIX-UP**. Best portable ride. All steel, including gears and fence. Heavy chains. Cash-man engine. Easily gilded. Loads on one wagon. Weighs 5 tons, 67 built in two years. Best chain ride. **MISSOURI MULE**. Laughing, bucking, kicking new portable ride. Got \$1,148.00 one day, Memphis. \$2,250.00 in week. An hysterical sensation. Will draw crowds to Park or Carnival. None of above portable except the Merry Mix-Up and Missouri Mule.

TRAVER ENGINEERING CO., Beaver Falls, Pa., U. S. A.

CANDY FLOSS MACHINES



All Electric, now \$100; Hand Power \$75. Combination Hand and Electric, \$125. One pound of sugar brings \$1.50 daily at Parks and Fairs. Free literature granted. Latest, May 4, '26. Others pending. Catalog free. **Nat'l Candy Floss Mach. Co.** 185 East 35th Street, NEW YORK CITY.



Base Ball the Greatest Sporting Game on Earth. **BATER**, America's Greatest Court Game. Gets the money while others are asleep. Be the first one in your city. **JOE ARONOFF MFG. CO.**, Sole Owner, 1210 Elm St., Dallas, Texas.

It helps you, the paper and the advertiser to mention The Billboard.

Cash In Whirl-O-Ball

C. N. Anderson's lock in \$125.00 in one month.

New Automatic "Loop-the-Loop" Game

For all amusement places, soft drink parlors, shooting galleries, etc. New Hotel-automatics, automatic collector and scoring device. Thrilling sport! Everybody plays—men, women and children! Your receipts clear profit! **Loop-the-Loop** Game is 3x3x3 ft. and has an earning capacity of \$5 an hour. You can run 2 to 12 Games in any ordinary room or tent. Make us \$15 to \$25 per city. Moderate investment required. Write now for catalog.

BRIANT SPECIALTY CO.
35 DeBoe-Merrill Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

THE AUTOMATIC FISHPOND

will take in \$1.00 a minute if properly located. We have in stock 35 combinations of our merchandise wheels to select from. We also paint wheels to order.

Automatic Fishpond Co., Office, 266 Langdon St., Toledo, O.



Many Park Managers Realize Value of Courtesy to Public
(Continued from page 70)

cessional, if there are any, and on the part of all others whose livelihoods come out of the park.

If every employee would have the habit of going out of his road to accommodate the patrons or to answer questions in a pleasant way, and to even take some of the "blacks" that patrons are sometimes wont to hand out, that it would not be long until the park-going public would begin to head en masse for the place where joy and happiness really reigned.

A park business is just like any other. Disloyalty, if it arises and gains headway, will cause many thousands of dollars to slip from the coffers. Would it not be a good plan for every park manager who really has the interests of his business at heart to train his employees in the way he would have them handle the public?

Would it not be a percentage-paying move to have a few heart-to-heart talks with employees now and then, or if this seems too heavy a task, put such meetings into the hands of an assistant, or might it not pay to have a school for the study of courtesy with attendance compulsory on the part of the employees?

Some theater operators have found these staff meetings and training schools pay. Isn't the park business able to profit in the same way?

"Oh," some fellow says, "you know we operate just a few months a year and we have to have employees that we can pick up here and there, for we can't guarantee them long engagements, and, consequently, we do not have to pay much in the way of salaries."

But it should be borne in mind that larger dividends will accrue for the courtesy that must be apparent if it is insisted upon by the manager, and then it seems that later he may be able to afford to make salaries somewhat better with rising returns.

In such an event he is pretty sure to retain his employees year after year, or to at least be able to have them with him each season in satisfying numbers.

Every person employed upon a park

WANTED
FOR SEASON 1927 AT
RIVERVIEW PARK CHICAGO, WHITE CITY PARK
ILL. ILL. PARK
Freaks and Novelty Side-Show Acts of All Kinds

May Joe, writes. Also would like to hear from Seal Day. Stage Rally Act. Especially with good Glass Blower. Will book organized money getting Shows. A. KUSTAN, 6312 So. Park Ave., Chicago, Ill.

ground, from the humblest cleaner to the highest paid; every owner of a concession and every employee thereof should know the value of courtesy for the park and all its interests.

There is a circus that travels this continent that is known, not alone because of its clean and interesting performance, but because from front to back there is every possible display of courtesy, on the insistence of its management.

Its press agents are greeted with pleasure by newspapermen, its billposters do not have the troubles that those of other circuses have, its agents are known because of their patience and courtesy in their dealings. Ushers and doormen especially are pleasant, and women and children know when the show visits their community they are not going to be sworn at or ridiculed if they do not step as quickly as the usher may desire, or if they ask what to the usher or other circus employee may seem like a foolish question.

The show is not the biggest on the road yet thru its cleanliness and the courtesy of employees it gets business. So impressed with all this was the Governor of a great Middle Western State a couple of years ago, that he wrote a letter to the manager of the circus, in which he explained that the letter was sent because the writer had taken notice of the fact that this one show seemed so particular to please its patrons, not alone with a good performance, but with pleasant treatment and words for all patrons.

Another point that it might be a money-

getter for a park is that of uniforming employees, it seems. Many of the better parks do uniform, yet also in many of them uniforms are so grimy and ill-fitting that it would be far better if they were not worn.

Neatness as well as courtesy has its value to the park manager, and there should be no more trouble in keeping the uniformed employee presentable than there is in keeping him from the paymaster. There are some young men who look well in uniforms, yet when the suit does not fit well or when the cap is so big that it flops around over the ears, and when both uniform and cap are so dirty that they have lost their identities, it is just as well that they be discarded.

As has been said, tho, most of the better parks are careful in this regard and take pride in the appearance of the uniformed attendants.

The coming year, park men believe, especially if there are the right weather breaks, is going to be a banner year. Industry is beginning to right itself, an indication there will be plenty of spenders, and everything points to prosperity for the park men.

Now, if there are managers who are puzzling their brains as to what new features they may install, let them pick up the idea of installing courtesy, and then on the side spend more money for neat uniforms, and insist they be kept that way. It's a safe bet if they are consistent in their demands in these matters, they will notice an increase in both dividends and business. Try it.

Kerstetter Placing Devices In Pennsylvania Parks

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Dec. 24.—Tom E. Kerstetter has leased the exclusive ride for Edgewood Park here, and has begun work on the first one, a roller coaster. When finished early in January this device will be the most sensational of its kind in the coal regions. Plans for the ride were drawn by Herbert Schmeck, of the Philadelphia Toboggan Company, which concern is also furnishing the cars. The coaster will be colored in yellow and black, and the cars a brilliant yellow. A kiddie coaster is also being erected at the side of the big ride, this device being as much for observation and entertainment for the park patrons as for hauling passengers. A Mangle whip will also be installed for summer operation.

Beside this work, Mr. Kerstetter will erect a coaster in Maple Grove Park, Lancaster, Pa., controlled by Kerstetter & Bricker. Maple Grove Park was planned and made possible thru the efforts of Mr. Kerstetter three years ago.

At Paxtang Park, Harrisburg, Mr. Kerstetter will erect a new carousel building, in which will be also a new carousel of the type now operating in Lancaster Park. In addition, a chair-plane will be erected, as well as a dark ride of a nature yet to be determined.

The work is all being done in what park men call amusement parks, but added to these Mr. Kerstetter will have operating in a city park also a carousel, this lease being already closed, but at the request of the board no publicity can be given the location. Kerstetter & Bricker will also install a heating plant in their dance pavilion in Maple Grove Park, Lancaster, and during the winter will operate a roller rink. Free apple cider will be furnished for drinking purposes, and on special days and winter holidays free sandwiches will be served.

Coney Island, fair dates and several weeks at Hubert's Museum. Their next engagement will be with the Ringling-Barnum Circus, at Madison Square Garden, in the spring.

IRISH "JACK" LYNCH, talker with Carl J. Lauder's Big Side Show, made a hit with the natives of Florida. Dr. Reed, medicine man, says Lynch electrified his audience with his announcements.

BEN HASSAN, producer of Arabian athletic troupes, wishes it known that he is the exclusive owner and manager of the Ben Hassan Troupe, appearing at the Globe Theater in Fred Stone's production, *Crisis Cross*, and that he has contracts to bear out this statement. Mrs. Hassan celebrated her birthday anniversary on December 25 and on the same date he and his wife rounded out their first wedding anniversary.

R. A. CASTERLINE, concessionaire, at Summit Beach, Akron, O., will be at the Beach again next season.

KARL GUGGENHEIM, who maintains a novelty house in New York, has sailed for a two-month trip to Europe.

KING KARLOS, lecturer with *The Streets of All Nations*, with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition, has returned to New York for the holidays.

WALTER GUICE, serialist, with Sparks Circus, is playing Loew Time around New York.

J. N. MONTGOMERY, secretary-manager of the Norfolk (Va.) Fair, is a visitor in the metropolis.

JOE TAMBOUR, concessionaire Dreamland Park, Newark, was operated on at the Orange (N. J.) Homeopathic Hospital for stomach trouble December 15.

BARON POUCCI, the midget, will spend the winter at Brighton Beach. He will be featured the coming season with *Nanny Salih's Dreamland Circus Side Show*, Coney Island.

FRED S. KIMBALL, animal trainer, formerly with J. T. Benson, is a holiday visitor in New York.

Look thru the Hotel Directory in this issue. Just the kind of a hotel you want may be listed.

JOYFUL DAYS!!
Operate the Chester-Pollard
FOOTBALL GAME
AND ASSURE YOURSELF THE ENJOYMENT OF A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR

No blood money. No graft. No confusion. No sleeping night. A legitimate game everywhere. Write for territory prospectus today.

CHESTER-POLLARD CO., Inc.
433 W. 45th Street, New York

TILT-A-WHIRL
Latest Novelty Ride for Parks and Carousels.
Manufactured by
SELLNER MANUFACTURING CO., Fort Smith, Miss.
Manufacturers of *Seller's Patent* Water, Tobacco
Slide and other Outdoor Sport Devices.
Distributed by
JOHN A. MILLER COMPANY, Detroit, Michigan.
AMERICAN PLAYGROUND DEVICE CO., Anderson, Ind.

Have and Make Amusement Game Devices of every description except guns.
WM. ROTT
48 E. 5th Street, NEW YORK CITY.

DRAPER'S PARK AMUSEMENTS
WANT
Concessions all kinds. Capable Man for Advance. No graft. Address Ellettsville, Fla., this week; Bradentown to follow.

C. J. UTHOFF
Designer and Builder of the Open Air Marble Dance Floor.
Largest investment. Superior designs. Larger attendance and getting in out of weather. I am the only one of the traffic here. Address
C. J. UTHOFF,
222 West 10th Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

OUT IN THE OPEN

By W. D. VAN VOLKENBERG—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

NELSON REED, last season with the George L. Dohy's Shows, is now managing a tabloid production.

ANITA GOLDIE is the Southern road representative of Wirth & Hamid. She specializes in Hawaiian offerings, and successfully conducted the Hula Hula Land Show in Luna Park, Coney Island, last season, where she will hold forth again in 1927. She is conducting a novelty Hawaiian orchestra in one of the night clubs in the metropolis. She also finds time to direct the ukulele

Department of the Hawaiian Conservatory of Music in the Woolworth Building, New York.

FRANK WIRTH, of Wirth & Hamid, will visit his wife, May Wirth, and the Wirth family at the Temple Theater, Detroit, where they will stage a Christmas party.

MONTANA MAY is doing her rope escape act around New York.

NINETEEN YEARS with one circus in the boots of Jack Hedder, member of the Four Comrades, who have been with the Ringling-Barnum Circus.

BEE STARR, acrobat, playing the Public houses, had her name on the electric signboards at the Tivoli Theater, Chicago.

COL. BIBB, Texas bearcat, developed by Charles W. Browning, of Chicago, is on the program of the Harlem Museum, 117th street, New York.

JOE BASILE, conductor of the Madi-

son Square Garden Band, is back on the job after a tour with Fred Bradna's Indoor Circus.

JOHN J. KELLEY, attorney for the Ringling, is again at his office in the Palace Theater building.

HENRY RAPP, of the American Fireworks, Boston, is in New York for the holidays.

MRS. BEULAH HAZARD SICA, of Mid-City Park, Albany, N. Y., contemplates holding in 1927 another bull fight, introduced last season in the park.

THE OUT IN THE OPEN columnist takes this means of expressing his gratitude for the numerous season's greeting cards received. We join in wishing all a successful and prosperous 1927.

M. J. LAPP, of the Lapp Greater Shows, is at Ellenville, N. Y., where the show is making preparations for the coming season.

J. E. POOLE, creator of "Josh and Tiddy", ruralite characters, has made a success playing fairs and expositions. In pictures Poole has played the rube sheriff and other mirth-provoking characterizations. He has a personality that fits in naturally with the characters he portrays. He is assisted by Maureen McCoy, and during the holiday season they have been entertaining patrons of the John Wanamaker Store in New York.



THE CARLSON SISTERS, heavyweight boxing girls, are at their Brooklyn home for the winter, after a season at



RINKS and SKATERS

Conducted by A. HOMER CLARK
Communications to 25 Opera Place,
Cincinnati, O.

ALAN HELFRICH defeated Paul Foreman, sprint star on ice skates, in two out of three heats at the Iceland Rink, New York, recently. Helfrich, running with spiked shoes on the ice, took first heat of 50 yards in 5 4-5 seconds. Foreman won the second in the same time. Then the sprinter nosed out the skater in six seconds in the deciding dash.

THE EIGHTH AVENUE Skating Rink at Huntington, W. Va., has been reopened with S. L. Lover in charge. The admission price has been cut to 10 cents.

THE FLORENCE AUDITORIUM, East Providence, R. I., opened recently with roller-skating seasons to be held on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings.

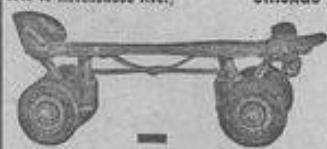
A. J. DUFFY, general manager of Rocky Glen Park, Scranton, Pa., announces that plans are being considered for building a roller-skating rink and dance hall.

R. M. SPANGLER writes he has given up roller skating at Fairmount Park, Red Lion, Pa. He says he has not lost interest in roller skating and will keep his eye on this department as ever.

IN A SERIES of five games of roller polo between Manager Roy Byers' team, Riverside Rink, Indianapolis, and Manager William F. Sefferino's team, Reichrath's Rink, Cincinnati, Sefferino's "All Stars" won three games and Byers' team two. Games were played at Indianapolis and Cincinnati. The last was at Reichrath's Rink, Cincinnati, December 18, the score being 21 to 3 in favor of Cincinnati. Cap Sefferino was the star of the game, annexing four goals; Jimmy Chard scored two goals and Carl Wentzel one for Cincinnati. The Cincinnati lineup included: William Sefferino, captain; Cap Sefferino, Dick Frey, Jimmy Chard, Carl Wentzel, Joe Frey, Ernest Parker and Tommy Burns. Cap Sefferino is in training for a series of races at his Dreamland Rink, Bellevue, Ky., and Reichrath's Rink, Cincinnati.

ENCOURAGED by the adoption by council of an ordinance prohibiting roller skating in Akron rinks on Sundays, Councilman W. C. Criser announced he would introduce at the next meeting an anti-betting ordinance patterned after one in Cleveland, which forbids the publishing of bets and odds. The roller-skating ordinance is in keeping with the anti-Sunday dancing law in effect in Akron. Several large rinks, including Rainbow Gardens, now in operation, will be af-

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fectly by the new law and will be compelled to remain dark Sundays.

CARL WENTZEL, Cincinnati amateur, who won his laurels at the meet held at Baumann's Riverview Rink, Milwaukee, last April, expects to be booked at a number of out-of-town rinks for races in the near future. Manager William F. Sefferino, of Reichrath's Rink, Cincinnati, who discovered Wentzel, says he is the best racing prospect he ever developed.

R. H. GERRITS, Seattle, Wash., fancy and trick roller skater, expects to put on a skating act in the near future if a suitable partner can be found.

A RECENT press dispatch from Chicago stated that Charles Levers, 56, of Evanston, Ill., was holder of the 100-mile ice-skating championship, which he won in 1925, and that he is now in training for the 25, 50 and 100-mile championship races which will be held in Chicago. Levers is said to declare that he never was in better physical condition than at present. His record for 50 miles is four hours and three minutes.

A SUGGESTED New Year resolution for rink managers and skaters, "I'm going to write a letter to the Rinks and Skaters Department of The Billboard more frequently this year than I did last year." Speed up your typewriters and help boost the game.

CHARLOTTE, the ice queen, has been doing her stunt at the Coliseum, Chicago, in connection with the hockey games.

Musical Musings

(Continued from page 23)
formerly with the Cravens show troupe, and who has just recently rejoined the family orchestra.

MERLE F. SHREVE writes: "I am having the best of luck and the success of the Steinyway Four means a lot to the profession." The Steinyway Four recently closed a successful season on the M. Shea Time out of Cleveland, O. A number of changes have been made recently in the

personnel of the quartet and the lineup is now J. Hines, first tenor; M. S. Shreve, second tenor; H. Savard, baritone, and W. M. Turner, basso and manager. The boys at present are making a big hit with their comedy and harmony singing over the broadcasting stations throught Indiana and Central Illinois.

TATE DOLAN, banjoist, singer and composer, formerly with Sherwood's Orchestra, has returned to his home city, Indianapolis, Ind., and is now filling a two-week's engagement at the Apollo Theater there.

HARRY SORY'S ENTERTAINERS will shortly open a year's engagement at the fashionable Glenn Haven Country Club, Dallas, Tex., playing dinner and dance music. The personnel: Paul Dyson, piano and director; Francis Cruz, Harry Jennings and Joe Worrall, sax and reeds; John Sawyer, trumpet; Harry Sory, trumpet, manager and violin; Howard Lambert, banjo; A. L. Henderson, bass; Allie Gattley, trombone, and Clifford Pranden, drums and entertainer.

PAUL EMRICK, director of the military band at Purdue University, La Fayette, Ind., has purchased South Island, located in the middle of Lake Manitowish, near Rochester, Ind., on which he plans to erect a summer home and pavilion, where his 120 musicians will assemble frequently during the summer months for outings and practice. The Purdue Band is the largest and one of the best-drilled musical organizations in the Hoosier State.

FRANK PERLEY, one of the South's best trap drummers, is again back with the Hotzy Totsy Boys' Orchestra, a nine-piece aggregation, now playing vaudeville thru the South. Perley has been playing with the Barnette Forster Memphians for the past few weeks. The Hotzy Totsy Boys are now under the management of Jack Fowler.

BERT WILLIAMS will have charge of the 25-piece orchestra to be installed in the new State Theater, Hartford, Conn., according to an announcement made re-

cently by Martin D. Harris, president of the State Amusement Company of Connecticut.

THE VIRGINIA-CAROLINA ACES, under the direction of Charles E. Price, the well-known 225-pound trumpet artist, are now back in Virginia after an 15 weeks' tour thru Maryland. While in Salisbury, Md., recently, the Aces had the pleasure of hearing the Maryland Collegians and report them a "real" orchestra. Carol McCready, trumpet soloist and vocalist, recently joined the Virginia-Carolina Aces. The orchestra is booked in West Virginia for 10 weeks and then is booked solid over the same spots it played during the past spring and summer. The orchestra is closing its seventh successful season and being advanced by Eddie Eger. The personnel: Bobby Hildeburg, sax and clarinet; E. Clark, sax and clarinet; Willie Gregory, sax and clarinet; Charles Price, trumpet and director; Carol McCready, trumpet; Eddie Ingram, banjo; Martin Cruse, drums; M. Hughes, piano and dancer; Wade Hudson, trombone, and Walter Ashworth, violin.

JACK CARLOS, of Lansing, Mich., has a new band in the Country Club Caroliers, who have played a number of "traps" and clubs in Lansing and surrounding territory. The Country Club Caroliers have been placed in the New Hotel Ohio in Lansing for a tryout. The lineup: Joe Kreiger, ivories and fiddle; Jim Heffner, sax, clarinet, ivories and traps; Leonard Boomer, traps and ivories; Hank Sutherland, trumpet; Ed Lindberg, sax and clarinet; Jack Carlos, banjo, entertainer and manager.

FRANK D. OPIE writes from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: "The orchestra on the S. S. Vanhan, playing between New York and Buenos Aires, consists of the following: J. Fred Schmitt, piano and leader; Louis Springstein, cello and banjo; Otto Kruger, violin, and Frank Oppie, drums. The combination is playing concert and dance music aboard ship and the passengers have been complimenting them highly on their work."

LA WERNER JOHNSON infoes that he has closed with the Monroe Hopkins Show for the holidays. Johnson writes that he is working with some of his old friends, among them Jack Nesbitt, pianist, and Paul E. Lankert, clarinet and sax.

THE SUN EAGLE SERENADERS, who have been playing thru Western Pennsylvania, are laying off for the holidays to permit the boys to get home for the big eat. After the holidays the boys will reconvene at Altoona, Pa., for rehearsals and a general reorganization before beginning their first job of the new year at the Penn Alto Hotel, Altoona. The roster of the new orchestra will include: Jimmy Hawkins, sax; "Marty" Lutz, sax; Ray Smith, sax; "Mike" Naimo, trumpet and director; Tom Bender, trombone and entertainer; "Heavy" Martin, bass; Dewey Corbin, alto; "Tubby" White, piano and entertainer; Eddie Vorman, drums and entertainer, and M. K. Redline, banjo and business manager. The Sun Eagle Serenaders are booked by Joseph (Pinky) Reese.

Fair Elections

(Continued from page 63)

Officers recently elected are: President, Benjamin Hoyt; vice-president, Hunt Whesler; treasurer, Harold Spencer.

The board of directors includes: David Miller, Gay Coates, Charles Wilkins, Stephen Whitaker, Frank Barnes, Frank Ames, Floyd Lamont, Herbert Comstock and Arthur Owens. David Miller and Charles Wilkins are delegates to the New York State convention at Albany in February.

ALLENTOWN, Pa., Dec. 28.—Edmund H. Scholl has been re-elected president of the Lehigh County Agricultural Society. Other officers except Harry B. Schall, secretary, were also re-elected. The 1927 fair will be held September 20 to 24.

GENUINE TALCO POPPER
ONLY \$29.75
A genuine Talco Kettle Popper at Lowest Price ever made for a quality machine. Big capacity. Best materials and construction.
Pressure Gauge. 6 oz. of Electric Heat. 1700° with all equipment, only \$29.75. Order from TALCO MFG. CO., Dept. CP-18, St. Louis, Mo.

Carnivals

Conducted by FELIX BLEI—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Ben Krause Purchases Equipment From R. & C.

F. S. Reed, secretary of Rubin & Cherry Shows, advises that Ben Krause, owner of the Krause Greater Shows, spent last week in Montgomery, Ala., as guest of Rubin Gruber and while there purchased \$18,000 worth of show equipment, including fronts, cars, wagons, etc., to be shipped to his winter quarters at Augusta, Ga.

Mr. Krause says he will go out the coming season with a 20-car show which will be second to none on the road. It was due to the fact that the Rubin & Cherry Shows are building a number of fronts for the coming season that Mr. Krause was able to secure the carved wagon fronts and it did not take him long to close the deal.

Benny is very optimistic about the coming season, having already secured a number of contracts for fairs and celebrations. He is leaving for Tampa, Fla., to look after property interests, and after a few weeks in Florida will return to Augusta to get his show in shape for the opening of the season the latter part of March.

Gives Check to Brown Fund

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 22.—Mr. and Mrs. Elmer C. Velare, of the Royal American Shows, arrived last week to remain until after the Christmas tree and New Year's Eve festivities of the Heart of America Showman's Club, when they will go to winter quarters in Memphis. They called at The Billboard office with a check for \$107.52, which they requested sent to William F. Floto, chairman of the Babe Brown Fund, Wichita, Kan. This money was raised by Mrs. Velare at Greenville, Miss., last fall. It was sent at once to Mr. Floto with Christmas greetings to Mrs. Brown.

Watkins Motordrome Signs With Rubin & Cherry Shows

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—I. J. Watkins, who had the motordrome speedway with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition last season, has signed for 1927 with Rubin & Cherry. I. J. Watkins, while the Jones Exposition was playing in Canada, had the misfortune of losing a leg when an automobile crashed into his motorcycle. In the meantime his wife, Mrs. Hazel Watkins, took charge of the show. Watkins has been spending some time in the Allegheny Mountains around Lake Hopatcong fishing and hunting and reports that he is again in good condition.

Goldberg's Coney Island Scores in Barbados

Lucile Anderson, high diver, appearing as a free attraction with Joel Goldberg's Coney Island Shows, advises that the show is filling a successful engagement at Martinique, Barbados, and that their next stand will be in Brazil. Speedy Bower's Motordrome is making a hit.

Sclar Signs With Smith

Mark Sclar, who had the Minstrel Show with George L. Dobyas last year, has signed up with the Otis L. Smith Shows for the coming season and will have the minstrels and an Arabian Show with the organization.

Joe Walsh Re-Engaged With Zeidman & Pollie

Joe E. Walsh, who was special agent for the Zeidman & Pollie Shows last season, has renewed his contract in the same capacity for the coming season. He is now presenting a circus revue under the firm name of the J. E. Walsh Producing Company.

Keeping Faith With the Public

By A. C. BRADLEY

IN THE intervening four years since I have been affiliated with a carnival company in an executive capacity it has been my good fortune, if one might term it such, to have had numerous opportunities of discussing the merits and methods of operation, as well as the caliber and offerings of many leading carnival organizations, and perhaps the laymen's opinions and consensus of such ideas and opinions are of interest to carnival owners, agents and others affiliated in various capacities with such organizations. I believe that these "town chump" and "sucker" ideas and theories might have a tendency to enlighten the carnival world of the actual anticipations and expectations of the public when the carnival comes to town.

Acting impartially and with fairness toward all organizations, I must admit that the consensus of opinions lay in the similarity of the carnivals of today. It seems whatever one show presents in the way of original ideas is quickly imitated by competitive organizations, with the ultimate outcome being a similar or as nearly so as possible offering, and, also varied to a certain degree, the idea and construction is almost identical, so where one show follows another into stands, the novelty of this particular device or attraction has worn off and the consequence is the attraction fails to register as an asset to the midway.

Again, I have found that the midway has not advanced to any degree of novelty, and that with the exception of the massive gold-leafed fronts handed down from year to year, and duplicates of the original fronts of some well-known and world-famous organization, the same array of attractions are embraced in every lineup of the average carnival. This idea again proves, or at least tends to a degree in proving, the similarity of all such organizations, the consequence being that attractions fail to "click" at the box office and the owner is bleeding himself and his coffers simply to offer an attraction which has been considered a drawing factor with another show. What is the simple solution to this problem of perplexity confronting owners, managers, producers and executives in the selection, presentation and ensemble of midway entertainments?

I WOULD be perhaps considered a radical were I to offer my suggestion in this perplexing controversy, yet, without assuming too much, my suggestions would cover the subject as follows:

Riding devices are entertaining, sensational, thrilling and consistent money-makers as a whole; concessions, operated legitimately and strictly as merchandise wheels, are revenue sources, yet they are considered "grams" in various States and under various conditions. However, they afford recreation to those inclined to spend their time and funds for such form of entertainment. The prime factor of the entire midway lies in the shows or entertainment. Here is the barrier to the advance of the carnival as the public sees it today.

Year after year attractions and shows are offered, with perhaps new fronts, new designs and fictitious names, yet in a general sense they are the same thing over and over, but disguised so as to fool the public. You fool the public but once and then the public foets you.

The carnival manager and his agents have heralded and advertised for miles around the contracted town the coming of the "world's most prodigious and largest carnival company and exposition" and in the newspaper readers and ads are such phrases as: "Bigger, Better and More Elaborate Than Ever"; "All New Attractions"; "The Finest and Most Entertaining Attractions Ever Assembled"; "High-Class, Refined and Meritorious Shows," and similarly worded phrases, with the public, and the committee under whom the organization may be showing, believing the advertisements. Monday night the show's business is very gratifying; Tuesday night, the midway again

is packed to capacity, altho the box offices fail to equal the Monday night grosses; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday find the show doing only a fair business, yet the people are there, in seething, surging, crowding and hilarious masses, altho they do not seem to be spending their money as freely as they did the opening night. Why?

HAS THE novelty of the event worn off? Perhaps local working conditions have caused this tightening up? With real carnival weather conditions, good and reputable auspices, these tendencies have assumed concern in the minds of the management, the concessionaire and the attraction owners. What suggestion can be offered to offset this "drying up" attitude of the public, which on the opening night spent and spent, frolicked, laughed and enjoyed the carnival and "ate it up"?

Mingling with the masses on the midway, the answer is found. "Oh, that's the same thing they had last year, only it's under a different name," or "We saw that show with the carnival that was here before," and eventually the real source of the "carnival's indifference" comes to the fore, with an expression worded something like this: "Years ago the carnivals that came to town generally had some sort of a free act, perhaps several, and they also had some high-class show, like *Nero*, or the *Burning of Rome*; *Fire, Water and Electricity*, or something out of the ordinary, other than the small shows they have today, and the talk of the town those days was the spectacular entertainment. Almost everybody came to the carnival to see it as well as take in a few of the lesser attractions, stay until 10 or 10:30 for the big free act, repeating the visit several nights during the engagement; but nowadays the carnivals aren't like they were then. It seems as the days of those spectacles as an outstanding feature of our street fairs or carnivals have passed on and the carnival owners have spent all their money in cars and wagons, massive fronts and trying to fool the public, so I guess we'll not come out any more, for it's the same old thing over and over. They're all alike."

The question has been answered via the principal factor in the success of the carnival and its dependent medium—the public.

THERE are many brilliant and original men in the carnival business, who have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars in their organizations and who sit and watch, remorsefully and without action, the crumbling year after year, of their business, inconsiderate of the remedy for such depreciation and the "minus" of the clinking of silver in the red wagon. These men have invested thousands of dollars in massive wagon fronts, in canvas and in rides, as well as the finest rolling stock and equipment that money and workmanship can provide, yet they are imitated or have imitated with the consequence that the public looks suspiciously on the coming of the carnival and its promises.

Is there not one owner or manager who will champion the cause of the carnival's problem? Is there not one who has stored in his brain an idea which, when put to the acid test of public criticism and rebuttal will be the first to protect his idea with a Federal permit? Can we go on and on in this business, year after year, relying upon the brains and ideas of others? Can we go on wantonly stealing and usurping such ideas without compensation to the man who gave birth to it? Is it justice to ourselves, to the originator, to the business or to the public?

Behind those beautiful and massive wagon fronts that have you to offer in the way of entertainment that provides enjoyment and satisfaction to your patrons and lives up to the promises of

(Continued on page 75)

Capt. Jack Valley's Show Scores in South America

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Victor Lee, who has the wax show and the baby miracle with Capt. Jack Valley's South American Shows, writes from San Juan, Porto Rico, that their nine-day engagement was successful for the rides and shows. They then moved to the ancient capital of Aresibo, where another red one was played. The show opened at their next stand for a 12-day engagement, Riverview Park, P. R., as a part of the Insular Exposition, on December 1, but were accorded such unanimous success that the engagement was prolonged until January 1.

The shows, rides and the free acts came in for commendable praise and have been well patronized. Lee asserts that the climatic conditions are a real test of showmanship when it comes to running a wax show in the tropics with the thermometer well over 100 degrees, and in some cases the morning sun reaching 140 degrees, and the heat under canvas is almost unbearable. To meet this exigency, Lee has constructed a case equipped with electric fans where the wax figures are stored each night, in addition to the ether process, to prevent the wax from melting. The express or steamship lines will not accept wax figures for shipment in that country without an indemnity waiver, and he is probably the first wax showman to operate in the tropics.

Walter Savidge Winner In \$35,000 Damage Suit

WAYNE, Neb., Dec. 20.—After being out four hours the jury in the Madison County District Court returned a verdict in favor of the Walter Savidge Carnival Company. Thru her mother, Cleo McKeown, Norfolk (Neb.) girl, sued the Savidge company for \$35,000 damages, the plaintiff claiming she was injured by coming into contact with a live wire while alighting from a seaplane swing owned by the defendant. Miss McKeown claimed that the shock to her nervous system impaired her health and caused her to be more or less helpless.

Louis Hemingway Resumes His H. A. S. C. Duties

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 22.—Louis Hemingway, secretary-treasurer of the J. George Loo Shows, has returned and will resume his duties as secretary of the Heart of America Showman's Club, a position he has filled for the past two winters. In the spring he will rejoin the Loo Shows in his former capacities.

C. B. Rice has been acting secretary of the club until Hemingway's return.

Central States Exposition Is To Play Florida Fairs

J. T. Pinfold, manager of the Central States Exposition Shows has announced he has contracted to play his organization at the following Florida fairs: Vero Beach, Stuart, West Palm Beach and Ft. Lauderdale.

Johnny J. Jones To Visit N. Y.

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 22.—Johnny J. Jones will soon be able to regain the use of his injured leg and will make a visit to New York in connection with plans for the coming season.

Reiss Shows To Play Kinston, N. C., Fair

Carleton Collins advises that he has closed contracts for Nat Reiss Shows with the Kinston, N. C., Fair for next fall, making the third straight year for that organization.

New Year's Eve Party For Showmen's League

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—At the meeting of the Showmen's League last night it was decided to have a New Year's eve party in the clubrooms for members and their families. A single man may bring a woman friend. The charge will be \$5 per person. There will be music by one of the best orchestras in the city. Dancing will start at 9 p.m. and continue to 11:45, when dinner will be served. Dancing will then be resumed and continue.

Sam J. Levy is in charge and C. R. (Zebbie) Fisher is in charge of the reservations. Members who expect to attend and bring their families should notify Mr. Fisher as soon as possible in order that the reservation can be entered.

LEAGUE NOTES

Harry Codrington made his annual presentation of a basket of fine Idaho apples to the league and auxiliary last evening.

Following its usual custom the league will remember the sick members who are in the hospitals in order to make as merry a Christmas as possible for them.

President F. M. Barnes is still in the hospital following his last unpleasant experience with hold-up men.

Robert F. Katz is on the sick list at the American Hospital.

Felice Bernardi has recovered from his operation and is now out of the hospital.

A gymnasium class is being formed for regular instruction with Zebbie Fisher as temporary instructor.

Robert L. Lohmar, general agent of the Morris & Castle Shows, shipped 286 toy autos to Col. F. J. Owens, who distributed 150 of them to the orphans in the Swedish Home. The rest will be distributed later.

The report last week that Col. F. J. Owens was the champion billiard player of the league promptly brought a number of challenges to the Colonel. Sam Levy was the first to take the champion on and now there is a new champion.

George Stanley and sister of vaudeville and Herman Singer, musician, with Wortham Shows, visited the league rooms last week. Frank Lentini was due to motor in, but because of an auto accident didn't arrive. The accident involved the car only.

A. E. (Ted) Timmons closed Col. Owens' No. 4 show at Jonesville, Ark., last week and brought it into Chicago for storage. Ted will winter in Chicago, making preparations for next season. Rose Berry will spend the holidays with Colonel and Mrs. F. J. Owens.

Meyerhoff Seriously Ill At New York Hospital

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Henry Meyerhoff, well-known outdoor showman, is seriously ill, and was taken to the New York Hospital on December 22, where, it is understood, he will undergo an operation.

TALCO COOK HOUSES HAMBURGER TRUNKS

LOWEST PRICES—IMMEDIATE SHIPMENT

4 in. \$4.25	5 in. \$5.50
6 in. \$6.75	8 in. \$8.50
10 in. \$10.50	12 in. \$12.50
14 in. \$14.50	16 in. \$17.50
18 in. \$19.50	20 in. \$22.50
22 in. \$27.50	24 in. \$32.50
28 in. \$39.50	30 in. \$44.50
36 in. \$51.50	42 in. \$63.50
48 in. \$75.50	54 in. \$87.50
60 in. \$99.50	72 in. \$121.50
84 in. \$151.50	96 in. \$185.50
108 in. \$207.50	120 in. \$231.50

Strong Bay Covers—Pressure Cookers:
 2 Burner... \$11.50
 3 Burner... \$15.50
 4 Burner... \$21.50
 5 Burner... \$27.50
 6 Burner... \$33.50
 8 Burner... \$45.50
 10 Burner... \$57.50
 12 Burner... \$69.50
 14 Burner... \$81.50
 16 Burner... \$93.50
 18 Burner... \$105.50
 20 Burner... \$117.50
 22 Burner... \$129.50
 24 Burner... \$141.50
 26 Burner... \$153.50
 28 Burner... \$165.50
 30 Burner... \$177.50
 32 Burner... \$189.50
 34 Burner... \$201.50
 36 Burner... \$213.50
 38 Burner... \$225.50
 40 Burner... \$237.50
 42 Burner... \$249.50
 44 Burner... \$261.50
 46 Burner... \$273.50
 48 Burner... \$285.50
 50 Burner... \$297.50
 52 Burner... \$309.50
 54 Burner... \$321.50
 56 Burner... \$333.50
 58 Burner... \$345.50
 60 Burner... \$357.50
 62 Burner... \$369.50
 64 Burner... \$381.50
 66 Burner... \$393.50
 68 Burner... \$405.50
 70 Burner... \$417.50
 72 Burner... \$429.50
 74 Burner... \$441.50
 76 Burner... \$453.50
 78 Burner... \$465.50
 80 Burner... \$477.50
 82 Burner... \$489.50
 84 Burner... \$501.50
 86 Burner... \$513.50
 88 Burner... \$525.50
 90 Burner... \$537.50
 92 Burner... \$549.50
 94 Burner... \$561.50
 96 Burner... \$573.50
 98 Burner... \$585.50
 100 Burner... \$597.50

NICHOLLS, GA.

Next week CAN PLACE ER Ferris Wheel, or Smith & Smith's Chairlifts. Have room for a few more. Concessions will be good one-fourth deposit. Write or call MITCHELL & LA MANCE, Birmingham, Ala. This Week.

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 Keynote Winner Dixie Machine
 Give particulars for quick sale
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Large and small, useful for any show purpose—Dogs, Ponies, Monkeys, Bears. Prefer animals broke to work.

WANTED Immediately, Capable Man to Break Small Animals. State all particulars in first letter.

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Feats, Side Show and Platform Attractions, and will pay good salary to any of merit. Can use good Mind-Reading Act. lady to double as fortune teller, man as lecturer. What have you to offer? Address:

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WANT FOR SEASON 1927

Wax Show, Silo Drama, Monkey Circus or Speedway, Side Show, Musical Revue and Walk-Through Shows. Will furnish outfits. Concessions of all kinds open. Show opens April 16th in Connecticut. Winter Quarters, Danbury, Conn. Office, 19 Hickory St., Ellenville, N. Y.

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WANTED FOR SEASON 1927

Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and Mix-Up. Real opposition to ride counts. WANT real Athletic Men to take charge of real framed Athletic Show. CAN PLACE Grand Shows of all kinds, with or without outfit. Concessions all open. Will sell exclusive Cook House and Juice, Hamburg, Corn Game, Palmistry, fortune-telling \$20.00. Ball Games, exclusive, \$50.00. Privilege of four Games, Trunks, Sullies, \$20.00. Wheels, \$25.00. Grand Shows, \$25.00. WANT Working Men, Exhibition who understands Operations and Purposes Tractor. Following parties write: G. Henderson, Clark Latham, Chief Redick, Moriana Mark, Cuddy Adams, Elmer Fairfield, Ralph, where are you? All address: W. J. DOC RALSTON, Barbours, Ohio.

Complete Portable Dodgem Jr. Rides For Sale

Without cars (buy cars from Dodgem Corp., Lawrence, Mass.). No carnival or park should be without one. For terms address A. INGERSOLL, P. O. Box 1132, Montgomery, Alabama.

Advertise in The Billboard—You'll Be Satisfied With Results.

News From West Coast

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Dec. 23.—At the meeting of the Pacific Coast Showmen's Association it was decided to hold a "Get-Together Party" in honor of outgoing officers on Monday night, January 17.

Members who attended the meeting included Walter B. Hunsaker, J. J. Dunn, Ed Garner, Al Nations, C. M. Gillespie, Felix L. Burk, J. Sky Clark, Lee J. Teller, B. L. Reich, Richard Murdoch, H. W. Fowler, George French, Joseph Diehl, Ed Mozard, A. J. Ziv, Judge J. L. Karnes, Bert McIntyre, Harry Sussman, John Robinson, Dutch Steinhart, Royce Ladue, Jack Donnelly, Ed Smithson, John Miller, Archie Clark, Harry Phillips, David Pollock, Charles Guberman, Ben J. Martin, Charles Nelson, Frank McMahon and F. B. Joerling.

Every day brings show people to Los Angeles, among the late arrivals being Mrs. Cleo Webber, who was with the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus last season; Harry Kremp, after spending the past six months in the East; Mr. and Mrs. C. F. (Doc) Zedger, who have stered their show at Hood River, Ore.; W. H. Bradshaw and wife of Kansas City; Mr. and Mrs. Tony Spring; Harley S. Tyler, who with W. H. (Bill) Rice has opened an office in down-town Los Angeles, where they are dealing in show properties; Mr. and Mrs. Archie Clark, who closed their season in Bakersfield, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. George Rollins, of Law and Outlaw Show fame, who have been the guests of W. H. McGeary and wife.

Departures from Los Angeles are Will (Bill) Wright, for Seattle, where he will spend Christmas with his relatives, then going to Trull, B. C., after the show for the year, to stage an indoor show for the Elks, and Lou Backenstow, who left yesterday for the East on a business trip. His famous chimp, "Joe Mendl", is appearing in local theaters at present.

Johnny J. Jones Shows Opens Season January 3

ORLANDO, Fla., Dec. 24.—Johnny J. Jones announces that the Johnny J. Jones Exposition will open the season at the Hardy County Fair, Wanchula, Fla., on January 3, with a 20-car show to play this date. Another unit of the Johnny J. Jones Exposition of the same size will open January 17 at the Polk County Orange Festival, Winter Haven, Fla.

NEW PONY TRACK

15 Hand-Painted Horses with Jockey, 34x55 Fold-up Board.
 PRICE COMPLETE, SPECIAL \$60.00

BEANO or CORN GAME
 25-Player Outfit, Complete, \$5.00. 75-Player Outfit, Complete, \$12.00.

ALUMINUM CENTER WHEELS
 25 inches in diameter. Numbered on both sides. Any combination. Special, \$20.00.

25% deposit, balance C. O. D. Send for our new Catalogue No. 116—full of new Games, Dice, Bankers, Barbours, Aluminums, Novelties, etc.

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 Big Repairer and Penny Gifter.
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 228 2d Avenue, N.E., Nashville, Tenn.

FOR SALE
 Most Versatile, Serial No. 122M or 123M. Slightly used, good as new. Price, \$55.00. Reconstructed Nickel and Quarter Machines. Price \$45.00 and \$60.00 respectively. 25% with order, balance C. O. D.
 RADIO MINE CO., 945 Long St., Bethlehem, Pa.

electric light plant. Most of the people that were with the show last year have looked for the coming season. The sides are being repainted at winter quarters at Nanticoke, Pa."

WHILE EXHIBITING at Tarpon Springs, Fla., the members of the Wise Shows had quite a time enjoying the home-cooked meals at Maw Tate's restaurant and talking with Dad Shields as well as being with Fred Paul, who have picked Tarpon Springs as their home town.

FRANK L. BYNUM writes from Palm Beach, Fla.: "Just came up from Miami and they now have ball games and science and skill working, but they are not faring so well on the various lots. Some contrast between last year. The carnivals are all represented down here. Here is hoping for a big Christmas."

DID YOU GIVE the baby year a hearty welcome?

PROF. AND MADAME HUDSPETH have joined the Metropolitan Shows at Wauchula, Fla., with a 3-in-1 show, consisting of electric chair, Chinese mystery; Joe Siml, magician; Pony Bill, who pulls automobiles with his flaxen hair, and Mrs. Hudspeth in magic and mind-reading.

J. D. WILSON, of the Brown & Sanders Amusement Company, informs: "We are playing Nashville, Ark., but the weather has been so bad that we could not open for four days. We had a fair attendance and it looks like we will have a good Christmas date. Expect to jump to Louisiana after this spot and stay out all winter. The lineup consists of four shows, merry-go-round, ferris wheel and 15 concessions."

PRINCESS LOLA and Walter Levina write: "After completing our engagement with the Morris & Castle Shows we bought a truck to carry paraphernalia while playing vanderbilt thru Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas. Dr. Cox is plotting the show. Just finished over the Maple Circuit of theaters in El Dorado. We are booked in New Orleans for eight weeks. Today, the wrestling bear, is a big attraction and meets all corners."

CARL HERRICK writes: "Just a line to let my show friends know I am spending the holidays in Indianapolis, Ind., with my folks, having a wonderful time and Santa Claus has been real good to me. One particular present was certainly appreciated. Thanks very much. Red. Next season will find me again connected with Jackie Smith and Chester Taylor, last year with Leo Lynn Shows. Leaving here about January 5 for Hot Springs, Ark., where I intend to spend the rest of the winter. Merry Christmas to all."

DON'T FORGET to date your letters
-1-9-27.

CHARLES SEIP writes: "After being on route for 40 weeks the C. E. Leggett Shows are safely housed in four buildings in Monroe, La., and some work already started for 1927. While the season has been a little freakish—we started in rain and closed in rain and sleet—the early season was very bad, midsummer was fine, some of the falls good, and others were 'L. b.' Taking it all together, we have no cause to complain, as the show has a nice 'b. f.' on the right side of the ledger and will open about the middle of March."

O. H. BAKER, of the Michigan Greater Shows, writes from Louisville, Ky.: "At this time of the year there is not much news from the shows tucked away in winter quarters. Quite a number of howfolk are wintering in Louisville, among them Harry Applegate, show elec-



MUR'S PILLOWS

ROUND and SQUARE

No article of merchandise shows the value and flash for the money like these hand-colored Art Pillows.

SPECIAL DESIGNS FOR LODGES, AMERICAN LEGION AND RESORTS
SALESBOARD OPERATORS, CANDY JOBBERS

You will find these Pillows real trade stimulators. **OUR PILLOW RAFFLE CARD MAKES MONEY RAPIDLY WITH SMALL OUTLAY OF CAPITAL.**

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PEDDLERS—DEMONSTRATORS

New Shipment Needle Packages at Special Prices
Each kind contains 4 papers loose silver-point Needles, 1 paper cloth-stitch Needles, and patch of assorted Darning Needles.

No.	Per Gross.
B100—Garishing Set, 4 White Handled Files, in Carton. (Cases, \$2.33).....	\$25.00
B127—Glass Cutter Knives.....	15.00
B110—Colored Shell Chains.....	7.50
B128—Tooth Pick Knives.....	2.50
B144—Tie Fast Balls.....	3.25
B137—Miscellaneous Straw Mats.....	3.00
B400—White Stone Pins.....	4.00
B710—Horsehoe Needle Book.....	6.00

We carry Watches, Clocks, Silverware, Jewelry, Shum Jewelry, Giftware Goods, Candles, Buttons, Knives, Mechanical Toys, Books, Ballpoint, Rubber Balls, Novelties and Notions. Our stores in free hand for your copy today. We require a deposit on all C. O. D. orders.

SHRYOCK-TODD NOTION CO., 524 North Eighth Street, ST. LOUIS, MO.



VENDERS YOU HAVE WANTED AT PRICES YOU WAITED FOR

SILVER KING Penny-Nickel-Dime Ball Gum Venders	\$35.00
A Few Slightly Used, Look and Work Like New	30.00
IT Improved Rowland Cigars with Each One.	
MILLS OR SILVER KING 24 Factory Robert 500s Venders, Fine Condition, Excellent Appearance	60.00
MILLS Oval Glass 24 Side Venders, Factory Rebuilt and Relinished	40.00
(at \$35.00 Each.)	
HIGHEST QUALITY HINTS, per 1,000	11.00
Write or call \$10.00 deposit on each machine	

INDIANAPOLIS VENDING COMPANY
CORNER CAPITOL AND NORTH, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

ZEBBIE FISHER'S INDESTRUCTIBLE WHEEL

Made of 5-ply wood, 1 1/2 inch thick, waterproof glue used in construction. Stronger than steel per unit of weight. Will fit on any H. It will not separate. Drive rolls into it, it will not split. Sun and damp weather will not affect it. Equipped with bronze bushing and turns of hardened and side. Filled with brass nuts that do not come out, and our latest design Indicator Holder and Indicator. Most perfect balance and travel steering Wheel ever made. Will stand on under hardest use and always show a uniform percentage. Painted in any color desired. Buy with each Wheel for shipping. Made in three sizes, any combination both sides. Deposit required on all orders.

Price 24-inch\$25.00 Price 32-inch.....\$40.00 Price 36-inch.....\$50.00
ZEBBIE FISHER CO., 80 East Lake St., Chicago, Illinois.

RUBIN & CHERRY'S CIRCUS SIDE SHOW WANTS

For Miami Police Circus and long season to follow: One real Freak that is a feature, right proposition to same, and Side-Show Acts of all kinds. Want Glass Blower, Wire Worker and Novel Selling Acts. Want to hear from Fritz Larcado, Nabor Felix, Nels Nelson, Larson and Pinxy, Sampsons, Ralph Cronin, "Feddie" Seal Boy. Write or wire at once.
DOC HARTWICK, Box 2744, Miami, Fla.

FOR SALE

Thirteen Flat Cars, all sixty feet long, and two Box Cars, fifty feet long. Best wooden flats on road. Will furnish complete outfit to any good side-show manager. Will also furnish complete outfit for any good attraction. Buck Smith, write.

WEST SHOWS, Box 958, NORFOLK, VA.

Advertise in The Billboard—You'll Be Satisfied With Results.

trician; Elmer Sheelhaas, Chas. Robertson, with The Courier-Journal, and the Howard boys. The King Bros., at the Louisville Hotel. Stanford Baker, Sherry Ilberbach and G. E. McClellan are in Detroit. William Bidwell and son, Russell Loughrey, Cletus Schmeidler, Chas. Whitington and Frank Fulton are in Florida."

JULIA, trained chimpanzee at the Cincinnati Zoo, is to have a new dress and hat on Christmas Day, in addition to many special dishes that would make any chimpanzee's mouth water. Her dress and hat are the gifts of a young girl who left them several days ago at the Zoo ticket office addressed to Sol A. Stephan, general manager. The card exercised on the gift is apparent when it is told that the dress and hat are pink and that Julia absolutely refuses to wear any other color than this. How the girl learned this fact is something of a mystery, as it was known only to Mr. Stephan and Julia's keeper, neither of whom remember ever having told anyone regarding this peculiarity.

WILL HERB'S HOPING everything that happens in 1927 will be for the best—best for you and yours.

LEAVING A STEAMSHIP after arrival from Buenos Aires in Brooklyn, last week, a musician was betrayed by his big brass drum. He struggled down the pier with drum, cymbals, etc. Custom guards halted him and the drum was set on the pier in a cool dry place. "Boom" came a noise from the drum. "Boom" again and again. Both owner and official had a scientific interest in this phenomenon, particularly the inspector, who took off the case. A mouse leaped forth. The inspector also found a bottle of rum, a bottle of gin, one of vermuth and one of Scotch. "It's a wonder the mouse didn't stagger," said the inspector. The bandman was taken before Solicitor of Customs and fined \$50. He did not have the cash available, so the drum was held.

AL PORTER advises that he closed as general agent of the Wonderland Shows at Miami, Fla., and is back in Washington, D. C., organizing the Porter Bros.' Shows, a 10-car gilly show opening at Quantico, Va., for the Moose Street Carnival. Lester Stanley has booked his merry-go-round, Ferris wheel and chair-o-plane. Ralph Phillips, his minstrel show, L. B. Chase his 10-in-1, Charles Karne a wax show. Porter is building a ride called the submarine, Barney Isaac Chappy, Lawrence Wright, Joe Mealy, Joe Oliver, Stubby, John Flynn, manager of the Seaboard Shows, and several other carnival men are in Washington. K. F. Ketchum passed thru on his way to Paterson, N. J. Porter's headquarters are at 608 Sixth street, N. W.

YOU DIDN'T HAVE any more trials and troubles in 1926 than the other fellow; you only think you had. Give him a word of cheer, too.

DEAPY FETTINGREW writes from Fort Worth, Tex.: It has been so long since my name appeared in your columns thought I would shoot you a line or two. As usual am wintering here with the trouper's friend, Perry S. Brown, manager of the Madoc Hotel. Had a fairly



MR. and MRS. "BILL" HILLIAR camping out Christmas, 1926, at Le Crosse, Wis.



THE NEW PARKER Q MODEL CARRY-US-ALL
Possibly the lightest and easiest-handled machine built. Weighs at two-ton, less power, 12,000 lbs. Better freight, better handling. Particularly fine for truck shows and one-day stands.
THE O. W. PARKER AMUSEMENT CO.
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

CONKLIN & GARRET'S ALL CANADIAN SHOWS

*Wish to Extend to All Business Associates Their Best Wishes for
A Happy and Prosperous New Year*

Can book for the coming season: Monkey Speedway, Illusion Show, Caterpillar, Tilt-a-Whirl, Snake Show, I have a complete Menagerie I will book to responsible showman on a fifty-fifty basis. Must have lady rider. Will also book the following Concessions: Kall's Rack, Spot-the-Spot, Hoops, Ball Games, Few choice Wheels open. Can also place some real good Concession Agents. Must be agents of ability. If you are not able to stand prosperity don't answer this ad. Will sell the exclusive rights for Cook House. Pete Kortis' World's Museum can place Freaks and Curiosities of all kinds. Address Pete Kortis, Georgian Hotel, Seattle, Wash. All others address J. W. CONKLIN, Herald Square Hotel, New York City, until January 8; Sherman Hotel, Chicago, January 10-11; Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, January 13. After this date address all mail Castle Hotel, Vancouver, B. C.

successful season. Have booked my ball games with Bill Hames' Shows for the coming season. Quite a number of show people here this winter, as most of the shows in Texas closed early. Among them are Truman Agle and brother, with a fruit and produce stand on Main street; Jim Dehl and wife, conducting a rooming house; Carly Vernon and Tex Chambers, hunting ducks. Mr. Hames has started preparations for next season, having painters at work in winter quarters."

MAY YOUR CAMEL never go thirsty in 1927.

WINTER IN FRISCO 1926-27
By William Arnold

A bunch of us troupers at the Reno Hotel for some real home cooking we sure have fell;

Dutch Allen's wife, Carrie, a trouper for fair

From the soles of her shoes to her short bobbed hair,

She boils the spuds and fries the steat, For a trouper's winter, is that a tough break?

There's Vick and Smithy, Dutch and "Caterpillar Bill".

We eat so much, were all going to be ill. Just out of the hospital; lost her appendix.

Yet she does all this cooking for us four ginks.

She's got one husband, could have all of us four;

We're thanking you, Carrie, and hollering for more.

The end of my story, so I'll blow taps While Casey, the bulldog, licks up the scraps.

MAYBE YOU INTEND turning over a new leaf. If you do, take this tip—don't throw away the old leaf; it may come in handy for reference.

COL. W. B. HICKS, "old scout", writes from the American Saving Aid and Emergency and Rescue Home, Pine Bluff, Ark. "I have been a trouper more than 40 years. Came here to spend my Christmas and as I am 85 years old and very sick and broke may not live to see my many old friends, and these little babies, children and deserted mothers are not to

be forgotten—no empty stockings. I moved in all ways this winter, by baggage car, box car, boat and ox carts. We are now on a narrow-gauge railroad and had to unload all the baggage twice. The staff of the show has been changed. Mr. Roberts is doing his own general-agent work, with Ed Eger and Harry Nugent as promoters. A. B. Murry is looked for after the Christmas holidays.

The lineup is as follows: Charlie Price, orchestra leader; Col. Gregory, assistant manager; Lester Howard, electrician. The orchestra has the following men: Tuby Reeves, Robert Helmsberger, Edward Engrim, Robert Cruse, Moses Hughes, Charlie Price, Harry Cotter, E. T. Sheppard, Blakie Donaldson and Skyes Sheppard. The acts are the Lellettas, barrel jumpers and athletic; June Mason, the girl in the golden whirl; the Famous Mansfields in their impalement act; Little Frankie; Lavetta, the man that grows and grows; the Shooting Mansfields; Col. Gregory, in his bicycle act; Harry Barrow, the up-side down man; the original Bozo Act, with Cotter and Mayhew; Fred Guthrie on the golden wire, and the Lucas Sisters in singing and dancing. Charleston contests are featured every Wednesday night. Harry Barrow had a nasty fall at Easton, falling 34 feet to the floor, but was able to work the following night.

The Virginia-Carolina Aces are getting their share of publicity. Dad Lock, with five concessions, will leave in a couple of weeks for his indoor spots in North Carolina.

CHARLES PRICE (for the Show).

Keeping Faith With the Public
(Continued from page 74)

your representatives? If it what you, were you not interested in the business, would consider fair for the price of admission or is it exceeding in value the box office charges? Would you, were you just an ordinary amusement seeker, consider the offering equivalent to the price or below your conception of the face value? How many carnival managers, owners and producers of carnival attractions can truthfully and honorably boast of such "Quality in Excess of Prices Charged or Equivalent" attractions on your midway? Impartially, I may say, the word "few" covers the field of several hundred.

MAY I suggest this to carnival owners and managers, which I trust will be food for thought and with justice to all who are either directly or indirectly interested in the business?

This season, for a trial period, provide some unique attraction as the outstanding feature of your midway and your organization, something that will be a talking point for your agents and representatives, exceptional in its pretentiousness, original in its presentation, interesting to the eye and the sense of reason, and spectacular

MRS. BLANCHE ROLLINS, standing by the figure in wax, which is life-like in appearance. This work of art, modeled by Mrs. Rollins, received much favorable criticism while being exhibited in Boston last summer. The title of the subject is "Somebody's Mother". Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rollins are resting at Hot Springs, Ark., and are taking advantage of the baths. Mrs. Rollins will shortly leave for California, where she will visit her mother in San Francisco.

ACTION
By Carl Herrick

We may sit in our easy chair and think, We may read as much as we can. We may gather the knowledge of all ages, We may think and study and plan. But work is the thing that counts in life. For work is the tonic of man.

It's not what you know that counts. It's the use you make of your plan.

Roberts Exposition and Circus

The J. C. Roberts Exposition and Circus is still doing a little business now and then. However, the eastern shore of Maryland was bad this winter, but Manager Roberts says he will play it again next fall to get even. Salisbury was a bloomer, as were Christfield, Easton and Cambridge. The show has

Big Greek Celebration, Christmas and Water Carnival

WEEK OF JANUARY 3

Wanted—Shows of all kinds, also Ferris Wheel to book all winter. Concessions of all kinds; no exclusives. Everything open. New Port Richey, Fla. this week; Tarpon Springs, following. **HAUSNER KELLY SHOWS.**

CALL!

All People Contracted Answer

Rehearsal, Joplin, Mo., January 8. Want General Agent that can handle week-stand circus. Answer fully by letter. One Contest Man, two Program Solicitors. Must be first-class, give references. Police supplies. No concessions wanted. No more acts wanted. Address **MACK HALE PRODUCTION**, 316 Holland Bldg., Springfield, Mo.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—Miss Congo, a three-year-old gorilla, weighing 130 pounds, is sitting serenely in her room at the James D. Burbridge estate unaware that she's going to be given tests shortly from which it is hoped to gain more scientific knowledge for the benefit of mankind. Professor Robert Yerkes, of the psychology department of Yale, will make scientific observations of Miss Congo, generally believed to be the only living gorilla in captivity and declared to be the only female gorilla ever to have been in captivity. Last summer the professor paid the young gorilla lady a visit and put her thru some intelligence tests, following which he said he had been greatly impressed with the animal's clarity of thought and apparent ability to reason. Ben Burbridge, who captured Miss Congo in the Belgian Congo, said that she evinces no sign of viciousness and apparently is in an good health and spirits as if she had been left in her native jungles.

J. W. CONKLIN, general manager of Conklin & Garret's All-Canadian Shows, will be at the Herald Square Hotel, New York, until January 8; Hotel Sherman, Chicago, January 10-11; Marlborough Hotel, Winnipeg, January 13; after that date at the Castle Hotel, Vancouver, B. C.

enough to warrant an extensive campaign in advertising. Be frank and honest in your method of advertising this feature, as well as try to hold the faith of the public and interest it in the efforts you are making to change the class and caliber of your entertainments, as well as seeking to provide at least one attraction that is different from any of your former season's attractions or your competitor's big feature.

We will agree that to have a successful organization you must continue to operate string shows, mechanical shows, pit shows, fun houses, etc. These will get their share of the business, yet, in addition, we must provide attractions for the more reserved, sedate, refined and artistic and middle-aged people, who prefer to visit the carnival once or twice during the engagement and spend a few hours on the midway. Yet on the morrow these same people can either build up your organization by their sentiments regarding the worth-while merits of your presentation or they may destroy the fancies of others who had planned to attend the carnival. Why? Because the entertainment which must be provided for all classes of carnival trade was lacking or was supplied as it may have been in this instance. We must cater to the public, for certainly the public does not cater to us, so let us make a resolution to be original, be considerate, give twice value for value received and keep faith with the public while the public keeps faith with us.

Brand New Idea Make \$300 Every Week



This is no experiment. We have tested the idea and it works. You sell 100 boxes of L'Orleans Nourishing Perfume at \$3.00 per box. We tell you how to do it and furnish advertising copy (on your local paper) which contains coupon, offering beautiful One-Queen Bottle L'Orleans Nourishing Perfume at \$5.00 Regular \$1.00 Seller. Every Bottle Has Fancy Label and Comes in Attractive Box. Costs You Only \$12.50 per Gross. Taken in over \$55.00. One-third cash required with all orders. Get a started today while the 25c is new. We furnish complete instructions telling how to put ads over. Write now. We also sell new sport choice Fancy Bottle Perfume, in each box, at \$3.50 per box. Big size bottle, Regular \$1.50 value. Also Pocket Flacon at \$7.50 Gross. And Face Powder, regular 75c seller, \$12.50 Gross. Full size sample of each will be sent—all four samples for 25c.

FREE—We give you for staying your customer: 1 bottle concentrated L'Orleans Nourishing Perfume with each gross order.

Our new 1927 Big Colored Catalog is just all the news. It's FREE.

NATIONAL SOAP & PERFUME CO.
Coupon Dept. 5 512 W. Huron St., Chicago

GUM 1¢ a pack

Full size 5¢ packs—also other sizes. Gum, Fluffy base. All Streetwise, Concession and Premium Men see our daily brands. Double your turnover. Deposit required. Order today. **HELMET GUM SHOPS**, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**WANTED
FREAKS AND NOVELTY ACTS**
AT ALL TIMES.
HUBERT'S MUSEUM
223 W. 42d Street, NEW YORK CITY.

**Return Contract Is Signed
By Beal for Indoor Show**

MARINE CITY, Mich., Dec. 21.—So well pleased were the city firemen with the success of the Firemen's Indoor Circus, directed by Robert J. Beal, last week that they have signed a contract with him for a circus next year.

The circus bill included "Bobby" Monte, dancer; the Great Edwards, juggling and wire walking; Buster Marsh and Company, acrobats; Geyer and Marie, equilibrista; Dalny Elizabeth, cloud swing and ladder; Jean Burke, Oriental dancer; Mile, Romig, wire walker, and Mile, Ozella and her dogs. Two contests, one for the most popular fireman and one for the most popular girl, enlivened the event. Concessions were operated under direction of Phil Sber, and the concessionaires were "Whitey" Talt, Nate Rifkin, "Shorty" Carroll, George Balkin, Harry Schwartz and Harry Thomas.

Director Beal says he is working on several good spots, but that none of the events will be held until after the holidays. He also states he is organizing a company to take out a two-ring circus the coming summer to play two-day stands through Ohio and Michigan. The name of the circus, officers and heads of departments will be announced in the near future.

**Four Ohio Food Shows
Are Planned for 1927**

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 22.—The Ohio Food Shows, operating food shows in a number of the principal cities of Ohio under the direction and management of the Ohio Retail Grocers and Meat Dealers' Association and under the auspices of local retail grocers' associations in different cities, has announced exhibitions for Cincinnati, Dayton, Youngstown and Toledo.

The Cincinnati Food Show will be held at Music Hall January 31 to February 5.

The Dayton Food Show will be held at Memorial Hall week of February 14.

The Youngstown Food Show will be held at Raven Wood Auditorium week of March 14. Many new features are being planned for this event.

The Toledo Food Show will be held in the Armory week of October 17. This is the third annual food show for this city.

"Louisiana Purchase" Celebrated

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 22.—The 125th anniversary of the transfer of Louisiana from France to the United States was celebrated Monday at the Cabildo, in which Louis XIV of France, Charles III, Charles IV of Spain, Napoleon, Governor Claiborne and General Wilkinson, impersonated by men high in civic life, reenacted the scenes of long ago. The affair was under the direction of W. O. Hart.

Community Carnival

NORTHFIELD, Minn., Dec. 23.—A Community Carnival for the benefit of the Boy and Girl Scouts of Northfield will be held in February, according to plans suggested by Edward C. Jacobson and approved by the Boy Scout Council. There will be a number of side shows. Russian money will be used through a medium of exchange.

To Promote Outdoor Sports

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 22.—Plans are being considered for the immediate inauguration of an outdoor sports program here. The Calhoun Beach Club recently met with Mayor George E. Leach to discuss the proposition.

Hanover Poultry Show

HANOVER, Ont., Dec. 26.—The annual Poultry Show of the Hanover Poultry Association opened here with a large and varied display of choice poultry. The exhibits were better than ever. There was record attendance.

Winter Carnival

ST. CLOUD, Minn., Dec. 24.—A committee headed by Victor Fandul is at work on the program for the Winter Carnival to be held here January 13 and 14. Lake George will be used for the various events and features.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Trade Shows, Celebrations, Benefits, Etc.

Conducted by A. HOMER CLARK—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Plan Six-Day Celebration

EUSTIS, Fla., Dec. 22.—Tentative plans for the celebration of Washington's Birthday here indicate the observance will be on a more extended scale than heretofore. The week will be featured by the Lake County Poultry Association Exposition, which will stage its annual show in the Administration Building at the Lake Front Park. Another attraction will be a Punway, which will feature a six-day event of side shows, concessions and rides. Still another will be a show by the American Legion. Last will be the American Winter Trenchshoot Tournament for three days. There will also be the usual program of motorboat races.

Newton and Wisecarver in Texas

A communication from H. V. Newton that he and George B. Wisecarver, of the Buckeye Producing Company, Columbus, O., are in San Antonio, Tex., handling the souvenir program for the American Legion, which is sponsoring an entertainment, *A Night in Paris*. After completing this contract they expect to go down into the Rio Grande Valley, where they have several dates under auspices. They are expecting to return north about June 1 to get ready for next season's business. E. R. Zimmerman, secretary, is arranging details and reports.

Furniture Exposition

CANTON, O., Dec. 23.—Announcement is made of plans for a Better Furniture and Household Exposition to be held at Land O' Dance, week of January 24. The exposition will be sponsored by The Coston Repository. Bands and vaudeville will feature the show.

Indoor Fair and Auto Show

GALESBURG, Ill., Dec. 23.—Everything is in readiness for the opening of the Indoor Fair and Automobile Show at the Armory here December 27 to January 1, inclusive, under auspices of the Loyal Order of Moose, Galesburg Lodge No. 839. A number of high-class circus acts will be featured attractions.

Poultry Shows

PASADENA, Calif.—Plans are about completed for the annual Poultry Show, to be held here January 11 to 15. Henry W. Adams is secretary.

BELLEVILLE, Ill.—The National Pigeon Association Show will be held here January 11 to 14.

WICHITA, Kan.—Promoters of the Poultry Show, to be held January 17 to 22, are looking forward to one of the most successful events of the kind ever held here.

OMAHA, Neb.—The Poultry Show, to be held January 19 to 25, is expected to include a larger number of exhibits and to be on a much larger scale than previous shows.

NEW YORK—Detailed plans have been worked out for the Poultry Show to be held at Madison Square Garden January 5 to 9.

GRAND FORKS, N. D.—The Turkey and Poultry Show will be held here February 1 to 4.

MITCHELL, S. D.—Arrangements are going forward for the State Poultry Show, to be held here January 17 to 21.

ST. ALBANS, Vt.—The annual Poultry Show will be held here January 11 to 14.

**Col. Bob Crosby Entertains
"Good Little Devils" Company**

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 27.—Irving Weber, former assistant manager of the Poll Theater, and Colonel Bob Crosby, associate owner and manager of the Holland Producing Company, put over a Christmas party Saturday for members of the *Good Little Devils* Company, playing here on the Mutual Wheel. The event was given at the Hotel Zantman, of which Mr. Weber is now manager. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Elmore Yates, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Vogel, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Holland and Louis Stern. Those of the *Good Little Devils* Company present were: Josie Haller, Kittle Doralie, Lauretti Lee, Dollie Gray, Letty Bernard, Elinore Freely. A big Christmas tree, nicely decorated and loaded with presents, stood in the hotel parlor, where the party was given. A show was given before the presents were distributed.

The *Good Little Devils* Company will be entertained at Wilkes-Barre this week by Colonel Crosby, who is staging a circus for the Moose.

Col. Bob Crosby announces that he has closed a contract to stage a circus here February 10 to 20.

Promoter Held

Charged with removing mortgaged property from Ohio into West Virginia, a man giving his name as W. H. West, said to be manager of the United Circus Corporation, was arrested at Wheeling on a fugitive from justice warrant. The complaint was made by Charles McDonald, Barnesville, O. West is said to have purchased an automobile at Barnesville, giving a deed of trust on the machine, and to have taken the car from Barnesville to Wheeling.

During the week of December 6 the United Circus Corporation was to have staged a circus at Wheeling, under auspices of the American Legion, but the circus was a "bloomer," according to J. P. Whiteside, of the Upton-Whiteside Duo, wire act, who writes that they went to Wheeling from Chicago, and were left stranded.

**Springfield (Mass.) Police
Plan First Relief Circus**

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 24.—The city police department is sponsoring its first Police Relief Circus at Convention Hall January 24 to 25, directed by the Mack Hale Productions, of St. Louis. Attractions will include Miss Machetta, fire loop the loop; the Hamilton Scottish bagpipers, drummers and sword dancers; Vernetta Clark Duo, king and queen of the silver wire; Pete Carnalia Trio, comedy acrobats and trapeze novelties; the McRuer Family, Punch and Judy, and clowns and special music. Special features will be given each evening, including a fiddlers' contest, athletic and baby contests, wedding and other novelties. A special matinee is to be given for newsboys, orphans and old people.

Miller Framing Indoor Circus

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—E. Lester (Doc) Miller, of the Ringling-Barnum Circus, is organizing an indoor circus to take the road on January 12 for an engagement of 12 weeks, opening at Easton, Pa. One of the features will be the Wenzell Trio, a foreign act, which will make its first appearance on this side, and which, according to Miller's statement, will unfold some new routine in acrobatics. Miller will return to the ticket department of the big show when it opens its spring engagement at Madison Square Garden.

Christy's Reindeers in Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Christy's reindeers are making their annual appearance in the Quaker City, having arrived on Thanksgiving Day, under the care of Ray O'Wesney, from the Christy Bros' winter quarters, Houston, Tex. They will terminate their engagement Christmas night. They are being featured at Glimble Brothers' store, in Santa Claus toy department with a specially constructed deer shed with paddock in front.

New Auditorium Plans

FORT MYERS, Fla., Dec. 24.—With the City Commission having granted the request of the Boosters' Club provide a Municipal Auditorium this season, announcement has been made that \$50,000 of city bonds will be added to finance the building of the auditorium at the end of the city's pleasure pier, now under construction.

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"NOVELTIES" LIFE OF THE PARTY



BERPENTINES, 1,000, \$2.00.
Fancy Paper Green-Hats, Gros \$4.50
Toy Bellows, Large Size, Gros 3.00
Whiskers (Assorted) 500 Pieces 1.50
Confetti, 25-Lb. Box 2.75
Catalog showing one thousand and one Novelties and Stationery Free. GRAZEL NOV. MFG. CO., 1708 Ella St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

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FREE - PATENT YOUR IDEAS
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Finger Nail Files, Good Value, \$1.75, \$2.25, \$2.60
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good Steel..... 1.00

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Katie Shareworn, Wooden Handles..... 3.25
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All prices shipping charges extra. Samples on journal on receipt of return or stamps. Dollars must be sent on all C. O. D. orders. Do not send personal checks.

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\$7.95 GROSS

Heavy nickel plated. Holds and straps all makes of Safety Blades.

\$12.75

1 Great Strapper with 1 Green Leather Strap.
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Every Woman Buys—Not Once, But Many Times.

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PAPERMEN

LIBERAL PROPOSITION for straight-shooters. ALL SOUTHERN STATES and ALL STATES WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. Year Old Pal. AL. F. AL. PEACOCK, 391-393 North 34th, 1115 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Missouri.

For Needles, A.P.T. Boxes, Tuffing

Needles, Sample, Etc. Send to the factory in the "Wild-wood" for quantity prices and terms. Address **MURDY BROS.,** Bates, Oklahoma.

Send your correspondence to advertisers by enclosing The Billboard.

PIPES for PITCHMEN

Conducted by **GASOLINE BILL BAKER**
Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

KEEP YOUR EYE on the date and be ready to write it 1927.

MIDNIGHT, Dec. 31, 1926—One sweep of Time's pendulum across the horologe of eternity and—Happy New Year!

MISKEL AND MAY, who are spending the yuletide holidays in St. Louis, ask to be remembered to all friends.

DR. MACK LUBIN infers that, in spite of bad weather conditions, he is doing great in Kansas. He wants to see pipes from Happy Norrell.

DOT BONSTELLE, formerly a popular medicine show performer, now playing vaudeville dates, was among the callers at the pipes desk last week. Dot's last med. show engagement was on the Nature's Medicine Company outfit.

DR. OKLAHOMA CARL has closed his two-car med. show and opened an office at 19 West Church street, Harrisburg, Ill. for the winter. He advises that he will open in that town on lots April 15. The litching is out for any of the boys making Harrisburg.

S. F. DEWEY, directing manager of the Dewey Medicine Show, closed his hall season at Sparkill, N. Y., two weeks ago, and is now taking a much-needed rest at his home in Kingston, N. Y., where he entertained Nelson, of *The Billboard*, December 11.

THE CHRISTMAS ISSUE of *The Billboard* pleased John Murray, who writes from Boston, saying: "Your Christmas number speaks for itself. It is the gem of them all. It is the criterion, and there is not a book sold today that can ever hold a candle to it."

DOC FRANK LATHAM offers a happy suggestion: "Let's bury the Big Hat argument," he says, "and allow each man to wear any style but he sees fit that his pocket will permit. There's a terrible snowstorm raging here (Boise, Id., December 12) just now. Me for the sunny old Pacific Coast."

DR. GEORGE M. REED and the missus are spending the Christmas holidays at Rainsboro, Pa., amid mountain scenery and feasting on deer and bear meat. They will leave shortly for Columbus, O. The Reeds offer the season's greetings to all the boys and girls of Pitchdom.

DR. F. O. KREIS, who is wintering at his headquarters, 911 Hampton street, Scranton, Pa., informs that he will go to Canada the first week in May. He says: "To any clean worker, who might figure on going to Canada, I can say this: The Canadian people have been very good to me. I always found them good people to do business with."

"SHORTY" MORTON may be built that way physically, but he is long on

poetry. Harry Pinks sends in from Fort Smith, Ark., a poem written by "Shorty" in which he names 89 pitchmen (count 'em, 89) and there is an individual verse for each of the 89. Space limitation prevents the publication of "Shorty's" long ride on Pegasus. But the poem is long on merit as well as lengthy.

WILLIAM H. (OIL) BURNS shoots: "For three years I have worked Nebraska to the Wyoming line. If Dr. Carson will let me have his address about next July I can send him a loggion hat direct from Wyoming; also high-boled boots, if he wants them. They wear 'em high and wide in that country." "OH" Burns' address is Marion, Ill. R. F. S. Route 1.

DR. LES WILLIAMS infers from Shreveport, La.: "Have closed my med. opy and am now in vaudeville. Just closed with Leavy Time. Going east. Will be in St. Louis January 1, opening at the Grand. I have with the act Buster Williams, Pat Wiles, Chick Williams and the wonder dog, Stubby. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everybody."

HERE'S NEWS FOR MED. MEN—"Jolly Bert" Stevens, piping from Greensburg, Pa., December 14, says: "All halls in Pennsylvania, under the law, must now have emergency lights, which it costs about \$200 or \$300 to install. That puts many halls on the bum, because the managers of small-town halls can't put them in and must close their halls. We closed our show because we could get no more halls and the Ba-ha-ni Medicine Show is now in winter quarters."

WALLY KNIGHT infers from Chiltondale, Mass.: "Friends of Billy O'Mar, Doc Murray and Chief Lonewolf will be interested to know that they have migrated to Beantown and are packing them in and coining dough right opposite the Boston City Hall. They expect to stay quite awhile. Mrs. Murray is with the Doc. Billy O'Mar is selling health books. Chief Lonewolf is getting them with herbs and tonics and Doc Murray is lecturing on astrology. This is the one and only in Boston."

"JUST GOT INTO ALTOONA, PA." Dr. George Reed pipes from that man's town, "and not a Billyboy. I have not missed one for nine years. Was certainly pained to hear of Fred Thompson's death. Fred was always a good scout and a clean worker and he did me many a good turn. The last time I met him was at the Caldwell (Ohio) Fair, in 1925, and he showed me one of the best spots to locate on and sell. I never heard him knock a brother pitchman." Dr. and Mrs. Reed are spending the holidays in Columbus, O.

ROBERT WRINGER WRITES from Minneapolis: "I see in the December 11 issue of *The Billboard* a pipe from Ed

BLACK CHASED BARREL SELF-FILLER TWISTER

Fitted with Ball Pen Point. All Workers, \$12.00 PER GROSS, with Clips.



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Special Price per Gross..... \$12.00
Sample, Prepaid..... 1.25
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Vial Perfumes, with Fancy Gold-Leafed Cork and Gold-Embossed Label, \$3.75 Per Gross.....
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THE BEST
\$3.00—All Steel Skull Ray Spectacles, all numbers. Per Dozen, \$1.50; Gross, \$27.50

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NEW ERA OPTICAL CO.,
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Secret Process Makes Caps RAIN-PROOF

Amazing! Mechanical Process treated by secret process. Just like other fine materials, but shed water like ducks' backs! Pour water on. Tangle Cap and it runs off, leaving cap absolutely dry! Can be worn in several rain storms without danger of cold or wet! Amazing feature appeals to every man.

NOW—Men Make \$10.00 a Day

This exciting new cap idea makes fortunes for Taylor representatives. Just making simple waterproof demonstration pays big money. Do you want the chance? Write! We supply selling equipment and waterproof material FREE. We make it easy for you to get cap for yourself without cost. **TAYLOR CAP MFRS.,** Desk 2-16, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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JUMBO PENS**

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Red or green.

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Reg. size pens
with compass. Only
in red, green or
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2 YEAR GUARANTEE
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MONEY BACK IF NOT
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patience with a guy like that. Imagine it. Right around Christmas being asked that question when anything will sell if you know how to sell it. Hey, you fellows, don't you know how to retail merchandise? Why don't you get yourself a job running elevators up to the top story, then run 'em down again? Why do I work on rainy days? Because others say it is hard. It's too cold to work outdoors. What are you? An incubator chicken, eh? That is the reason you are where you are. If you want to know what to sell, boys, just read *The Billboard*. Don't glance at it. Read it; study it; then read it again. Pick out something that will sell to a woman. Something pretty, but not costly. Something useful. And make your customers laugh. Make them holler right out loud like this—Ha! Ha! Ha! You know what I mean. And you can make the goal in a slow walk. Don't be afraid to dispense energy. If you weaken, try drinking a cup of coffee once in a while. It acts as a stimulant. Well, boys, here's wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." Jack's permanent address is Box 242, Quincy, Mass.

"**SITTING BY THE ROADSIDE**, watching the parade of pipes go by, I have decided it is my turn to shoot," Joe (Scales) Mills opines. He pursues: "After completing a successful season working scales I am comfortably located at the Hotel Crawford, Fort Dodge, Ia., the State where the tall corn grows and the banks go busted. Have met many of the boys here. Some working, some not. I step out occasionally and grab off some indoor affair and pick up a few with the scales. This State does not look promising, banks closing weekly. I don't know what it's all about, but it just doesn't smell right. I see quite a few newspaper reports of attempts to transfer fairgrounds to county ownership and management. That tells another story. I think most of the pitchmen who worked here last season have in mind what I have for next season. Don't know where I'm going, but brother, I'm moving. I would like very much to hear from some of my old friends thru pipes or otherwise. Come on, Owens Burnett. 'Scales' heard all about your luck at Topeka. I have a hot one for you. Bob Percelfield or Gabe, please write. Also want to hear from 'Boleida' Lincoln, Leaping Lena, Jimmy Johnson, the candy butcher, and Scotch Joe. Wish all of them a Merry Christmas."

PAT DALTON, of the old-timers' squad, ambled into Cincinnati from Columbus last week and is giving the electric belts a rest until the weather opens up. Pat was in a small town in Western New York some time ago, and learned from the hotelkeeper that while the opportunity was good, the Mayor wasn't, so far as pitching was concerned. Pat talked to the Mayor. The Mayor said \$10 a day or no sales. But Pat found the town clerk, the marshal and the council president sympathetic. They took a fancy to Pat and they conspired to bring the Mayor to terms. Pat, the clerk, the marshal and the council president waited on his honor in the latter's grocery store. "If this man pitches he goes to jail, does he?" said the clerk. "Exactly," says the Mayor. "He goes to jail for violating an ordinance." Says the clerk: "I violated the ordinance prohibiting driving vehicles on the sidewalk when I pushed my baby carriage. The

marshal violated an ordinance when he spit on the sidewalk. The president here violated an ordinance when he drove across an enclosed lot, and your honor violated another ordinance when you threw a snowball at me in the street. Now, we have decided to all go to jail together. How about it?" "That being the case," said the Mayor, scratching his ear, "your man can pitch his head off." Telling the story, Pat added: "It's all in the way you handle 'em."

"**YOU WANT TO KNOW** what has become of all the subgetters?" New England Jack, sheetwriter extraordinary, queries in a pipe. "Well, there is only one of me, but I will gladly speak for myself if that will help out any. There is a saying among mag men that in the winter months people read more owing to the fact that weather conditions in the North keep them indoors. I find that true in New England. My business is booming. Every day I write and write and write. But I go after it in all sorts of weather and whistle a tune when the thermometer is down to 40 below zero. It's just the same with me in the summer when it's 110 in the shade and perspiration is rolling down my brow like gumdrops. I am always on the works. I'm working every cylinder in the body. Thou gavest me, O Lord. I don't use a buzz wagon. I ride long distances, not on a Pullman, but on a plain roach smoker. And I walk. I am a hiker. The New England States were at one time a gold mine for subgetters, but spollers came in, picked the roses, then pulled up the bushes. Now thistles grow in those places. But I thank God the disreputables in this field are dying out. I get quite a lot of mail from readers of *The Billboard* who play a square game thanking me for my peristent efforts to clean up this kind of stuff, and I hope to live to see the business on a square basis. Give me a hand, fellows. If I can help you, let me know. I'm wishing you all a Prosperous and Happy New Year." New England Jack's address is General Delivery, Quincy, Mass.

"**PIPES OF THE LAST ISSUE** contained much to interest me," Bob Powers writes from Jacksonville, Fla., December 19. "Glad to hear my old friend, 'Shorty' Trendway, is still doing business in his favorite section of the country. As this is my first pipe, altho I am not a Johnny-come-lately, I will be brief. For the benefit of brother pitchmen, many of whom know me well, I have a few words of advice to offer. Keep out of Florida. I have made this State for several years past, but the powers that be are all set up, as the merchants are hostile. The reason is there are no tourists that have any jack. No matter how much sunshine there is they want the dollars and they have a murderous hatred for anyone trying to extract a few pennies from circulation. I have been working for five weeks on Bay street in a window with pens doing my share. Last week I was invited to take out a string of licenses—city, county and State. Then you must go to his honor, the Mayor, for a permit to work. The wording is plain and to the point. If at any time the pitchman's activities block traffic in any way, he goes to jail. Enough said. This land of sunshine, rattlesnakes, alligators, etc., doesn't want anyone but rich tourists and their money. Merry Christmas to all the boys and

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Per Case, \$12.00
ERIC JOHNSON, Inc.
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Write me for redentials and supplies. Best proposition in the South. Texas and Oklahoma only.
M. G. MUMMERT, Field Manager
Cure St. George Hotel, DALLAS, TEX.

Big Profits!
Own your own business, stamping Key Checks, Fobs, Name Plates. Sample, with name and address, 25 cents.
HART MFG. CO.
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GERMAN SILVER KEY CHECKS
YOU can be your own boss with our Key Check outfit. Good for \$5 a day stamping names on pocket key checks, fobs, etc. Sample check, with your name and address, 30c.
PEASE DIE WORKS, Dept. D, Winchester, N. H.

MEDICINE MEN SELL OUR WATER SOLUBLE KERO. COMP. POWDER. One pound makes two gallons of strong Lavative-Blow Tube. Price, \$1 per pound. Sample, 10c. Labels free. 30 quick sellers. Low price. **W.E.B. FINLEY MED CO., 4121 Olive, St. Louis, Mo.**

PITCHMEN—DEMONSTRATORS—STREETMEN
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may your New Year be as prosperous and happy and bright as the sunshine in Arizona, for which place your humble servant is leaving."

TALES OF THE ROAD. "Sherry", the shootwriter, tells one: Maybe, in these days of the N. P. S. P. A., with its ethics 'n' everything, they would be disciplining my friend, Smitty, but Smitty certainly was a fast and sure-fire worker. Now, the crowd that Smitty was talking to on the courthouse green in this Arkansas town I'm talking about seemed to be enjoying it when I walked up. Smitty looked to me out of luck. He had his tripod outfit set up and his fingers were busy building a little exhibit pyramid of the boxes of cold-cure tablets he had taken from his valise. Smitty was making his opening in a voice so hoarse and husky he seemed to be whispering. You couldn't hear him more than three feet away. "Friends, it's the only instantaneous cold cure known," he was telling 'em. "No 24 hours' wait for results, no two hours, no one hour. It hits the spot pronto. No matter how bad the cold you've got, one of these little tablets dissolved on the tongue gives you relief in a split second. Makes you feel you're cured in two minutes. Never yet failed." As Smitty's spiel progressed the laughter of the crowd grew louder. And Smitty grew hoarser and harder to hear. A kid in the crowd yelled: "Hey, mister; why don't you try one yourself?" The crowd roared. Smitty stopped building the pyramid. "What's that, son?" he asked. "The boy says why don't you take some of that stuff for your own cold." a man in the front line relayed. Smitty grinned. An idea seemed to strike him. "It's a good idea," he said. "Friends, I thank you for the suggestion. He opened one of the boxes, extracted a tablet, tossed it into his mouth and swallowed once or twice. Then in a clear, strong, resonant voice, he resumed: "As I was saying, folks, when the boy interrupted me, this is the only known instantaneous cure for colds, coughs, inflammations of the vocal— Yes, sir; here you are. That's correct. Two bits, 25 cents a box. And you, sir. Two boxes you want? Two more over this way. Thank you, sir. Hold on folks, don't crowd. And another gentleman takes two boxes of the famous little—"

Shadowgraphs

By CHAS. ANDRESS

GREAT BEND, Kan., Dec. 23.—Dear ones everywhere: It has been a long time since I have had a chat with you. I have received so many Christmas cards that I can not possibly answer them all and then many of them have not given any address for acknowledgment. The end of the old year, again bringing fond memories of old days, old times and old friends, and bringing vivid mental pictures, all of which has made the world brighter by the giving of gifts and the expressions of yuletide greetings, all of which helps to keep our feet in the straight and narrow path and shun the road which leads to ruin. And now, no doubt, many of you will say, say that Uncle Charley is getting old he has "lined church", but in this you would be mistaken, for while I do like to be close to religion and surrounded by lean religious influences, I have no

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No. B117—This LADIES' BRACELET WATCH, white gold finish, engraved case, fitted with all-steel movement, fully guaranteed, complete, in attractive display box, fitted with 1 jewel movement, in Green Let's, for..... **\$2.20 Each**

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Same as above, but with guaranteed 6-jewel movement. Price in Green Let's..... **\$2.30 Each**

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HAVE LARGE SIZE WORKERS FOR STREET MEN.

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thought of joining church, but cannot express here my thoughts for remaining as I am until the last.

So let me reach out and thru Old Billy-boy shake hands with all of you and wish you all that comes good and useful with the beginning of the new year.

In conclusion you will be glad to know I am in fine health and in fact younger in health than I was 25 years ago—physically, financially—and I hope mentally better than I ever was before. "How it that?" I am reaching out for 75, with the 100 mark almost assured.

C. C. Coats, who was the advance agent of the Stoneman Shows, has joined the executive staff of the Phoenix Amusement Company and is making spots in Arkansas. The show consists of 6 shows, 2 rides and 15 concessions.

JOE STONEMAN (for the Show).

Phoenix Amusement Co.

HAMPTON, Ark., Dec. 27.—The Phoenix Amusement Company just finished a successful week's business at Banks, Ark. and moved by truck to Hampton. Monday night was lost on account of rain, but Tuesday the weather was ideal and a big crowd came out and patronized the shows and everything got good play. It was a red one for the concessions.

Joe W. Stoneman, of the Stoneman Shows, closed his show at Warren last week and after storing most of his equipment there joined this show with two shows and several concessions.

Jess Shoats is in charge of the minstrel show. Andy Anderson, who was connected with the Strayer Shows, is managing the athletic show, assisted by Johnny Hoffner. Gulla Gully Mike Zinnle is conducting the Egyptian show and also has the cookhouse on the show. Eddie Frodel is managing the pit show and has been doing good business. Virgil Jalbert has charge of the rides and has several trucks and transports his rides from town to town. Earl Brownie is in charge of Stoneman's Emmentalers, the feature of the midway. The Octopus show is doing well and is a novelty in this part of the country. Larry Temple, J. E. Irby, Williamson and Maloney are operating concessions.

Rock City Shows

FLOMATON, Ala., Dec. 21.—The Rock City Shows are playing spots in Alabama and doing satisfactory business.

The show recently played a maiden spot, Chapman, Ala., a one-man town, consisting of 12 sawmills, employing 1,800 men, who receive their pay every Saturday. The show had ideal weather the entire week and all had a wonderful week.

From Chapman the show moved to Flomaton for the benefit of the school. Business here so far not the best. Next week the show plays Georgiana, Ala., to be followed by Vredenburgh, Ala., a lumber camp that has never had a carnival. F. C. Hunt is the general agent of the show.

J. C. TURNER (for the Show).

SOME "REMEMBERS" from Buck Leahy: "When Chas. Bernard was general agent with J. H. LaPearl Circus? Georges Karmino was ballet master with Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus? Geo. Barton, Leahy Brothers, Henry Messner, May Barton, Doc Richards, Everett Brothers and Al Lehman were with Cook Bros. Circus? H. A. Vandercreek was band leader with J. H. LaPearl Circus? Gowen Carney was with Sparks Circus? George Hamid was with the Howe Show? Geo. Manchester was manager of Lombard Hathaway Circus? Leon W. Wassum did a spade dance? Doc Stoddard made a pair of sailor pants for Louis Plamondon? Geo. Wayman was with John Robinson Show? Adam Forepaugh was manager of Madison Square Garden? Fred and Eva Costello did a trapeze act with

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Pike's Comique Troupe? Tony Denier did a still act? The De Long Family was with Campbell Bros.' Show? Albert Gaston was with Gollmar Bros.' Show? Toby Tyler was with Downie & Wheeler Show? Fred Gay was with the Barnum Show? Al Massey had the hand on the Cook & Wilson Circus? Bennie Waters, Willis Greene, Joe Roman and Tom Gilbert were the cornet section on the San Show? Joe Knecht played solo cornet with the Hargraves Show? Clint Newton was fixing with Frank A. Robbins Show? Henry Falkendorf had his chimp act on the Cook & Wilson Show? Geo. Carpenter had the canvas on the F. A. Robbins Show? Bert Cole was a hall show actor? Johnnie Richards had the hand on the Forepaugh Show? The Aerial Cowdens were with the Hargraves Show. Kinko, Aerial Earls, Buck Leahy, Buster Marsh, Art La Rue, Dot Snyder, Eddie Leahy, Tom Vessey and Paul Jung were with the La Tena Show? Horace Laird sang *Get Under the Wagon*? Ed and Maud Millett did a double trapeze act on the W. P. Hall Show? Wink Weaver did blackfoot?



"DOODLES" DeMARRS, lady clown, and her dog, "Pat", with the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus last season, will be with R. M. Harvey's London Hippodrome Circus this winter.

Bertram Mills' Circus To Have 5 Weeks' Run

LONDON, Eng., Dec. 26.—Bertram W. Mills' International Circus opened at the Olympia December 20 and will continue until January 25, with performances each afternoon and evening. The only turn which is not entirely new to Olympia is that of the Rivels on the trapeze. The program includes the Casal Family, Italian riders; Green, Wood and Violet, in crazy comedy; Long Emil and partner, sentimental grotesques; the Great Carmo's "Baby June" (the cycling elephant, introduced by her child trainer and clown); Buck Baker and his "Bucking Ford"; Loy's dogs; Sidi-Ben Hassan's horses in an illusionary spectacle, *The Phantom Riders of the Sahara*; the Five Andrews, musical acrobats; Barbetle, billed as the "Supreme Sensation of Circusdom"; Hagenbeck's 12 lions; Katie Sandwina, the strong woman; the 15 Chavalls, in a novel aerial act; Hai Yung and See Hies, 17 Chinese sensationists; Schaefer's 20 midgets and their giant friend; the Rivels Trio, including "Charlie" and Ernest Schumann's horses from Copenhagen. In clown alley are Whimsical Walker, Rene, Boby, Polo, Zoll Auguste Busel, Joe Craston and Dog Bill.

Chas. Hardman Asks Aid

The following letter has been received from Charles H. Hardman, and is self-explanatory: "I was with the Walter L. Main Circus the last two seasons, and when I closed I joined the Brooch Bros.' Stock Company. After I had been with them for one week, I loaned them \$195 to get scenery, but found out afterwards that they used it to pay salaries. After the show had been out three weeks it closed, leaving me in this town—Nellville, Wis., and I am broke. I wrote to Hillposters' Local No. 45, of which I have been a member for 13 years, and sent them a check dated 60 days ahead, asking for a loan, but have received no assistance to date. I also tried the same thing with Local No. 3. I have been at the Hamilton Hotel since November 26 waiting for money to come and get me out. I owe four weeks' hotel bill and the landlord is wondering if he will ever get this money. By the way, it looks to me that I have no brothers in the I. A. at all. I am looking for a samaritan who will help me out. Have been with the Barnum & Bailey Circus, Ringling Bros' Circus and Ringling-Barnum Circus. If anyone can do anything for me, I will give my word to pay it back when I go to work with the Main Circus next season. I told Mr. McCarthy to turn over my steward's fees to my local to pay my next year's dues, and so far my local has not received same, also Mr. McCarthy promised to refund a fine of \$25 if the car manager would write him to that effect. Mr. Clarkson did so at the close of the season. I have not received that yet, so you see I am up against it. Anyone can write to C. J. Helwig, owner of the Hamilton Hotel, and he will tell you what I say is true."

Weedon With Santos & Artigas

Herman Weedon is working wild animals, including "Samson", the lion, with the Santos & Artigas Circus in Havana, Cuba, and scoring big. After five weeks in Havana the show will play other points in Cuba, for five months, following which it will go to San Jose, Costa Rica, for a month.



THE BEHINIS, famous equestrian, who are on route with the Pantages Indoor Circus.



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FOR FLORIDA SPRING FAIRS

Week of January 3, HARDEE COUNTY FAIR, Wausatch, Fla.
 Week of January 10, LAKELAND POULTRY SHOW, Lakeland, Fla.
 Week of January 17, SHELLENS FREE COUNTY FAIR, Loxley, Fla.
 Week of January 24, POLK COUNTY ORANGE FESTIVAL, Winter Haven, Fla.
 Week of January 24, SARASOTA COUNTY FAIR, Sarasota, Fla.
 February 1 to 12, SOUTHERN FLORIDA FAIR, Tampa, Fla.
 Week of February 14, SUB-TROPICAL FAIR, Orlando, Fla.
 Week of February 14, VOLUSIA COUNTY FAIR, De Land, Fla.
 Week of February 21, LEE COUNTY FAIR, Ft. Myers, Fla.
 Week of February 21, MANATEE COUNTY FAIR, Bradstreet, Fla.

With other Fairs and Celebrations to follow.

Regarding Ball, Billies and Race Tracks save names, and if you do not work legitimate save your own face. All adms.

JOHNNY J. JONES, Orlando, Florida.

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Second Annual Tour Copper State Shows OPENING EARLY MARCH

WILL BOOK OR BUY FERBIS WHEEL. Must be in good condition. Mr. W. Brooks, get in touch with me. CAN PLACE PERFORMERS FOR CIRCUUS RIDES SHOW AND BEAUTIFUL HAWAII. Will furnish complete AERIAL SHOW in capable people. JOE VERGURON, get in touch with me. HAVE FOR SALE CONCESSION TOYS AND FRAMES in fully good condition. WILL BOOK SHOWS AND RIDES that don't conflict. CAN PLACE CONCESSIONS OF ALL KINDS. NO EXCLUSIVE. This show opens in one of the best riding towns in Arizona, with many real pay-day spots to follow. Address all mail or wires to HARRY OBERMAN, Manager, Box 1021, Phoenix, Arizona. Will give you an interested parties. Want the following to write to me: Frank Rogers, Prof. De Valle. CAN PLACE a six-piece Band. Must have uniforms.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY POULTRY SHOW AND FAIR

PLANT CITY, FLA., WEEK OF JANUARY 17.

Fair Grounds, two blocks from the main street and in the height of the strawberry season. Want to hear from good shows with their own outfit. CAN PLACE all kinds of Concessions. Address METROPOLITAN SHOWS, this week, Mulberry, Florida.

THE PHOENIX AMUSEMENT COMPANY

WANTED—Concession. No exclusive. Early openings want Lady Showstoppers for the balance of the winter. CAN PLACE organized Musical Shows. This show will positively be out all winter, and we start every Sunday. Camden, Ark., December 27 to January 1. Address all wires to JAMES DUPEEE or JOE STONEMAN.

Showfolk Have Reunion

A number of showmen, who have been in the business for 20 years and more, recently had a group photograph taken, but it would not reproduce for printing. In the party were Gil Robinson, 82 years old; James Dutton, Nellie Dutton, Ida Delno, Vera Bruce Dutton, Mrs. Charles Luckey, Stella Rowland Cronin, Thomas P. Cunningham, all born in the show business; Harry Thurston, who started in 1887; Ray Van Wert, 1895; Harry and Mrs. McKay, 1887; Charles Luckey, 1891; William Cronin, 1904; W. O. (Eph) Gettman, 1893; Sid Markham, 1903; James C. Donohue, 1889; Chas. C. Rose, 1893; William N. Scott, 1888; Ben P. Davidson, 1898; H. J. (Sis) Hopkins, 1904; C. P. Kelley, 1889; W. McK. Baumman, 1905; Stanley Roberts, 1909; A. T. Wright, 1889; Herman Rensing, 1897; Herman G. Kruse, 1893; "Doc" Scanlon, 1895; Edwin G. Baker, 1893; Theo. McLeod, 1898; Wm. F. Wunder, 1906; Rhoda Royal, 1882; Joe Redding, 1904; Dick Collins, 1891; George P. Lewis, 1905, and James M. Hathaway, 1893.

The Billboard

RESOLVED

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New York Office Callers

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Among the recent callers at the New York office of *The Billboard* were the following:

F. L. Kenjockety, Indian band leader, recently closed at the Sesqui, Philadelphia.

Elmer I. Brown, manager of rides and concessions of the new Bronx Amusement Park, New York.

King Karlo, of *The Streets of All Nations*, Johnny J. Jones Exposition.

Johnny Agee, equestrian, who will appear in the new musical comedy, *Polly of Hollywood*.

George L. Dobyns, owner and manager of the George L. Dobyns Shows.

Arthur Jarvis, manager of Luna Park, Coney Island, recently returned from trip abroad.

Knox Herold, assistant stage manager of the new circus comedy, *The Bullpup*.

William Domes, of clown alley, Ringling-Barnum Circus.

R. C. Carlisle, who has been connected with Col. Fred Cummins' Wild West and Treasure Island, Sesqui, Philadelphia.

E. Lester (Doc) Miller, ticket department, the Ringling-Barnum Circus.

Herbert Williams, vaudevillian, formerly Williams & Wolfus.

Jack Webb, trick roping and riding and exhibition shooting, with 101 Ranch Wild West.

Proso (Larry O'Dell), special attraction with the John Robinson Circus.

S. Harcourt, formerly of the Indian Theater, Indian Building, Sesqui, Philadelphia.

Capt. Jack Messer, deep sea diver and exhibiting the octopus with graphic lectures, last season with the M. J. Lapp and other shows.

Harry S. Noyes, general agent of the Morris Miller Shows.

Charles Hadfield, husband and manager of C'e Dora, "the girl in the golden globe".

Mrs. Hazel Watkins, last season in charge of Ira J. Watkins motordrome with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition.

Morris Taxier, formerly of the Levitt & Taxier Shows United.

C'e Dora Sails for S. A.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—C'e Dora, "the girl in the golden globe", sails December 28 for Buenos Aires, S. A., for a limited engagement. She will be accompanied by her husband, Charles Hadfield. This is her third appearance there. C'e Dora has been with the Hess Circus Model, in Mexico, one of the largest tented organizations in that country.

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222 RANDOLPH ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

JACK PALMER, with KENNEDY and KENNEDY, Motordrome, N. Y., your address. MONARCH EXPOSITION SHOWS, INC., care of the Sesqui, Philadelphia, Pa., 24th and Chestnut Sts., B. C., week Jan. 1-4.

Vaudeville in Spain
(Continued from page 15)

country in come-hither motions with flat palms beating the air—unambitious, wavering little sidesteps lagging behind the beat—all the ten or twelve seductions of the modern chorine attempted—and forming a perfect and pitiable travesty. Three times she appears, the amnetic changing in color, but not the dance—and the applause increasing, avidly. Then suddenly, a revolution. The fourth time the curtain parts and a vision blazes in the spotlight. Her head, mysterious and poignant, in a black mantilla falling over a scarlet comb, her short neck magnificently arrogant, her wide hips swathed into glistening curves by the tight and long black taffeta dress, and her small red slippers pointing from the rustling ruffles, Isabella Orgaz begins to dance. The orchestra finds itself in a racous and minor Spanish fandango. Isabella is a symphony of fire and swooning liquidity of line. Her hips swaying, her back deep-arched and her head defiant, she taps her heels in superb and complicated rhythm while her castanets clack contrapuntally to her feet. Voluptuous one moment, fierce in the next, smiling, crafty, abandoned and tragic, she alone a worth the creation of Spain. There is beauty, absolute and infinitable. And her certain falls and three hands clap the number. They are a little ashamed at the backwardness of their country: Will I never relinquish the old stuff? Give us American pep. We want what Paris and New York have—pep and naked girls! and they'll get it. Isabella went back to her scanty and distinctionless lights. And people say that she is one of the only Spanish dancers left—and not so good at that. They say she will soon stop dancing altogether; that a singer earns more than a dancer, so that the unwanted traditional torchlore abandons her feet for her voice—usually raucous and feeble—and ends in Paris, making the cosmopolitans delightedly say to each other: "This is Spain!" And if her voice is just so raucous and too metallic for Paris, she stays in Spain, grows fat and sings French songs to fascinated Spaniards, who say to each other gleefully: "This is Paris!"—MARYA MANNERS, in Theater Arts Monthly.

COMING EVENTS

- ARIZONA**
Phoenix—Eagles' Carnival. Latter part of Feb. as first part of March. M. J. Murphy, secr.
- CALIFORNIA**
Sanpton—Industrial & Fair Babbitt Expo. March 1-7.
- Los Angeles—Auto Show. Feb. 12-19.
- Los Angeles—Horse Show. Feb. 7-12. E. A. Green, secr., 1001 Stock Exch. Bldg.
- CONNECTICUT**
Hartford—Auto Show. Feb. 19-25. A. F. Root, mgr., 150 Wells st.
- FLORIDA**
Tallahassee—Horse Show. Feb. 22-25.
- Dunnell—Midwinter Southern States Expo. Jan. 1-March 1. Al F. Gorman, dir. of amusements, 152 E. Flagler st.
- Walter—Police Circus. Jan. 6-15. J. M. Hathaway, mgr.
- Vero Beach—Polo Co. Orange Festival. Jan. 20-22. Frank J. Scan, chrm.
- HAWAII**
Honolulu—Eli's Carnival. Feb. 18-24.
- ILLINOIS**
Chicago—Auto Show. Jan. 20-Feb. 5. S. A. Miles, mgr., 360 Madison ave., New York City.
- INDIANA**
Indianapolis—Dog Show in Tomlinson Hall. March 21-23.
- Massachusetts—Auto Show. Feb. 15-20. Harry Sharp, mgr.
- LOUISIANA**
New Orleans—Mardi Gras Day. March 1.
- MASSACHUSETTS**
Boston—Auto Show. March 5-12. C. I. Campbell, mgr., 329 Park sq. Bldg.
- MICHIGAN**
Detroit—Indoor Circus. Feb. 7-19. T. E. Stinson, chrm., Shrine City, Masonic Temple, and Rapids—Auto Show. Jan. 17-22. M. D. High, mgr., Hotel Howe.
- MINNESOTA**
Boston—Red River Valley Winter Show. Feb. 7-11.
- St. Paul—Winter Frolic. Feb. 14-20.
- Minneapolis—Twin City Auto Show. Feb. 5-12. J. H. Hamden, mgr., 1610 Nicollet ave.
- MISSOURI**
St. Louis—Circuit & Expo. Jan. 10-15. Ben H. Forester, dir.
- St. Louis—Police Relief Circus. Jan. 24-29.
- St. Louis—Woman's Natl. Expo. Jan. 29-Feb. 9.
- St. Louis—Auto Show. Feb. 9-12. Robt. E. Lee, mgr., 3124 Locust st.

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A special brand new Billy Gear Show CAN BE SEEN IN ALL CITIES. In all cities, there is a Billy Gear Show. It is the best and comes every week. WANT any of the Grand Concessions, Etc. Also all all-Season Cook Books. Peru Co., Dec. 25-Jan. 1000 City, Jan. 3-6. Wire: some 25.

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American No. 21 Red Jumbo Pen. Green 1.50
No. 1207—Blissell Jada or Red Mechanical Pen. Gr. 0.50
No. 1208—Blissell Jada or Red Mechanical Pen. Gr. 1.50
Pearl Handle Sewing Pins. Dozen 0.75
Photo Rings. Aut. Pictures. Dozen 1.35

Photo Scarf Pins. Dozen 1.50
Photo Pocket Kaitas, High Grade. Dozen 4.25
Bliss. Dozen 3.50
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Red Medium Size Pen. L. Gift or Gift. Green 31.50
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JOSEPH HAGN COMPANY, 223-225 W. Madison St., Dept. B, Chicago

Morris Miller in Canada

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Morris Miller, who is making this city his headquarters, in connection with organizing his different show units, is in Ottawa, Can., this week on business.

Harry S. Noyes, general agent of the Miller Shows, who has been in the city for the past fortnight, expects to entrain for the north in a short time to begin active work. Mrs. Noyes, who is in Los Angeles, will take up her residence in New York on March 1.

The Corral
(Continued from page 67)

is heading the show and the souvenir program received by The Corral says: "Jack Burroughs, manager, is one of the old-time Westerners and a real cowboy. Jack was in the West when the West was really wild, even before written law was known. In those days all the law they knew was strapped in a belt at one's side. The man who was the quickest at the draw had the law in his hand. Some of the marks on Jack's body will convince you of the truth of hot-lead and cold-steel law. However, these are some of the things of which he talks little when asked about them. He says he would not take any amount of money for the experience, neither would he give a cent to live it over. They remain a hidden mystery even to his pals and closest friends. Whatever his past has been he is the survival of the fittest. Now a pleasant fellow and a good business man, a real cowboy and a showman, who comes to you surrounded by the best of talent and equipment that can be had, and presents to you some real thrills and entertainment in Wild West." The program follows: Grand entry, introducing the principal members of the company; Chief Thunderface and his band of American Indians, presenting old-time war dances and Indian life on the plains; Cowboy Peterson, in his death-defying aerial act; Henry Boggs, king of the lasso—one of the old-time cowboys of the late Buffalo Bill Show, demonstrating his skill with the lariat, making one, two, three and four horse catches with riders; Captain George Edwards and Miss Merle Carr, sensational sharpshooters at human target, using regulation Remington rifles and ammunition; the Wild West clowns in nonsensical nonsense; Tommy Pedro, in trick and fancy riding; Gunboat Jack, America's premier daredevil, in his sensational leap for life on a motorcycle; Cowboy Frank, playing the devil with contortion; the Chinese family of acrobats and jugglers, riding Texas long-horn steers; Charlie and Peter, in a comedy concoction, entitled Hit and Stop—and Hit and No Stop; Capt. George Edwards, in superb exhibition of aerial marksmanship, shooting singles, doubles and triples with 22-bore rifles and revolvers, using ball cartridges; shooting from horseback, going at full gallop, riding wild and untamable horses, a most sensational and daring exhibition of nerve that is thrilling to extremity, by Jack Burroughs, Tommy Pedro, Emanuel Marques, Red Cannon and others; the Covered Wagon, showing the dangers encountered by the pioneers in crossing the plains in the days of '49.

- MONTANA**
Lewistown—Eagles' Carnival-Festival. Jan. 15-22
- NEBRASKA**
Omaha—Auto Show. Feb. 21-26.
- NEW JERSEY**
Newark—Auto Show. Jan. 15-22. C. E. Helgate, mgr., Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
- NEW YORK**
Brooklyn—Food Show at 18th Regt. Armory. March 1-10.
New York—Auto Show in Grand Central Palace. Jan. 5-15. S. A. Miles, mgr., 360 Madison ave.
- OHIO**
Akron—Food Show. Feb. 21-26. J. N. Funk, mgr.
Cincinnati—Food Show. Jan. 31-Feb. 5. E. H. Klautermeyer, mgr., 210 High ave., Cleveland.
- CLEVELAND**
Cleveland—Auto Show. Jan. 22-29. Herbert Beckman, mgr., 5060 Euclid ave.
Cleveland—Food & Indust. Expo. Feb. 4-12. W. J. Nichols, mgr., 1627 E. 55th st.
- YANGON**
Yangon—Food Show. March 14-19. E. H. Klautermeyer, mgr., 210 High ave., Cleveland.
- OKLAHOMA**
Oklahoma City—Radio Show. Week of Jan. 11.
- PENNSYLVANIA**
Harrisburg—Orleans Indoor Circus. Jan. 27-Feb. 7.
- RHODE ISLAND**
Providence—Auto Show. Feb. 5-12. R. F. Lord, mgr., 617 Industrial Trust Bldg.
- WISCONSIN**
Milwaukee—Auto Show. Jan. 15-24. R. J. Ruedler, mgr., 105 Wells st.
- CALIFORNIA**
San Bernardino—National Orange Show. Feb. 17-21. Royal H. Mack.
- COLORADO**
Denver—Natl. Western Stock & Horse Show. Jan. 15-22. Robt. H. Boyce, Union Stock Yards.
- FLORIDA**
Arcadia—De Soto Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 11-15.
Bradenton—Manatee Co. Fair Assn. Feb. 23-25. G. A. Spencer.
Dade City—Pasco Co. Agr. Soc. Jan. 23-25. T. P. Ziegler.
De Land—Volusia Co. Fair Assn. Feb. 13-19. Earl W. Brown.
Ft. Lauderdale—Roward Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 23-28. G. E. Matthews.
Ft. Myers—Lee Co. Fair Assn. Feb. 23-26. J. M. Boring.
Lakeland—Polk Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 17-22.
Largo—Pinellas Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 15-22. P. A. Bradbury.
Loranto—Citrus Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 17-21. Mrs. Minnie H. Boldson.
Martha—Marion Co. Fair. Jan. 20-29.
Melbourne—Melbourne Poultry Fair. March 7-12.
Miami—Dade Co. Fair Assn. March 7-12. J. S. Ralney.
Moorhaven—Glades Co. Fair. Jan. 31-Feb. 5.
Waldo—Sub-Tropical Midwinter Fair. Feb. 18-20. C. B. Howard.
Sarasota—Sarasota Co. Fair. Jan. 25-29. Jules Brazil.
Stuart—Marion Co. Fair. Jan. 23-29.
Tampa—South Fla. Fair and Gasparilla Carnival. Feb. 1-12. P. T. Strider, gen. mgr.
Vero Beach—Indian River Co. Fair Assn. Jan. 18-23. Geo. T. Treglia.
Wauchula—Hardee Co. Fair Assn. First week in Jan. L. O. Jones.
West Palm Beach—Palm Beach Co. Fair. March 1-5. S. W. Hatt.
- OKLAHOMA**
Oklahoma City—Southwest American Live Stock Show. Feb. 27-March 5. J. W. S. Hutchings.
- TEXAS**
Ft. Worth—Southwestern Expo. and Fat Stock Show. March 5-12. John B. Davis.

- POULTRY SHOWS**
- CALIFORNIA**
Pasadena—Poultry Show. Jan. 11-15. Henry W. Adams, secr., 605 Lincoln st.
- CUBA**
Havana—Poultry & Hort. Show. Jan. 6-9.
- IDAHO**
Caldwell—Poultry Show. Jan. 11-14.
- ILLINOIS**
Bellefonte—Natl. Pigeon Assn. Jan. 11-16. Harry A. Stone, secr., 23 W. Wash. st., Indianapolis, Ind.
- IOWA**
Des Moines—Poultry Show. Dec. 28-Jan. 3.
- KANSAS**
Wichita—Poultry Show. Jan. 17-22.
- MASSACHUSETTS**
Boston—Poultry Show. Dec. 28-Jan. 1. W. B. Albertson, secr., 165 Tremont st.
- NEBRASKA**
Omaha—Poultry Show. Jan. 10-15. Harry Knudsen, secr., Box 483.
- NEW YORK**
New York (Madison Sq. Garden)—Poultry Show. Jan. 5-9.
- NORTH DAKOTA**
Grand Forks—Turkey & Poultry Show. Feb. 1-4. Ed L. Hayes, mgr., 719 W. 40th st., Minneapolis, Minn.
- SOUTH DAKOTA**
Mitchell—State Poultry Show. Jan. 17-21. Wm. Scallin, secr., 708 W. 4th ave.
- VERMONT**
St. Albans—Poultry Show. Jan. 11-14. R. P. Greene, secr., 4 Orchard st.
- IDAHO**
Pocatello—Municipal Ice Rink. A. B. Casfeld, supt.
- MASSACHUSETTS**
Boston—Arena. George Y. Brown, mgr.
Springfield—Ice Arena in Coliseum of Eastern States Expo. Bldg.
- NEW YORK**
New York City—Island. 209 W. 53d st.
New York—Dist. St. Ice Palace. J. Carroll, mgr.
New York City—Hunt's Point Ice Glades. 167th st. & Westchester ave., Bronx Co.-Ad-Vent Co., mgrs.; plays attractions.
- OHIO**
Cleveland—Elysium Ice Rink. The Humphrey Co., proprs.; H. C. Shannon, mgr.
Norwood—Norwood Ice Rink. C. G. Miller & K. W. Towsler, mgrs.
- OREGON**
Portland—Coliseum Ice Rink.
- PENNSYLVANIA**
Philadelphia—Dunning's Daisy Ice Rink. Elmer Dunning, mgr.
Pittsburgh—Duquesne Garden Ice Rink. Howard Rigby, mgr.; plays attractions.
- WASHINGTON**
Seattle—Arena Ice Rink. Arena Co., proprs.; plays attractions.
- CANADA**
Halifax, N. S.—Arena Ice Rink. J. J. Condon, mgr.
Hamilton, Ont.—The Arena Rink. H. P. Thompson, mgr.; plays attractions.
Montreal, Que.—Mt. Royal Arena Rink. Oscar Benoit, mgr.; plays attractions.
Perth, Ont.—Perth Ice Rink. Ltd., George S. James, owner and manager; plays attractions.
Vancouver, B. C.—Arena Ice Rink. Vancouver Arena Co., Ltd., proprs.; Frank A. Patrick, mgr.; plays attractions.
Victoria, B. C.—The Arena Ice Rink. Victoria Arena Co., Ltd., proprs.; plays attractions.



DARLENE HARDING, 14-year-old fancy rider and trick rider, who was at the Kingman, San City and Salina, Kan., rodeos.

DEATHS in the PROFESSION

BISSONNETTE—Zophir L., 58, musician, who came to Portland, Ore., three years ago, died recently at his home. He was born November 22, 1869, in Lowell, Mass. Bissonnette was commissioned during the World War as leader of the Sixth Engineers' Regimental Band. He was a member of the Elks' Band of Portland.

BRITTON—H., died at Oklahoma City, Okla., December 13, of heart disease. Mr. Britton was formerly in the theatrical business at Norman, Okla., with his son, Harry Britton.

BROWN—Robert, 60, former wild animal show owner, and promoter of the Richmond County Fair, Staten Island, N. Y. At the time of his death, December 15, at Port Richmond, he was clerk of Special Sessions Court. Surviving are three daughters and two sons.

CLARK—Mrs. Emma, 80, actress long associated with the famous Boston Athenaeum, whose stage name was Emma Whittle, died recently at her home in Chelsea, near Boston.

CLEGG—John, 62, since boyhood connected with theater orchestras in Toronto, Canada, died in that city December 26, after a few days' illness. He played the drums in the Grand Princes and Royal Alexandra theaters, and was well known to the profession. Besides his son, Frank Clegg, musician, of Chicago, he leaves a widow and two daughters. Burial was in Prospect Cemetery, Toronto.

CONDREY—Lucienne, Parisian dancer, whose stage name was "Myosa", died recently in Berlin, Germany.

CONQUEST—George, 58, English actor-manager of 30 years ago, died recently in London.

EGBERT—George, 67, English variety agent, died December 2 in Guy's Hospital, London.

EVANS—Babe, died in the Manhattan State Hospital, New York, recently. Mrs. Franks, of Franks' Theatrical Hotel, provided for interment in a local cemetery, where the body will remain until relatives of Miss Evans are located. The deceased was a chorister in the Grand Street Theater Burlesque Stock Company.

GALT—Herbert R., 45, editor of *The St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch*, died in a St. Paul hospital December 19 of heart disease.

FISHER—Allen H., 75, father of H. C. (Bud) Fisher, creator of *Mutt and Jeff*, died December 23 in his suite at the Hotel Majestic, New York. Funeral service was held from Campbell's Funeral Church, 68th street and Broadway, December 24. His son is at present in Europe.

GARNETT—Freddie, well known to oldtimers as the famous "Dummy Clown", whose act was familiar in circuses and vaudeville for many years, died November 9, at Melbourne, Australia.

GEER—Samuel, 51, died December 20 at his home in Brooklyn. Geer was manager of Playland Park, Freeport, L. I., holding this post since the death three years ago of the builder of the park, D. B. Saneman. Geer was also a newspaperman and for 20 years had been correspondent for New York papers in the Nassau County, L. I., territory. He leaves his widow and a daughter.

GINGOLD—Baroness Helene, wife of Laurence Cowen, London dramatic author and proprietor of the Fortune Theater, London, died December 11 in that city. The Baroness had written poems and novels and collaborated with her husband in some plays.

GOODALE—Teddy, burlesque character, late at *Dave Matzo's Own Show*, on the Columbia Circuit, died recently of pneumonia at the Walnut Hotel, Philadelphia. She was buried December 21 from her Shelton (Conn.) home.

HAY—William, 66, one of the owners of the Strand Theater, Fairmount,

Miss., died December 9 of heart disease. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Anna Hay, and a son, Vincent Hay, of Minneapolis.

KERNS—Edward, 53, owner of the Kerns News Agency, of Kansas City, died at his home in that city December 17. He is survived by his widow, three daughters and one son. Funeral services were held December 21 both at the home and the the Amunition Catholic Church, with interment in Calvary Cemetery.

KING—Harry, of the vaudeville team of McGinnis and King, the dancing waiters, died December 20 at Hartford, Conn.

KOCH—Dr. James L., for 20 years house physician at Erlanger's Boston Theater, died December 20. He was well known by all ranks of the theatrical profession.

LOVE—Pearl, 52 (colored), vocalist with the minstrel show of the C. R. Leggett Shows, died suddenly December 15 at Monroe, La. Body is being held to hear from relatives at Castro, Ill.

MEGAN—Tom, of the Megan Bros. (English vaudeville act), died November 16 at Brisbane, Australia. He suffered from tubercular trouble for some time.

MILES—Merry Major, 50, old-time comic vocalist, died December 1 in a West End London Hospital, Brentford. For many years he was with J. Chappell's Entertainers at Great Yarmouth. The funeral was held December 6.

MUSGRAVE—Kenyon, 52, died November 23 in London, after a prolonged illness. Following early colonial successes, Musgrave made many appearances in the West End, London. He visited the United States with Marie Tempest, afterwards touring with Otis Skinner.

NICHOLLS—Harry, 74, English comedian, died November 30 in London. Long associated with Drury Lane drama he was also a prolific dramatic author and wrote or collaborated in *A Successful Girl*, *Jabe* and *The Forceman*. He was devoted in late years to theatrical charities, especially the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

PACHE—Joseph, 65, for 20 years conductor of the Baltimore (Md.) Oratorio Society and well-known voice teacher, died at the General Hospital, Baltimore, December 7. He was a native of Friedland, Silesia, and received his musical training at the Munich Conservatory of Music and in Berlin. He came to America in 1891, teaching one year at the New York College of Music and conducting organizations in New York, Newark and Trenton. In 1894 he went to Baltimore.

PARKER—Beatrice J., died recently at her home in Pueblo, Col. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Parker, are prominent in musical circles of Pueblo. Miss Parker was for a number of years secretary in the New York studio of Percy Rector Stevens.

PITZER—Mrs. R. D., wife of Ralph Pitzer, manager of the Princess Theater, Youngstown, O., died December 20, at the Youngstown City Hospital, after an illness of three weeks. Mrs. Pitzer was professionally known as Stella Winters, prima donna.

ROBINSON—Clarence, 39, brother of Mrs. Frank Livingston, wife of the manager of the Parisian, Flappers, on the Mutual Wheel, died December 2. Burial in Fairmount Cemetery, Newark, N. J.

SCHIPA—Luigi, 83, father of Tito Schipa, tenor of the Chicago Civic Opera Association, died December 13 in Rome, Italy.

STODDARD—Charles Leroy, 59, son of Sheriff and Mrs. Warren C. Stoddard, Jackson, Mich., died recently at Detroit of diphtheria. For some time he had been connected with Blackstone, the magician, but of late represented theatrical houses that manufactured accessories used in many of the larger productions. Burial took place at Jackson.

TALBOT—Henry M., of the firm of Dickson & Talbot, who operated a chain of theaters in Indiana and Ohio, died in Indianapolis recently.

VAN DORSTEN—A. W., 70, violin maker, 2127 Van Buren street, Chicago, was found dead in his office December 20. Death was of natural causes.

VON HOCHBERG—Count Bolko, 83, who wrote operas and symphonies under the pseudonym, J. H. Franz, died recently in Salzburg, Germany. He maintained for a number of years the Hochberg Quartet at Dresden, and founded the Silesian Music Festivals in 1874. He held the post of Intendant of the Prussian Royal Opera from 1886 to 1903. He wrote *Die Falken* in 1876.

WATKINS—E. S., 65, father of Ira J. Watkins, who had the motordrome with Johnny J. Jones Exposition last season, died suddenly recently at Rutland, Vt. He is survived by his widow and two sons. Funeral services were held from the home of the deceased on Nicholas street, with Masonic rites. The remains were interred in Pittsford.

WHITELEY—John W., 63, bandmaster and veteran of two campaigns during service in the United States Army, died of pneumonia December 17 at his home in Detroit. For many years Mr. Whiteley had been conspicuously identified with the musical life of the community, being director of the 19th Infantry Band, for 10 years, and later with the Detroit Conservatory of Music and the Ganapol School and recently teaching privately. Funeral services were held December 20 at the Whiteley home, under auspices of Detroit Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templars.

WHITING—Mrs. Arthur, 70, wife of the pianist and composer, died in New York, December 26, of bronchial pneumonia. She was an accomplished amateur pianist. Services will be held December 28, at the All Souls' Unitarian Church, New York.

MARRIAGES

ALDERFER-WITCHER—Roy Alderfer, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Alderfer, operators of a motion picture show at Merton, Tex., and Gertrude Witcher, of that city, were married at San Angelo, Tex., recently. Mr. Alderfer is well known among show people.

BARTRAM-COMPTON—Juliette Compton, American actress, and James Bartram were married December 24 at Christ Church, Hempstead, England.

BROWN-DEMONT—Robert Brown, treasurer, and Anna H. DeMont, performer, with the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus, were married December 18, at Brooklyn, N. Y. They have returned to Peru, Ind., winter quarters of the circus.

COLLINGS-HARRIS—Natalie Harris, daughter of Mrs. Donald Ungor, of Pomfret, Conn., and Pierre Collings, a scenario writer, were married December 23 at the Little Church Around the Corner, New York. Miss Harris has been engaged in journalism, and was formerly on the staff of *The Boston Traveler*. After their honeymoon the couple will make their home in New York and Hollywood.

DELANOY-LEE—Drake DeLanoy, son of a New York broker, and Rosalind Lee, known as Lovey Lee to the Broadway stage, were married December 22 at Chestertown, Md., by the Rev. N. O. Gibson, pastor of Christ Methodist Protestant Church.

DUNN-WALKER—Doris Walker, vaudeville dancer, and Francis J. Dunn were married at the Municipal Building, New York, December 22.

FORD-BERING—Eugene Ford, motion picture director, and Doris Louise Bering, nonprofessional, were married December 14 by the Rev. J. L. Gilles, at the Riverside Mission Inn, Riverside, Calif. Tom Mix, picture star, and brother-in-law of Ford, acted as best man, and Mrs. Tom Mix as matron of honor, at the ceremony.

FOWLER-DAVIS—Louis Willard Fowler, pianist with Ernie Caldwell's Aces of Syncopation at Cafe Granada, Chicago, and Martha Helen Davis, nonprofessional, were married December 3 at Chicago.

FRENCH-HORDERN—Henri French, vaudeville star, and Irene Hordern, a member of the former's vaudeville combination, were married recently at Brisbane, Australia.

HOBERT-CARROLL—Burning G. Hobert, Australian magician, and Miss Carroll, were married recently at Chambersburg, Pa., leaving immediately after the ceremony for the Pacific Coast where they will sail for Sydney, Australia. Mr. Hobert has sold his magic devices and says he will go into sheep business with his brother in Australia.

HOBART-TELL—Oliver Tell, well-known actress of the stage and screen, and Henry M. Hobart, motion picture producer, were married December 23 at the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas,

44th street and 57th avenue, New York. Mrs. Hobart is the sister of Alma Tell, also well known on the legitimate stage.

JAMES-BLACKTON—Marion C. Blackton, scenarist, daughter of J. Stuart Blackton, and Gardner James, movie actor, were married at Los Angeles December 25.

MALORY-VALENTINE—John (Blue) Malory, concessionaire, of Louisville, Ky., and Cella Valentine, of Erie, Pa., were married November 29 at Erie.

RACOVER-BEMDEN—Rene Racover, theater manager, New York, and Lucienne Bemden were married December 22 at the Municipal Building, New York.

RAYMOND-FUTELLE—Charles Raymond, publicity man, and Virginia Futelle, formerly with Charles Dillingham's Hippodrome spectacle *Good Times*, were married recently in New York.

REYNOLDS-BOWMAN—Mack Reynolds, drummer on the Jake Donegan Show, and Nell Bowman were married December 19 at Hattiesburg, Miss.

STONE-McCOY—Billy Stone, vaudeville, and Violet McCoy, formerly doing comedy parts for the Universal Film Company, were married at Los Angeles recently. Since their marriage they have been presenting a double act on the West Coast, playing independent houses. They expect to head for the Eastern circuits early in February.

BIRTHS

Born to Lilian and Billy McGill, Pueblo, Col., December 21, a six-pound girl, who has been named Maxine Delores. Mr. McGill is manager of Harry Dean-Bar's Broadway Players at the Broadway Theater, Pueblo. Mrs. McGill expects to be at work shortly.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Curly Sheers, at Lady of the Lake Hospital, Baton Rouge, La., a boy, weighing 8½ pounds.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McKenna, November 16, at Sydney, Australia, a son. The father is one of the McKinnon boys, Scotland's Ambassadors, and his wife was formerly a member of the Harmony Four.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Weller, December 13, Cincinnati, twins, who have been named William M. and Patricia Jane. Mrs. Weller is known professionally as Patricia McKenna.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Hoek, November 30, at Detroit, a boy, weighing seven pounds. Mrs. Hoek was formerly Billie Bushman and last with the *Miscellaneous Girls*. Mr. Hoek was formerly identified with the New York Hippodrome and is now a mechanical engineer in Detroit.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Courtney, of the team, Courtney and Jeanette, December 7, at their home in Chicago, a girl.

DIVORCES

Grace Darmond, film actress, was granted a divorce December 21 at Los Angeles from Henry J. Matson.

Mrs. Milton Menasco was granted a divorce December 14 from her husband, who is art director for the First National Studios. The couple were married in February, 1922.

Mrs. Rose DeSombers informed the Kansas City office of *The Billboard* that she was granted a divorce December 24 from her husband, Charles DeSombers, in the Independence, Mo., division of the Jackson County Circuit Court. Her former name, Rose Chubby Shelton, was restored. She was formerly with Dan Russell's *Madame Girls*. Mr. DeSombers is a non-professional.

Ion Swinley, English actor, December 1 obtained a divorce from his wife, professionally known as Mary Merrill. They were married in 1916.

Jack Melford, London actor, was recently granted a divorce from his wife, Lella Marguerite Melford, actress, whom he married in 1923.

COMING MARRIAGES

Rowland Robbins, a Detroit business man, will be married to Ruth Gillette, of Chicago, formerly with the *Passion Show*, on New Year's Day at the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago.

Joseph Jackson, theatrical press agent and screen writer, Los Angeles, and Ethel Shannon, free-lance screen actress will be married in March.

Rolla W. VanHorn, president of the VanHorn & Son, Inc., costumers, and Helen Vomer will be married January 11. The wedding will be a quiet one, due to the recent death of Mr. VanHorn's mother, Mrs. Jennie VanHorn.

WHEN DEATH OCCURS
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Harvey, Laura and Joe Arlington.
Alexandre Abdullah.
American Cinema Association.
Agnes Alton.
Eric V. Askew.
Billy Ahearn.
J. C. Admire.
J. B. Austin.
Pearl and Bonnie Austin.
Mildred Austin.
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A. C. Bradley.
Mart'n Bowers.
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MISCELLANEOUS
(Continued from page 63)

Oldfield, Clark, Co. & Hawaiian, H. A. Wilson, mgr.: Wetumka, Okla., 29-30; Henryetta 31-Jan. 1; Wawoka 2-4; Semboke 5-6; Shawnee 7-9.

Virgil, Magician: (Bill) Portland, Ore., 28-31; (High) Salem Jan 1-2.

CIRCUS AND WILD WEST

King Bros.' Rodeo & Hippodrome: Plant City, Fla., 27-Jan. 1; Lakeland 3-8.

CARNIVAL COMPANIES

Alabama Am. Co.: Marvel, Ala., 27-Jan. 1.

Burtz Midway: Colfax, La., 30-Jan. 8.

Bright, Louis, Amusements: Palacios, Tex., 27-Jan. 1; Gulf 3-8.

Cook & Goldfob: Opp, Ala., 27-Jan. 1.

Cumtachment Am. Co.: Bolliger, Ala., 27-Jan. 1; Epsa 3-8.

Delmar Quality: Sourlake, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Draper's Park Amusements: Ellenton, Fla., 27-Jan. 1; Bradenton 3-8.

Galler's Expo: Otter Creek, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Gear, Billy: Pavo, Ga., 27-Jan. 1.

Gloth Greater: Kelsey City, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Gray, Roy: Mercedes, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Gulf Coast: Lake Charles, La., 27-Jan. 1.

Houser-Kelly: New Port Richey, Fla., 27-Jan. 1; Tarpon Springs 3-8.

Jones, Johnny J.: Wauchoke, Fla., 3-8.

Man's Greater: Jackson, Ala., 27-Jan. 1.

Metropolitan: Mulberry, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Millican's United: Milton, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Miller, Ralph B.: Crowley, La., 27-Jan. 1; New Iberia 3-8.

Mitchell & LaFrance: Stillmece, Ga., 27-Jan. 1; Nicholas 3-8.

Oliver Greater: Uniontown, Ala., 27-Jan. 1.

Pearson Expo: Brewster, Ala., 27-Jan. 1; Ft. Meade 3-8.

Phoent Am. Co.: Camden, Ark., 27-Jan. 1.

Rack City: Georgiana, Ala., 27-Jan. 1; Vreden-burg 3-8.

Southern Expo: Coconut Grove, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Taylor Bros.: Crestview, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Wade, R. L.: Emerson, Ark., 27-Jan. 1.

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Additional Routes
(Received too late for classification)

Argus, Magician: Louisville, Ky., 27-Jan. 1.

Arthur's, Duke, Comedians: Sider, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Bartigo Ideal Comedy Co.: West Milton, O., 27-Jan. 1.

Beckridge, Lew. Mus. Com. Co.: (Orph.) Durham, N. C., 27-Jan. 1.

Bower, Dramatic Co.: Arlington, Ind., 27-Jan. 1.

Brusk's Comedians: Henryetta, Okla., 27-Jan. 1.

Brusk's Show: Bartlesville, Okla., 27-Jan. 1.

Burton's, Johnny, Proles: (Bill) Newport, Ky., 30-Jan. 1; (Gordon) Middletown, O., 3-8.

Jack Valentines: Queecoo, Kan., 27-Jan. 1.

Stiffon Comedy Co.: New Baden, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.

Jack's Show: Kirksland, Ga., 27-Jan. 1.

Wahle, B. A., Magician: Wilson, N. C., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth's Show: Clinton, Okla., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth Show: Seville, Ala., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth Show: Miami, Okla., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth Show: (New China Gardens) Youngstown, O., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth's, Elias C., Band: Bushnell, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Al G., Minstrel: Waycross, Ga., 29-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, W. Palm Beach 4-6; Miami 6-8.

Wentworth, Leo & Fred: Brady, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Frank: Stock Co.: Harlingen, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Almes: Fort Scott, Kan., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Comedians: Lodi, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Vant's Show: Henderson, Mich., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, J. A., Comedians: Douglas, Ga., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Saville: Columbus, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Wentworth, Saville: Honesdale, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Meredith & Henry: (Beverly) Jansville, Wis., 21-Jan. 2.

New York Players: Lindale, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Newman, the Great, J. H. Keller, mgr.: (Hilto) Dickson, N. D., 27-Jan. 1; Kildree 2-4; Golden Valley 2-5.

Norman, Jack, Players: Arcadia, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Norman's Comedians: Shawnee, Okla., 27-Jan. 1.

Oh, Boy, Jack W. Burke, mgr.: (Majestic) Greenville, S. C., 27-Jan. 1.

Rezo, Great, & Co.: New Orleans, La., 27-Jan. 1.

Rezo's Pussmakers: Baxley, Ga., 27-Jan. 1.

Road's Band: Hollywood, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Sadler, Harley, Co.: San Angelo, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Shannon Players, Harry Shannon, Sr., mgr.: Fredericksburg, Va., 27-Jan. 1.

Shawn Bros.: (Bill) Baker, Mo., 30-Jan. 1; (Cushman St.) Dorchester, Mass., 3-5.

Slater's Spectral Dodgers, Rescoe Slater, mgr.: Brady, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Smith-Willis Stock Co.: Benton, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.

Some Show, Alex. Saunders, mgr.: (Majestic) Danville, Va., 27-Jan. 1.

Thomas Dramatic Co.: Sonora, Tex., 27-Jan. 1.

Tom's Comedians: Zephyr Hills, Fla., 27-Jan. 1.

Turtle, Wm. C., Magician: Chicago, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.

Webb, Billy, Co.: (Princess) Shelby, N. C., 27-Jan. 1; (Strand) Charlotte 3-8.

Weidmann's, Tom, Big Show: Brewton, Miss., 27-Jan. 1.

Greater Sheesley Show at Tampa and Johnson Florida Expo. Show here opening tonight makes St. Petersburg look like a reunion of showfolks.

The Wise Show will change location next week as the engagement for St. Petersburg is for two weeks, then to the East Coast.

Tuesday night the newsboys were guests of Mr. Wise and had the time of their young lives, riding and attending the different shows, then were filled up with hot dogs and red lemonade. Before they left the midway they gave three rousing cheers for the Wise Show.

Mr. Wise has given up all duties other than taking tickets at the minstrel show. He has reasons for being proud of his minstrel show, as this attraction has received more favorable comment from the press than any other part of the organization.

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The Wise Shows

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Dec. 22.—The Wise Shows opened their engagement here Monday night to a big crowd, which came in early and stayed late, spending freely.

The minstrel show gave two performances and the big top was filled to overflowing. Carl Luther's side show did a big business on the opening night. The other shows and rides did well. The weather was fine, as the cold spell has left for a time at least.

A great number of visitors come to the midway most every night. The

Abner K. Kline Shows

After closing the 1926 season at Hartford, Calif., the Abner K. Kline Shows were taken to San Bernardino, Calif., and quartered at the National Orange Show grounds, their winter quarters for the last three years.

Near the close of the season Manager Kline contracted a cold which eventually caused serious illness, thereby bringing about the closing of the shows on short notice, with several spots already booked. Mr. Kline is recovering and expects to carry on during the season of 1927. Painters, wagon builders, blacksmiths and carpenters are on the job at winter quarters rushing things to completion by the time the season opens at the 17th Annual National Orange Show, San Bernardino, February 17 to 25.

HI TOM LONG
(Press Representative).

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Agee and Circus Acts In New Musical Comedy

NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—John R. Agee, equestrian, and his horses and trained bull are appearing on the K.A. Circuit. Last summer they were a feature park and fair attraction. They are to be specially featured in the forthcoming production of Will Morrissey's *Polly of Hollywood*, scheduled to get under way at Allentown, Pa., January 4. Agee has been cast to play the character of the "bad man" and arrangement has been made to utilize the high-school and dancing horses in one scene, and in other scenes the brewery horses will do special "business", and Midge Miller, star of the piece, will ride Agee's bull.

There will be two other circus acts on the program, including the Flying Martins and Paasha's Arabian tumbler.

Rice Bros.' Shows

GREENVILLE, Tex., Dec. 21.—Rice Bros.' Shows are here for the second week of their engagement. Last week was the poorest of the season. Rain and cold weather prevailed, and the show hardly opened. We moved to a lot on the other side of the town and so far have not opened this week.

The Rice Bros.' Shows have been in Texas for three weeks and each week was a bloomer. There seems to be a shortage of money in this State, and nearly every one is depending on cotton and the price is the lowest in years. Owner Cecil C. Rice has decided to make Greenville the closing stand. He has rented a fire-proof warehouse and next Saturday night most of the show will go in for the winter. A two-car show will leave here to play the small towns in East Texas and Louisiana, where conditions are much better. General Agent Elmore Holloway is in the field booking spots. Tressie McDaniels and wife left the show last week for Brownsville, Tex. Dan Mahoney is now the manager of concessions.

The winter show will consist of four shows, two rides and 15 concessions. The writer closed his minstrel show here. Doc Barker also closed his 19-in-1 show. R. A. Josselyn is connected with the show, joining here this week. All the ladies on the show are busy with their Christmas presents and all of us are looking forward to a big time. R. L. DAVIS (Press Representative).

Morris & Castle Shows

SHREVEPORT, La., Dec. 22.—It's a bit quiet around winter quarters of the Morris & Castle Shows at Shreveport, La., all marking time as it were for the return of Milt Morris and Johnny Castle, who are spending the holiday season with Milt and Dave's folks in Washington, D. C.

Johnny Castle has gone to Washington after going thru the Mayo Clinic at Rochester, Minn., and all will be glad to hear that a rest cure only has been advised by the physicians. This sounds easy, but all who know Johnny are saying it can't be done.

Sid Tannehill and W. D. Cohn accompanied Castle to Rochester, where Tannehill will remain for 30 days to undergo an operation. He will be glad to hear from his friends. Mail will reach him care of general delivery. Mrs. Tannehill is with her husband and will remain until he leaves the hospital. W.

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Dave Cohn has gone to Hot Springs, Ark., and is at the Cemo Hotel.

The construction crew under the direction of Jack Rhodes has been engaged since early December on the building of 2,000 bleacher seats for the Louisiana State Fair Association, which will also be used as a down-town grand stand for the Mardi Gras parade in Shreveport in February.

The writer is at his home in Houston, Tex., but in touch with happenings around winter quarters.

JOE S. SCHOLIBO
(General Press Representative).

Chimingo's Great Circus

REGINA, Sask., Can., Dec. 24.—Jordan Murphy, press agent of Chimingo's Great Circus, is back in harness again after being injured in a recent fire.

Work at temporary quarters is progressing nicely and the wardrobe has been replaced. The show will not open until February and in the meantime Chimingo will tour Canada for six weeks in vaudeville, splitting the time between the Pantages, Berry and Capitol Circuits. He will be the feature of the new spec., dividing honors with Mlle. LaVoie (Mrs. T. R. Michella) and her Black and Tan Ballet Beauties. Mr. Michella will act as manager for Chimingo during the six-week tour. Mlle. LaVoie and her Beauties will spend the holidays in Calgary, Alta. John E. Jackson is spending the holidays in Winnipeg, Man.

Pietro LaMarr is teaching his lions a new trick, and T. R. Michella, Jr., is putting his dogs thru new stunts. The net, which Chimingo terms *The Flaming Youth*, runs for 20 minutes. When the show opens, Murphy will work back while John E. Jackson will handle the work ahead. Alvin Griffith, of Cleveland, will arrive shortly and direct the side-show band.

M. J. Lapp Shows

ELLENVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 22.—The M. J. Lapp Greater Shows are wintering at Danbury, Conn. William Gordon is caretaker and is assisted by Jack Dooley and Jimmy Gordon. Work will not start until March 1, and then two wagon fronts will be built.

The show will consist of 12 shows, 5 rides and about 40 concessions and will open April 16.

Mr. and Mrs. Lapp are resting at their home in Ellenville, N. Y., and recently were visited by Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Payne and daughter, Estelle; Jack Murray and Vincent A. Connell, who made the trip from Baltimore, Md.; Bill Gordon, in from winter quarters for a few days, and Pear Ringer, owner of the caterpillar ride on the D. D. Murphy Shows.

On file in the home office are many letters of indorsement from city officials and testimonials from audiences under which the shows appeared last season.

J. W. Newlark and wife, who were on the Lapp Shows for five years, are spending the winter at Los Angeles, Calif.

C. L. KUHLMANN
(for the Show).

Tom Atkinson Circus

SUPERIOR, Ariz., Dec. 21.—En route to this city, the dog cage of the Tom Atkinson Circus went over an embankment of 20 feet, but there were no casualties. The show opened here to fair business and encountered a slight snowstorm the following morning. It was the first snow the show has seen in eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson were guests at a birthday supper for Jerry Doyle, former showman, now in business at Phoenix.

Winter Quarters

(Continued from page 83)

- Southern Tier Shows, James B. Strates, mgr.: Fairgrounds, Elkhart, N. Y. (Box 494.)
- Spencer Shows, Sam Spencer, mgr.: Brookville, Pa.
- Strayer Am. Co., J. B. Strayer, mgr.: 301 N. Main st., Memphis, Tenn.
- Traver Vaudeville Corp., Inc., Geo. W. Traver, mgr.: Hackensack, N. J.; office address, 1041 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
- Via-Ken Shows, Augusta, Ga.
- Wade, W. G., Shows, W. G. Wade, mgr.: 220 Elmwood ave., Detroit, Mich.
- Walker Bros.' Shows, James P. Sullivan, mgr.: Federal & Chestnut sts., Youngstown, O.
- West's World's Wonder Shows, Frank West, mgr.: Norfolk, Va.
- Williams, N. R., Shows, E. B. Williams, mgr.: 114 S. 10th st., Waco, Tex.
- Wool's Greater Shows, Wm. Wool, prop.: 432 Wabasha st., St. Paul, Minn.
- Worham Shows, The: Fairgrounds, Wichita Falls, Tex.
- Worham's World's Best Shows, Beckman & Gentry, mgrs.: Tulsa, Okla. (Petroleum Exp. Grounds).
- Zeldman & Polle Shows, Henry J. Polle, gen. mgr.: State Fairgrounds, Savannah, Ga.
- Zelger United Shows, C. F. Zelger, mgr.: Hood River, Ore.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Adams', James, Floating Theater, Crittenton, Va.
- Almond's Repertory Show, Jethro Almond, mgr.: Albemarle, N. C.
- Barker's, F. H., Vaudeville Show: 421 Hollenback st., Danville, Va.
- Beers Vaudeville Co., Geo. R. Beers, mgr.: 301 N. W. 63d st., Miami, Fla.
- Ben Hogue Bros. Show, Joe Ben Hogue, mgr.: Woodlawn, Tex.
- Bosco, Mico., Animal Show, Buck Luce, mgr.: Box 109, Hobbs, O.
- Bruce Vaudeville Circus, H. A. Bruce, mgr.: Escondido, Wis.
- Busta's Motorized Show, Fredley, O.
- Clarry, Four Musical, Tommy Clarry, mgr.: 17 N. Chestnut st., Shenandoah, Pa.
- Crawley's Comedians, Geo. J. Crawley, mgr.: Mer Rouge, La.
- Dalton's, Carl M., Attractions, Carl M. Dalton, mgr.: 123 N. 7th st., La Crosse, Wis.
- Dandy Dixie Colored Minstrels, J. M. Krein, mgr.: Bliss, Neb.
- Darling's, Fred, Dog, Pony & Male Circus: 214 B. street, Grand Rapids, Mich.
- Eiser's, Prince, Midgate, Casville, Mo. (Box 2.)
- Ferguson, E. O., & Son's Show, E. O. Ferguson, mgr.: Hamilton, Ill.
- Fisher's Dog & Pony Show, F. C. Fisher, mgr.: Jackson, Mich. (R. No. 8.)
- Glass, H. A., & Son's Show, H. A. Glass, mgr.: Olden, Mo.
- Golden Rod and French's New Sensation (Amusement), J. W. Menko, mgr.: Paducah, Ky.
- Hale Comedy Co., Chas. E. Hale, Sr., mgr.: 135 A-Moss st., Reading, Pa.
- Hestland Shows, Frank L. Hestland, mgr.: 794 E. Illinois st., Escanaba, Mich.
- Huddleston Family Show, Frank Huddleston, mgr.: Lucasville, O.
- Huling Concession Co., A. L. Huling, mgr.: 315 E. Madison st., Pontiac, Ill.
- Huntington Minstrels, George W. Quine, mgr.: Port Gibson, Miss.
- Irving Bros.' Side Show, Tom Irving, mgr.: 215 Slocum ave., Syracuse, N. Y.
- Just Right Shows, John H. Rudolph, mgr.: Diggins, Mo.
- Kenny's Wonder Show, Richard Kenny, mgr.: 194 Nagle ave., New York, N. Y.
- Krauss Amusements, Leroy Krauss, mgr.: Lansdale, Pa.
- Knox's, Everett, Medicine Show, Evret H. Knox, mgr.: 624 Orange st., Ashland, O.
- LaBoy Attractions, H. LaBoy, mgr.: 509 W. Town st., Columbus, O.
- Lee's Olympic Show, L. E. Higelow, mgr.: 2441 Gay st., Ft. Wayne, Ind.
- Leonard Dog & Pony Show, Wick Leonard, mgr.: Plains City, O.
- Lemone's, John C., Rides: 19 Cumberland st., Woonsocket, R. I.
- Let Die De It Co., Geo. E. Engesser, owner: St. Peter, Minn.
- McGruder's Colored Band & Minstrel Co., A. T. McGruder, mgr.: 3340 Wabash ave., Chicago, Ill.
- Manfield Comedy Co., W. J. Manfield, mgr.: Third & Locust sts., Tidelle, Pa.
- Miller Amusement Co., Arthur C. Miller, mgr.: Bimra Heights, N. Y.
- New Life Remedy Co. (medicine show), Dr. H. L. Morris, mgr.: 393 Columbus Pl., Long Beach, N. J.
- Phenomenal Traveling Medical Entertainers, Oscar Turner, mgr.: 430 Couch st., Madisonville, Ky.
- Princess Floating Theater, Norman F. Thomas, mgr.: Beverly, O. (Box 37.)
- Rabbit Foot Minstrels, F. S. Wolcott, mgr.: Port Gibson, Miss.
- Seaman Vaudeville Show, P. J. Seaman, mgr.: 113 N. White st., Shenandoah, Pa.
- Shill's Dog & Pony Show, L. Shill, mgr.: 18 Royal st., Dayton, O.
- Silver Bros.' Shows, Ross Eagle, mgr.: Bridgeton, Ind.
- Sivran & Drew Show, S. A. Drew, mgr.: Fairgrounds, Greensboro, N. C. (Box 423.)
- Spain's Family Show, Byron Spain, mgr.: Adelphi, O.
- Swift's, Herbert, Tent Vaudeville Show: Edgington, Ill., Route No. 4.
- Ten Nights in a Barroom, Waldo Odell, mgr.: Box 67, Healdsburg, Cal.
- Tri-State Auto Polo Club, A. A. Anderson, mgr.: 225 Jensen st., Keokuk, Ia.
- Wagon, Col. W. J., Trained Animals: Viancong, Ill.
- Walsh, Meta, Players, G. E. Mabery, mgr.: 330 E. Third st., Columbus, O.
- Wilson & Grady Shows, John Grady & Ted Wilson, mgrs.: Hugo, Okla.; office address, Box 291, Stillwater, Okla.
- Wing's Tent Show, H. G. Wing, mgr.: 63 Broad st., Horseheads, N. Y.
- World's Wonder Show, Mena LaPlace, mgr.: 988 Park st., South Columbus, O.
- Yuk's Trained Animals, W. B. & Leslie York, owners: St. Peter, Minn. (Konbuck Hotel.)

Look thru the Hotel Directory in this issue. Just the kind of a hotel you want may be listed.

Western Fair Association Dates

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—At the annual meeting of the Western Fair Association held at the Hotel Whitcomb the following representatives were present: C. W. Paine, secretary-manager, California State Fair; George K. Edwards, assistant secretary, California State Fair; C. B. Afflerbaugh, manager, Los Angeles County Fair, 1926; Charles P. Curran, president, Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona; A. J. Elliott, live-stock manager, Tulare County Fair, Tulare; A. A. Austerland, president, Hilmer Community Fair; George P. Upham, secretary, Exhibitors' Association, Brentwood; George P. Larson, Industrial and Fur Rabbit Show, Compton; Cecelia G. Cravins, South California Fair, Riverside; J. R. Hunt, manager, Orange County Fair, Santa Ana; Frank Liegner, racing secretary, Stockton; Eliza S. Wilson, secretary, Oregon State Fair, Salem, Ore.; E. G. Vollman, secretary, San Joaquin County Fair, Stockton; R. E. Coby, secretary and manager, Kern County 15th District Agricultural Association; Earl Harris, secretary, Kern County 15th District Agricultural Association; Tevis Paine, California State Fair Horse Show, Sacramento; Hugh P. Donnelly, Stanislaus County Fair, Modesto; Treffke R. La Senay, Fresno District Fair; Jno. J. Flaherty, Glenn County Fair, Orlando; E. A. Kirk, Glenn County Fair, Orlando; S. G. Roycroft, secretary and manager, Shasta County Fair, Anderson; Mrs. Ina P. Torrey, Shasta County Fair, Anderson; R. Casad, secretary-treasurer, Merced County Fair; Lou Carrigan, Ventura County Fair; Wm. Douglas, San Joaquin County Fair; Fred McCargar, Salinas Rodeo; Bob Jones, Pacific Slope Dairy Show; Prof. C. B. Maxwell, University of California, Davis; Sam H. Greene, director, State Agricultural Society; W. W. Van Pelt, Imperial Valley Mid-Winter Fair; J. J. Dillon, California Orange and Olive Exposition, Oroville, and Guy Windrum, Madera County Fair.

One of the principal features of Saturday's meeting was the appointment of a legislative committee to work in the interests of a bill to be introduced at the next session for increased appropriations for county fairs.

The following were among the visitors who attended: E. W. Downey, president, Downey Bros., Inc., Los Angeles; J. Elmo Montgomery, breeder of harness horses, Davis, Calif.; Edward M. Foley, Foley & Burk Shows, San Francisco; W. H. Priestley, Pitt Fireworks Company, Seattle; E. M. Burk, Foley & Burk Shows, San Francisco; L. G. Chapman, Foley & Burke Shows, San Francisco; J. L. Stuart, president, J. L. Stuart Manufacturing Company, tents, San Francisco; E. J. Wood, representing The Billboard, San Francisco; C. S. Hatch, Western Vaudeville Managers' Association; W. E. Westwood, Westwood Bros. Enterprises, Sydney, Australia; Jim McCreave, Victoria, B. C., and Everett, Wash.; G. A. Blasehard, Blanchard Press, San Francisco; Mel Kieffer, harness horses, and Whitey Gore, A. B. C. Shows, Los Angeles.

Fair dates for 1927 have been set as follows: Compton Industrial Show, Compton, Calif., March 1-7; California Raisin Festival, Fresno, Calif., April 28; California Lemon and Avocado, Oxnard, Calif., May 6-10; California Rodeo, Salinas, Calif., July 26-28; Nevada Highway Exposition, Reno, Nev., June 25-August 1; Humboldt County Fair, Fernvale, Calif., August 17; Marin County Fair, Novato, Calif., August 20-22; San Joaquin Fair, Stockton, Calif., August 25-28; San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo, Calif., August 25-27; Hilmer Community Fair, Hilmer, Calif., August 25-26; Lassen County Fair, Susanville, Calif., August 24-28; California State Fair, Sacramento, Calif., September 3-10; Orange County, Santa Ana, Calif., September 5-10; Tehama, Red Bluff, Calif., September 12-14; Stanislaus, Modesto, Calif., September 12-17; San Diego Farm Bureau Fair, San Diego, Calif., September 14-18; Jackson County, Medford, Ore., September 13-18; Ventura County Fair, Ventura, Calif., September 14-18; Shasta County, Anderson, Calif., September 15-17; Madera County Fair, Mochilla, Calif., September 20-24; Merced County, Merced, Calif., September 21-24; Lane County, Eugene, Ore., September 18-20; Bakersfield Kern County Fair, Bakersfield, Calif., September 13-17; Glenn County Fair, Orland, Calif., September 19-24; Tulare County Fair, Tulare, Calif., September 20-24; Southern California Fair, Riverside, Calif., September 2-24; Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona, Calif., September

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28-24; Fresno District Fair, Fresno, Calif., September 24-October 1; Oregon State Fair, Salem, Ore., September 24-October 1; Pacific Slope Dairy Show, Oakland, Calif., October 15-22; California Orange and Olive Exposition, Oroville, Calif., November 22-26, and Imperial Valley Midwinter, Brawley, Calif., December 7-11.

D. D. Murphy Shows

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—The return of the executive staff from the Chicago meeting was the signal for preparations for 1927.

The results of the meeting at Chicago as far as the Murphy Shows are concerned, were satisfactory. A splendid line of fairs was contracted, and for the third consecutive time the Murphy shows will play the Interstate Fair at Kankakee and the State Fair at Springfield, Ill.

Advice from winter quarters at Beaumont indicate the preliminary work under direction of Wm. (Bill) Harvey is progressing. During the winter five fronts will be built to horse new shows.

Leon Lemarr, who will have the Wild West, is expected at winter quarters after the holidays to begin the construction of an elaborate front for his attraction. Albee Moilville, who is in vaudeville, will return shortly after the holidays to look after her new edition of Albee in Woodford. Walter Kemp, located in St. Louis, will increase his riding force.

The show will be enlarged to 40 cars, Manager Brophy having purchased the additional equipment here. General Agent Dally and Jas. C. Simpson are away in the interests of the show. According to present plans, Manager Brophy will leave for Beaumont shortly after the holidays, to supervise the rebuilding of the show. This year the show will carry four new rides and three fun houses, which will bring the quota to 11. W. X. MacCOLLIN (Press Representative).

Brody in Larger Quarters

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Due to increasing business, the carnival novelty house of M. K. Brody has moved to larger quarters at 1132 So. Halsted street.

Letter From Al Wirth

Al Wirth, publicist and an old trouper, writes from Ada, Okla., as follows: "Ada has been the quarters of the Honest Bill Show, owned by the Newtons, for several years and has been the winter home of a number of showfolk as well. The show boys got up an entertainment for charity, as well as pastime, and at a great expense. I paid a big cash rental for a building on Main street, and after securing local talent and contracting the high school and college boys orchestra, we were notified we could not run by the mayor and chief of police. Several hundred dollars had been spent for advertising and outside expense on top of this. The other dance was framed after our bills were posted. They asked two separate licensees, one for \$25 a day for the home talent vaudeville, and a big fee for the dancing, of \$100 in advance if we run. I offered the dance money, but then was refused to operate or permit dancing at all, altho another pay dance is being given on December 25 at \$2 a couple admission. Our gate was only 10 cents admission. They then sent word we could open and run the concessions and vaudeville if we did not charge. Where would any money come in for charity? Then on top of it all, a refund of several hundred dollars is in order on tickets the school children have sold. It looks like a great discrimination against showfolk here. The wide publicity given this event has brought in hundreds of people and the merchants are reaping the benefits, too. Ada is full of poor and needy and with the low price of cotton and scarcity of work, this event gave work and money for labor to several poor, who otherwise would have been on the town. In order to help the boys who have come in to try and make a few dollars on concessions, I have thrown the doors open and it's all free. I am standing the loss financially, which is over \$500. If there are any troupers that have had such deals pulled over them and feel like they would like to help me a little, I will appreciate it, as I am needing charity myself now; as I stood all the expense of the deal and put out all the cash I had on hand. Have no way at all to get a dime out of the show being put over, as I have thrown it all to the concessionaires to let them make what they can to get home on, many coming a long way."

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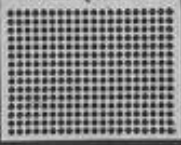
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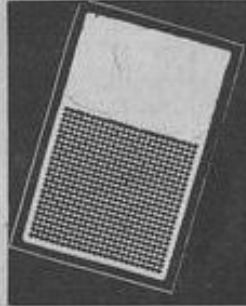
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