

JANUARY 4, 1930

15 Cents

The *Billboard*

The Theatrical Digest and Show World Review



(Printed in U. S. A.)

The Foremost
Trade Publication
of the Theater and
the Show World.

The Billboard

Only News that
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No Scandal To Dis-
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Published weekly at Cincinnati, O. Entered as second-class mail matter June 4, 1937, at Post Office, Cincinnati, under Act of March, 1879.
100 Pages. Vol. XLII. No. 1. January 4, 1938. Copyright 1929 by The Billboard Publishing Company.

Liles New President

**HASC holds annual elec-
tion—secretary, treasurer
continue in office**

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 30.—At the annual election of officers of the Heart of America Showman's Club Saturday night, at the club's rooms at the Coates House, Cliff Liles was elected president for the year 1938, succeeding Walter F. Stanley, who a year ago was tendered this prominent office of the showman's organization.

Liles is a well-known figure in show and affiliated trade circles, particularly in the Central and Western sections of the United States, and at one time was part owner of the Costello Mighty Shows.

Other officers elected at the meeting were G. C. McInnis, first vice-president; J. L. Landes, second vice-president; Arthur T. Brainerd, third vice-president; C. B. Rice, re-elected secretary; Harry Aitschuler, re-elected treasurer; Honus Howk, warden; Joseph Bova, conductor; Dr. Walter Wilson, re-elected chaplain, and George Howk, E. H. Hugo, Phil Little, Louis J. Isler, V. J. Yearout, Jake Vetter, Glen Nyder, R. E. Barnett, Jim Hart, J. T. McClellan, Harry Duncan, John Liza, C. J. Velare, Louis Heminway, Dave Stevens, George Engesser and Elmer Velare constitute the new board of directors.

Mrs. Noble C. Fairly, whose husband was the defeated candidate for president at the HASC election, was elected president of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Heart of America Showman's Club at the auxiliary election.

Banquet on Kan. Fairs' Program

VALLEY FALLS, Kan., Dec. 30.—George Harman, secretary-treasurer of the State Association of Kansas Fairs, has just announced the program for the seventh annual meeting of that organization at the Jayhawk Hotel, Topeka, Monday and Tuesday, January 7 and 8.

The meeting will be called to order at 1:30 p. m., January 7, followed by roll call, minutes of last meeting, secretary-treasurer's annual report, president's annual report; *Selling Our Fairs to Our Communities*, by Col. Bert Powell; *Chambers of Commerce and County Fairs*, by Col. Chas. L. Mitchell; *The State Board of Agriculture and Kansas Fairs*, by J. C. Mohler; *Twenty Years' Experience With Fairs*, by Dr. C. W. McCampbell; round-table discussions, appointment of committees. The second day will be devoted to report of auditing committee, report of legislative committee, election of officers; *Budgeting the Fairs*, by E. L. Barrier; *Bookkeeping Systems and Time of Paying Premiums*, by A. L. Sponaler; *Music for Outdoor Attractions*, by John Redmond; *Publicity and Advertising for Successful Fairs*, by Cleve Lane; round-table discussions and miscellaneous business.

For the first time in the history of the association a banquet will be served to delegates and visitors on the roof garden of the Jayhawk, at 6:30 Tuesday evening. Entertainment features are in the hands of "Doc" Burdick.

Great Operatic Composer Succumbs to Sound Films

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A dispatch from Rome today states that Pietro Mascagni, one of the world's most famous operatic composers, has succumbed to the lure of the sound film and is preparing his first screen opera, an original. Mascagni would not give his consent for the use of *Cavalleria Rusticana* or any of his other works for the sound films, but has consented to write especially for the screen.

1929 Declared Best Year In Motion Picture Industry

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Adolf Zukor, president of the Paramount Famous Lasky Corporation, yesterday asserted that with the lowering of the curtain on 1929 Tuesday night the most successful year in the annals of the motion picture industry will be brought to a close.

Summarizing the motion picture industrial progress for the closing year, Zukor stated the net earnings for the year have been far greater than even the most optimistic forecasts indicated at the beginning. Theater attendance increased 15,000,000 weekly, the film executive asserted, which was due to talking pictures' popularity, unusual theater expansion and increased output of excellent pictures from Hollywood and Eastern studios. Steadily increasing revenue and the great popularity of talking pictures has stabilized the industry and put it in a position for future prosperity, Zukor said.

"I believe 1930 will be even a greater year than this has been," he declared. "Surveys already made by the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America show that plans for the first

Chicago Racketeers Prey on Performers

**Many prominent legitimate and vaudeville players forced
thru threats to pay large sums for fake benefits—the-
ater managers try to hush the matter**

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Actors appearing in Loop theater productions have again been made victims of Chicago racketeers, and forced, thru threats of being "taken for a ride", to pay tribute to them. At least one performer, Allan Campbell, of *Show Boat*, was so terrified by threats received after he had refused to accede to the demands that he resigned from the cast and returned to New York.

Just how many performers have been approached by the racketeers, or how many "donated" to them, can not be accurately ascertained, as most of those concerned are attempting to hush the matter up, fearing further consequences if they talk. It is definitely known, however, that more than two score gave up sums ranging from \$25 to \$100, while some of the less timid refused point blank to fall for the racket.

The scheme, engineered by petty grafters content with small loot, was to phone an actor and collect the purchase of a ticket to a fake Christmas benefit. If the actor refused to fall, he was threatened, with the result that in many instances he paid, rather than risk harm at the hands of the extortioners. George Price, playing at the Palace early in December, was one of those approached, and refused to buy a ticket. He was told he would be reached later. As he left the theater by the Wells street stage

(See RACKETEERS on page 95)

Circo Cadona Halts, Report

MERIDA, Yucatan, Mex., Dec. 30.—It is reported here that the Circo Cadona, which recently opened in Mexico, has disbanded, and that Santos and Artigas, of the Santos & Artigas Circus, are negotiating for the equipment and route of the outfit. As soon as the report reached Merida, Sr. Santos dispatched a man to confer with Alfredo Cadona, manager of the ill-fated organization. Sr. Santos has been managing the Teatro Circo, the new name used by the Santos & Artigas Circus for its local engagement, since the show left Cuba. The Teatro Circo opened here December 7 and has been enjoying a wonderful business.

It seems to have been the old story of rain, mud and rain combined with an unsettled condition resulting from the recent election that spelled disaster for the Cadona Circo. The Americans with the Teatro Circo are all friends of Cadona and are hoping that the report may prove exaggerated, but Sr. Santos appears ready to execute contracts with all performers for 10 weeks' additional time, which would enable him to complete the route contracted by the Cadona show.

Carl Laemmle Honored

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Carl Laemmle, president of Universal Pictures, has been elected to a fellowship in the Royal Society of Arts, Manufacturers and Industry of London.

Mutual Burlesque Seeks Aid of Musicians' Union

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Mutual Burlesque Association lost no time last week with the retrenchment order allowed by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and is now conducting a national canvass of all local unions in cities where it maintains houses in an effort to receive further co-operation to get over the present financial chaos that is besetting the association.

I. H. Herk, president of the association, is conducting an independent national canvass of musicians' locals also and will lay his findings before the

American Federation of Musicians when the survey is completed. Herk hopes for a similar reduction order from the musicians.

The officials of the association are certain that with further co-operation like that offered by the local of Toledo, O., the chain will pull thru the season and thus avert a desperate financial readjustment for next season.

Equity Probes Rehearsal

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Morley and Throckmorton may visit the Actors' Equity Association again. Thursday of last week they opened *The Blue and the Gray* in Hoboken, but are reported to have entertained a paid audience at a Monday evening dress rehearsal. Saturday the actors received a half week's salary, with a promise of a holiday party if the secret remained within the company. Equity wants a full week's pay for the actors, and is investigating for that purpose now.

Kalmine Named Chief Booker

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Harry M. Kalmine has been named chief booker of the Warner Bros. circuit of theaters. The announcement was made today by Spyros Skouras, general manager of the Warner Bros. Circuit. Kalmine has been the division manager of the New Jersey group for the same organization for some time.

The Legitimate Stage

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

Musicals To Be Revived In Chicago by Shuberts

Joe E. Howard engaged to stage productions of his own works—open April 21 at Garrick Theater—all in for runs—three old successes named

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Encouraged by the success of the Jolson Theater Musical Comedy Company, the Shuberts are planning to extend their revival productions to Chicago. These revivals will include the old-time standard favorites of Chicago from the pen of Joe E. Howard. The Shuberts have already signed a contract with Howard for the production of several of his musical comedy successes of 20 and 25 years ago to be presented at the Garrick Theater, commencing with *The Time, the Place and the Girl*, which will open there on April 21. This production will be followed, according to information, by *Goddess of Liberty* and *Prince of Tonight*. Howard is the composer of the scores of all productions.

A company of 50 people is being assembled by Howard for the cast. The chorus will be engaged in Chicago and will likely be recruited from Ned Wayburn's school there. Boppe De Vries, who appeared for the first time in America in *The Merry Widow*, a recent Jolson revival, will be featured in the first production of the Chicago company. Howard himself will assume a small role in the production.

All the productions will be under the direction of Howard, who at present is appearing in vaudeville.

The method employed in the Middle West will be somewhat different than that employed here by the Jolson company. The operetta revivals have all been put into the Jolson for a run of two weeks. Practically all have gone back to the warehouse after the two weeks. The exceptions are *Robin Hood* and *Miss Modiste*, which are now on tour. Most of the others have played a couple of weeks on the road after the Broadway engagement. *Robin Hood* and the Fritz Schaff production enjoyed additional Broadway engagements. The Chicago ventures will all be opened for runs.

These revivals are the only success the Shuberts have enjoyed with their musical productions this season. The revivals here have all been done inexpensively, and reports have it that the Chicago revivals will be done in a like manner.

Howard will start casting his company during February, when he will go to Chicago.

Alice Brady To Head "Strange Interlude" Co.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Alice Brady will head a road company of *Strange Interlude*, following the closing of *The Game of Love and Death* at the Biltmore Theater next Saturday, the Theater Guild having no new play handy which fits her talents. Her tour will start within a few weeks, with Philadelphia mentioned as the first stop.

Miss Brady has to date been unfortunate in her association with the Guild. The two Guild plays in which she has played this season, *Karl and Arno* and *The Game of Love and Death*, have both had scant runs.

Waive Bond for Actors

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—MacLean and Clayton, both actors who will appear in the cast, are the producers of Apartment #7, the Mark Linder play scheduled for rehearsal next week. The entire cast has waived the Equity bond.

Selwyn Will Not Aid Cochran With "Tassie"

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Arch Selwyn will not, as previously announced, be associated with Charles Cochran in importing the London presentation of the Sean O'Casey play, *The Silver Tassie*. The Irish Players' lack of success with the drama and the poor season have convinced Selwyn that the risk would be too great.

Incidentally Selwyn tried to insure himself against the vicissitudes of play producing by presenting in New York only such works as had previously won favor in London. His record to date is two flops and one hit. *The Middle Watch* had a scant run and *Many Waters* has been struggling along. *Bitter Sweet* is playing to good business, but the understanding is now that Ziegfeld has taken over the major share of the production, probably together with Samuel Goldwyn. Selwyn's latest import, *Wake Up and Dream*, with Jack Buchanan, opens Monday and from advance reports is a certain hit. Selwyn's future plans depend now on the London season.

Chicago Bookings

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—*The New Moon*, at the Great Northern, will end its run there January 11 and leave for a road tour. *Brothers* leaves the Erlanger Theater on the same date and will be followed by W. G. Fields in the Earl Carroll Yacht. George M. Cohan will reach Chicago February 2 for a three-week stay as the star of his own play, *Gambling*. Following him William Gillette will offer a revival of *Sherlock Holmes* for three weeks. *Bliss Heavens*, which opened last week at the Garrick, will not be there long if the verdict of the critics means anything.

Warner-Goetz Continue

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—E. Ray Goetz, who produced with Warner Bros. money the musical hit, *Pity Milton Frenchmen*, will do another musical show for the movie firm in the fall, his office states. Goetz is meanwhile planning to present independently some time in March a straight dramatic play.

Reroute "Porgy"

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Theater Guild is disappointed with the returns from the Pacific Coast and have rerouted *Porgy*, the drama of Negro life that had successful runs here, to come east again. The Coast tour has been canceled intact. The show will play in Michigan and then continue east to Philadelphia, where it will work the week of January 20 for a return engagement.



MARGARET PERRY, 16-year-old daughter of Antoinette Perry, co-director with Brock Pemberton of "Strictly Dishonorable" at the Aton Theater, New York, recently assumed Muriel Kirkland's part on 30 hours' notice. The youngster, making her first appearance on a Broadway stage, received rare notices for her work. Pemberton was so pleased with her reception that he has decided to give her the leading part in the Chicago company which will be cast sometime next month. Miss Kirkland returns to the cast of the New York production next week.

Cohan Casting For New Play

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—George M. Cohan will be represented in New York while he is making a transcontinental tour in *Gambling* preparatory to writing a musical talkie for Al Jolson on the coast. Cohan has a new play by Lewis B. Ely on which he is fully set except for the title.

While Cohan is on tour, Sam Forrest will produce the play here. The probability is that casting will start this week.

Cohan closes in *Gambling* here next Saturday and opens in Newark the following Monday. After a week in Newark Cohan will play Washington and Pittsburgh for week stands. The itinerary then includes Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Denver and Pittsburgh.

The new Cohan musical, about which much has been written, will probably be produced when he returns from the coast. Cohan recently signed with United Artists to write for the films. His contract is however a very flexible one, permitting him to come and go as he pleases.

Movies Negotiating for Purchase of Three Plays

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Negotiations for the purchase of three Broadway plays by Warner Bros. are being completed. Elmer Rice's play, *See Naples and Die*, which had a short run here this season, is bringing \$25,000.

Courage, which Lew Cantor successfully presented all last season, is also being sold for \$25,000. Jed Harris' first legitimate production, an opus entitled *Weak Sisters*, is fetching \$10,000.

Equity Sends Officer West

Dullzell to attend MacLoon-Albertson suit in Los Angeles as a defendant

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Paul Dullzell, executive secretary of Actors' Equity Association, left today for Los Angeles primarily to attending the hearing of the injunction suit brought against Frank Gilmore, president, the association and Dullzell by Louis O. MacLoon and Lillian Albertson, California managers. The case called last Monday was continued in Federal court until January 6.

Conditions in the legitimate theater in California, especially as regards Equity, are not the best at this time and Equity Council decided at a meeting last week that an executive officer of the association had better attend the court case now pending.

Dullzell will make a hurried inspection of the Chicago office of the association while on his way to the Coast and will, it is expected, if the MacLoon case is not drawn out, visit San Francisco and Kansas City on his return east.

MacLoon, according to reports, is planning to open the Coast production of *The New Moon* on January 12. He is reported to be determined to open it in spite of Equity.

The case against the association and its officers is based upon Equity's refusal to reinstate MacLoon and his wife, Miss Albertson, to good standing that they might continue with productions on the Coast. The matter was brought before the Council last summer and MacLoon, according to Equity officials, was given the choice of repudiating a book written by his wife which is termed a slanderous report upon Frank Gilmore and the association. MacLoon was, at the time, in bad standing because of unpaid salaries to Equity members who had been in his employ. MacLoon refused to have any part in the retraction of the book and Equity refused to return him to the fair list of producers and has warned all Equity members not to take part in his productions.

Dullzell, well versed in the court affairs of Equity, will sit in as one of the defendants on the case.

Chicago Treasurers Elect

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—At the annual election of the Theater Treasurers' Union, held this week, the following officers were elected: President, J. P. Stroth; vice-president, Leslie C. Wilcox; secretary, A. L. Filogrosso; treasurer, Albert Eckhart, and business agent, Max Hirsch.



Scenic Artists Pass Rule To Increase Work and Cost

Demand "adequate sketch" for all work—other amendment requires separate contracts for design and painting—no retouching charge—must file contracts

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—An amendment to the constitution of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829, the effect of which will be to increase employment of scenic artists and increase the cost production to legitimate, movie and vaudeville producers, was approved by the membership this week by a vote of 236 to 42. The amendment provides that "no member of the union be permitted to work on scenery for theatrical productions or for motion picture settings, various effects to decorate stage and motion picture settings and display creations unless supplied with an adequate sketch, model or design made by a local member."

A second amendment to put teeth into the aforementioned one was also passed. This requires the registration of all contracts for designs in the offices of Local 829. It states further "it is not permissible to lump the sums for painting and designing, as separate contracts must be filed for each. All studios maintained by producers must file slips of registration for work to be undertaken both in regard to designing and executing. It shall be the duty of the business agent to see that no work is begun before such contracts or slips are filed."

As explained to *The Billboard*, in cases where sets are taken from the storehouse and merely touched up with paint, no additional charge is to be made. However, if a new design is painted on the old sets or a new panel has to be inserted, the regular charges of the union are to be in effect. These charges are \$250 for each scene of a stage production, \$100 for movie settings and \$50 for vaudeville sets.

The amendment is also intended to eliminate the frequent practice of making stage sets without designs. Also, scenic artists say, it will prevent the occurrence of disputes where stage settings have been made without designs. In the past, it is said, producers after ordering certain work and being confronted with the finished product, have declared that the result was completely different from what they had asked for.

First Production Cast; Mrs. Selwyn Joins MPA

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Ruth Selwyn, whose initial producing venture, *The 9:15 Revue*, is now in rehearsal, has joined the Managers' Protective Association, pointing to a prolongation of her theatrical activities. As a member of the MPA Mrs. Selwyn is not required to post a bond with Equity.

The completed cast of the revue now includes Fred Keating, Ruth Etting, Marguerite Namara, Dorothy McNulty, Harry McNaughton, Paul Kelly, Charles Lawrence, John Van Lone, Demaris Dore, Helen Denixon, Everett Lelian, Wally Crissham, Ernan Bush, Earl Oxford, Helen Gray, Diane Ellis, Michael Tripp, Lovee Sisters, Low and Erma, Oscar Bagland, Francella Malloy, Alfred Watkins, Gerald Phillip, Ruth Kane and Julia Baron. Only eight chorus girls are to be seen with the show. They are Valeria Bailer, Lillian Ostrom, Jane Sherman, Teddie Walters, Louise Barrett, Bobbe Weeks and Ruth Gormley.

The revue will have sketches by Ring Lardner, George S. Kaufman, John Held and other notables. It will come to town in February.

New Producers May Do Another Musical Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Demarest & Lehmueller, whose first production, the musical *Woof, Woof*, came to town this week, will get another under way shortly. It is called *The Doll Girl* and was written by Samuel Shipman, marking the first time that prolific playwright has ever turned out a musical comedy book.

Edward Pola and Eddie Brandt, composers of the music and lyrics for *Woof, Woof*, are preparing the music and lyrics for the new show. Casting is in progress.

Actors Win, Lose Claims For Short Closing Notice

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The members of the cast of *Abraham Lincoln* who held run-of-the-play contracts with William Harris, Jr., were awarded two-eighths of a week's salary this week by a board of the American Arbitration Association. Those who held the minimum basic contract were not allowed their claims, and the board suggested that Actors' Equity Association in the future include a clause that revivals after such a period of time elapses as in the case of *Abraham Lincoln* are not to be considered productions in their second season and may be closed any time within the four-week period without notice.

The John Drinkwater play was closed by Harris after six performances on Broadway this season. Notice of closing was posted Tuesday of the opening week and so the run-of-the-play performers claimed they were due at least a notice of one week.

Anne Nichols To Produce Own Plays on the Coast

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Anne Nichols, who recently retired from producing here after sustaining a great loss from her ventures since *Abie's Irish Rose*, is busy working on two of her own plays, according to her manager, William De Lignemare. Indications are, he said, that one or both will be presented on the Coast in January and then brought to New York if favorably received.

Reports say that Miss Nichols will not again produce in New York, but will continue to try out plays on the Coast and bring them to New York only when successful. Miss Nichols is also flirting with several offers to write for the movies, De Lignemare declares.

Broadway Engagements

Hal Clarendon, Knox Herold, Theodore Scharfe, Raymond Barrett, Ray Harper, Margery Swem, Edwin Redding, George N. Price, Madge Christie for *Phantoms* (Louis A. Safian). Malcolm Keen for *Jew Suss* (Charles Dillingham).

Mrs. Fiske To Act Again For Tyler and Erlanger

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Fiske will next appear under the banner of George Tyler and A. L. Erlanger in a play by Hatcher Hughes tentatively titled *Family Sins*. Rehearsals are scheduled to start next month, when her present starring vehicle, *Ladies of the Jury*, is to close.

Some of the present cast of her play will be engaged for the new venture, it is said. There is talk of getting together a repertory for Mrs. Fiske when next she takes to the road.

New Subscription Play

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The London production of *The Matriarch*, with Constance Collier, which the Shuberts will bring over in about three weeks, will first be seen in this country under the auspices of the Professional Players of Philadelphia or the Drama League of Chicago, the two subscription organizations which are said to be sponsored by the Shuberts.



MARY ELIZABETH KERR, now a general understudy for the feminine leads in "Heads Up" at the Alvin Theater, New York, has previously appeared in New York in two George M. Cohan shows, "Billie" and "The Merry Malones". Last summer she did specialties and several parts with the Savoy Musical Stock Company at Montreal.

Marquis Play Hope of Group

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Theater Assembly is hoping to accomplish with its next production, *Everything's Jake*, by Don Marquis, which opens at the Assembly Theater on January 13, what it has not succeeded in doing with its preceding three presentations. That is, to move the play into a large Broadway house when its three subscription weeks at the Assembly Theater are completed.

Public response to the three previous productions under the direction of Walter Greenough has been insufficient to warrant such a step. These three plays, *Lolly*, *A Ledge* and a modern arrangement of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, under the title *The Notice and the Duke*, were poorly received by both press and public.

The Assembly Theater will be dark for a week prior to the premiere of the Marquis opus. Following the latter play will come a comedy, the title of which is yet unannounced.

Beginning in March the Theater Assembly plans to sponsor an original musical comedy. Material for it is now being gathered. Greenough plans to start casting shortly, preferring such youthful and unknown talent as made up the first *Garrick Gaieties* or the initial edition of *Americana*.

Another musical may be put on if this one proves successful.

The Theater Assembly is backed by a group of social registerites. Its mission, announced early in the season, was to provide light and diverting entertainment.

Skinner's Cast Waive

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Otis Skinner's company of *A Hundred Years Old*, which opens next week in Philadelphia prior to a transcontinental tour, have all waived the Equity bond. Skinner, according to reports, has taken over the management of the company, with Gilbert Miller, the Broadway manager, withdrawing his financial support. Skinner's manager, A. I. Rheinstrom, will handle the affairs of the company on the road.

Shuberts Laying Off

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Reports along Broadway say that the Shuberts have been told by their bankers to discontinue the production of large and expensive musicals for a time. At any rate nothing will be done on the two proposed Shubert musicals, *The Greenwich Village Follies* and the show for Chic Sale, until J. J. Shubert returns from Europe. He will be away three weeks longer. There is at present no certainty that the musicals will be produced.

Manager May File Claim

Dorothy McNulty sought by Equity and Mrs. Ruth Selwyn—failed to appear

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Dorothy McNulty, recently of *Follow Thru*, may have some questions to answer tomorrow before the Council of Actors' Equity Association. The interrogation, if held, will be prompted by Mrs. Ruth Selwyn's wonder at Miss McNulty's failure to appear for rehearsals of the *9:15 Revue*, for which she was engaged.

Mrs. Selwyn's production has now been in rehearsal for 10 days, and Miss McNulty, without comment, has not appeared. Efforts to locate her by Equity and Mrs. Selwyn have both been fruitless, for the young, dancing, singing comedienne has literally dropped out of sight and, apparently, sound.

The actress withdrew from *Follow Thru* when the Broadway engagement ended and it started its road tour. It was reported that she has signed a run of the play contract with Mrs. Selwyn for appearance in the revue. Mrs. Selwyn's claim verifies this report.

Nearly two weeks ago Mrs. Selwyn called Miss McNulty for rehearsals. She did not appear the first or second day, and the producer began to worry. A diligent search was instituted for Miss McNulty, but no one could find her. Equity was notified, and they started to look for her. Both failed.

Mrs. Selwyn is demanding action, and Equity, to attempt the enforcement of its contract, wants the appearance of Miss McNulty before the Council tomorrow. If she fails to justify her refusal to appear for rehearsals, or if she does not and is willing now to go on with her contract, is liable to a heavy fine. If she will not go on with the contract, she is liable to more drastic action from the association.

The revue is set for an out-of-town opening during the latter part of January and will be brought to Broadway early in February. Mrs. Selwyn admits this schedule may be altered and the show brought to New York after a week tryout, thus bringing it here during the last week in January. This is one of the reasons for the insistence on the part of the manager for immediate appearance of Miss McNulty.

The *9:15 Revue* is Mrs. Selwyn's first production.

Shuberts May Release Jack Pearl for Revue

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Shuberts have agreed to release Jack Pearl from his contract, it is said, so that he may accept a part in *Low Leslie's International Revue*.

An arbitration board last season upheld the Shuberts when Pearl, then appearing in *Pleasure Bound*, claimed the producers had breached his contract.

Leventhal Casting First Musical for New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Jules J. Leventhal is preparing to put into rehearsal within 10 days a new musical entitled *You Don't Say*. Mary Hay will head the cast.

The book was written by Roland Olliver, the lyrics by Jearr Hertig, and Irving Actman and Ray Doll are responsible for the music. Harry Clark will stage the book and Jack Morton the dances. Joe Phillips, until recently with the Shuberts, is handling the press work. Leventhal has posted his Equity bond.

"Follow Thru" To Fold

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—*Follow Thru*, the Schwab & Mandel musical which closed a year's run here last Saturday and is now playing the subway circuit, is booked for only four weeks more and will then fold. The territory adjacent to New York has already been covered by road companies of the musical.

Conference Will Be Held To Aid Legit., Says Houtain

Plans national appeal to women's clubs for support in revival of theater interest—position of Canavan and Webber "weak and unjustifiable", he says

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The proposed conference of all amusement crafts to help revive the legitimate drama will be held despite the declarations of William J. Canavan and Joseph N. Webber, heads of the stagehands' and musicians' unions respectively, that they would not attend. George Julian Houtain, general counsel of the Theatrical Stock Managers' Association, said this week in a statement to *The Billboard*. Houtain now plans to appeal to the National Association of Federated Women's Clubs to join in the movement to aid the faltering drama. The presidents of the various women's clubs in New York and vicinity are first to be invited to a conference in an effort to gain their support of his project, Houtain said. Houtain visions a nation-wide agitation by the women's clubs in aid of the stage within a short time.

Reiterating his conviction that the stagehands and musicians are alone to blame for the present condition of the legit., Houtain states in reference to the rejection of his invitation to a parley by both Canavan and Webber:

"When confronted by the irrefutable facts of the situation they resort to that well-known artifice of debate—abuse of the other fellow—the strongest possible weapon any man can use whose position is weak and unjustifiable.

"Whether Canavan and Webber approved of the method of bringing this matter to public attention, they should have shown good sportsmanship by being willing to prove that their position is impregnable by giving an instantaneous acceptance.

"Perhaps it isn't quite fair for me to announce my position on any matter for discussion at the conference, which sooner or later will positively be held, but I hold convictions which are fundamental. I believe in unions. I am opposed to lowering present standard of wages and of living and will fight to maintain them. I believe also in the union, not the individual, fixing the wage scale.

"What I do oppose, however, is Mr. Canavan dictating the number of stagehands I must employ, or Mr. Webber telling me how many musicians must play in the pit. I also oppose onerous rules and regulations imposed by these unions to steal the producer's profit and force actors to work below their salaries and their need."

Stating that all other crafts in the theater were doing what they could to help, Houtain continues:

"The fault is not theirs. The situation is an economic one. The stagehands and musicians are killing the goose which is laying the golden eggs. They are responsible for the depression of the present-day theater."

L. Lawrence Weber, secretary of the Managers' Protective Association, said this week he was sorry to learn that Canavan and Webber had declined to attend the Houtain parley. He asserted that Houtain may have made a wrong move in giving a statement to the press. However, Weber declared, the M. P. A. would willingly participate in any move to aid the drama, whether thru the medium of the American Theater Board or a conference such as Houtain plans to hold.

Trouble With Operetta Causes Extended Tour

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Shuberts are having great difficulty whipping *Nina Rosa* into shape. Instead of coming into town next week as had been planned the musical will go to Toronto and Montreal for week stands and then into Chicago for a run.

Harriet Bennett, the tentative choice for the prima donna role, has once been replaced by Yvonne d'Arle and then reinstated. There is now talk of bringing an opera star into the part. The show first opened in Cleveland two months ago. It laid off the week before Christmas, and opened in Newark last Monday.

Schwab-Mandel-DeSylva Sued for Plagiarism

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Charging that *Good News*, the immensely successful collegiate musical comedy, is a plagiarism of his play, *Bad News*, Harry J. Hallahan, a former student at New York University, filed suit in Federal Court this week against Schwab & Mandel, producers, and B. G. DeSylva, composer.

Hallahan alleges that he got the idea of writing a collegiate play while a student at N. Y. U. from 1920 to 1923. His play, the complaint states, was copyrighted in February, 1927.

A play titled *Hold 'Em Helen* was copyrighted by Schwab and DeSylva in June, 1927. This play, on which the musical, *Good News*, is allegedly based, is an infringement on his work. Hallahan states, citing similarities in dramatic and comedy situations, unique features and general run of development and action.

Good News ran for more than a year in New York and has been successfully presented abroad and on the road. It was recently purchased by Paramount for filming.

Australian Manager To Produce on B'way

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—E. J. Tate, of Tate & Williamson, the Australian theatrical firm specializing in the presentation of British and American productions in the Antipodes, is in New York for the first time in his 32 years of play producing. He has acquired for Australian production Schwab & Mandel's musical success, *Follow Fanny*, and is reported looking for a cast to send back to Australia.

Tate's first New York production will be the Ashley Duke version of *Jesu Suss*, to which he holds world rights. He will present this play in association with Charles Dillingham next month.

Tate plans also to make an independent production here before he returns to Australia if he can find a play to his liking.

Selig Studio Building Burns

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The old Selig Studio building, at 3900 North Claremont avenue, where many thrillers were filmed during the early days of motion pictures, was gutted by flames late Saturday night, entailing a loss of \$100,000. Virtually the entire interior of the structure, which was occupied by several commercial firms, was consumed.

LEGIT. NOTES

THE THEATER GUILD is calling in the bonds on the Guild Theater. A premium of \$15 above par \$100 is being paid.

EVA LE GALLIENNE will play a leading role in her fourth new production of the season, *The Women Have Their Way*, a comedy from the Spanish of the Quintero brothers. It will come to the Civic Repertory Theater on Monday, January 27. The last new play on her schedule is *Romeo and Juliet*, which will probably be presented late in February.

FLORENZ ZIEGFELD will start rehearsals of the new Marilyn Miller show late next month. Following this produc-

What? No Props or Star No Set? Then No Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Will Morrissey's attempt at a unique revue over in the Lyric Theater, Hoboken, this week was something of a disaster. His famous forgotten comedians, including himself, in the cast, failed miserably. Bert Fitzgerald made the performance with difficulty, suffering as he is from a broken leg. Billy Montgomery flopped dismally, and Frank Tinney, billed as the star of this unusual production, failed to appear at all.

The production was most unique. Its props were few, mostly a bed, borrowed from the blackouts requiring it from Moyer's Hotel across the way, and its sets, two drapes left behind by the Morley-Throckmorton enterprise which recently halted there. No props, no scenery, no star, the production goes not to Cain's tonight, but to wherever shows without accoutrements go when they are done.

tion he will go to the Coast to produce a talkie musical in association with Samuel Goldwyn.

THE CAST of *Whoopie* will go to the Coast to appear in a talkie version of the musical when their road tour ends, marking the first time that an original Broadway cast has been used for a talking picture.

PATRICK HAMILTON, author of *Rope's End*, has written a new drama, which will be presented in London by Reginald Denham soon after Denham completes the job of directing *Jesu Suss* for Charles Dillingham.

DE WOLF HOPPER and George Fawcett are being sought for prominent parts in the new operetta by Edwin Lemare which Bud and Don Murray plan to produce.

ELMER RICE, author of *Street Scene*, which opened at the Apollo Theater, Chicago, Christmas night, had a group of prominent Chicago authors as his guests at the play Friday night. Among these were Lloyd Lewis, Prof. James Weber Linn, Edna Ferber, who is spending the holidays in Chicago; Henry Kitchell Webster, Edwin Balmer, Eunice Tietjens, Henry Justin Smith, Mrs. Kellogg Fairbank, Clara Laughlin and Mrs. Harriet Monroe.

RIPPLES, the new Fred Stone show which went into rehearsal this week will have a score by Graham John, Oscar Levant and Albert Sirmay. Jerome Kern was originally announced as the sole composer. Irving Caesar will write the lyrics.

MYRON C. FAGAN'S next offering will be a comedy of his own composition entitled *Peter Files High*. Fagan plans to begin work on the play after Nancy's *Private Affair* is launched here during the week of January 13.

JOHN WEXLEY, who will be seen shortly in the first production of the Leo Bulgakov co-operative company, has sold his first play to Herman Shumlin Wexley is a nephew of Maurice Schwartz and has played in several of the Yiddish Art productions.

THE LARGEST electric-light sign ever constructed to advertise a stage star is being completed for Evelyn Laye, prima donna of *Bitter Sweet*. It will be six feet high and visible for miles. It is seen partially as a move in the exploitation of the film which Miss Laye will make in the near future for Samuel Goldwyn.

PHYLLIS PERLMAN has been engaged to handle the press work for the Bolton, Kalmar & Ruby show, *Top Speed*, in which the Warners are interested.

GEORGE WHITE, producer of the *Scandals*, may write his autobiography for a national weekly after he presents his new musical tentatively titled *Aces Up*.

"REALLY BRINGING Broadway to Des Moines" reads an announcement from the Oberfelder-Ketcham Company, stating that Ian Keith and an entire cast of all-star New York performers are currently appearing at the President Theater in the Lother-Gottwald comedy, *The Command to Love*.

Find Imports Are Best Bet

Gilbert Miller says London try-out idea is successful—points to three hits

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Gilbert Miller is planning to call a temporary halt on his producing activities, and perhaps for the balance of the season. He is tentatively booked to sail for London January 18 on the Aquitania, tho his departure may be delayed a week or so.

Miller will not return until March or April. No new play will be done in his absence. While abroad Miller will look over the market with a view to importing some plays. Reports from London are that few valuable properties are on the boards.

Miller's decision, announced a year ago, to first produce plays in London and then import them with the original casts, owing to high labor costs here, seems to have worked out successfully. Recently Miller declared that his three London importations, *Journey's End*, *Berkeley Square* and *Candle Light*, cost him as much to produce as one play would here.

The Miller wavered somewhat from his original decision by producing three other plays in New York this season, his office explains this by stating that for technical and other reasons these plays could not have first been presented in London.

However, the success of his plan has confirmed Miller in the belief that it is the wisest course to follow.

Before Miller departs he will witness the opening of his next production, *Dis-Ahored Lady*, starring Katherine Cornell. Present indications are that this play will come to the Empire Theater, replacing *Candle Light* with Gertrude Lawrence. Reports are that this latter play will close and not be sent on tour to permit Miss Lawrence to join *Low Leslie's International Revue*, in which she has been offered a principal part. Poor business in town and an even more uncertain road, are said to be the reasons.

Miller has had a fairly successful road season. The four companies of *Journey's End* now on tour have been more than paying their way, his office avers. The Southern company now at New Orleans admittedly encountered a few bad weeks when it struck towns which had never heard of the play. The three other companies are playing this week at St. Louis, Philadelphia and Los Angeles. From the way the road companies have covered the country indications point to the New York company going to the storehouse when it ends its run. The Katherine Cornell play, *Age of Innocence*, played the road successfully for 14 weeks also.

JOE COOK will be starred in the motion picture version of his stage success, *Rain or Shine*, which Columbia Pictures will make shortly on the Coast.

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THE NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY

ETHEL BARRYMORE

Beginning Thursday Evening, December 26, 1929

DEATH TAKES A HOLIDAY

A play adapted from the Italian of Alberto Casella by Walter Ferris. Directed by Lawrence Marston. Setting by Rolio Wayne. Presented by Lee Shubert, featuring Phillip Merivale.

- A Maid Florence Golden
- Fedele Thomas Bate
- Duke Lambert James Dale
- Alba Ann Orr
- Duchess Stephanie Olga Birbeck
- Princess of San Luca Viva Berkett
- Baron Casarca Wallace Erskine
- Rhoda Fenton Lenore Sorsby
- Eric Fenton Roland Bottomley
- Corrado Martin Burton
- Grazia Rose Hobart
- Mis. Higness, Prince Sirkil, of Vitarba Alexandri Phillip Merivale
- Major Whitbread Frank Greene

ACT I—The Great Hall in the Castle of Duke Lambert. Late Evening in October.
ACT II—The Same. Three Nights Later.
ACT III—The Same. Eleven-Thirty, the Same Night.

It is an interesting play. *Death Takes a Holiday*, and Lee Shubert is to be commended for a splendid production. A study of a complex metaphysical subject with no attempt to explain, it is designed and built around a subject that confronts everybody who lives, not as a philosophical treatise, but rather an amusing drama constructed with good theater for the pleasure of audiences. It will prove a pleasure to some and a sad disappointment to others.

Death Takes a Holiday has no thesis that is minutely developed and only one that is injected at all. It does not preach long even on this one. It states quite without equivocation that death is not to be feared and lets the auditors make their own decision by presenting death in character, an amusing character which wins complete sympathy.

Phillip Merivale gives a performance in this part as death that will be long remembered. Should all the faces of all the actors in America, or the world, for that matter, be scanned, it is doubtful if one with the possibilities of appearing like a skull under dim light might have been found. Merivale has developed for the part a tight-lipped smile that is pleasantly disagreeable, if such a paradox can be imagined.

Death, the scorned, decides to experiment with life to learn the reason why humans fear him with such hatred. After an eerie entrance that cast a menacing spell over the home of Duke Lambert he enters.

While on earth he runs the gamut of human emotions until he becomes so desperately in love with Grazia that he forgets his promise to Duke Lambert that no harm shall come to the household of his host. The girl, whose love and hand are sought by Corrado, chooses between life and the Prince who is death. She takes death. A peculiar sensation is experienced during this scene, which is written with expertness that attracts complete attention. For the girl is obviously dying. The playwright has carefully developed this unusual study to such an extent that the death of the girl, that is, her choice of the Prince, is hoped for.

As Grazia, Rose Hobart is a unique selection. A moody type who is always seeking something in the beyond, Miss Hobart sheds the part in a cloak that provokes keen interest. The careful manner and deft implications in her voice tones give to the play a mood that is required for the difficult role. Martin Burton is too inclined to be emotional without sufficient cause. But for this one fault he lends an unusual dignity to the part for which he was selected. Other than Merivale, James Dale's performance as the only man aware of the real identity of Prince Sirkil is a memorable one. Ann Orr is obviously miscast in the production. She handles her part especially poor when the identity of the peculiar guest is revealed. Roland Bottomley and Wallace Erskine are exceptionally well cast.

Marston's direction is for the most part excellent. There is, however, much to be desired, and whether this is traceable to the director or the author is questionable. This fault is largely the too frequent exits and entrances of the characters for no reason whatsoever. At times it threatens to become a parade in and out of the set by the cast.

Wayne's setting is heavy and elaborate, but decorative and compels attention. The lighting effects are well worth study. *Death Takes a Holiday* is one of the

finest dramatic productions Lee Shubert has sponsored in two or three years. It is well worth the care devoted to it by manager, cast and author. A subject that as here presented makes an amusing play.

CHARLES MORAN.

ROYALE

Beginning Wednesday evening, December 26, 1929

WOOF WOOF

A musical comedy with book by Estelle Hunt, Sam Summers, Cyrus Wood and Eugene Conrad. Music and lyrics by Edward Pola and Eddie DeLores. Produced and directed by William Caryl. Dances directed by Dan Healy. Ballet directed by Leonide Massine. Settings designed by Clark Robinson. Settings executed by Joe Tziechner and Karlo Amund Hoenic Studios. Costumes designed by Mabel Johnson and executed by Elviss Costume Co. Presented by William Demarest and Bernard Lohmuller. Featuring Louise Brown and "Bunkie" Eddie Nelson.

- Stage Manager William Frankett
- Babe Birdy Helen Goodson
- Dick Fleming Al Sexton
- Tommy Clair Jack Sourses
- Elmer Green "Bunkie" Eddie Nelson
- Ghostly Olive Gray
- Scout Yates Louise Brown
- Betty George Haggerty
- Mrs. Clair Madeline Grey
- Colonel Penny Louis Casavant
- Virginia Lee Penny Gladys Deering
- Harry McDaniel Andrew Mack
- Al Stafford Edwin Walker
- Edna Martha Copeland
- Dude Arthur Bryson
- Shoof U. S. Thompson
- Sloopy Blake John Kennedy
- Hollywood Collegians—"Cal" Earl, "Bill" Gerstenson, "Karl" Howie, "Red" Carlson, "Ray" Gustafson, "Bill" Griffin, "Boss" Erickson.

Girls—Rosalee Schneider, Kathlene Reicher, Teddy Damer, Alyce Swanson, Elzore Whitney, Pauline Neeson, Ida Walker, Gertrude Bryant, Dolores Madine, Virginia Welch, Carol Henwick, Ida Michael, Dorothy Leslie, Neodas North, Evelyn Anderson, Alice Laurie, Jae Voll, Viola Hart, Peggy Timmons, Roslyn Smith, Betty Wright, Mickey MacKillop, Agnes Young, Dorothea Frank, Dorothy Morgan.

Dancing Show Girls—Evan Southwell, Helen Koster, Dorothy Koster, Elizabeth Janeway, Dolores Lavin, Norma Maxine.

Boys—Jack Waldon, Hob Long, Eddie Clifford, Phil Shaw, Jack Bear, George Ford, Al Dillon, Bob Easton, Sam Weiser, Eddie Judge, Fred Ray, Alvin Ray.

ACT I—Action of the Play in the First Act Takes Place in New York and New Jersey. Time, Summer. Scene 1: Back Stage. In the Wings. Scene 2: Dressing Room Corridor After Performance. Scene 3: Tommy Clair's Home in New Jersey. Following Day. Scene 4: "Tree Top Inn". Evening. ACT II—Action in the Second Act Takes Place Near and in Mobile, Ala. Scene 1: Auto Camp on the Outskirts of Mobile. Evening. Scene 2: Corridor of a Hotel in Mobile. Following Day. Scene 3: Training Camp Near Mobile. Same Day. Scene 4: Part Mutual Betting Booths at the Track in Mobile. Several Weeks Later. Scene 5: On the Course. The Home Stretch.

This one is just further proof that a long association with the show business does not qualify either an actor or a production executive to turn producer and expect success. *Woof Woof*, the first offering of William Demarest, the unique clown from vaudeville, the movies and now Earl Carroll's *Sketch Book*, and Bernard Lohmuller, of Carroll's production staff, is decidedly a failure.

The book is a thoroughly second rate, the dialog ordinary when not vulgar, the music nice to listen to, but including nothing sensational or that will last long. The lyrics in spots are excellent, the settings splendid and the costumes a revelation. To vaudeville the producers have gone for most of their cast, with the exception of Louise Brown and Al Sexton. There is not one member of the entire cast that is outstanding or above the commonplace, excepting possibly Wesley Pierce. With Hazel Harris, his partner, this team interpolates a ballroom dance number near the close of the first act that is the best of the vaudeville acts Demarest & Lohmuller have collected to adorn their production. Pierce mugs interestingly and carries with him a bored attitude that, if given a part in the action, might prove the hit of a dull show. Too bad the bookwriters did not write in a part for

Pierce and make use of his comical gestures and tired expression.

The ordinary book deals with the trials of a dancing team that the handsome, wealthy villain tries to break up. It seems the handsome, wealthy villain has an orchestra that takes the place of polo ponies to interest him in life.

He succeeds in splitting the team and engages the girl for a feature in his band act. They start for New Orleans, only to be stranded near Mobile. The villain runs out on them and the scorned lover comes up from wherever scorned lovers come from in musical comedy action, furnishes the money to provide a training camp for the heroine's two dogs that are entered in the dog derby. Of course, the dogs win, and so the \$10,000 and everything is lovely.

Abetting or retarding this questionable action there are several teams seemingly off for the same matrimonial sea that Susie Yates and Dick Fleming are certain to reach before the final curtain. These parts are designed to be funny. Unfortunately, for the most part they are filled with unfunny people who toss the dullest gags of half a dozen years ago across the footlights and expect laughs. "Bunkie" Eddie Nelson as a production comedian is not very funny, but he is the best of the lot of alleged comedians.

Louise Brown is pretty to look at. Her voice is small and weak, her manner for the most part forced and her dancing decidedly inept. Sexton, possessed of a very fine voice, is a standard musical comedy juvenile. The rest of the cast is second rate.

Mabel Johnson has certainly accomplished plenty with the costuming. Miss Johnson has united the most unusual colors for effects that at times are really sensational. The costumes and Clark Robinson's settings are far too good for the rest of the production.

Dan Healy's dances at times are quite interesting. One routine he injected but a trifle of won instant approval. It is a swing number, with the girls sitting on the crossed hands of the chorus boys, who are lined up in semi-circle. The possibilities of arresting illusions this number suggests are just another example of the material that is wasted on this second-rate musical comedy.

For *Woof Woof* is certainly an entertainment unworthy of the expenditures of the producers or the efforts of the persons most vitally interested in it.

CHARLES MORAN.

REPUBLIC

Beginning Friday evening, December 27, 1929

SEVEN

A play by Frank J. Collins. Directed by Lionel Alwill. Setting by Girtler & Robbins. Presented by Jimmie Cooper.

- Heloise Beverly Sigreaves
- Captain Otis Robert Strange
- Faunders Preston Foster
- Jake Willard F. Mitchell
- Carroll Del Cleveland
- Griffin Alan Davis
- Charleria Armand Cortes
- Huston Tom Douglas
- La Comesse De Villette Roxanne Coubayre
- Liane Anne Lubow
- Colonel Bayne George Lasey

The Action Takes Place in the Salon of the Chateau Villette, Somewhere on the Western Front, in the Spring of 1918.

EPISODE I—Twilight. Monday. EPISODE II—Night. Tuesday. EPISODE III—Early Afternoon. Wednesday. EPISODE IV—Sunset. Wednesday. EPISODE V—Night. Thursday. EPISODE VI—A Few Moments Later. EPISODE VII—Daybreak. Friday.

There are in *Seven*, Jimmie Cooper's first production of this season, elements that are unused—and had Frank J. Collins, its author, put to work everything he sets down on the stage in his play he might have come out with an exciting entertainment. But these elements are introduced and forgotten for a trite plot that takes three-quarters of the play to get started and 10 minutes to run its length. With all this, however, *Seven* is by no means without its value.

A squadron of seven men start the (See *NEW PLAYS* on page 88)

More New Plays on Pages 46 and 88

London Cables

LONDON, Dec. 28.—A Warm Corner, brilliantly acted by W. H. Berry, Connie Ediss, Alfred Wellesley and Isabel Wilford Christmas Eve at the Prince's Theater, proved to be a lively, witty farce and a tremendous success.

The *Sleeping Beauty*, at Drury Lane, was riotously received Tuesday, being finely produced with excellent spectacular effects, music and dancing. Lillian Davies went fine in her first appearance as Principal Boy. G. S. Melvin, Eve Gray and Jay Laurier also gave notable performances. This return of pantomime to old Drury Lane has already taken in \$200,000 in advance bookings.

Pass in Boots, at the Lyceum, is quite a different type of pantomime, but it is equally successful. It is largely cast from the ranks of variety artists, including George Jackley, Hai Yung's Chinese Acrobats and Naughton and Gold.

The Three Virginians, American vocal specialty, sailed for a South African vaudeville tour this week.

The week's other sailings include Haulon Brothers, Chris Charlton, Lucien La Riverie and W. Langdon Thomas.

Broadway Openings

WEEK OF DECEMBER 30

Wake Up and Dream, an importation of Charles B. Cochran's London revue, with book by Hastings Turner; music and lyrics by Cole Porter. Starring Jack Buchanan. Presented by Charles B. Cochran and Arch Selwyn at the Selwyn Theater.

Damn Your Honor, a comedy melodrama by Bayard Veiller and Becky Gardiner. Starring John Halliday. Presented by Vincent Youmans at Youmans' Cosmopolitan Theater.

The Unapologetic, a comedy by Harry Delf. Presented by Harry Delf at the Longacre Theater.

City Hall, a play by Elizabeth Miele, starring Herbert Rawlinson. Presented by Gil Boag at the Hudson Theater.

Ginger Snaps, a Negro revue by Donald Heywood, J. Homer Tutt and George Morris. Presented by George Morris at the Belmont Theater.

The Playboy of the Western World, a revival of the Synge play. Presented by the Irish Theater, Inc., at the Irish Theater.

REMOVED

Houseparty moved from the Waldorf Theater to the 48th Street Theater on Monday.

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Vaudeville

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Policies Checking Rotating Shows

Full-week stands make launching of more than 52 intact shows a year impractical—14 weeks now available in West—cast's fourth unit opens

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—No matter how RKO becomes het up over the intact-show idea, it will not be possible—unless radical changes in policy are made on the circuit—to send rotating shows out more often than at the rate of one a week. This was revealed by a booking official, who pointed out that by sending them out oftener the books will become clogged up to an extent greater than ever before. While there are less full-week houses this season, the comparative few remaining are important items in the circuit's booking activity. These full-weekers can absorb a maximum of 32 rotating shows a year. To launch intact shows with the idea of catering solely to the needs of the split-week stands would cut down their playing time, and thereby defeat the very end for which the rotating-show idea was put into effect.

George Godfrey's Eastern division has been assembling intact shows consistently at the rate of one a week, and this procedure will be sustained indefinitely. In the Western division, headed by Charles J. Freeman, acts are now getting playing time of 14 weeks and more when tied up with rotating outfits starting from St. Paul. This has been accomplished by adjusting house policies so that a maximum number of stands play an equal number of acts weekly.

The fourth intact show of the Eastern division opened last Saturday at the 86th Street, which has become recognized more or less as the starting point of Godfrey's four and five-act rotating combinations. Sylvia Clark is its top-liner, and the supporting items are Lane, Osborne and Chico; Billy Farrell and Company and Paul Sydel and Spotty.

Meyers in East

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Walter Meyers is back here after two years on the Coast as a representative of the William Morris office. He is here on a vacation, and will probably return to Hollywood in several weeks. His brother, Edwin Meyers, with whom he formerly conducted an independent agency, is connected with the local Morris office. At one time the brothers were among the strongest in the independent field, holding a Loew franchise.

Aerobit Injured

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 28.—Albert Mohwald, age 19, of the Six Famous Nelsons Troupe, playing at the Riverside Theater, suffered a concussion of the brain Christmas Day, when one of the members missed a signal, causing Mohwald to crash to the floor on his head. He is recovering at the present time.

Booking Carr and Movie

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Nat Carr, flicker celeb., will tour the Loew Circuit in connection with his latest picture, *The Talk of Hollywood*. His offering is a sketch, but has been produced so as to be able to play both vaudeville and picture houses. Booking was done direct and he will open next week, splitting between the Boro Park, Brooklyn, and the Grand, Bronx. Other dates are likely. Arrangements have been made for him to play three times daily in picture houses.

Jim McWilliams Gets His Material From Life

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Jim McWilliams doesn't get material for his political-speech burlesque, which is one of the strong items in his act, out of thin air.

For some time now the pianist has been in more or less close contact with a small town and its activities. He is part owner of an enterprising weekly, the *Virginia Beach News*, "A journal devoted to the interest of Princess Anne County and the State of Virginia."

Jim shares title to the plant and paper with Joe Deal, whose son, R. O. Deal, is the editor and business manager. An undertaker is one of the paper's biggest advertisers.

It announces in a recent issue that its "object is to teach the public that \$400 is sufficient for a high-class burial." And about 300 townspeople affix their names to the ad to vouch for its authenticity. More material for Jim.

Monty Teamed With Carmo

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Harry Monty has called it quits with Charlie Wingo and is now teamed with Bussy Carmo. The new duo will show for major bookers soon at one of the local houses.

Wanted: A Leader

AFTER all, is it any wonder that vaudeville sunk lower rather than recovered from the slump that set in about two seasons ago? There are thousands of earnest performers, bookers, agents and even theater operators who look upon vaudeville as more than a means of livelihood. They would see it not only perpetuated, but strengthened in all of its ramifications. They regard vaudeville as something vital to their existence. It figuratively gnaws at their vitals when they read in the trade press the sad story of vaudeville's gradual fadeout from its old position of importance in the show business. But they are helpless.

Millions of people might desire a certain change in government, a certain improvement in social conditions. Yet their desires are never realized until such time that a leader emerges from their midst to dedicate himself to the prosecution of the task. This has been proven time and again in studies of social welfare; in impartial inquiries into the history of movements. The Civil War might never have materialized had there not been a Lincoln, a Douglass and a misguided but earnest Garrison. The leaders clustered about Jefferson in the Colonial conclaves made a Revolution and a democratic government possible.

Thousands might be concerned with vaudeville and its welfare, but who is there to crystallize their sentiments? Who is there to tell the world about vaudeville, to sell vaudeville to a public that is willing to be sold on anything that has a boisterous champion? Not only is a leader lacking, but in this dismal era there is not the slightest sign of one to come. There were fateful signs of the coming of Jesus, even the moves of the less idealistic Napoleon were foretold by signs and portents. Vaudeville's leader is as yet a figment of the imagination.

The badly battered legitimate stage has its Equity. Equity fights for its members as well as the field in which they work. Even in burlesque, the major wheel devotes its resources to keeping up the demand for this form of entertainment. With what results, is another matter. In the film-producing field there is bitter opposition, but all of the larger outfits are welded together in a year-round drive to keep the film idea before the public. Will Hays doesn't get his heavy money for looking wise and doing nothing. In the circus field there is a virile group known as the Circus Fana' Association.

Need we add that vaudeville has nothing resembling any of these? Years ago the major circuit was on the firing line every day of the year, battling for vaudeville against great odds. Not that E. F. Albee, the Keith's and the others in their clique were idealists. To them it was good business. But conditions are such today (and they need no retelling) that the circuit operator is no longer vitally interested in vaudeville as an economic crutch. The performer must battle on his own at the dawn of 1930.

The NVA, which had hitherto declared itself as being interested more or less in vaudeville and vaudevillians, is now an organization which takes in picture house presentations, radio and allied fields. In its own insufficient way, the NVA is no longer the sole champion of vaudeville as vaudeville should be.

This is not a plea for the fostering of unionism. If we meant it as such there wouldn't be any beating around the rhetorical bush. We wish to land home the message of vaudeville's desolation in a show world of entities, each with its cohesive force.

Who is there to fight vaudeville's battles? The RKO Circuit will be kindly disposed toward vaudeville so long as vaudeville serves the ends of the circuit. Dividends and earning reports, it must be conceded, are more important to a business organization than fighting a losing battle for an ideal that brings nothing in dollars and cents. Loew and Fox are disposed toward vaudeville in proportion to the strength of their lineup of film attractions. In the battle for attention between films and vaudeville, films always get the first break. The reasons are obvious.

Vaudeville cries for a leader in the midst of its labored breathing. Whether vaudeville will survive depends on the machinations of a fate which has thus far separated it from a leader destined to bring it out of banishment. It matters little whether a union, a new and powerful circuit or an organization thus far unformed will do it. But vaudeville can not recover unless a power stronger than itself will drag it out of the ditch. Who—or what—is it going to be? Or will a leader arise at all? The answer might be written in the show business history of 1930 A. D.

Theater Switches

Burke from St. Louis to Northwest—Ames named new Iowa supervisor

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Several changes in RKO's theater department were made this week due to the reopening of the Seventh Street, Minneapolis, and the removal of Frank Burke as exploiter from the St. Louis division to the Minneapolis division under Claud Saunders. Another important personnel development in the circuit was the appointment of Morgan C. Ames as supervisor of four Iowa houses booked out of the Chicago office.

Cecil D. Miller was installed as manager of the Seventh Street, which opened December 23 with stage attractions supplied out of the Chicago office. Burke, who was reported to be doing excellent work in the St. Louis territory under Tom Soriero, was succeeded in his old berth by Arthur Prudenfeld, formerly manager of the St. Louis Theater, St. Louis. C. F. Pierce was transferred from the Orpheum, Memphis, to succeed Prudenfeld at the St. Louis. Clarence Williams slides into the Memphis berth to fill Pierce's vacancy.

In his new berth of Iowa supervisor Ames will be directly responsible to Nate C. Blumberg, Middle-West operator for RKO, who appointed him. The houses coming under Ames' direction are the Orpheum, Des Moines; Capitol, Davenport; Iowa, Cedar Rapids, and Orpheum, Sioux City. In order to grind out a more intensive brand of efficiency this reassignment of junior divisional berths may be applied to other major divisions.

Report Vaude-Films For Palace, Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Rumors of a change of policy at the Palace Theater continue, altho circuit officials profess to know nothing of it. It is admitted, however, that the house soon is to be wired, and this is taken to indicate that a policy of pictures and vaudeville, perhaps similar to that of the State-Lake, will be inaugurated.

The house is situated a little out of the beaten path of the crowds, but it is thought it would make a much better showing with a four-a-day vaude-pictorial policy than with straight vaudeville.

Ruloff-Elton Return To Loew After 10 Years

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Ruloff and Elton, mixed dance team, who recently showed for RKO at the head of a new six-people revue, switched to Loew this week, splitting between the Bedford and Premier, Brooklyn. This is the first time in 10 years that Ruloff and Elton have played for Loew.

A string of dates are being lined up for the outfit thru Johnny Hyde of the William Morris office. Cast includes Phyllis Andre, Mildred Francis, M. Era and Johnny Broderick.

Art Landry Doubling

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Art Landry, currently playing the Palace, is doubling this first half into the 86th Street.

Godfrey May Make Straight-Vaude. Study

Sablosky Privilege

Loew breaks precedent and gives former RKO agent a franchise—effective Jan. 1

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Dave Sablosky is one of the few RKO agents scheduled to be let out with the dawning of a new year who knows definitely what he will do about it. Last week J. H. Lubin and Marvin Schenck broke an implied precedent by granting Sablosky an agent's franchise, which will become effective January 1.

As far back as the recollection of the trade goes this will be the first time that a Keith-affiliated agent has switched directly from the Palace Theater Building to the Loew organization. Johnny Collins was given a Loew franchise when he left the Keith office several years ago, but Collins was a booker, Benny Thau, now handling picture-house bookings and talent for M-G-M shorts out of Lubin's office, was formerly an Orpheum Circuit booker. But there have been no cases of Keith agents switching directly to Loew. The Sablosky incident is regarded as an indisputable sign of Loew's growing importance as a factor in the vaudeville field.

Sablosky's enfranchisement marks the fourth since the opening of the season. Others taken into the office were Abe Friedman, Al Silberman and Sam Fallow. The trio were disenfranchised in the memorable Loew agents' shakeup two years ago. That four new agents have been taken in on the eve of a new shakeup on Loew's sixth floor indicates to some extent that Lubin and Schenck are already decided on which of their agents will be let out within the next month.

Sablosky was a Keith agent 10 years and lately had been working under a joint RKO franchise with Norman Jeffries, both of them with permanent Philadelphia connections. Jeffries is definitely out as an RKO agent, but it is said that he may affiliate with H. Bart McHugh, also a Philadelphia agent whose office standing has not been disturbed by the shakeup engineered by Piazza, Godfrey and Freeman. Jack Hart, Sablosky's associate and sixth-floor representative, is joining Roger Murrel, RKO producer, according to account.

Vaudeville People At New Supper Club

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Candlelight, a new supper club at 12 East 60th street, opened last week with a show which included a number of slicker and vaude. "names". The show, staged by Pat McCoy, formerly general stage manager for John Golden, is a departure from the conventional floor-show idea, and is patterned after the continental precedent established by the Little Theater, Vienna, of giving 12 or more black-out skits on a small stage instead of a revue.

The show is called the Comedietta Theater and includes 11 people. It is given twice nightly, each with two sessions. In the cast are Roy D'Arcy, Georgette Cohan, Armand Kalis, Marion Lesing, Melva Cornell, Kay McKay, James Grainger, Ray Clifford, Fred Sumner, Henry Gurvey and Roy Meldon.

Rangers Switches

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Rangers, male harmony singers, have undergone some changes in personnel. Stanley Vermilyea is out, while James Riddel has replaced Paul Ricketts. The other members are Harry Furney, Emmett Casey, Raymond Toole, Ben Young, Jim Forester and J. Delos Jawkes. They are splitting this week between New Rochelle and White Plains.



ETTA REED, a new personality among scabbling singles, who has been routed solid over the Loew Time. She is an attractive blond, and uses a routine composed entirely of pop numbers. This week Miss Reed is splitting between the Victoria and Lincoln Square theaters, New York.

Piazza Taking Levy's Suite

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Before the end of next month Ben Piazza's present office will be vacated, and the former Chicago booking head will move into the suite on the other side of the sixth floor now occupied by Jules Levy, RKO's film booking head. The Piazza office is a make-shift arrangement taken over from Charles A. Bierbauer when he resigned several weeks ago. It has been found to be inadaptable to Piazza's needs as general business manager of the vaudeville organization.

Levy has moved to the Palace Building in accordance with a scheme to co-ordinate more closely the activities of the film and vaudeville booking departments. The latest plan is to shift the picture booking staff back to the Bond Building. It appears to be felt now that co-ordination between both departments is possible without physical contiguity.

Piazza's new office will be equipped with entirely new furniture, and will also be redecorated. Through an arrangement made with Bierbauer he has been using the latter's personal office fixtures.

Loew Road Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Loew road show which will open January 13 at the National, Richmond, includes Jerome and Evelyn, Jack North, George D'Ormonde, Demarest and Deland and Hughie Clark and Company. The show will play the entire Southern circuit, winding up at the Orpheum, Boston.

North Adams This Week

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Empire, North Adams, Mass., will return to its vaudeville policy on Wednesday. It has been assigned by RKO to Jack Hodgdon, who will book it with five acts on a split week.

New 30-People Novelty

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Royal Revue, 30-people European offering, will go RKO this last half at the Jefferson. The company is made up of 14 midgets and 16 people of normal size.

Strong Syracuse Show

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A strong show opened the RKO January Jubilee at Keith's Syracuse, Syracuse, this week. The six-act bill includes Harry Conley and Company, Corinne Tilton, Cardini, Webb's Entertainers, Six Galenos and Edna Torrence and Girls. The show is slated for an intact Mid-Western tour.

Eastern boss' trip as proving ground of his big-time revival ideas—opinions of booking men differ—best class booker extant—believes in "names"

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—George A. Godfrey, now RKO's Eastern booking head, and until some weeks ago the circuit's director-general of vaudeville booking, is the important factor of the latest news which has seeped out from what is believed to be an authentic source. Capping the climax of numerous rumors which have been making the rounds concerning Godfrey in recent months, comes now the intimation that he may leave his desk in several weeks to go on a tour of the country in the interest of the circuit.

Fox Installed In New Office

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Fox Vaudeville Booking Office moved last Thursday from the Leavitt Building to the new Warner Building on 51st street and Broadway. New quarters are unusually large, and have been spaced off nicely as well as handsomely furnished. The floors are covered with thick and colorful rugs, walls are gilt-stippled and the office equipment is attractive.

Private suites are occupied by the General Booking Office, Jack Loeb, Jack Allen and Fanchon & Marco. John Kellar, of the Publicity Department, is also quartered there. Included in the layout is a large reception room and a ladies' parlor.

"Devil Circus" Changes

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Meyer Golden's Devil Circus, six-people flash, went into the Hippodrome this week for RKO. Three new girls are in the act. The Norman Sisters have replaced the Delmar Sisters, and Doranella has taken the place of Marie Shea. Others in the cast are Edna Miller, Leo Raymond and Bob La Marre.

The rumored mission of Godfrey revolves around a difference of opinion said to exist in the councils of RKO officials and executives concerning the possibility of staging a revival of straight vaudeville. It is denied by Godfrey and others of the booking floor executive committee that such a difference of opinion has manifested itself. The report persists nevertheless.

Godfrey is said to have stuck to his guns in strategical conferences that there is a chance to try straight vaudeville once more. At present there are but three straight vaudeville houses in the country—the Palaces in New York and Chicago, and the Riverside, which is slated for a change in policy. Others of the executive committee are reported set against launching a straight vaudeville circuit. President Hiram S. Brown, being open to conviction, is said to have given his approval to an investigation of the situation by Godfrey.

The study of the situation reported to be undertaken by Godfrey will afford him a respite from labors that have been unrelenting since he became the booking boss close to a year ago. Until Piazza and Freeman stepped in to help with the operation of the booking office, Godfrey worked steadily a record number of

(See GODFREY on page 12)



CLICKING?

When you're clicking as fast as a second-hand grandfather's clock... and your best gag goes over like a Supreme Court sentence... there is always that great nimble-tongue cigarette which clears the way for throat and mouth-comfort... and old-fashioned tobacco enjoyment.

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Houses Swinging To Amalgamated

Getting three RKO houses in two-week period—Binghamton in, and Elmira and Ithaca coming—Daly may join Irwin—alho office vigorously denies it

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Keeney's, Elmira, and the State, Ithaca, mentioned last week as likely additions to the Bud Irwin book in the Amalgamated office, are leaving the RKO office, as reported, and will be added to the Irwin column this and next week. The Elmira house will have a Sunday opening under Irwin, and will play its first show under this arrangement beginning January 5. It will be a split-weeker. Ithaca will start on a last-half policy January 9, playing vaudeville Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Irwin also grabbed the Binghamton, Binghamton, from the Jack Hodgdon book last week. It is using five acts on a split-week. With Binghamton in, and Elmira and Ithaca assured, Irwin has a lineup of seven houses. This will place him in a better position to get strong acts than at any time in more than a year.

John T. Daly, relieved of his family-time book when the RKO office undertook its last shakeup several weeks ago, is reported on the verge of leaving the organization. Of late Daly has been assigned to the field out of the Jack Hodgdon wing. It was stated last week by what is deemed an authentic source, that Daly will soon join the Amalgamated office, under Bud Irwin. There seems to be some foundation for this statement, since the houses now being acquired by Irwin were formerly on the Daly book. Since starting on his field job. He is well liked by the Upstate operators, and it is felt that he will be able to fit in conveniently in the booking of the Amalgamated-type houses.

It was denied by the Amalgamated office that Daly is joining, alho the executive issuing the denial admitted that he was cognizant of rumors being circulated of Daly's possible tieup with the Comerford organization.

Luisita Leers Booked For European Dates

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Luisita Leers, featured high trapeze artiste of the Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Show, sailed last Saturday on the Columbus for a season of music-hall dates on the continent. She will open at the Palais d'Éte Theater, Brussels, following with contracted dates in Antwerp at the Scala and other Belgian cities, and winding up with a circuit of the key cities of France.

Miss Leers played a single week for RKO last week at the Hippodrome as one of the features of the Christmas Circus sponsored by Fred Bradna, equestrian director for the Ringling outfit. She will leave Europe early in March to get here in time for the opening of the circus season.

Morton and Wheeler

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Naomi Morton is no longer teamed with her father, Paul. She is now partnered with Frank Wheeler. They started on a tour of the Interstate Time this week in Oklahoma City, agented by the Thomas Fitzpatrick office.

Portland Returns; Boston Booking It

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Keith's, Portland, Me., resumed its vaude. policy today. Last year it was booked from here by Harvey Watkins, but now is in the columns of the Boston office. Included in the opening show are Claire and Atwood, Lane and Lee and Crockett's Mountaineers.

Bonomo Vaude. Acrobat

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Joe Bonomo, strong man of the screen, will go vaude. in a two-man acrobatic novelty. He will shove off for RKO next week on a split between the Bushwick and Prospect, Brooklyn.

They Even Pick on The Railroad Man

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Not much booking going on in the RKO office these days, but the boys are having plenty of fun. More gags released on the sixth floor each day than in an average vaudeville bill.

Tim O'Donnell, drolliest of the office comedians—outside of Pete Mack and 49 others—let one out the other day and had the boys howling for hours.

Tim announced gravely that Bruce Noble is out.

"He's out because he routed an act over the Pennsylvania instead of the Canadian Pacific."

Noble is a familiar figure around the office, and well liked. He is the general passenger representative on the sixth floor for the Canadian Pacific.

Urquhart in Role Of Boston Scout

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Edwin N. Urquhart, switched last week from Boston to the family-time department of RKO here, is temporarily acting as scout for Doc Breed over material passing thru the hands of the local booking agency, John Connelly, now back in Boston, had a similar assignment for several weeks. He was recalled when booking officials decided two months ago that the idea was impractical.

Urquhart is said to have a five-year contract with RKO. Located now in New York, he is reported to be one of the few booking men here favored with a contract. Charles J. Freeman is also said to fall into this classification. Urquhart's contract has three more years to go, according to account.

Max Alex Recovers

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Max Alex, of the Alex Trio of acrobats, is on the mend after being laid up several weeks with a bruised shoulder and neck. He met with an accident while playing for Loew in Yonkers. The three-people act had to cancel several Loew and RKO dates as a result of Alex's mishap.

Offers Come to Milne; Still Booking 2 Houses

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Several propositions have been made recently to Edgar G. Milne, Eastern Pantages representative, by independent vaudeville circuits in the East, to become booking executive over a consolidated group of vaudeville acts in an effort to revive the independent field. Alho Milne admitted to The Billboard that the proposals had been made to him, he would not disclose the identity of the parties and stated further that none had yet been accepted. He admitted, however, that a number of houses may be added to his books shortly, if plans go thru as expected.

Milne has started booking shows into Toronto and Hamilton for January. These are the only houses on the Eastern books. The decision to put shows



WALLY HUNT, standard bearer of the Cadet Sextet, who are showing for RKO this week at the 58th Street, New York, under the personal direction of Paddy Schwartz. Hunt and his colleagues feature ensemble saxophone playing, and are cited throughout as West Point cadets. They have been playing quite consistently in the Eastern houses of the Loew Time.

Bentley Is Chicago Manager for Sun

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Beginning Monday, January 6, the Chicago office of the Gus Sun Booking Exchange will go under the management of John Bentley, who for a number of years has been connected with the Carrell office as chief booker. Alex Swidjer, who has managed the Sun office since Billy Diamond gave it up early this year to go with RKO, will not be retained. Bentley's assistant will be Nate Safford, formerly with Western Vaudeville.

The offices now occupied by the Sun office in the Woods Building will be retained, at least for the present. It is probable, however, that when the present lease expires in the spring new quarters will be obtained.

Bentley goes into the Sun office with but two or three houses on the books, Sun having lost many of the Northern houses formerly booked from here. But it is anticipated that many houses will return to the Sun books, as Bentley has a wide acquaintance and is well liked.

Bentley's departure from the Carrell office will leave John Benson handling the books there.

Kelly a Loew Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Walter C. Kelly will open for Loew next week at the Midland, Kansas City. His last appearance here was with Vincent Youmans' Great Day. This is his first vaudeville date for Loew in many years, and he has been signed to finish the road tour, returning here in about eight weeks. Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office, agentic.

Contract Ambiguity

Samaroff and Sonia lose out on Fox tour thru misunderstanding

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Samaroff and Sonia, novelty act, lost out on a tour of the Fox Circuit this week because they were unacquainted with the practice of Jack Loeb, chief Fox booker, to book acts orally out of the office. The act was slated to open for Fox, agented by the Yates office, splitting this week between the Park Plaza, Bronx, and the Academy. Loeb had booked the act four weeks ahead with a tour of the entire circuit penciled in after Phil Bloom, associate booker, had caught the act and made a favorable report on it. Contracts arrived for Samaroff and Sonia about the same time, thru the Weber-Simon agency, for a string of Eastern RKO dates, for which they signed, not knowing that the Fox dates were okay without a contract if confirmed orally. Samaroff canceled the Fox tour a day before the scheduled opening, claiming he had sent two letters from Trenton to Irving Yates in plenty of time to make a replacement, and claiming that the letters advised the office of a change in plans. Yates, however, says he received only one letter, which did not notify him of any cancellation.

There are 19 or more houses on the Fox Circuit, which Loeb books orally thru agents, and there has seldom been any controversy heretofore about the practice. The RKO contracts looked more convincing to Samaroff, however, and he opened for them this week in New Jersey.

Griffin Joins "Gang"

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Roxy Gang, which is playing Eastern major-circuit dates, has been altered in routine to include John Griffin, baritone, who replaced Aldo Bonomo. Bonomo dropped out to return to the Roxy.

The radio outfit is agented for Loew by Abe Feinberg. In the cast are Adelaide De Luca, Harold Clyde Wright and Jean Mignolet, with Helen Andrews at the piano.

Nevada With Publix

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Lloyd Nevada and Company, standard novelty act for many years, has been booked thru the Leddy & Smith office for a Publix unit. The act will be a feature of The Haunted House Party, which will open January 9 at the Olympia, New Haven.

"Carnival" Back With Loew

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Rosemont's Carnival, starring Cunningham and Clements, resumed for Loew the last half of last week at the Delancey. The familiar singing and dancing revue features Peggy Ward, Otto Walker, Lorne Grant and Natalie Bushness. Joe Michaels is representative for the offering.

Shotwell for RKO

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Margaret Shotwell, concert pianist, who was given front-page attention when she lost what was said to be a seven-figure fortune in the stock-market crash, has been grabbed for RKO dates. She opened last week at the RKO Orpheum in Omaha, her home town. Charles Freeman may line up further dates to the Coast. Miss Shotwell is the second pianist to be booked in that many weeks. Adela Verne has been okehed for a full season.

Granville and Olivette

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Bernard Granville, formerly of The Desert Song and recently a single, has teamed with Nina Olivette, from Hello Yourself. They are subdividing their act, Fags, and are represented for RKO by Eddie Resnick, of the Max Hart office. They played for Warner Brothers on Jersey dates recently.

RKO Trails Loew in Fostering January Drive

Delaney as Agency Head

Reported entering indie field—say Padden will be associated in venture

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—William Delaney, who walked out of the RKO office about five weeks ago and never came back, is reported planning to open an independent booking office. The years that Delaney was an RKO booker he concentrated on buying acts for Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia houses. Those responsible for the report intimate that he will undoubtedly establish himself as an act buyer again for the same territory.

There is also talk of Harry Padden joining Delaney in the enterprise, but this could not be verified. Padden was last connected with the Metropolitan Booking Offices, this after a long association with B. S. Moss and the Amalgamated Agency.



GRACE BARRIE, teen-age blues singer who made her debut in vaudeville some weeks ago under the wing of Arthur Blondell, who was then in charge of one wing of the RKO scouting department. Miss Barrie has already made good, and started last week on a four-week engagement at the Earle, Philadelphia.

Potsdam Unchanged; Longs for Old Pals

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Charles Potsdam, formerly manager of Loew's Greeley Square, is still confined to the Kings Park (L. I.) Hospital and his condition remains unchanged. He was stricken with a nervous ailment three years ago and has since been under treatment in various institutions here.

Both Potsdam and his immediate family have expressed a desire for his old friends in the show business to visit him. It has been observed that his condition invariably improves whenever he has the opportunity to talk over old times with his former cronies. He was a Loew house executive for many years and the circuit has been unusually solicitous of his welfare since he broke down.

Morris Jones Adds Houses

Morris Jones, Cincinnati vaudeville booker, advised The Billboard Monday that he has just added five new Queen City theaters to his books. They are the Victor, Variety, Mars, Grand and Queen Ann, all neighborhood picture houses. With the addition of these houses, Jones is able to offer the acts passing thru Cincinnati two consecutive weeks.

Booked for Germany

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—De Marlo and La Marietta sailed recently for Germany. They are booked there for three months. They will appear all of January at the Scala, Berlin, and for the entire month of February they will play at the Hansa, Hamburg. During the month of March the duo are booked for the Alkazar, Hamburg.

Katz Leaves Show Biz

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Eddie Katz, who recently went into agenting as a Max Hayes associate after the disruption of his long association with the RKO booking office, has quit the show business. He left Hayes to open a radio store in Dunellen, N. J., near Plainfield.

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, assistant to Nicholas M. Schenck and Loew's major official in theater operation, is not often mentioned in trade news dispatches, due to the singular character of his work, but to him goes the credit of putting over the biggest vaudeville circuit achievement in many months. It was Moskowitz who gave his fellow Loew officials the idea of "some kind of a campaign during the month of January". This materialized in Loew's January Festival, which starts this week. RKO immediately followed suit with its "Jubilee" idea, which looks to the Loew outfit like naught else but the same horse with a different harness. Latest details of both nation-wide campaigns are discussed in another story in this department.

Canton To Use Two Policies

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Loew's Canton, operated as a four-day vaudeville, will on February 2 inaugurate a combination policy of vaudeville and presentations. The deluxe units routed out of the Capitol will play Canton for four days, starting Sundays, and since the vaudeville stand to three days, starting Thursdays. On the so-called Southern tour, Canton breaks the jump between Loew's Akron, and the Yonge Street, Toronto. There is as yet no indication that the practice will spread to other vaudeville units on the out-of-town route, tho the Victory, Evansville, Ind., operates also on a four-day policy, and is the only other house in that category. Some units may be cut to play the vaudeville route.

The Capitol units will play a route in the following order: Paradise, Bronx; Kings, Brooklyn; Valencia, Jamaica; Pitkin, Brooklyn; Loew's, Jersey City; Palace, Washington; Century, Baltimore; Penn, Pittsburgh; Loew's, Canton; State, Cleveland, and Ohio, Columbus.

New Conn. Date

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Wilkinson Theater, Wallingford, Conn., will go into a vaude. policy on Wednesday, booked out of RKO's Boston office. It will use five acts on a split week.

Pit Conditions Better Among Major Circuits

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Conditions among leaders and musicians in pit orchestras of the major circuits are being improved thru organized efforts on the part of the general musical directors. RKO recently inaugurated an extensive system of reward and co-ordination by giving an opportunity to leaders and musicians to be featured thru publicity and billing exploitation and by instituting a thoro check-up on the circuit's musical material. Loew has returned 17 pit men recently let out, after the VMA passed a decision that the circuit's contract with the union must be abided by for this season.

Milton Schwarzwald, general musical director for RKO, returned last week after an inspection tour of pit aggregations in Midwestern houses, having stopped over in Minneapolis, where he attended the opening at RKO's Seventh Avenue, Chicago, South Bend, Cleveland and Winnipeg, Can., were also included in the itinerary. He was gone about 10 days.

Brown calls his version "January Good Times Jubilee"—also harps on President Hoover's prosperity bromides—both circuits seeking support of civic groups

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Loew stole a march on RKO when it began exploiting Loew's January Festival two weeks ago. It took the RKO officials a little time to recover from the shock, but with a sudden spurt of energy but belated resourcefulness typical of the new administration, the Palace Theater Building outfit has come right back at the opposition with announcements of plans for the RKO January Good Times Jubilee.

Who Said Prosperity?

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—RKO agents are apparently little better off financially now than they were at the beginning of the flop season. When George A. Godfrey moved his booking staff from the main booking wing to the old Orpheum corner the desks of his assistants were left unoccupied. They still are. Several agents soberly inquired about renting these as desk space. The boys in the office thought it was a good gag.

Funny part of it is that the agents still insist they weren't fooling. Now, who are you going to believe?

Harry Walker Hurt

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Harry Walker, club booker and agent, was painfully injured in an automobile accident last Thursday night. He and his assistant, James Buckley, were returning from the Club Lido Venice, Paterson, in a big car, which skidded on a curve and hit a tree. Walker was brought home and has been under care of a doctor, but expects to return to his office early this week. Buckley escaped with slight scratches.

"Musicana" Booked

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Musicana, nine-piece flash which showed for RKO recently, has been okayed for a string of the circuit's local dates. Jim Tom Story, saxophonist, and Viola Kaye, dancer, are featured in the cast, which also includes Joe Dubow, Adele Kellogg, Lillian Kellman, Sonia Gordon, Janette Burr and Al Foster.

Thomas Act Changes

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Norman Thomas Quintet, in their "Hartemania" act, have taken on another man, as well as making two changes in the stage personnel. Fred Mason is the new addition, working from the pit, while Frank Allen has replaced Alphonso Kennedy, and Norman Thomas, Jr., has stepped into the vacancy left by Stanley Brown. The act is currently playing for RKO in Buffalo, and next week will go to Toronto.

Ernst Luz, Loew's general musical director, states that efforts are being made to improve conditions for that circuit. The musicians taken back constitute the number let out by the general notice to organize a month or so ago. Organists will resume for the circuit only where the program policy allows, this constituting only about one-third those returning. The remainder will help improve the pit outfits by added instrumentation.

Despite these increased advantages to musicians in the vaudeville houses, the RKO Music Department is besieged with job seekers. This was apparent when it was found necessary last week to post a notice to the effect that the union by-laws governing musicians in Greater New York distinctly forbids any musician applying to a general music director or supervisor for any position except as a leader and requesting that all others govern themselves accordingly.

As with the earlier-planned Loew exploitation project, RKO will make its appeal for patronage on the basis of a patriotic answer to President Hoover's summons to induce prosperity by acting the part.

While Loew intended to make the obsequies to President Hoover's request the keystone of its nation-wide drive, it has thus far allowed this angle to be kept in reserve, plugging instead the catchline, "A month of good shows". Loew is spending plenty of kale on whoopee materials for its January drive. Bulletins on the progress of the campaign are being issued several times weekly from the office of Oscar A. Doob, its new publicity and advertising director.

RKO got out last week a special issue of its house organ, *The Voice of RKO*, to spread the jubilee message to its house and divisional executives all over the country. The feature article is from the pen of Hiram S. Brown, who reveals here the motive behind the drive. Joseph Plunkett, RKO's theater operator, also sends a timely message to the circuit executives in the special issue. Two pages are devoted to an A to Z layout of exploitation ideas for the jubilee. Enough theoretical matter is presented here to sell the jubilee as no campaign of the major circuit has been sold before.

Loew's vaudeville booking office is proceeding rather timidly in its corraling of stage talent for the festival month. The present layout of January shows reveals a goodly number of standard acts, but not such a knockout of talent as had been presaged by the preliminary announcements. It is likely that Loew will lean more toward its strong film array for the month to sell the festival idea to its public. With the creditable start already made by its publicity forces in tying up with various commercial organizations and societies for the drive, it is implied that the greatest activity of the project will be found in its publicization rather than in the inferred about-face policy in the booking of acts.

The announced willingness of the RKO and Loew outfits to place themselves at the service of civic organizations and the like in promoting the spirit of prosperity might bring about interesting complications in towns where both circuits are represented by houses. Loew effected tieups with Chambers of Commerce from the very first day of its work on the festival, and now RKO announces its desire to go about boosting its jubilee in somewhat the same manner. It is felt in the trade that either one or both of the circuits will suffer in prestige, and even in patronage, thru the coincidental launching of their business-boosting campaigns. In certain localities the civic groups play either with one or the other, and if playing with both are careful to give one a break at a time. How it will be possible for Loew and RKO to get consistent co-operation in opposition towns from the same outfits will have to be left for pure chance—or strenuous influence—to work out. This will be one time that both circuits will be putting their house, exploitation and divisional men to an acid test. Particularly in towns where they are lined up on both sides of the opposition fence.

Boran Act Shows

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Arthur Boran's *Melody Land* showed for Loew this first half at the 46th Street, Brooklyn, after a month of Eastern break-in dates. Frankel, Lee and Davis are featured. Cast changes made last week include the addition of Naomi Winters, formerly of N. T. G.'s *Parody Club Revue*, who replaced Mlle. Jetytva, and Tiny Tina, formerly of Jack Sidney's *Frolickers*, who replaced Jean Rose. Dates are being lined up thru William Shilling, of the William Mack Office.

Collins Voted Definitely Out

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Johnny Collins is definitely out—for the second time in four months. The executive committee of the RKO booking department took up Collins' case last week. It became known today, and decided unanimously to accept his resignation from the organization. At one time Collins had one of the most responsible booking berths in the Palace Theater Building. This makes the third time in four years that he has terminated connections with the circuit. Reasons for the latest difficulty were not given.

McCormick Revue Opens

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Frank McCormick and Pale, 13-people revue, opened for RKO this week on a split between the Royal, Bronx, and Proctor's 86th Street, agented by Nat Sobel. Cast comprises Billie Haaga, former single; Richard Harkins' five-girl ensemble, and the Cheerleaders, seven-piece band.

Stanton's New Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Ray Stanton is doing a new three-people act, which he will bring into the RKO fold this last half at Proctor's 125th Street. He formerly headed a big act with George West, and recently did a comedy affair with two stooges. Gladys Gerrish and Tom Baldridge are assisting him in the new act.

New Mangan Act

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The new version of the Hazel Mangan Troupe, Western novelty act, will show off for RKO next week on a split between the Royal, Bronx, and Proctor's, Mt. Vernon, agented by Max Tishman, of the James Plunkett office. The act formerly worked as the Mangan Troupe and had a cast of seven, but now the cast has been trimmed down to five.

Fleeson-Shipman

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Neville Fleeson, former teammate of Grace Hayes, has taken Helen Shipman, from musical comedy, as his new partner. They were launched on a string of RKO local dates this week, splitting between Keith's 81st street and Proctor's 86th street. Direction of Weeden and Schulte.

Leonard Loew "Name"

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Eddie Leonard, who played the State last week, has been signed as one of the "name" attractions for Loew's January Festival, and will open on a tour January 11, splitting between Loew's, Yonkers, and the Grand, Bronx. Leonard's former hoofing assistant, Jack Russell, is also playing for Loew the same week at the head of an elaborate flash, splitting between the Premier, Brooklyn, and the National, Bronx.

Snyder-Cooley Go Publix

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Billy Snyder and Charlie Cooley, who played Loew's Grand, Bronx, the last half of last week, have landed a Publix contract calling for 31 weeks.

They will open January 2 at the Olympia, New Haven, in the unit, Jazz Preferred.

Lall Lecturing

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Rama Krishna Lall, Hindu "metaphysician", returned last week from a long indie tour with his seven-people act. A Night in the Orient. He says he is now concentrating on lectures at private entertainments, clubs and colleges.

Ellmores With Basquette

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Ellmore Brothers, dancing sextet, formerly known as the Cyclone Steppers, were recently placed thru Eddie Elkart, of the Kessler & Rose office, with Lina Basquette and Company, sponsored by Nick Bolla, of Chicago. The act is playing for RKO on a string of Midwestern dates, booked thru the Weber-Simon agency.

Osborne Example of Plug Ban Violations

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The ban announced by RKO several months ago against plugging commercial products or organizations in material and billings is not being carried out to the letter. In recent weeks an appreciable number of acts have succeeded in getting away with plugs for strictly commercial items, and in several instances of these violations the products or organizations boosted are classed as opposition to RKO and its radio and mechano-electrical subsidiaries.

A striking example of this condition is afforded by the billing made out for Will Osborne, radio and disc-recording crooner, agent his reopening for RKO today at the Fordham, Bronx.

The program and billing lines, which are identical, follow:

WILL OSBORNE
And His Herbert Diamond Entertainers
and Vim Radio Ambassadors,
IN PERSON,
Columbia Recording Artists.

The "Herbert Diamond" and "Vim Radio" references are to Osborne's commercial hours on the radio, and his recording for Columbia represents opposition to RKO's affiliation with Victor.

Joe Cook Starts January 25 at Albee

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Joe Cook, who by this time has 3½ more imitations in vaudeville than any comedian extant, will himself take a fling in vaudeville beginning January 25 at the Albee, Brooklyn. He may follow directly with the Palace and Riverside, altho dates have already been penciled in for him February 8 at the Palace, Chicago, and the ensuing week at the Palace, Cleveland. Looks like a friendly battle for the initiator of the four Hawaiians between the East and West booking divisions.

The Cook act will carry six men and a girl, and Dave Chasen will be conspicuous in the support. The Albee date will be heavily exploited.

Fox's Special Shows

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The policy of midnight shows in major circuit houses on New Year's Eve will hold forth also in all of the senior houses of the Fox Circuit, booked by Jack Loeb. The budget for the Fox vaudeviliers has been increased slightly for the week to insure better quality shows.

In addition to this, Loeb has increased the number of acts playing New Year's Eve midnight at the Park Plaza, Bronx, and at Fox's, Port Chester. Each of these will usher in the new year with eight acts against a normal vaude, consumption of four to five acts.

Ditch Salary Setting; Spot Bargaining Now

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—As brought out in a prediction included in an exclusive Billboard story several weeks ago, salary setting has been discarded entirely as a factor in booking on RKO's sixth floor. Exceptions are being made in the case of acts corralled for routes or included in intact shows. The greater percentage of acts, however, who depend on week-to-week spotting must bargain for salaries. This makes it possible for an act to work for far less than its original figure in a week when the supply greatly exceeds that of the first bookings of the season.

The present booking administration, thru its sponsorship of a bargaining method of act buying, concedes for the first time the oversupply of mediocre material on its available lists. The new system was not announced officially, altho agents have been faced with its practical functioning the last several weeks when they have attempted to hold bookers down to a salary figure estab-

Band Caught in Wreck Is Again Bermuda Bound

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Bob Bennett and His International Orchestra are planning to sail for Bermuda today for a winter engagement at the Bermudiana Hotel. The outfit started for the island December 18 on the ill-fated Fort Victoria. In the scramble for safety following its collision with another ship, and its subsequent sinking, the bandsters lost all their instruments and clothing. These were not covered by insurance.

Trio on Local Tour

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Brady, Riddel and Murray, singing and dancing trio, assisted by Bee, who recently played for RKO out of the Chicago office, and showed for Eastern bookers the last half of last week at Proctor's 125th Street, have been okayed for a tour of the local houses.

Conley for Westchester

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Harry J. Conley, who has been touring the Orpheum Circuit for some time, will return here next week. He will then split for RKO between New Rochelle and Yonkers.

GODFREY

(Continued from page 9)

hours a day, and did not let down even on Sundays and holidays.

In back of the reported study of the straight vaudeville situation by Godfrey is a definite schism between the Eastern and Western divisions regarding the rating of acts and the laying out of shows. Godfrey and his clique are said to be supporters of the kind of vaudeville that approaches closest to the big-time standards. Godfrey has faith in productive "names", and is known to have always striven for a quality in his shows that raises them far above the general timbre of those used by other circuits. The Freeman faction, on the other hand, is identified with working toward the ideal of lining up good shows with a minimum of "names". This divergence in opinion has been expressed often by Freeman and Godfrey in booking conferences with Piazza, Brown and others concerned with the operation of the circuit.

Godfrey has not only denied that there is any possibility of his being drafted for a country-wide tour, but he has gone as far as stating that no important changes are forecast for his division from any angle. He has also stated that he has never been happier in his job than now.

Should there be the slightest chance of reviving a circuit of straight vaudeville, Godfrey, it is felt, is admirably suited not only to lay the groundwork but also to be at its booking helm. Without a doubt he is the best big-time booker in the country. Besides, there is not a more honest man on the sixth floor.

Saranac Notes

Bobbie Hats, moved from 37 Church street to the NVA Lodge, has improved in a healthful way since his return to Saranac Lake.

Lily Lenora, of the lodge, has been confined to her bed for the last two months. She has gained weight and is looking the picture of health. She expects to be on exercise soon.

Kela Edwards, a bed patient for the last few months, is getting along splendidly. She is ever cheerful and her room is the most popular one of the lodge.

David Mavity, an up patient of the lodge, has put on 20 pounds in a few months. He spends most of his time while taking his exercise visiting the NVA bed patients at the different cottages. Mavity is a very popular fellow.

May Zinsberg, who is under care of the NVA, has moved from Cedar street to 67½ Margaret street. She is elated since she has her two children, Herbert and Irene, living with her. Both attend public school here. Mr. Zinsberg is expected to spend part of the holiday season with his family.

Andrew D. Molony reports he had the biggest Christmas in the way of presents he has had in years. Andy is up and around again after being confined to his bed for a few weeks.

Laurance McCarthy, of the lodge, after a little setback for a couple weeks, is now able to go to the dining room for all his meals.

Eddie Voss left Christmas night to spend the New Year with friends in New York.

Paula Campbell, an NVA guest patient, who recently returned from a visit south, has left for New York. It is reported that she will not return to Saranac Lake.

Annamae Powers and Viola Allen, roommates of the lodge, are wearing the smile that won't come off since Santa Claus filled their stockings with pretty and useful Christmas presents. Both are gaining in health.

Christ Hagedorn, called little "Crisette" by his friends in Saranac, is in a joyful mood these days, as Santa brought him everything he ordered, even to the most encouraging report from his doctor.

Mr. Murphy, superintendent, prepared a fine Christmas dinner that was enjoyed by all the guest patients of the lodge.

Essie McGinn received a beautiful Christmas box from her aunt in Ireland. There was a little package enclosed containing Irish moss for Estie's cold.

Harry Namba is another chap of the lodge who received many nice Christmas gifts. Namba has improved since he was operated upon a short while ago.

At the Davison cottage there was a big Christmas tree loaded with presents for all the patients, and to make it seem more like Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher had their four-year-old daughter, Edna, here on a visit. All patients were down to the dining room for a Christmas dinner fit for a king.

At the Burke cottage there was plenty of the Christmas spirit, as each room had a small Christmas tree. The NVA patients at this cottage received many presents and enjoyed a most wonderful dinner.

There are 75 guest patients under the care of NVA and all wish to thank E. F. Albee for his kindness to them at Christmas time.

Gladys Bishop, who formerly lived at 10 Baker street, and Edith Cohn, of 74 Bloomingdale avenue, have moved to the lodge. They are roommates. Both are getting along splendidly.

Illness Cancels Team

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Eddie Conrad, of Conrad and Eddy, who were scheduled to play for Loew at the Midland, Kansas City, this week, canceled suddenly. He underwent a tonsil operation at a Kansas City hospital. The spot was filled on the show by Jack Osterman. It is expected that Conrad and Eddy will resume their tour in about three weeks, booked thru the William Morris office.

Conveys on the Road

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Convey Twins and Johnny have left the main stem to play out-of-town dates. They are current for Loew in Syracuse, and the following two weeks will work for the Pantages office, playing Toronto and Hamilton, respectively.

VAUDEVILLE ACTS

We have in our file several written-in-order but untried for Acts, Sketches and Monologues which we will sacrifice while they last for \$5.00 each. State acts wanted. ASSOCIATED AUTHORS, 129 East 34th St., New York.

WANTED Med. Performers all kinds. Two-week stands. State age. Male. Piano-Player who works acts. **DOC TOM CHRISTY, Astoria, Ill.**

WANTED For Madame Mayfield's Taverns Co. competent Stage Performers. Pianist who doubles. Novelist Man. Must be capable and reliable. Open January 6. Address Tidoute, Pa. Indian Performers write.

Med. People Wanted

Musical Team. Man to do black in acts and know how to put them on. Also do Stanzas and Doublets; change for one week. Woman to play some Piano. Don't want people who sleep all day. **CHAS. BERKELL, 313 Dorsey Ct., Davenport, Ia.**

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UP TO THE MINUTE AND LEADING THE HANDS OF THE CLOCK A

MERRY CHASE PRINCESS YVONNE

"Psychic Wonder" Under Personal Supervision of DOC M. IRVING. This Week, Apollo Theatre, Gloucester, N. J.



VAUDE. NOTES

JACK AND KAY SPANGLER showed for Loew in a new stinging and dancing offering the first half of last week at the Lincoln Square, New York. Cooper and Clifton and Red Coleman are featured in the cast. The act, subtitled *The Lobbyists*, was sponsored by Irving Tishman.

There is much to be said for the attitude of the Actors' Union of America in regard to the inadvisability of acts making talkie shorts for stipends that exceed only slightly their average weekly salaries. One must consider, however, that a full week's work in vaudeville nowadays at a rate better than fair money is something not to be sneezed at, the results notwithstanding.

BILLY GOLDIE AND GIRLS, new seven-people flash, will open for Loew this last half at the Fairmount, Bronx. The revue-like offering is subtitled *Keep Moving* and features Jimnet Vallon and Helen Ward. Alex Hanlon is the agent.

ATKINSON AND LUCINDA resumed for Loew this first half at the Gates, Brooklyn, in their familiar dance flash. Other Eastern dates are likely.

VERNON RATHBURN AND COMPANY, saxophone sextet, will return to the Loew fold the last half of next week at the 46th Street, Brooklyn, booked thru Al Freeman.

FREDDIE LABERER is in the St. Francis Hospital, Hartford, Conn., suffering from a broken leg sustained recently. He writes he would like to hear from friends.

JACK DEMPSEY and James J. Corbett, who played at Keith's Riverside, New York, last week, had quite a lot of fun by doing an encore afterpiece together all week. Besides talking of their former ring battles, they introduced celebs in the audience, including Fred Stone, Estelle Taylor and several boxing managers.

They tell us that the "understandings" between agents and bookers of a former big-time administration, whereby thousands of dollars were lost yearly by the circuit thru inflated act budgets, is being carried on quite openly now in another circuit. The new form of grafting makes the old Keith rackets look like playing marbles by comparison.

WALTER PLIMMER, JR., recently of *Hello Yourself*, will open for Loew this last half at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, doing the m. c. role and a short stinging and comedy single. He was booked direct by Sam Rose, the manager of the house, as a local attraction, having been a neighborhood resident for about 15 years and quite a favorite with Bay Ridge folk.

EMILE BOREO, who recently played for Loew on out-of-town dates, will play the presentation houses of the circuit, opening January 13 at the State, Boston.

GORDON DOOLEY, of Morton and Dooley, is seriously ill. He is at his home in Baberswood, Pa.

LYNN CANTER, formerly with Al Shean, is heading a new five-people act, which will open for RKO soon in the East. It is a William K. Wells sketch, entitled *A Night at Home*. John Miller and the three Lido Boys are in her support.

ANNE PRITCHARD AND BOYS, six-people flash, will be launched on a string of RKO Eastern dates this last half at the Hamilton, New York. The act is booked for Flushing the first half of next week.

HARRY LAUGHLIN and Clara West are doing a new act labeled *Dancing in Tinkles*, written by Jimmie Conlin, of Conlin and Glass. They brought it into the RKO fold this first half at the Lincoln, Union City.

CLIFFORD WAYNE COMPANY, six-people Indian novelty featuring Karlin Wayne, boy violinist, returned to the

RKO fold this first half at the Capitol, Union City. The act formerly was known as *La Kota-Waynes*.

It's great to be an RKO agent these days, according to one of them. If you pick up a good act there are no spots for it; if you offer one they can spot, it involves a forbidden salary, and if they finally route your act you have to worry about the spot-grabbing of "Rio Rita" and other vaudeville assassinations.

DESMOND, EARLE AND COMPANY, in a three-people skit, *Women—Don't*, opened for RKO this week in Pittsburgh. Desmond formerly was of the team of Robey and Desmond.

BEN BERNIE has been booked by RKO to open the week of January 11 at the Palace, Chicago.

SCHREPP'S COMEDY CIRCUS finished playing the Golden Gate Theater, San Francisco, Christmas eve and opened at the Orpheum in Oakland the following day.

HARRY FOX, who was slated to open for Loew at the State, New York, several weeks ago, but was switched suddenly to Kansas City to fill a spot there, will open next week at the Metropolitan, Brooklyn, for a tour of the New York houses. He is assisted by Beatrice Curtis, Lyons & Lyons agenting.

In its large volume of paper for the January Festival, Loew is using the consistent catch-line, "A month of good shows". Doesn't speak so good for December, nor for February. Maybe they have a better catch-line to follow this up. They should.

BETH GRALLIS showed for Loew last week in a new three-people act subtitled *Something Different*, splitting between the Bedford, Brooklyn, and the Grand, Bronx. Other dates are being lined up for the act. She is assisted by Bobbie Baldwin, with Eddie Lambert at the piano.

SALLY, IRENE AND MARY, the singing and dancing revue by Eddie Dowling, returned to the Loew Circuit this week, splitting between the Bedford, Brooklyn, and the Willard, Woodhaven. In the cast are George Marshall, Dorothy Dare and D. J. Sullivan. The revue is agenting by the Yates office.

CHARLES McMANUS and Eddie Hickey, who showed for Loew several weeks ago, were launched this week on a string of Eastern dates, splitting between the Boulevard and National, Bronx.

SAM HEARN, "The Political Feller", opened on a tour of the Loew Southern Time this week, booked thru Meyer North.

ROBBINS TRIO, roller skaters, had to cancel the last half of last week for Loew at the 46th Street, Brooklyn, due (See VAUDEVILLE NOTES on page 31)

CHORUS GIRLS WANTED

Other useful people wire. **JIMMIE HILL**, Bluebird Theatre, Orangeburg, S. C.

WANTED—Bookings Advance Man for Automobile Auction Co. Must be high pressure, good appearance, a real go-getter, have car, be able to travel anywhere, be able to interview largest dealers in the world. This money for the right man. **WAYNE CARTER**, Marion, Ill.

WANTED

For Medicine Show, good all around Team. One must play Piano and work Acts. Show opens January 6. State all and lowest salary. **LLOYD DECK RAWLEY**, 3253 Wallace St., Chicago, Ill.

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Who are not familiar with my material I will make up a sample book of new and clean bits for \$1.00. State title of comic, *Hitbooks* Nos. 1 and 2, \$2.00 each, or 50¢ for \$5.00. List of other material and comedy scene service free. **G. MACK**, Professor, 125 East 34th St., New York City.

Wanted Immediately

For Med. Show under canvas, Blackface Comedian, Magician, Teaser, also Musical Act. Billy Parrish, answer. No bosses. Write or wire quick. Tell all. **MEXICANO DRUG CO.**, Moscow, Tenn.

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Wire **C. P. CRAWFORD**, Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri.

NEW ACTS

Reviewed in New York

Stanley and Birnes

Reviewed at Keith's Franklin, Bronx. Style—Dancing, singing and comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Nine minutes.

A delightful presentation of highly entertaining material places Dan Stanley and Al Birnes in the ranks of sock acts. Their routine of dancing, sprinkled with song-talks and chatter, is distinctive both in quality and delivery. The numbers are blessed with originality and doubled in effectiveness thru perfect execution as only the originators can bring into play. Dancing is by far the best of their work. It is different and well flavored with ever-appetizing, faultless precision. They do nicely by the pipes work and gab.

The boys clicked here from start to finish and were sent away to prolonged palm-whacking. They won favor right off the bat with their drunk number, which packs a mean wallop. Keeping to their realistic portrayal of spouses, they first do a song-talk of You Can't Fool Your Wife and follow it up with brilliant legwork. Their Indian bit is amusing. They chattered for laughs and also tickled the risibilities thru their stepping infested with clowning. Laughs come in aplenty via the finisher. It is a travesty on aesthetic dancing. Their costumes and the way they flitter about is surefire. A good bet for the dancer on the most particular bills. S. H.

Raynor Lehr

With Ruth Mack and Willie Cox

Reviewed at Keith's Franklin, Bronx. Style—Dancing, singing and comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Twenty minutes.

Quite a change from heading a 35-people revue to taking on a three-people act, but Raynor Lehr is better off in the new piece in whatever way you look at it. Big acts usually find tough sledding for dates thru high salaries and inability of bookers to find a spot, but the little fellows very seldom bunk up against that. Lehr's act has show-stopping qualities starting you right in the face, but there is plenty of room for improvement. Just a little time and work will take care of that. Routining is what the

SEASON'S GREETINGS

ESTELLE TAYLOR

KAFKA, STANLEY and MAY

International Aerial Stars

Featured Scala, Berlin, month of December.

Rebooked Hansa, Hamburg, and Scala, Berlin, after first appearance.

NATHANO BROTHERS

Wintergarten, Berlin, in Big Type—3rd Return Date.

Month of January at Kabaret der Komiker, Berlin, as Special Attraction.

De HAVEN and NICE

"Mulligan and Mulligan"

Royal Orfeum, Budapest, Month of January.

act needs most. The brilliant stepping of Lehr and his colored boy assist, Cox, is strong enough to tie up any show. Ruth Mack is average in chatter and warbling. Lehr has youth, looks, personality and talent. His neat stage presence blends well with his song talking, comedy gab and legwork. As a hooper, he knows his onions. He goes in for different dance doings. Specially good is his acrobatic. This boy has a number of tricks that are sensational. He shows his originality in his "St. Vitus" dance, and also his ability in black bottom and Rusk, legwork. The colored boy, Willie Cox, is a speedy and brilliant stepper, and his first dance here succeeded in stopping the show cold. Just tapping, but how he did it! He had to follow with a Bill Robinson impersonation to satisfy the palm whackers. Ruth Mack goes so-so in her warbling solos. Were spotted fifth on the 10-act show, and knocked off a clean show-stop. S. H.

about his work that cannot be other than effective in getting over. Besides, his pipes are sufficiently capable of putting over a song and for the incidental warbling passages. He also toots a mean clarinet.

Red Coleman does a fast-moving eccentric routine and Hooper and Clifton show some neat clowning moments in their acrobatic burlesque. S. M. S.

Ruloff and Elton

Assisted by Phyllis Andre, Mildred Francis and M. Era

Johnny Broderick at the Piano

Reviewed at Keith's 51st street. Style—Singing and dancing flash. Setting—In two and full stage (special). Time—Seventeen minutes.

For several seasons Alexis Ruloff and Joan Elton have been a familiar team on the major circuits, and in this new offering, an elaborate six-people affair, have far outdone any previous efforts for class, grace and rhythm. Their corking display of talent achieved a vociferous show-stop in the opener here. Capable support includes a clever sister team, Phyllis Andre and Mildred Francis, in eccentric dance characterizations; M. Era, a member of last season's four-people affair, who assists in musical and dance numbers, and Johnny Broderick, capable piano accompanist. Outlay includes lavish scenery and costumes, with special lighting effects and excellent pit arrangements.

Jack and Kay Spangler

With Cooper and Clifton and Red Coleman

Reviewed at Loew's Lincoln Square. Style—Singing, dancing and comedy. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Seventeen minutes.

Jack and Kay Spangler head a very attractive dance flash. The featured performers include Hooper and Clifton, a pair of swell acrobatic clowns, and a clever eccentric hooper, Red Coleman. The act is built around the various situations confronting a snappy hotel clerk. Jack Spangler. Too much time it seems is lost in prolonging the various dance and song routines with mere irrelevant gab. Aside from this minor weakness the act is cleverly presented and the individual performers are all first-raters.

Kay Spangler has several times before been praised in The Billboard for her splendid dancing. Otri is a lovely, tall blond and is unusually graceful in her various numbers. As a high-kick stepper she is as good as the family time can offer. Jack Spangler gives fine support in several terpsichorean bits, besides demonstrating his own hoofing ability. He has polish and a sureness

The standard bearers took applause honors with three routines, a classic waltz of graceful movement and unusual holds; an intermixed dance routine of national versions of the gypsy folk dance, the Russian whirlwind, and the Spanish tango, and a spectacular adagio, later made a trio by addition of M. Era. The sister team each do solos, one an impression of Eddie Cantor singing. We Men Must Grow a Mustache, appended with an eccentric dance, and a character number, I'll Always Be One of Dem Guys, finished off with an eccentric waltz clog duo. Broderick's solo contribution is a complicated arrangement at the Ivories of The Last Rose of Summer. Good bet for better houses. C. G. B.

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An unbilled male accompanist sounds an opening on the keyboard, and Miss Ford got an ovation on her entrance from the opening of a draw curtain in stage center. Opens with one of the Peggy Ann hits, and announces next *As Long as You Have Me and I Have You*, from *The Gingham Girl*. Starts the in-advertent plug for Rodgers and Hart by putting across a sweet warble of *Here in My Arms*, and follows this up with an even more appealing rendering of *With a Song in My Heart*, by the same team, and included in the more sparkling numbers of *Chee Chee*. With a great impression already created by virtue of her excellent handling of a nicely chosen show cycle, Miss Ford went to the bows with a Victor Herbert medley, taking an encore with *Annie Laurie*. A real class act.
E. E. S.

Jean Carr
Reviewed at Proctor's 55th Street, Style—Dancing. Setting—In one. Time—Nine minutes.

A brother-sister team, or a single girl, working with an elderly couple, announced as their parents, is not a new idea in vaudeville. But when such a combination is marked by the sort of talent displayed by Jean Carr and her support, it is novel from other angles. Today and Yesterday, the adequate sub-billing of Jean Carr's offering, characterizes the tender youth and middle age of the cast members, as well as the corresponding types of dancing done by each individually. Miss Carr is a shapely and attractive purveyor of pedastics, while her parents compare favorably with the best of the oldtimers now playing the boards. Spotted third here after a tremendous reception to Jack Dempsey, Miss Carr and her forbears romped into generous applause with their routines of solo, duo and trio hooding. Neat costuming thruout.

Miss Carr opens with a complicated tap routine, with clear-sounding rat-a-tats, and follows with an encore of varied rhythm and more intricate footwork, to bigger results. After a breathing space, she announces her "trainers", ushering her mother on first for a knockout clog number. Father is also introduced in a clicking heel-and-toe routine, and got a hearty reception. Elderly couple do a duo, and the trio finish with a fast precision routine. They use their own dancing mat. Came close to a show stop.
C. G. B.

Enoz Frazer
Reviewed at Keith's Riverside. Style—Aerial novelty. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Fifteen minutes.

Trapezists seldom attempt the stunts done with ease by Enoz Frazer, because of the risk involved to both performer and audience. Frazer's apparatus is so set up that it swings out over the first few rows of the audience, and what few tricks are in his routine are sensational

and well worth the admission price. Spotted here at the close of a lengthy bill, which included several "name" draws, he held the audience in their seats thru a sheer outburst of nerve. Opens tux-clad, later removing jacket to work in white shirt.

Starts with various warming-up exercises on the bar, engaging from the first in a monolog of chatter and wisecracks. After the intricate preliminaries, he announces a few "feats with the feet", doing difficult breakaways, toe-and-heel catches, layouts and chinning lifts, with the bar swinging wide. From a standing position on a full swing, he does a fall and ankle catch, following later with a hand-to-heel catch that comes just short of missing. His featured stunt is a front fall to a heel catch, which requires control to a split second. It brought vociferous applause. Great for the better-class houses.
C. G. B.

Four Carlton Brothers
Reviewed at Fox's Academy. Style—Dancing, singing and comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Ten minutes.

The spirit of youth and all the favorable qualities that go with it abound in this act. A quartet of youths, talented and possessed of a delivery that is charming thru its lack of sophistication. They go in for hoofing, singing and comedy. The bulk of their work is done in ensemble formation, with a few solos creeping in. They are good-looking boys, dressed nicely and of pleasing personality. Most of the numbers smack of originality and are increased in effectiveness thru their parlor-style presentation.

They launch themselves into audience favor with an ensemble collegiate number. After warbling Collegiate they follow it up with hoofing, featuring comedy falls a la Will Mahoney. Their next is a corking football number with the forward pass, tackling and touchdown business. Their minstrel chair dance is excellent. They execute the difficult steps in this number with great precision. Their ensemble burlesque of Rudy Vallee doing the Charleston is good for laughs, but rather indiscreet. The finale calls for more ensemble hoofing, sprinkled with solo work. Treated it here to loud applause. They are a good bet.
S. H.

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Reviewed at the Palace. Style—Serio-comic sketch. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Twenty-four minutes.

One grows accustomed to expecting little more of sketches carrying legit. or screen "names" than to afford the standard bearer an opportunity to give vaudeville patrons a taste of his brand of histrionics. On this angle, *A Box of Cigars* serves its mission adequately.
(See REVIEWS on page 71)

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VAUDEVILLE REVIEWS

New Palace, Chicago

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 28)

A flock of "names" was responsible for heavy attendance at the opening show. Too many dancing acts to make a well-balanced bill; nevertheless, they all got across nicely and gave the holiday crowd big entertainment value.

For an opening act Paulo-Paquita, with Chikita in *Mexican Dreams*, is one of the most elaborate seen here in many moons. Colorful costumes and settings and picturesque Mexican songs and dances won them a splendid hand. Could easily hold down a spot farther down on the bill.

Walter (Dare) Wahl, formerly of musical comedy, and his partner, Emmett Oldfield, are back with their screamingly funny burlesque acrobatic act and went over big as ever, finishing with straight acrobatics that earned them added applause. Oldfield is fully entitled to equal billing with Wahl, his comedy work being largely responsible for the act's outstanding success.

In the troy spot Jarvis-Harrison and Company, with Sonny Jarvis, have a comedy skit, *Elephant Love*, that garnered a flock of laughs. Jarvis is excellent as a slightly inebriated gent who offers aid to a woman at the elevated station who has lost her purse, only to find in the end that he's in the company of "Subway Kate", a light-fingered lass. He puts across a fast line of wisecracks. For a strong finish Sonny Jarvis does impressions of famous hoofers and proves himself a comer in that field.

Bill Robinson, held over, again proved himself of show-stopping caliber with a classy routine different from last week's. Hang in the property man for a staircase bit that went over great.

Nellie and Sara Kouns, noted sopranos, lean to the "heavy" in their song numbers, but put them over with a grace and artistry that brought its deserved need of applause.

Following intermission Ledova, assisted by Ivan Luttman, and with Julio Koehl and Erwin Hammer at the piano, offered a novel dance act, *From the Classic to Harlem*. First half beautiful classic dancing; then eight Harlem jubilee singers came on and sang several numbers. For the finale, Ledova and Luttman, in blackface, did a Harlem dance number, while the jubilee singers crooned in the background. Most of the act beautifully done and would have made a well-nigh perfect score but for one vulgar bit that destroyed the artistry of the whole. Act was greeted with tremendous applause.

Then Charles (Chic) Sales came on to a rousing reception and wrecked the house. Except for minor changes the act is the same as when last seen here, Sale doing his familiar rural characterizations. Stopped the show cold, and to insist demands of the audience for more he promised his old-man character at the conclusion of the last act. The auditors remained and in *Miljars* they saw a splendid slack-wire act that won their generous approval. Sale's old man is, if possible, better than ever and fittingly climaxed one of the most entertaining bills seen here.

NAT GREEN.

Hippodrome, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 28)

Five Danubes, casting and trampoline acrobats, open with a fast-moving routine. Four males perform assorted mid-air and somersaulting catches, while the girl is merely atmosphere. Neat hand.

Lathrop Brothers indulge in some classy hoofing routines. Boys are swanky looking and offer neat rhythmic tapping bits. Nice hand.

Chalbot and Tortini, mixed comedy team, present enjoyable musical clowning and warbling. Male plugs out his eccentricities on piano and violin, while his attractive partner is good in her burlesque warbling. Fair applause.

Devil's Circus offers a first-rate adagio trio. A pleasing girl song and dance team and an exotic dancer in various specialties, performed in novel settings. Act is fast moving and colorful. Good reception.

Moss and Frye, those excellent sepi comedians, garnered the laughs with

The Palace, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, December 28)

Even at the Palace a dearth of big "names" in a show does not imply a corresponding shortage in entertainment rating. Estelle Taylor is theoretically the sole draw personality here, but the unfolding of the nine-act layout reveals one of the most delightful dishes served up by the sixth floor chefs this season. Miss Taylor is in the front rank, but is by no means the strongest item in the brilliant display.

THE GREAT ROLLE, a squeaky-voiced midget with a Napoleonic manner, occupies the opening frame with his company of three lady Lilliputians and a full-grown lackey. Rolle is an illusionist who has been presented by Mother Nature with a bizarre style of black art showmanship. Skillful deception is employed in the chest, levitation and vanishing girl effects. The fem. midgets also sing and dance. They're cuter than new-born pups.

BOYD SENTER brings his one-man band to 47th street from a long sojourn in picture houses. They liked him plenty, and proved it by clapping him to a show-stop. A clever lad accompanies at the grand, while Senter blows out mean tunes on a sax, cornet and trombone. An unbilled boy gives a violin bit and also steps, putting both over well.

JANETTE HACKETT made a great impression in the troy spot in her familiar dancing and singing routine. The same male trio—Jose Shalitta, Dan Hurwyn and Wally Davis—are in her support. The identical act on view here last March. Deafening hand at the bows.

AL TRAHAN clicked as he never clicked before in his gem of an act with Lady Yukona Cameron. Jack Benny, again giving the impression of being the best vaudeville emcee on the map, made his first appearance preceding the Trahan act. Trahan devoted more time than usual to straight and clowning piano work. He got enough laughs to make his head swell to watermelon size. Miss Cameron is the nuts.

ESTELLE TAYLOR, who appears in a gab and warbling routine, fashioned and assisted by Jack Frost, walked in on an ovation and walked off with a decisive hit registered on a purely technical basis. Dempsey's missus was noticeably handicapped by a head cold, this giving her warbling a nasal, tho' not altogether an unpleasing quality. Frost's material is smart, but not evenly entertaining. But Miss Taylor sells herself easily on looks and talent. A good bet as a "name" item, especially under the present arrangement of following or preceding Dempsey. Billed like a circus in advance and currently.

CHARLES RUGGLES closed the first half in his now familiar farce playlet, *Wives, Etc.*, by Roy Briant. The holiday crowd fell in eagerly with every quip and gag in the clever act. Ruggles scored a personal success, and Lester Elliott, in the role of the jumpy valet, grabbed a good share of the laughs. Anita Booth, Neville Westman and Ayce Johnstone played the fem. parts capably. Great break in spotting for this piece.

VENITA GOULD remained on long and reaped a proportionate reward. Something that can't be said for every top-grade artiste. Still opens with the authentic Ted Lewis impression and goes on with uncanny vitality and talent thru characterizations of Helen Kane, Sophie Tucker, Jeanne Engels, Maurice Chevalier, Blossom Seeley, Libby Holman and a futuristic look-in on Tom Patricola for the final encore. The Kane bit is the weakest, and the Engles and Holman numbers run a close race for first place. A show-stop that almost equaled Trahan's record breaker.

JACK BENNY made his own session short and very sweet, finishing with a howl encore bit, using an unbilled Jap. boy, a couple of audience plants and all the stagehands, in his entr'acte jesting; and in this tough spot Benny let loose many new tidbits of drolery. When they come wittier than Benny they incorporate.

ART LANDRY AND HIS ORCHESTRA had an even tougher time than Benny in trying to keep up interest at the tail end of a wov show, which was half an hour late at this viewing. An entirely new routine than on his last appearance here. A clever little miss is seen to advantage in cute numbers. The kind of a band outfit that has everything but the building up that a circuit like RKO can profitably give it.

ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

their irresistible comedy and good harmony warbling.

Lieutenant Gitz-Rice and his company of five male singers closed with an entertaining routine of musical numbers, enlivened by the clever dance specialties of an unbilled lass. Gitz-Rice offers some of his own compositions and some French-Canadian ditties, with occasional solo work by members of the troupe. There is a fair rendition of *Ole Men River* by deep throaty bass, while the girl is at her best in the hot stepping finale. Good reception.

S. M. SANDERS.

Fox's Academy, N. Y.

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 28)

A good seven-act show, running smoothly and rapidly for a total of one hour and 48 minutes. It is diversified entertainment, including novelty dancing, comedy, music and singing.

Oyeno Japs, in the hello spot, gave the show a rip-roaring sendoff by brilliant acrobatics. This male troupe of seven took only five minutes to rattle off a sensational routine of Riskey work, tumbling, pyramids and balancing. Riskey is their forte. Bowed off to the tune of loud applause.

Mae Wynn and Buddy brought a stepping session into the deucer that merited the big returns. They are speedy tappers of intricate steps, keeping up a steady and rhythmic tattoo on the mats. The comedy Miss Wynn does a triple nerve tap number to wow effect. Buddy hoofs like nobody's business.

Smith and Barker, using the old Edwin

Duke Ellington and his Cotton Club Orchestra, 12 Harlem bandsters, play hot music—so hot that even the palms of the patrons were burning up thru vigorous whacking. These boys have syncopeation down pat. Ellington surrounds himself with a capable aggregation of specialty people, including boy hoofing team, girl warbler and a girl dancer. Prolonged reception.

Jack Norton and Lucille Haley were liked a lot in the next-to-shut. They proved a steady stream of laughs, and were repaid with loud applause at the bow-off. Norton nicely handles the clever material, and his drunk role and comedy falls are neat. Miss Haley is an attractive and capable feeder.

Virginia Rucker and Company, evenly mixed sextet, closed nicely in their flash. Routine is largely given over to legwork, with singing and comedy neatly woven in. Miss Rucker is a graceful dancer, faring well in toe work. Her partner in several numbers has sweet pipes. The boy team and sister duo give strong assist.

SIDNEY HARRIS.

Keith's 81st St., N. Y.

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 28)

Four-act layout with "name" draws in the Pat Rooney family doing their *Modernistic Revue*. Three-quarters full house fairly good considering the Christmas season and sloppy weather. Jules Lengberg and his 81st Street Ensemble played overture medley of old-time songs, featuring a brass trio.

The Kanazawa Troupe, billed outside as a trio, but actually a five-man affair, opened with a knockout routine of Riskey and acrobatic stunts before a resplendent battleship setting. Their corking display of agile gymnastics and humorous body-juggling bits brought heavy rounds of applause and laughs.

Stan Stanley and Company, in the deucer, got over to roars of laughter in their novel routine of cross-fire chatter. Stanley works from the audience, assuming role of patron, and is assisted capably by Julia and Anna Keller, plus a bundle intended to be an infant. Good returns.

Pat Rooney, Marion Bent and Pat Rooney III stopped the show twice in the next-to-closer with their *Modernistic Revue*. What perfect showmanship this family is possessed of and how they put it over! The Rooneys are supported commendably in music, singing and dancing specialties by the Keating twins, Collette and Leslie May, with Shapiro and Sheffer, dual pianistic boys from Rio Riffs, accompanying. Wow applause and numerous encores.

Neville Fleeson, with his new partner, Helen Shipman, who was announced as doing this act for the first time this afternoon, were ovated and stepped into a decisive show-stop with their delightful *Song Photos*, by Fleeson. The composer and musical comedy partner have supplanted the customary satire with a Park avenue divorce incident.

CONDE G. BREWER.

Albee, Cincinnati

(Reviewed Sunday Afternoon, Dec. 29)

The Meyakoa, a Japanese lad and his two sisters, serve as a capable opener to an excellent bill. The girls start things off with a Japanese fan dance and follow with a modern acrobatic routine that is good for a big hand. The male member entertains with a classical violin selection, and then grabs a uke to accompany himself in a pop number, which he sells fairly well. At the get-away, the girls offer a neat tap dance and drop into a few Russian steps, assisted by the lad, for the finale. Well received.

Frank Gaby scored heavily with his breezy style and humorous line of chatter, in which he is assisted by an unbilled miss. His comedy song, *I'm the Meanest Man in the World*, is a darb. Some more gags and then Gaby launches into a ventriloquial turn, in which the dummy carries on a conversation with a plant in a box. This is hilariously funny and one of the brightest spots on the bill. Gaby drew a red-hot hand, and could have easily taken an encore.

Frances White, this week's headliner, is seen in a pleasing song and dance offering, in which she is assisted by John Mehan, Jr., dancer, and Billy Joyce, at the piano. Miss White is an able warbler and sells her wares handily. She also gets across nicely in her dance work with Mehan. Billy Joyce is heard in a piano and vocal selection, nicely done. The turn bowed off to good applause here, after which Miss White stepped into one for unwarranted encore, ostensibly to permit the stage to be set for the final act. The encore was a nifty, and Miss White and her assistants stepped off to a tremendous hand.

Dave Kramer and Jack Boyle, the former working in blackface, bowed 'em over with a corking line of chatter and comedy singing. The boys had the crowd with them from curtain to curtain and batted out laugh after laugh to big returns. Their lip on the pronunciation of words and their burlesque on ventriloquism proved a laugh fest. They gathered a warm mitt and were forced out for an encore.

Anatole Friedland's *Twelve O'Clock Revue*, one of the keenest revue acts to appear here in many a day and totting

FROM COAST TO COAST

more honest-to-goodness talent than that seen on an average vaudeville bill, easily copped the top honors for the day with a potpourri of singing, comedy and dancing, chiefly the latter. With Marty May in the m. c. role, the flashy revue gets off at a fast pace and keeps that speed throughout. Lucille Hayes, featured hooper, garnered a heavy applause with a difficult jazz dance on her toes. Allan Sterling played the piano and rendered several song numbers in good style. Gus Cortel, in the role of a sap waiter, unloosed a unique brand of comedy, which was gobbled up lustily by the locals. Marty May served as an excellent m. c., and also as an excellent foil for Comic Cortel. The girl ensemble is a versatile one, and each of the girls is a feature in herself. Their individual dance numbers are a highlight of the act, and each was greeted with tumultuous applause. In the ensemble are Joy Finley, Margie Lee, Belle Davey, Adele Meers, Louise Sidell, Peggy Payne and Virginia Hart. As an extra feature, Marty May introduces his valet, "Jelly Bean" Johnson—and how that boy can hoof. The lavishly gowned revue brought down the house at the close. **BILL SACHS.**

Main Street, Kansas City

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Dec. 28)

M. Marinoff's Russian Canine Actors was the most pleasing animal act ever presented here. These dogs are not trick performers but real actors. The audience accepted this offering gratefully and gave the 11-minute act several bows.

Falls, Reading and Boyce, in the deuce spot, two boys and a girl, in versatile doings, live up to the title of their act. Some very good dance numbers and very clever hand balancing by the male team furnished an ideal act. This trio received a very nice hand.

Joseph Regan, the sensational Irish-American tenor, with Larry Walker at the piano, received his usual reception here. Regan is a favorite tenor in this territory and was forced to beg his exit.

Charles (Slim) Timblin and Company, two boys and a girl, in *Southern Capers*, a black-face skit, scored heavily. Timblin's dinky preacher character bit contained plenty of comedy and was extraordinarily good. Here again the applause was very generous.

Jay Dillon and Betty Parker, with three unbilled people, an intimate revue of the chummy order, dancing, singing and sketches from life, together with impersonations of stage and screen stars, were nicely presented. An unbilled colored boy stopped the show with his comedy dance numbers. With this same act is an unbilled girl who puts over some exceptionally clever dance numbers and deserves much credit for prolonged applause. **GREG WELLINGHOFF.**

St. Louis Theater, St. Louis

(Reviewed Saturday Evening, Dec. 28)

As an added feature for New Year's week, the RKO ace house is presenting the 24 Rosebuds, two dozen dancing girls, trained by Johnny Hanley, local dancing master.

The Macagno Four set the show off to a flying start. This quartet works hard throughout and does some nifty acrobatic dancing, the two males excelling in some whirlwind spinning. The pretty setting enhances their turn.

Ray Huling and His Seal were in the deuce spot. The marvelously trained seal was the recipient of a big hand after his various juggling and balancing feats. Huling has injected enough comedy into the stunts of the seal to make the turn reliable at all times. At the close of this act the 24 Rosebuds made their first entry. While every single one of this bevy of damsels is pretty to behold they need a world of additional training in their ensemble dance numbers.

George K. Arthur, the headlining film star, was introduced by a lengthy film trailer showing snapshots of the photoplay. Rookie, Arthur then appears with his company of four men in a military travesty captioned *Present Arms*. This is good for many laughs and shows Arthur's ability as a comedian. Following this bit Arthur gives what is intended to be a comedy talk closing with a song. His latter efforts confirm the opinion that he should stick to comedy acting.

as he cannot sing, and his efforts at comedy in his monolog fall flat. The Rosebuds again appear during this turn in another ensemble number and three of the assisting company put over a good number on stringed instruments.

Harris and Radcliffe always hit home solidly with their well-known act. Following their piano-moving comedy bit, they harmonize splendidly in several song numbers and for a strong finish introduce a Negro youngster who does a takeoff on Bill Robinson in masterful manner. The continued applause necessitated them giving two encores.

Florence Richardson and her Musical Boy Friends, featuring Sonny O'Brien, Edna Sedgwick and Sue Hastings' Marionettes, Miss Richardson leads her seven men and one girl harpist thru a repertoire of fast jazz numbers interspersed with two dance specialties by Miss Sedgwick and the rendering of *At the End of the Road*, by Sonny O'Brien, a pleasing young songster. The marionette bit at the close of the elaborate act is very clever and the mannikins were manipulated in splendid fashion by Miss Hastings. The Rosebuds also gave the audience another ensemble number during this turn.

Dance Hell, featuring Olive Borden, Arthur Lake and Joe Cawthorn, was the photoplay attraction.

FRANK B. JOERLING.

Grand Opera House, N. Y.

(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 26)

Arthur Boran's *Melody Land* opens with a fast-moving routine of songs and dances by three boys and three girls. Boran has neat personality, ad libs nicely and gives several enjoyable song impersonations of famous stars. He is capably assisted by Tiny Tina, good baby-voiced singer; Dorothy Lee and Franklyn and Davis in a swell step platform tap routine, and the exotic Naomi Winters in interpretative dances. Good hand.

Bond and Kliner follow with a sure-fire comedy sketch of two wise gold-diggers at a dance. Both girls are clever comedienne and shoot over a wealth of laughable gags. Nice reception.

Charles Wilkins and Company, mixed comedy team, give an hilariously performed burlesque dance bit, besides offering a line of enjoyable hoke comedy. Wilkins affects the dead pan excellently and his individual dancing is undeniably clever. Blonde foil gives great assist. Were enthusiastically received.

Lloyd and Doherty, heading a flash act of four males and five girls, close with an entertaining routine of musical and dancing numbers. The standard bearers offer a nifty burlesque dance of the nineties, and there is a good whistling number by two lads. Another boy displays uncommonly good dancing ability in his fine whirling and kicking numbers, and the chorines are comely and lively. There is an unabashed and disarming flag-waving finale, sung and led by Lloyd, together with a good running toe routine by May Fan Doherty. Good sendoff. **S. M. SANDERS.**

Keith's Jefferson, N. Y.

(Reviewed Thursday Evening, Dec. 26)

Helen Bach Trio, acrobatic, balancing and strength-endurance outfit, opened the bill and were generously received. They were billed last season as the Bach Sisters. Cast includes Helen Bach, powerfully proportioned understander, and a mixed team of balancing assistants. Suitable opener here.

The Moore Sisters, playing a return at this house in less than 10 weeks, having showed with another act, Danny Murphy and Charles O'Connor, got over nicely in the deucer with a routine of harmony singing and dancing. Act has been changed considerably, the poor lighting puts them at a disadvantage.

Roger Imhoff-Corene and Company, in a three-people farce piece, *The Pest House*, clicked with their riotous hokum routine depicting the happenings in a typical "flop" house when a caddy whose horse passed out on him spends the night there. Big laughs throughout and heavy applause at the finish.

Denis Gbatot and Company, versatile ivories tickler and comical buffoon, clowning his way into a good reception with a hokumized musical routine. He

is capably assisted by Nonette Tortoni. Good applause at bowoff.

Meyer Golden's *Devil Circus*, elaborate six-people dancing and singing flash, stopped the show cold with spectacular dance originations. Cast includes Edna Miller, Leo Raymond, Bob La Marre, Marie Shea and the Delmar Sisters.

Bobby Barry and Dick Lancaster, comedy team in the next-to-closer, packed a show-stopping wallop with their argumentative comedy routine, *The Little Cafe*. Wow laughs and heavy applause.

Charles Bennington and New York Newsboys' Harmonica Band closed the bill with an offering of mouth-organ novelties and peg-leg dancing. Bennington evidently has a new troupe of boys, who carry out the difficult monopedic assignments nicely.

CONDE G. BREWER.

Loew's Lincoln Sq., N. Y.

(Reviewed Tuesday Afternoon, Dec. 24)

Joe Mandis Trio open with an engaging routine of tumbling and hand-balancing stunts. Joe Mandis in grandpa make-up does a nifty balancing bit, descending a step pyramid, while the other boy and girl show their prowess at various strenuous feats. Nice hand.

Eddie Nelson, the congenial black-face comedian, followed with a routine of rair gags and pleasant warbling. He puts over nicely Berlin's *To Be Forgotten*. Neat reception.

Amateur Night in London is offered by three men and two females, who give burlesque impersonations of music-hall types of a former day, while a box plant offers amusing comments on the players. Scotch-band finale sent the act over to fair hand.

Dayton and Rancy, mixed double, held the fourth spot adequately with their delightfully informal chatter and song. Girl enacts a patois-speaking French queen, while partner indulges in clever nut work and palaver. Their version of *Hinky Dinky Parleyvoe*, with flag-waving finish, earned them a neat hand.

Jack and Kay Spangler present several good song-and-dance numbers by themselves, together with good eccentric hoofing by a short, red-haired lad, and acrobatic clowning by a male team. Various numbers are woven around a hotel lobby atmosphere. Kay Spangler is a charming and efficient dancer, specializing in high kicks, while Jack is very satisfactory in both his singing and hoofing. Garnered a good response.

S. M. SANDERS.

Keith's Riverside, N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Evening, Dec. 23)

Well-laid-out bill with "name" draws in the persons of Jack Dempsey and James J. Corbett, pugilistic celebs. Fair business and an appreciative audience. Dave Mordecai and His RKO-lians played a novelty Christmas overture on toy instruments to good results.

Gautier's *Animated Toy Shop*, clever animal act, opened the show with a routine of intelligent quadruped antics to good results. Mixed team as trainers, and the performing pets include three Shetland ponies and six dogs. Big laughs and generous applause.

Ada Brown, amply girthed colored blues singer, put over a repertoire of warbled numbers in great style. Capably assisted by male pianist. Registered nicely.

Hugh Skelly and Emma Heit and Company, in the troy spot, pulled a healthy harvest of laughs and applause with their revue-like routine of heavily mugged hokum, warbling and corking dance specialties. Skelly is a comedian of rare accomplishment.

Joe Weston and Collette Lyons offer a riotous routine of chatter, singing and dancing subtitled *Character Interpretations*. Each shines as an individual star, and as a team they knocked them cold for a heavy round of applause.

Don Lee and Mlle. Louise, versatile dance team, in their elaborate flash, *Blue Moods*, were acclaimed vociferously. Their routine of varied dancing includes an undersea allegory which is a classic. Commendably supported by Wallace and Cappel, male hoofing team, and the pretty Don Lee Ballet of six attractive belles. Big hand.

Jack Dempsey, colorful ex-champ, of boxing, in his four-people sketch, *The*

Roadside Razz, by Willard Mack, was acclaimed with a prolonged ovation. He stood the acid test of his popularity in this quasi-swank neighborhood house and came out with flying colors.

James J. Corbett and Neil O'Brien, in the next-to-shut, packed a mean laugh wallop with their routine of comedy chatter. Gentleman Jim Corbett, was ovated almost as vociferously as Dempsey, and held a reminiscing curtain interpiece with Jack to big results. O'Brien carried on excellently in black-face.

Enos Frazere, trapezist, closed with a sensational routine of breath-taking stunts on the swinging bar. His feats are little short of remarkable and held the house in after a lengthy show. Good returns at the finish.

CONDE G. BREWER.

Loew's Grand, N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Evening, Dec. 23)

The Five Nelsons gave the show a good sendoff with their neat novelty of hoop juggling and diabolo work. Act has flash and punchy bits. The four boys and girl whoop it up aplenty with the hoops, and also show real skill at the diabolo game. Sent away to a big hand.

Bernard Weber, aided by an unbilled girl pianist, warbled his way thru a well-chosen repertoire of pop, and operatic numbers into a prolonged reception, warranting an encore. He has neat stage presence and pipes well suited to his ballads and operatics. Every number clicked.

Green and Austin, black-face boys, know their onions at slinging the comedy chatter, as well as dishing out tasteful portions of warbling and hoofing. Work as hodcarriers. Away from gab, chubby fellow does pipes work, and his lanky partner goes hooper. Gathered nice returns.

Claude and Marion, mixed team, had the next-to-closing spot ringing out to loud laughs to the good gags and cleverness of the duo. In return the palm pushers worked vigorously at the finish. Marion, of the buxom and deep-voiced type, is a good comedy handler and possesses hot and loud pipes. Claude does a timid role well.

Myers, Lubow & Rice Revue, eight girls and two boys, closed the show as all shows should be closed: with flash, speed and punch. The three principals do strong specialties, and the six-girl support go well in neat ensemble numbers executed with beautiful precision. Miss Lubow and Rice are knockouts in their doll dance, and Myers clicks with his long-legged stepping. Rang down the curtain to deafening applause.

SIDNEY HARRIS.

Proctor's 86th St., N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Evening, Dec. 23)

Never caught a bum show here yet, and that takes in this time, too. If every house got the attention they give this one there might be a different story to tell about vaudeville. Manager sits right in with his booker, and when he doesn't see what he wants, asks for it. We haven't got documentary proof, but the chances are that the vaudeville budget of this neighborhood stand is bigger than most houses in its class. Business not so forte in the last show. Blame Woolworth's Christmas sales for that. Few of the others are doing real business around here.

Lathrop Brothers, who must be included when one lists the sterling hoofing teams of the day, did their usual neat job in the unaccustomed opening spot. In this layout, however, the arrangement works out nicely. They displayed an uncanny mastery of rhythm in their duo numbers, and topped off

(See REVIEWS on page 88)

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Contracts and Arbitration Feature Allied Reports

Motion Picture Theater Owners of America sees need of revising present arbitration system—unanimity of ideas on some subjects, wide differences on others

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Joint conferences of the several branches of the motion picture industry have met with numerous proposals by the committee representing the Allied States Association of Motion Picture Exhibitors. The committee is composed of W. A. Steffen, chairman; H. A. Cole, H. M. Richey, Nathan Yamina, J. M. Hone and Glenn A. Cross, alternate. The proposals made by the committee are done "in an effort to correct conditions in the Motion Picture Industry which the independent theater owners comprising said association believe to be unfair and burdensome to them, and to pave the way for increased harmony and better co-operation in the industry."

The leading points are spoken of in detail, and other matters less pressing have been held in abeyance until effective points of contact are established with other branches of the industry.

The following letter from Felix F. Feist gives a full statement of the matters on which there is a unanimity of opinion and a difference of ideas as well:

S. E. Kent, Chairman,
New York City:

Dear Mr. Kent—I appreciate the suggestion of the gentlemen composing the various groups with whom we have met during the past few days, that during your absence abroad I act as chairman.

Altho no other distributor representative other than yourself and myself have been present at all of the joint meetings, I take it that there will be no objection to a statement from me of my understanding of the matters upon which there has been a general unanimity of opinion.

For such purpose and to aid this conference in making progress, I submit the following:

(a) That it is desirable a fair, legal and effective Standard Exhibition Contract for the leasing of motion pictures shall be used in the industry. It seems to be the consensus of opinion that such a contract can be agreed upon.

(b) That a fair, legal and effective formula for the arbitration of commercial disputes in the industry is highly desirable, and that such a formula can be agreed to.

(c) That the problems created by "protection" can be solved by a fair, legal (See ALLIED REPORTS on page 22)

"Cisco Kid" Again

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Cisco Kid is to be the title of Warner Baxter's next starring vehicle for Fox. Baxter enacted the role of the Cisco Kid in Old Arizona. Tom Barry is writing the dialog, and Alfred Santell will direct.

Five Added to Cast

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Gillingwater, Charlotte Merriam, Mary Foy, Marie Astaire and Julia Swayne Gordon have been added to the cast of Dumb-Bells in Ermine, which soon goes into production as a Vitaphone special.

Gets Lead in "Framed"

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Evelyn Brent has been assigned the leading role in Framed, an underworld picture. George Archainbaud is directing for Radio. The story was authored and adapted by Paul Schofield.

Paterson House Wired for Talkies

PATERSON, N. J., Dec. 30.—The Lyceum Theater is slated to be wired for talkies and to be completely renovated in the early summer, according to an announcement last week by Mr. Watson, owner and manager of the house.

The entire house will be remodeled in order to bring the seating capacity up to 2,300. Blueprints are now in the hands of the building department, which will make several elaborations on the present plans.

The Lyceum is considered the safest house in New Jersey from the fire hazard and when redecorations are completed will play a vaudeville-picture policy.

Rafferty Assistant Sales Manager of RCA Photophone

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—J. W. Rafferty has been appointed assistant sales manager of RCA Photophone, Inc., with supervision over the educational and industrial department. The announcement of the appointment was made this week by Sydney E. Abel, RCA's general sales manager.

Rafferty was formerly manager of production for the Radio Corporation of America and assumes his new duties January 1.

Evans on Vacation

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Ralph K. Evans, member of Hy Dsah's publicity department of Radio, is vacationing in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania, where he will remain until well after New Year's.

On Radio Publicity Staff

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Adrian Morris, brother of Chester, now being starred in Radio's *Case of Sergeant Grisha*, has been added to the Radio publicity department.

14 New Ones for Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Only one remaining feature is yet to be added to the list of the Fox production schedule for the current year. Fourteen productions are in the process of preparation and will be ready to start shooting on in the next few weeks.

No More Smoking Permits

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28.—Portland Public theaters, the Portland and Bialto, petitioned for a license to permit smoking in their houses, but were refused by Fire Marshal Roberts, who also recommended that no new permits be granted for smoking in Portland theaters.



BRUNO WEYERS, vice-president of the Educational Film Exchanges, Inc., had an active and varied career in foreign trade before entering the film industry. Weyers has been president of Educational for two and a half years. Prior to that time he was a director of the company.

Da-Lite Has New Fireproof Screen

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—F. F. Sturgis, sales manager of Da-Lite Screen Company, announces a new fire-proof screen that when ignited by fire will not burn and which maintains all the qualities of the porous screen now in use in the majority of sound-equipped theaters.

Sturgis' company has manufactured to date more than 50 of the large screens suitable for grandeur pictures, and claims that in a short while his company will have more work on large screen orders than it can possibly take care of. The large screens are also of the same fire-proof material that the smaller ones are made of, and the price difference is an increase of only 25 per cent over the cost of the old inflammable screens.

Da-Lite Screen Company has manufactured over 4,000 screens during the present year, which includes all screens for Western Electric equipment.

Reoch Vice-President Of RCA Photophone, Inc.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—David Sarnoff, president of RCA Photophone, Inc., announces the election of Alexander E. Reoch as a vice-president of the company. The announcement was made following a meeting of the board of directors.

Reoch was formerly vice-president in charge of production of the Radio-Victor Corporation of America.

Milwaukee Retains Censors

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 28.—Milwaukee movie theaters will continue to have censorship. This question was decided by the board of estimates of the city council a few days ago when, after a bitter fight, it defeated by a vote of 8 to 2 Alderman Max Galinski's motion to refuse a fund of \$2,500 to the motion picture commission for operating expenses. Women's clubs in the city made a vigorous protest against abolishing the commission and Mayor Noon also spoke in favor of retaining censorship.

Merger Rumor Is Still Heard

Broadway continues to get reports that Warners and Paramount will combine

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—As the new year comes in rumors concerning mergers still manage to come to the fore. While Warners and Paramount have denied any merging of the companies, the papers were all but signed a few months ago, the rumor again has cropped up that the organizations will find themselves united after the first of the year. These reports have been heard along Broadway in the past week, even tho the head of Warners announced some time ago that all negotiations were off.

The Pathe-Shubert proposition seems to be cold, tho rumblings around film circles in that direction can still be heard. Perhaps after the government cases against Warner Brothers in its absorption of First National, and Fox in its purchase of Loew, have been disposed of, some further news regarding mergers may be current. However, these suits will not be heard before spring.

Carl Laemmle, head of Universal, made the statement during the past week that one of the big developments in the picture world during the coming year would be "the unscrambling of mergers."

"The merger pendulum has swung too far," said Mr. Laemmle. "Entirely too much attention has been given to stock tickers and merger manipulations instead of to the making of first-class pictures."

Marks Houses Retain Staffs

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—There will be no changes in the staffs of the Marbro and Granada theaters, the Marks Bros. houses recently taken over by Publix, according to Jack Baker, director of publicity, who states that as far as he knows all of the present employees will continue. The name Marx Bros. is now off the theaters and in its place are "Publix-Granada" and "Publix-Marbro".

Pittsburgh Gets News-Reel House

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 30.—Pittsburgh gets its first news-reel theater on January 13 when the Palace Theater adopts that sort of policy.

The house will also from time to time play cartoons, comedy shorts and novelties, but will concentrate on the news reel. The admission will be 15 cents.

Haskell To Stage Vitaphone Varieties

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Jack Haskell, well known to the revue of the legitimate stage as a director of dance and ensemble numbers, who is now under contract to Warner Brothers, will direct several Vitaphone Varieties for that organization during the coming season.

The first of these, *The Evolution of the Dance*, goes into production at the West Coast studios this week.

New Vitaphone Varieties

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Vitaphone Varieties that will be completed in the next few weeks are *The Love Boat*, *Sweet Adeline* and *The Master Sweeper*.

United Artists Preparing For Many Novelties in 1930

Producers, directors, authors and players desert stage for screen—Cohan, Ziegfeld, Maguire and Hammerstein among United Artists producers

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—With a coterie of names of producers, authors and players from the legitimate ranks to fortify their stellar players from the screen, United Artists start on a production and release schedule for 1930 that will introduce many novelties. Within the last few weeks U. A. have added the names of George M. Cohan and Arthur Hammerstein to their list of legitimate producers who have turned to the screen, both of whom will bring their initial vehicles to celluloid during the coming year. Cohan will write and produce the Al Jolson starring vehicle, while Hammerstein is now working on an original operetta, *Bride 66*.

Among the productions to be seen during the coming year will be Mary Pickford's second talking venture, the story to be selected as soon as she returns from her trip to the Orient; Norma Talmadge, in *Du Barry*, from the Belasco stage success of the same name; Gloria Swanson in a musicalized version of *Queen Kelly*, with Walter Byron in the leading male role; Dolores Del Rio, in *The Bad One*, which is now being produced by George Fitzmaurice, with Edmund Love in the leading male role; Charlie Chaplin, in *City Lights*; Douglas Fairbanks, in his first individual talking vehicle, the title of which has not as yet been announced; Al Jolson, in George M. Cohan's first film; Ronald Colman, in *Raffles*; Eddie Cantor, in *Whoopie*, produced by Florenz Ziegfeld in conjunction with Samuel Goldwyn; D. W. Griffith's *Abraham Lincoln*, and *Upside and Down*, which will introduce Irving Berlin as a producer.

Among the pictures completed and to be distributed early in the year are *The Locked Door*, with Rod La Rocque and Barbara Stanwyck; *The Siren*, from Ferenc Molnar's play of the same name, with Lillian Gish as the star; *Puttin' on the Ritz*, starring Harry Richman; *Hell Harbor*, a Henry King production, with Jean Hersholt; *Be Yourself*, starring Fannie Brice; Herbert Brenon's production of *Lumbar*, with Winifred Westover, and *Hell's Angels*, the Howard Hughes \$4,000,000 production, which is scheduled for a Broadway showing early in the spring.

Vilma Banky, Lily Damita and Evelyn Laye will be seen in several Goldwyn productions this year, while Roland West will have Chester Morris under his direction shortly. Henry King is scheduled to produce another film in conjunction with Inspiration Pictures.

William Anthony Maguire, author of numerous Broadway successes, leaves for Hollywood within two weeks to write, direct and produce for U. A. Louis Bromfield, Pulitzer prize-winning novelist, also leaves for Hollywood in January to write for the films.

Publix-Fox Control San Antonio Field

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 28.—Publix and Fox are now in complete control of the San Antonio theatrical field. This situation came about by Publix securing a 10-year lease on the Astec Theater, an independent 2,500-seat movie house. The consideration was \$750,000. Publix now controls three Grade A houses here, the Texas, State and Astec. Fox is in control of the remaining deluxe theater, the Greater Majestic, secured from the Interstate Amusement Company six months ago.

For "Spoilers" Lead

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Edwin Carewe, who recently assumed charge of production at the Pathe studios, has assigned Ann Harding the role of Helen in the all-talking production of *The Spoilers*, which Carewe is to start at an early date.

Chi. Sees Enlarged Screen

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Talkies on the new enlarged screen were seen for the first time in Chicago this week when the new Pantheon Theater on Sheridan road, near Wilson avenue, was opened Christmas Day. The new Essaness house opened with *Broadway*.

Tiffany District Changes Announced

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Sales Manager Oscar Hanson of Tiffany, announces the following realignment of districts: St. Louis and Kansas City have been added to the Southern division; Denver and the new office at Portland, Ore., are to become part of the Western division.

Jerry Marks, former acting manager of the Middle West division, will become branch manager of the Denver office. Henri Ellman, in addition to being division manager of the Middle West, will become branch manager of the Chicago exchange.

Oh, Those Censors!

TOLEDO, Dec. 28.—Some time ago the Pantheon Theater here announced *Wedding Rings*, but it was held up by the Ohio Board of Censors and another picture was shown. With No. No. *Nesette*, booked for an opening on Christmas Day, Manager Langdon Kummer tried to get *Wedding Rings* for the first four days of the week. He was granted permission to use the picture and he advertised it. At 11 a.m. on the day the picture was to open he received a telegram to the effect that *Wedding Rings* had been held up again. It was too late for advertising to be changed, and he had to shoot another picture in with no advertising.

Indiana Theater Owners Meet

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 28.—Directors of the Associated Theater Owners of Indiana at a recent meeting elected Charles R. Metzger, of this city, to the office of general manager and attorney. The first of the year he will begin his third term in the office. Directors who attended the meeting were Harry Markum, A. C. Zaring, Jean Marks and Metzger, all of Indianapolis; A. C. Miller, of Brazil; Samuel Carlton, of Frankfort; H. B. Vonderschmitt, of Bloomington; A. E. Bennett, of Muncie; H. E. Hart, of Auburn; A. M. Howard, of Monon, and Samuel Neall, of Kokomo. Miller is president.

Balabans Get Tax Refund

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Among the Chicago theatrical men who will substantially benefit by the U. S. tax refund announced this week are several members of the Balaban & Katz Corporation, Publix subsidiary. A. J. Balaban is top money man in the refunds, standing to receive \$8,174. Barney Balaban will get \$7,686; Sam Katz, \$5,838, and Morris Katz, \$6,586.

Technicolor Is To Build Large Plant in England

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president of Technicolor, Inc., and Mrs. Kalmus returned to New York this week after a several weeks' trip abroad, during which time they visited the leading cities of Europe, where pictures all in Technicolor or with Technicolor sequences were shown.

Dr. Kalmus is highly enthused with the manner in which the color film has been received abroad and says that the demand is as great overseas as it is here. In London, showing at the same time were three Technicolor productions. On



HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Brothers, the man behind the gun, who has aided in bringing the Warner organization to the fore in a most enviable position since talking pictures became one of the greatest advancements in the entertainment world.

Pathe After Old Edison-Bio. Studio

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Pathe, it is understood, is negotiating for the old Edison-Biograph studios in the Bronx at 180th street, to continue the production of short subjects, which was held up by the disastrous fire at the Park avenue studios December 10.

Until some new studio is secured Pathe is completing the pictures that were in work when the fire held up its production at the RCA Gramercy studios.

Educational Branch Managers Changed

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Harry Law has been made branch manager of Educational's Toronto Exchange, succeeding Harold Pfaff. Law was formerly connected with the Universal Canadian Exchange in Toronto.

H. B. Buckley, who resigned as manager of Educational's branch office in Calgary, Can., has been succeeded by F. H. Fisher as acting manager. Fisher was formerly booker and office manager of the Calgary Exchange.

Union Fights Lewiston Mayor

LEWISTON, Me., Dec. 28.—Fred J. Dempsey, representing the striking theater employees, attacked the mayor in a speech at a meeting held here in protest against the ban on the showing of pictures at City Hall. Other speakers attacked the mayor and aldermen for their non-union attitude and urged the strikers and their friends to vote against the unfriendly officials in the next municipal election, to be held in March, 1930.

Bray Succeeds Berger

DES MOINES, Dec. 28.—Lew Bray succeeds E. J. Berger as booker in the Publix office here. Berger is not now associated with Publix.

Close Cartoon Process Suits

Bray Hurd Company settles when infringers agree to take out licenses

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Bray Hurd Process Company, Inc., made the announcement this week that the suits for infringements brought so far against certain infringers of its patents have been settled. The Bray Hurd Process Company, Inc. is the inventor and owner of the patents covering the processes by which animated cartoons are made. The suits were settled by the parties involved taking out licenses.

Bray Pictures Corporation, Aesop Fables, Inc.; Max Fleischer; Winkler Pictures, Inc.; Winsor McKay, and Paul Terry are the producers who now have licenses to make animated cartoon films under the Bray Hurd Process.

Heads of the Bray Hurd organization state that suits will be started immediately against all other infringers of their patent rights.

Four Bruce Scenics Completed for Para.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Robert C. Bruce Productions, which are responsible for the single-reel novelty pictures filmed with dialog and music in the scenic spots of the West, have completed four more of these pictures for Paramount release. Bruce is working from the Metropolitan sound studios in Hollywood as a base, and by use of Western Electric recording outfits taking in scenic backgrounds all over the Western parts of the United States and Canada.

The four latest productions to be delivered to Paramount include a wide range of subjects filmed over a great area of country titled *Salt Water Ballads*, *Wanderlust*, *Hill Billy Harmony* and *The Voice of Lonely Men*. This group of releases makes 10 of the series of 12 being filmed for Paramount. All will be currently released during the winter months.

February Pre-Releases

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—*Wide Open* and *She Couldn't Say No* are slated by Warner Brothers for pre-release during February, according to the announcement by Sam Morris last week. *Wide Open* will have its premiere February 1, with *She Couldn't Say No* opening two weeks later.

Film Board Treasurer Will Be Guest of Honor

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—William B. Raynor, who has been treasurer of the New York Film Board of Trade for the last eight years, will be the guest of honor at a testimonial dinner given by that organization at the Hotel Actor January 8 in recognition of the services he has rendered the board. Following the dinner, the officers recently elected to the board will be installed.

Raynor, in addition to acting as treasurer of the board, is distribution manager of Pathe's short subject department.

"Show of Shows" a Lockout

TOLEDO, Dec. 28.—For the first time in many years a picture has been a lockout here. On the first showing of *Show of Shows* Manager Jack O'Connell of the Vita Temple Theater had to lock the doors three times on the first day. This was a direct result of the heaviest advertising ever given any picture in Toledo. O'Connell exploited the show for three months before the opening and is now enjoying the best business the Temple ever had.

H. L. Danson Changes

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—H. L. Danson, formerly publicity director for RCA Photophone, who recently severed his connections with that organization, is at present temporarily with the Chesterfield Motion Picture Corporation.

Projectionists To Receive Special Instruction From RCA

All members of Local No. 306 to be given lecture and demonstration course until New York territory has been thoroely covered—first class a success

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Arrangements have been made for a special course of instruction for projectionists of the New York district to be held at the Service and Installation Department of RCA Photophone, Inc., at 435 West 38th street, New York. Negotiations with Sam Kaplan, president of projectionists' local, No. 306, New York City, were successfully carried thru this week. A meeting to map out plans for the course held this week was attended by Vice-President C. P. Eichborn, Secretary Frank Day and Business Agent Simon Terr, of Local 306; LeRoy Cox, chief projectionist of RKO; Harry Rubin, chief projectionist of Public Theaters, and about 150 projectionists from other New York theaters.

At the meeting definite plans were made for classes, assignments, lectures and demonstrations. The first lecture and demonstration was presented at this meeting by H. B. Braun and A. R. Schulze. The first regular school course got under way last week, at which time two groups of 12 men received personal instruction and were given matter to study between that date and the next instruction meeting this week.

It is planned to continue the lectures and instruction period until every projectionist in the territory covered by Local No. 306 has acquired a thoro knowledge of the mechanical workings of Photophone equipment.

Beecroft Productions Start Their First Film

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Beecroft Productions, with offices at 33 West 42d street, have started work on their first talking production at the RCA Gramercy Studios with a cast including Olive Ehea, Henry E. Dixey, Forrest Halsey and Alice Hegeman.

The directors of the Beecroft organization are T. Harold Forbes, Chester Beecroft, Francis T. Hunter, Richard J. Madden, Robert R. Snody, Walter G. G. Otto and Harry H. Frazer, Jr.

The first production, which is a college story, was authored by Snody, with Beecroft and Forbes handling the direction.

Huston to West Coast For Lincoln Role

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Walter Huston called Saturday on the S. S. Virginia for the West Coast, where he will join D. W. Griffith and start work in the leading role of Lincoln, Griffith's next production for United Artists.

Huston has one other production to do for Paramount before returning east in August to make a stage appearance in a yet unnamed stage play that Arthur Hopkins is slated to produce.

Colorcraft Erects Plant on Long Island

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Colorcraft Corporation has started the erection of a plant in Long Island City which when completed will have a capacity of nearly 100,000,000 feet of film a year. The executive offices of the company are located in the Chanin Building.

The plant is to be equipped so that it will be able to furnish prints 24 hours after a production has been photographed. There is also to be a special department for news events.

Edmund Joseph Director

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Edmund Joseph, dialog and continuity writer in Vitaphone's Brooklyn studio, has been elevated to the rank of director by Murray Roth, studio director.

ALBERT DEZEL PRODUCTIONS have purchased the rights to *No More Children for Illinois* and *Wisconsin* from Willis Kent. John Woytinek, owner of the Hippodrome Theater, North Judson, Ind., joins Dezel to book this film in Wisconsin.

"Show-Off" Sketch As Vitaphone Short

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Poor Aubrey, the vaudeville sketch by George Kelly, which was later elaborated into the three-act play, *The Show-Off*, has been made into a Vitaphone short by Warners.

Franklin Pangborn has the role of the show-off, which was originated on the stage by Louis John Bartels. Helen Ferguson has the role of the wife, Clara Blandick is the mother-in-law and Ruth Lyons the fourth character. The short was directed by Bryan Foy.

Universal Ex. Transfers

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—R. B. Williams has been appointed branch manager of Universal's Atlanta exchange to succeed C. P. Lester, who has been transferred to Universal's Kansas City exchange.

Feltman Out of Hospital

ALBANY, Dec. 28.—Jacob Feltman, of Albany, manager of the Rialto Theater, Schenectady, is recovering from serious burns about the face, received when his automobile caught fire on the Troy-Hoosick Falls road. After three days in a Troy hospital Feltman was removed to his home in Albany.

Musical "Resurrection"

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Marion Shilling has been signed by Tiffany to play the leading role in the musical version of *Resurrection*, which is to be filmed under the direction of Phil Goldstone.

Sat. Opening for Richmond

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 28.—*Sunnyside Up* opened here yesterday at the Capitol Theater for an indefinite run. It is understood that the Capitol will in the future make Saturday the opening day instead of Monday. Heretofore all Richmond theaters, save the Byrd, have begun their week on Monday, but Manager Sam Bendheim thinks differently.

Educational Short

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—*Mr. Pittle Drums It Up*, a playlet by Charles Divine, has been purchased by Educational and will be released under the title of *Drumming It Up*.

Columbia Shows Good Profit for First Quarter

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—With a reported net profit of \$227,048 for the first quarter ending September 30, indications are that Columbia Pictures will show a larger profit during the second quarter which ends December 31, and at the end of the fiscal year in June, 1930, will probably reach a profit of about \$9 a share.

The announced profit for the first quarter after all charges, taxes and preferred dividends is equal to \$2.08 a share on 100,000 shares of no par value common.

Columbia has taken its place in the front during the past year, having several pictures on Broadway at 82 runs, which later shifted for second runs to the leading Broadway theaters. An ambitious program has been mapped out for the coming year and will be headed by a David Belasco production with a



IRVING THALBERG, youthful executive of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer outfit. The supervising genius is credited with bringing many of this organization's most successful pictures to the screen.

Racine Indies Allowed Relief

RACINE, Wis., Dec. 28.—Seven independent Racine theater owners met with officers of the Wisconsin Motion Picture Theater Owners' Association last week and came to a satisfactory arrangement thru them with two chain theater systems for earlier release dates on second-run motion pictures. The seven theater owners stated emphatically that they would be out of business by January 1 unless they could get some relief from the nine-month protection period on first-run pictures.

The independents can now secure some first-run pictures for their theaters and the protection period has also been lessened on a number of pictures. This move permits the theaters to continue to operate. It was stated by Max Krofta, chairman of the Racine group. Steve Bauer, president of the Wisconsin association, and Henry Staab, executive secretary, conducted the meeting.

Westerns Successful

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The success of *The Virginian* as a talking picture has brought a definite decision to produce more Westerns with Gary Cooper and Richard Arlen in the leads. One of the first of these productions will be *The Border Legion*, which will star Arlen, while Cooper will appear in *The Texan*.

Preparing "Lasca"

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Universal will soon begin production on *Lasca*, a picture version of the poem by Frank Despres. Tom Reed is preparing the dialog with Edith Roberts and Frank Mayo in the leading roles. This production was first made in 1918 by Universal as a silent picture.

Columbia Shows Good Profit for First Quarter

well-known star, to be directed by Frank R. Capra, and *Hell's Island*, which will star Jack Holt and also have Capra as the director.

There are to be three special productions starring Evelyn Brent. In the special list also will be found *The Melody Men*, written by Fields, Hart and Rodgers; *For the Love of Ld.*, with Johnny Arthur and Sally Starr; *Murder on the Roof*, *Sweethearts on Parade*, and *The Squealer*, from Mark Linder's stage play of the same name.

Other productions include *Merckell Rose*, *Vengeance*, *Last of the Lone Wolf*, *Borrowed Love*, *Ladies Must Play*, *Jazz Daughters*, *Sisters*, *The Black Sheep*, *Paris Nights*, *Prince of Diamonds*, *Temptation*, *Private Property*, *Around the Corner* and *Personality*.

To Distribute Sono-Art in N. Y.

First Division Pictures to handle product here and in Northern New Jersey

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Sono-Art World Wide Productions, those already released and those now being produced, will be distributed thruout Greater New York and Northern New Jersey by First Division Pictures.

This announcement was made this week after several conferences between George W. Weeks, of Sono-Art Productions; Earl W. Hammons, of World Wide and Educational, and Harry Thomas, of First Division.

The first release that First Division is to distribute will be *Blaze of Glory*, starring Eddie Dowling, which will have its Broadway premiere at the George M. Cohan Theater tonight.

Milwaukee's 110,587 Seats

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 28.—This city has 80 theaters with a seating capacity of 110,587, according to Leon Gurda of the building commission, who has just made public a report on the situation. This includes the Milwaukee Auditorium, which has a seating capacity of 24,000 persons. However, the first figure is almost one-fifth of the entire population of the city. At the present two more theaters are being planned for Milwaukee which will further increase the seating capacity 8,500.

"Circle" as Talking Film

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is to do a talking version of *The Circle*, Somerset Maugham's play of same name, which was produced on Broadway some years ago with John Drew, Mrs. Leslie Carter, John Halliday and Estelle Winwood in the cast.

The play was made some time ago as a silent picture by M-G-M, and now an added interest is given to the new production, which will necessarily carry the brittle and brilliant Maugham dialog.

To Unveil Tablet To Clemenceau

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Mayor James J. Walker has accepted the invitation to serve on the dedication committee in the unveiling of a tablet to the late Premier Clemenceau at Loew's Sheridan Theater on January 4.

The ceremonies will take place at 3 o'clock on the spot where in 1870 the late premier of France lived, taught and practiced during his brief residence in America when he was an obscure doctor of medicine.

Warner Denies Nathanson Deal

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—H. M. Warner, president of Warner Brothers, this week issued a denial of published reports that his company is backing N. Nathanson in the purchase of property in Montreal and other Canadian cities for the building of a chain of motion picture theaters.

Mr. Warner stated that Warner Brothers are neither directly nor indirectly affiliated with Mr. Nathanson or anyone else in such an enterprise.

Chi. May Get Newsreel Show

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Plans are afoot to open an all-minstrel show in a Loew theater, according to reports. The show, it is said, will consist of no other screen entertainment but news pictures. To break the monotony of continuous news pictures, it is planned to introduce stage features at intervals.

"Scotch" Completed by Sennett

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—*Scotch*, the 18th Educational comedy, dealing with the 18th amendment, has been completed by Mack Sennett.

Exhibitors Re-Educating Public to New Names

Past year sees dramatic stars and leading players taking place of screen favorites—Presents problem to small-town theaters particularly—large cities not affected

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The talking picture has placed an entirely different angle on film personalities when compared to those of the silent picture. It has brought a rather difficult problem to the exhibitor throughout the country, particularly those in the smaller towns. To the exhibitor in the cities it has not been as severe a problem. The small-town exhibitor who has been forced to acquaint his patrons with the personalities and histories of the new players who have come to the screen within the last year. The dialog film has made such a vast inroad to the legitimate field that it is a case of re-educating the movie-going public as to who's who today.

While a large number of the film players who were popular before the advent of talking films have proved themselves thoroughly acceptable on the talking screen, there are hundreds of new ones who have come into the fold whose names mean little in the smaller towns and villages throughout the country.

One exhibitor in a small town in the South has taken a certain space in the local daily paper which he uses to acquaint his public with the personalities new to the screen who will be seen in talking productions. He does not wait until a few days before the film is scheduled, but as soon as he finds the name of a stage player in an important role in the cast he has something to say regarding that player's stage history and every now and then reverts to the name long before the picture is due in the theater.

The last year has brought the signing of not only famous stage players for talking pictures, but of librettists, dramatists, composers, directors and producers. When George M. Cohan, Florenz Ziegfeld and Arthur Hammerstein decided to turn their attentions to the talking picture one can readily realize just how important a factor the screen has become since talk became one of its chief features.

Among some of the stage players who have already been heard on the talking screen, or who will make their appearance at an early date, will be found Al Jolson, Eddie Cantor, Ruth Chatterton, Ann Harding, James Gleason, Lucille Webster, Joan Bennett, Robert Armstrong, Margaret Churchill, Helen Twelvetrees, Helen Kane, the Four Marx Brothers, Walter Huston, George Arliss, Ina Claire, Basil Rathbone, Louis Wolheim, William Boyd, Barbara Stanwyck, Helen Morgan, Elliott Nugent, Robert Montgomery, Lee Tracy, Mae Clark, Clark and McCullough, Gertrude Lawrence, Beatrice Lillie, Constance Bennett, Norma Terriss, Chester Morris, Helen Chandler, Lenore Ulric, Sidney Blackmer, Irene Bordoni, Eddie Dowling, Harry Richman, J. Harold Murray, Hal Skelly, J. G. Nugent, Frank Fay, Dudley Digges, Joseph Coworthon, Tom Patricola, Charles Nugent, George Jessel, George Price, Claudette Colbert, Raymond Hackett, Mary Eaton, Buster West, Roland Young, Dennis King, Jeannette MacDonald, Vivienne Segal, Winnie Lightner, Armida, Will Rogers, Walter Catlett, Walter Woolf, Frederic March, John Wray, Laura Hope Crews, John Cromwell, Kenneth McKenna, Oscar Shaw, Cliff Edwards, Jack Benny, Sylvia Field, Maurice Chevalier, Beryl Mercer, Charles McNaughton, Robert Woolsey, Bert Wheeler, Dorothy Lee, Douglas Gilmore, Dorothy Burgess, Marilyn Miller, Olive Tell, Carlotta King, David Newell, Louise Closser Hale, Jack Buchanan, John Boles, Paul Whiteman, Ann Greenway, Ann Pennington, El Brendel, Charles Ruggles, Lillian Roth, Joan Peers, Morton Downey and Moran and Mack.

Gleasons Finish Second

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Gleasons, Jimmie and Lucille, have completed their second comedy for Christie-Paramount, titled *Don't Believe It*. Jimmie Gleason authored the piece.

Finishes Another

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—*Girl of the Port*, starring Sally O'Neil and Reginald Sharland, has been completed by Radio. Bert Glennan directed.

Changes at Tiffany

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Changes of personnel in the Tiffany Studios announced today are: Grant Whytock has been appointed production supervisor, Milton Gatzert has been made purchasing agent, Carlton Kelsey has been made head of the music department and Harry Knight has been made studio manager. Changes to take effect immediately.

Pantages Buys Group

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Columbia's Prosperity Group has been purchased by the Pantages Circuit to play the Pan. houses in Minneapolis, Memphis and Kansas City.

Shorts for W. C. Houses

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Columbia's Krazy Kat Cartoons and Silly Symphonies have been bought to play the entire West Coast theater chain of over 200 houses. Joe Goldberg, of Columbia, and Jack Sullivan, of the West Coast Company, made the deal.

Start Original Opera

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—*Viennese Nights* is the working title of the original operetta Oscar Hammerstein III and Sigmund Romberg are preparing for Warner's. Alan Gosland will direct the production which will be entirely in technicolor.

F. N. Foreign Mgr. Here

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—D. E. Griffiths, foreign manager for First National, has arrived in New York for a two weeks' stay during which time he will confer with M. A. Bundy, foreign distribution director, and will view the new F. N. product.

Broadway Stars in Shorts

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Paramount's all-dialog comedy, *The Twentieth Amendment*, has been completed with a cast that boasts of a number of Broadway stars among whom are Jack Haley, Margaret Lee, Madelon Cameron, Evelyn Hoav and Evangeline Baleigh.

"Signal Tower" Talkie

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Universal has purchased the dialog rights to *The Signal Tower* and will remake it as a talkie.

"Let's Go Native" Starts

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Jeanette MacDonald and James Hall have begun work on *Let's Go Native* for Paramount. Leo McCarey is directing.

Fox Not in National Deal

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Rumors that Fox was the real purchaser of the National Theaters, Inc., appear to have no foundation in fact. It is now generally believed that the Bird Corporation of Milwaukee, which bought the string, represents the bankers who have been carrying the theaters for the past two years.

Mary Carr With Radio

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Mary Carr has been assigned an important role in Radio's *Second Wife*, which is slated for early production.

Theater Owner Gets Bomb As Xmas "Gift"; Explodes

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 28.—A cleverly designed gas bomb, delivered in a Christmas wrapper to G. T. Woodlaw, owner of the Circle Theater, exploded in his office when the covering was removed Christmas Day. The fumes did not penetrate to the theater. The mixture of tear and mustard gas slightly affected the throat of Woodlaw and burned his daughter. Police could obtain no clues.

Woodlaw opened two remodeled houses, the Columbia and Irvington, here December 25.

Smith Lands Contract

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Stanley Smith has won a long-term contract from Paramount as a reward for his good work in *Sweetie*. Newspaper notices were credited with convincing Schulberg that the Smith boy was good.

Mendes Back on Coast

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Lothar Mendes has returned to the Coast after spending the Christmas holidays in New York.

Newell With Columbia

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—David Newell has been signed by Columbia to play the male lead in *Murder on the Roof*.

Stagehands Elect Officers

BROCKTON, Mass., Dec. 28.—Local stagehands held their annual election on the City Theater stage December 21. Officers of Local 149, IATSE, chosen for one year are Jack Campion, president; William Devine, vice-president; William Calkins, secretary-treasurer; Andrew J. Butler, business agent; George La Furma, sergeant at arms; Jack Shea, delegate to district convention; Andrew J. Butler, delegate to national convention.

Presentation Notes

BEN BERNIE was m. c. at the opening of the new Warner's Beacon Theater, New York, last week.

THE CELEBRATED Babes in the Woods presentation at the Roxy, for which Maurice Barin wrote a special musical score, has proven so popular that it will be held over for a second week. It is actually a ballet operetta in one act and seven scenes, and is considered the most ambitious undertaking of its kind at the Roxy in point of stage and scenic achievement. More than 100 pieces of scenery are used and 40 men are required behind the wings to handle their manipulation. Celia Branz and Dorothy Miller handle the roles of the Babes. The production utilizes the Roxy Symphony Orchestra, ballet corps, chorus and the 32 Roxyettes.

BERMUDA BOUND is the new presentation staged by Chester Hale at the Capitol, New York, this week. The cast includes, besides the new m. c., Teddy Joyce, Lois and Dunn, harmony duo; the Runaway Four, famous acrobatic comedians, and the Chester Hale Girls in novel routines.

MARDI GRAS, the Public unit, plays the Mastbaum, Philadelphia, this week, as the Palace, Washington, is no longer a Public house. The cast includes Two Ochs, Four Harmonists, Royal, Charles and Helen, Fred Evans' Ensemble and Dorothy Neville.

RUDY VALLEE and his orchestra return for a limited engagement at the Paramount, New York, beginning next week. Vallee has been performing lately, since his return from Hollywood, at the Paramount, Brooklyn.

HONEYMOON CRUISE, Public unit, closes this week at the Saenger, New Orleans. Cast is composed of Joe Penner, Luella Feiertag, Joe and Willie Hale, Billy Myers, Eugene Ramey, Butler Clarke, Eugene Sherdahl and the Dorothy Berke Girls.

THO CHARLES WITHERS, who is giving his grand travesty on *The O'ry House* in the Public unit, Now and Then,

has received several offers to translate it to the screen, he will continue through with the unit on its present tour.

BELLE BAKER, whose screen stock has certainly taken an upward trend now that she has been proclaimed the "female Al Jolson" for her singing in *The Song of Love*, is filling movie-presentation and stage engagements with a two weeks' stay at the heavily endowed Mound Country Club, St. Louis. This prominent inn has certainly gone after numerous big presentation house stars with a vengeance, Sophie Tucker having been one of its recent attractions.

MANDY RANDOLPH, one of Harlem's most popular and versatile singing comedienne, is rounding out a two years' straight engagement at the lively and diverting Alhambra Theater, New York. House features pictures and stage revues and is proving one of the most successful ventures for its manager and lessee, J. Gustdorf.

THE HIPPODROME has gone back to a policy of vaude, and pictures again.

RUSS MORGAN, who was master of ceremonies at the Capitol Theater, now the Paramount, in Detroit, returns to the Hollywood December 25, with the re-opening of a presentation policy, "Smiling Sammy" Diebert and most of his organization, who were formerly at the Hollywood, are now in the Michigan Theater.

THE MARTHA WASHINGTON THEATER, in Hamtramck, Detroit suburb, has put in a week-end presentation policy, using five acts before the band. Prospects point to a full week under this policy shortly after the first of the year. The acts are being booked by Stennard Vaudeville Enterprises of Detroit.

EFFORTS are being made by Balaban & Katz to book the Duncan Sisters, who recently appeared at the Palace Theater here, to appear at the Chicago Theater in connection with the showing of their picture, *It's a Great Life*. The Duncans are in New York at present.

NICK LUCAS, the "crooning troubadour", will appear at the Oriental Theater, Chicago, week of January 17.

HERBIE KOCH, one of the most popular feature organists ever in Des Moines, is back at the Paramount for an indefinite engagement from the Paramount, Omaha.

Sound Installations

ST. ANTHONY, Ida.—Bex Theater.
NORFOLK, Va.—Strand Theater.
CHESTER, Va.—State Theater.
CORVALLIS, Ore.—Majestic Theater.
BURNS, Ore.—Oasis Hall.
PORTLAND, Ore.—Irvington Theater.
HARLINGEN, Tex.—Arcadia and Rialto theaters.
TERRELL, Tex.—Iris Theater.
DALAS, Tex.—Ro-Nile Theater.
KEESVILLE, Tex.—Arcadia Theater.
CLEVELAND, Tex.—Rex Theater.
CLARKSVILLE, Tex.—Colonial Theater.
MADISONVILLE, Tex.—Bex Theater.
DIMITT, Tex.—Castra Theater.
PHOENIX, Ariz.—Jewel Theater.
SAN BENITO, Tex.—Majestic Theater.
TAMPA, Fla.—Palace Theater.
PASADENA, Calif.—Tower Theater.
MONTEREY PARK, Ill.—Mission Theater.
VERNONIA, Ore.—Joy Theater.
VANDERGRIFT, Pa.—Casino Theater.
CAMERON, Mo.—Royal Theater.
WILLIAMSTON, N. C.—Watts Theater.
FRANKLIN, N. C.—Mason Theater.
EDENTON, N. C.—Taylor Theater.
VERSAILES, Mo.—Royal Theater.
WHITEVILLE, N. C.—Columbus Theater.
FOWLER, Ind.—Dreamland Theater.
MADISON, Wis.—Eastwood Theater.
DELTA, Colo.—Fox's Egyptian Theater.
LEON, Ia.—Strand Theater.
BOULDER, Colo.—Curran and Ibsen theaters.
BROOKVILLE, Ind.—American Theater.
PAXTON, Ill.—Majestic Theater.
DEVILS LAKE, N. D.—State Theater.
LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Yosemite Theater.
COBLESKILL, N. Y.—Park Theater.
MADISON, W. Va.—Rialto Theater.
TOLEDO, O.—Overland Theater.
VILLA GROVE, Ill.—Star Theater.
DOUGLAS, Wyo.—Princess Theater.

ALLIED REPORTS

(Continued from page 18)

and effective zoning or clearance plan in the various distributing zones and key-city centers.

Having acted as a member of the contract committee, appointed at the Trade Practice Conference, and which agreed upon the current Standard Exhibition Contract and the Rules of Arbitration, it occurs to me that the questions concerning which there has been expressed some difference of opinion are as follows:

(1) The number of arbitrators who shall comprise each arbitration board.

(2) The manner in which they shall be chosen.

These questions are not serious obstacles to an agreement upon the formula for arbitration if it is borne in mind that the men who act upon these boards and the interested parties in the various distributing centers should themselves have something to say with reference to the number who shall comprise their board, as well as the manner in which they shall be chosen.

As soon as arrangements have been perfected for a conference concerning a Standard Exhibition Contract and the formula for arbitration, the sales heads of all the national distributing companies will be, I am certain, prepared to submit to such conference their suggestions. These, too, I am sure, will be made after careful consideration of the needs and necessities of the business, as well as with a view of their practicability and workability.

It is my impression that much good has already resulted from the discussions in the joint meetings, and I am strongly of the opinion that many constructive suggestions will follow in their wake, in furtherance of the stability of the business and the harmonious relationship of all those concerned with it.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) FELIX P. FEIST.

The Allied Association's committee goes into detail of various subjects that have given cause for contention. Arbitration and contract are among the most important points, and the committee's suggestions in detail follow below:

Arbitration

In order that the system may be entirely voluntary,

(a) Specific agreement to arbitrate should be included in each contract, to be signed individually in each case; or

(b) Blanket agreement to arbitrate should be signed and filed with Exhibitor Organization and Film Board.

PERSONNEL OF BOARD: For the distributors, any member of F. B. T. to be eligible. For the exhibitors, a group of 10 exhibitors or theater managers (not directly or indirectly connected with distributors) to be named by the local exhibitor organization as eligible.

ORGANIZATION OF BOARD: The board shall be constituted as follows:

(a) In case the exhibitor shall so elect, the board shall consist of three members—one selected by the exhibitor from the 10 eligible, one by the distributors from F. B. T. members, the third selected by the two from a group of at least five arbitrators from outside the industry, nominated by the American Arbitration Society, and approved by the Exhibitor Organization and F. B. T.

(b) In case the exhibitor shall not so elect, the board shall consist of "three and three", as in the past, with a seventh to be chosen from among the five outside arbitrators, nominated as above, in case of a tie.

POWERS AND DUTIES: A principal defect in arbitration, as it has been practiced in this industry, in addition to the methods by which it was imposed and enforced, was the rule limiting the boards to the enforcement of the strict letter of the Standard Exhibition Contract. Serious injustice has been done in countless cases, due to the inability of the board to take into consideration the representations, warranties and promises made as inducement for signing the contract, as well as conditions arising subsequent to the contract. We propose that the boards be authorized, in the exercise of a sound discretion, to receive and consider all evidence, documentary and oral, bearing on the essential merits of each controversy, to the end that the awards may work even and exact justice, or the nearest approach thereto that is possible with these human agencies. In arbitration we think the governing principle should be the intention of the parties to be ascertained from the contract, given a common-sense interpretation in the light of the situation of the

parties when the contract was made, and from the construction which they gave to it by their subsequent words and deeds. In other words, in meritorious cases, the arbitrators should look beyond the written words of the contract, and try and place themselves in the shoes of the parties to the contract in order to determine how they regarded their agreement. However, their power shall not extend to the fixing or changing of prices on existing contracts.

ENFORCEMENT OF AWARD: It is believed that, once the reforms herein suggested are accomplished, opposition to the adoption of the uniform arbitration law by the States will abate.

Added to the above, and in our opinion effective in the vast majority of cases, the full moral backing of Exhibitor Organizations, coupled with the wholly fair system outlined above, would effect compliance with the award in a vast number of cases.

As an additional incentive to compliance, provision should be made that any one refusing to arbitrate or to abide by an award shall not thereafter receive the benefits of the machinery thus set up, until purged of his recalcitrancy.

EXPENSE: Exhibitor arbitrators to receive traveling expenses, plus \$5 per diem. "Outside" arbitrators to be paid fee usually required in such cases. A filing fee of — per cent of the claim shall be paid by party filing the claim.

Contract

It is strange that an industry that has made such efforts to solve its peculiar problems and discouraged airing its troubles in court has adopted as a contract governing the relations between exhibitor and distributor an instrument that is so verbose and so involved that very few laymen understand its provisions or are conversant with their rights and obligations thereunder.

First of all this instrument must be written in a language that will leave no doubt as to the meaning of its provisions. It, therefore, becomes necessary to redraft the Standard Exhibition Contract for the benefit of all in the industry. Moreover the contract is altogether too lengthy to be of practical service and very few exhibitors take the trouble to read all of its provisions at the time of its execution, relying perhaps on the assurance that it is a uniform standard contract that cannot be changed. Since this is so, it appears to be an economic waste to print every single clause on every one of the many contracts that the exhibitor is called upon to sign. The suggestion is therefore made that the uniform contract when mutually agreed upon shall be the master contract on file at every exchange and organization centers, and that a simple contract be drawn for the exhibitor to sign at the completion of negotiations, this contract to contain only those provisions that are peculiar to the transaction and to incorporate by reference the general provisions of the Standard Exhibition Contract. This would simplify each transaction and the exhibitor would be called upon to read only those terms that pertain peculiarly to the single transaction. We submit that once a uniform contract is agreed upon, couched in terms of understandable English, the exhibitor would actually have placed in front of him an order blank containing a schedule of the pictures he was buying, the price thereof, run and protection. This order blank should also contain space for any special arrangement.

It is not enough, however, that the contract be simplified by reducing its size and clarifying its meaning. It must be made equitable for both parties to the contract, in order that there be a feeling of confidence between the buyer and the seller, and the following suggestions are made with that in view:

Description of Product: The exhibitor is called upon to sign a contract for pictures that have not been made or have been made but concerning the quality of which he knows nothing, while the distributor in many instances knows of its inferior quality and unfitness for exhibition. It would appear that the exercise of ordinary business foresight would cause the producer to plan production far enough ahead to enable him to give a fairly adequate description of the pictures in the contract. Description by star alone, director alone or author alone would appear to be inadequate and there should be further means of identification. That this is recognized is seen by the efforts of the distributors to encourage the sale by more vivid descrip-

tions, usually in color, in the beautiful books shown to the exhibitors at the time of sale and by the use of work sheets. If these are used it would appear to be only equitable that these books and work sheets be considered part of the contract for the purpose of determining whether there has been a substitution.

Score Charges:

The advent of sound pictures has presented numerous problems. One of these is the question of the score charge. If negotiated for at the same time as the picture the exhibitor can easily figure the combined costs and a meeting of minds on both can be arrived at. It would appear, however, that when a picture is not sold at any stated price, but on a percentage basis so that the distributor for the time being becomes a partner of the exhibitor, that the score charge be eliminated. What part of the distributor's share of the receipts is to be set aside to cover the score charge is for him alone to determine.

Making Pictures Available:

Perhaps one of the greatest ills in the industry is the overbuying on the part of the exhibitor for reasons beyond his control, due to the fact that pictures contracted for by him have not been made available to him for a showing, either because the prior run has not already been sold, or because of the reluctance on the part of the distributor to assign play dates to the first run account. When the exhibitor is so delayed in his play dates the only recourse for him is to go into the market to purchase pictures, but he is confronted with the situation of being compelled to take perhaps an entire program in order to secure the few pictures that he needs while he is being delayed. The result, of course, is overbuying and later in the season he is confronted with assignment of play dates for a number of pictures far in excess of the play dates available to him. Surely the contract should be drawn so as to provide this exhibitor with a remedy. Either the distributor should be compelled to assign play dates to the first run and should not be permitted to sell a subsequent run until the prior run has already been sold, or else the exhibitor who is so delayed and is compelled to purchase other pictures should have the right to cancel the pictures that he has been delayed in showing.

Cancellation After 90-Day

Closing: Occasionally it occurs that an exhibitor is compelled to close his theater because of poor business conditions and when much later he reopens this theater he is confronted with the fact that he must play the pictures already under contract. A theater can be used only as a theater and the owner closes it only as a last resort, and invariably the reason for the closing is because of his inability to do profitable business with the poor quality of pictures delivered to him, and the chances of making the investment profitable when he reopens are reduced to a minimum when he is compelled to play these old pictures. It would appear only equitable, therefore, that a statute of limitations be provided for in the contract, providing that when a theater is closed for a period of three months during the show season all contracts for pictures in existence at the termination of this period shall be void.

The M. P. T. O. A. gave its following views on arbitration and contract to the conference:

Arbitration

We are inclined to the view, and we here declare that the method of arbitration now in force has been effective and proven of inestimable value to the vast majority of those engaged in the various branches of our business. That it has not met with unanimous approval, we grant, and we believe that it would be for the best interests of all to incorporate such changes as may clarify the operation of the Board and be mutually acceptable to all branches of the industry.

In view of recent developments, we are of the opinion that arbitration in any specific instance must be by mutual consent. We therefore suggest that at the time of the taking of the contract a separate agreement be entered into calling for arbitration of the disputed terms of the contract. We suggest that the rules for the conduct of the arbitration court be an integral part of the arbitration agreement.

For a setup of the Board that we feel should be acceptable to all we recommend the following:

For the hearing of any particular case the Film Board of Trade president, or other designated officer, shall appoint four members of the organization, and the properly designated officer of the local exhibitor organization shall also appoint four members. Those eight names shall be submitted to the interested parties at least seven days prior to the date scheduled for the hearing. The parties at interest shall each have the right to reject any three of the names submitted, such rejection to be mailed to both the Film Board of Trade secretary and the secretary of the local theater owners' organization within 48 hours of the receipt of such list of names.

In the event that six names have been rejected the Board shall consist of the two remaining names; and in the event four have been rejected, four shall sit; if two are rejected, then six shall sit. In no event, however, shall the Board consist of more than three from each organization; and in no event shall the Board consist of more members from one side than the other, the additional names of one organization over the other to be stricken off by the proper officer of the organization to which they belong.

As an alternate plan for the setup of the Board we suggest the appointment by the properly designated officers of each organization (distributors and exhibitors) of two men each, with each side having the right to reject three names. In the event challenges are made additional names shall be submitted to take the place of those rejected, and the same rejection rights shall exist. If, however, additional challenges are made the respective officers of the distributing and exhibitor organizations shall make additional appointments, and these shall hear the case.

As to the other rules necessary for the conduct of the Board, we are agreeable, but not in any way wedded to the existing rules, and will consider with an open mind any additions or deletions that may be advanced.

Contract

Due to the new developments in our business the form of contract in general use is now obsolete and a joint contract committee should be requested to, at an early date as convenient, draft a new agreement, in form brief and concise, and in subject matter clear in definition of the rights, obligations and duties of the parties with respect to all matters.

We believe that there are numerous matters requiring consideration, and believe that these matters should be submitted to the committee for their action. We will contribute our efforts to that end at the proper time, but at this moment we want to particularly point out the following:

(a) A more definite availability clause.

(b) The elimination of all score charges.

(c) The privilege of cancellation of 10 per cent of the product without the payment of 80 per cent of the film rentals.

(d) A more definite commitment on the part of the distributor for the delivery of good prints, realizing that the advent of sound makes this imperative.

(e) Charges for shipment of records to an exhibitor should be computed as based upon distance from film center serving the film, and excess charge over this amount should be borne by distributor.

(f) If a work sheet is used to promote the sale of a contract it shall be signed and will thereafter be considered as a part of the contract.

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NEW FILMS
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"Dynamite"
(METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER)
Capitol

When this latest Cecil B. DeMille production was first completed it was announced that it would be released as a long-run attraction at \$2 top. Just why that idea was abandoned by M-G-M executives has not been stated. At any rate, the picture opened as a regular run on Broadway at the Capitol and should be there for several weeks to come. It comes nearer being long-run caliber material than anything that has yet been done for the talking screen.

It has everything—just the type of production that should appeal to the masses as well as the masses. Its central characters are a man and woman from an ultra-modern society whose lives are spent in following the latest fads of a jazz-mad coterie, and a man from the masses, a coal miner. It is this contrast in characters that lends its vast influence.

DeMille, thru this production, has managed to get the fast moving, melodramatic action of his silent successes to the accompaniment of sound and dialog, making it a thoroughly realistic vehicle, tho a little long. It has action, suspense, conflict and a good bit of comedy. The deft direction of DeMille is seen thru-out its entire running. There are the famous stupendous scenes of the magnificent home of a millionairess and the events of a woman's field day at an exclusive society club. In direct contrast to this are the drab scenes of a jail and a coal miner's humble home.

The story is the work of Jeanie McPherson, DeMille's old standby, and it boasts numerous surprising twists. At the start we see a man convicted of murder, tho he pleads innocence. His one idea is to leave his sister, a girl of 12, well provided for. The scene shifts to the society set, where a millionairess is in love with a married man, whose wife will not free him unless the girl pays her good and plenty for her husband, even tho the wife is carrying on an open flirtation with another man.

The millionairess was left her money by a grandfather whose will stipulated she must be married to and living with her husband on her 23d birthday. Even tho she is willing to pay the wife for the other man, the divorce cannot be secured in time for her to live up to the grandfather's will. The condemned man inserts an advertisement in the daily papers saying he will sell his body to science for \$10,000. The girl sees it and visits the murderer in his cell, where she tells him she will give him the money if he will marry her. He accepts and on the night he is to be hung they are wedded. But the man who really committed the murder is forced to a confession, and the ex-convict, freed, shows up at the girl's home. He has evidently come to give her her freedom, but when she highbats him he demands his rights. A group of her society friends call and in an excellently contrived scene the miner denounces them and leaves her.

From this numerous complications arrive, with the girl taking off to the miner's home to live with him until her 23d birthday. The miner turns her proposition down, but is goaded into permitting her to remain as his housekeeper. Naturally among these hard-working people she finds herself and when the husband falsely accuses her of trying to see her former lover she decides to leave and return to her old life. The lover arrives and insists on see-

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ing the husband to tell him he is taking his wife away. They are forced to go down into the mine to meet him. There is an explosion and they are trapped far underground. The picture ends with the girl admitting she loves her miner husband.

The scenes in the mine, with the falling timbers and the crashing of rocks, are all exceptionally well done. While the story may seem inconsistent at times it is so well directed and so well played that it will pass muster anywhere.

Kay Johnson makes her debut as a motion picture actress in this production and comes thru a most trying role in great style. Miss Johnson does not photograph as well as one might have believed from her stage appearance, but still she handles the role so capably that she is ideal for the role. Charles Bickford, another newcomer to the screen since the movies found voice, gives an excellent account of himself as the miner. He seems to be a sort of composite picture of Thomas Meighan and William Farnum in the heyday of his screen career. Conrad Nagel is the other man and gives his usual capable performance. Julia Faye gives a good account of herself as his wife, while Muriel McCormac, a child actress, offers one of the most finished performances of the picture in the role of Katie Derk, the miner's sister.

All in all *Dynamite* should be a money-maker for M-G-M and for the exhibitors playing it. It is sure-fire melodrama built in surroundings that are so different that the vivid contrast lends interest alone to the production.

H. D. S.

"Pointed Heels"
(PARAMOUNT)
At the Paramount

Pointed Heels is a very slow story, sacrificed in several instances in order to give Helen Kane and Skeets Gallagher an opportunity to do their stuff. It is fortunate that Director Eddie Sutherland did this, for besides the work of these two there is little left in the picture to talk about.

The story is unusually weak and drawn out to the point of being boring. A great deal of time and film could have been saved had not the producers endeavored to make out of the production something that it wasn't.

The story is that of a chorus girl who quits a show to marry a composer and their subsequent troubles when the dough flies out and the girl has to return to the stage. William Powell plays the part of the legitimate producer who is in love with the girl and who in the end plays the big-hearted part and puts the separated lovers back in each other's arms. Powell's performance is a convincing one, tho his part is too weak to give him the opportunity to do work he is capable of. Fay Wray and Phillips Holmes play the man and wife parts in a fair way. This pair could have been improved on by any number of young actors in the business. Kane and Gallagher are the highlights of the show. The little Kane girl is little no longer and it is evident that she is liking her groceries too well.

The recording is fair and the production could be cut 20 minutes and be a pretty decent program picture. As it is now the customers are not so crazy about it.

J. P. L.

"Devil May Care"
(M-G-M)
At the Astor Theater

Ramon Novarro goes musical in this one—and how! This lad steps into his own with this one in a manner that would do credit to the leading musical comedy stars of Broadway. He sings delightfully—sentimental ballads, comedy numbers, and those bordering upon the light-opera type. And does all of them well, with a conviction and assurance that must have brought joy to the hearts of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer moguls.

Devil May Care is built as a musical romance. Its period is the Napoleonic era after Napoleon had been exiled to Elba. At times, due perhaps to Novarro's accent, which is slightly similar to that of Chevalier's, the picture seems a little like *The Love Parade*. Not in story, but in its development and in the manner in which its musical numbers have been interpolated.

The picture is the directorial work of Sidney Franklin, who has handled it in a masterful manner. Franklin has nothing to fear in the way of the direction of sound films and displays an uncanny aptitude in getting his ensemble effects. One of the most effective is a ride of the Napoleonists along a stretch of roadway while their stirring hymn is sung. Not by them, but by an unseen chorus, but so perfectly is the gallop of the horses set to the rhythm of the music that one must necessarily imagine the horsemen are doing the yodeling.

The story of *Devil May Care* is at times reminiscent of *The Vagabond King* or other stage successes that had an inspirational male chorus as one of its features. Novarro has the role of a loyal Napoleonist who is maneuvering with his followers to bring Napoleon back into power. Sentenced to be shot, he manages to escape and hides himself as a lackey in the home of the Countess Louise, who is in love with him and is willing to help him escape his enemies. Her cousin, a young girl who hates Napoleon and his followers, arrives to seek shelter in her home and the romance develops between she and Novarro. However, tho she loves him, she will not permit herself to respond to his advances. When she finds he is a Napoleonist she drives him from her, only to have him later rescue her from a Royalist, and it all ends happily.

At times the story looks as if it might have been fashioned for Douglas Fairbanks in its hairbreadth escapes. All in all it has speed, a nice degree of humor, a colorful romance and a peppy musical score written by Herbert Stohart. Among the chief numbers are *Charming, If He Cared* and *The March of the Old Guard*.

Marion Harris and Dorothy Jordan, a newcomer to the screen, have the two leading feminine roles. Miss Harris looks much better than she did in the short subjects in which she appeared when talking films were in their infancy. Her numbers are nicely placed and done as only Marion Harris can do them. Dorothy Jordan gives an excellent account of herself in the role of Leonie, and, no doubt, thru her work in this film has paved her way for other "fat" roles. John and William Humphrey are also well cast.

H. D. S.

"The Royal Box"

(WARNER-VITAPHONE)
At the Fifth Avenue Playhouse

This is the first all-talking German picture to be produced in America. Warner Bros. made an adaptation of Charles Coghlan's stage play, *The Royal Box*, which had only a fair success with Walker Whiteside, as the initial screen vehicle for the popular German actor, Alexander Moissi. Moissi, whose rich voice and high-strung temperament makes him an ideal choice for the interpretation of the Shakespearean actor of the early part of the 19th Century. Kean, is decidedly unpossessed of any knowledge of camera technique and at times his violent mannerisms take on a burlesque character. The German star seems unable to make his Hamlet complex behave, for at times one doesn't know whether he's playing the actor, Kean, or the melancholy Dane.

The faults of the production are obvious. The slipshod manner in its staging, which ever resembles a picture at all, but merely a succession of stage scenes; the unimaginative camera work and lighting effects, and the cluttering up of scenes by irrelevant extras, all smack more of a crudely done opera bouffe. Neither is the sound well synchronized, tho the direct fault for this can be traced to the impaired house installation.

A group of American-German actors have been corralled to surround the star. Camilla Horn plays a coy heroine quite insipidly, giving no trace of the fire she exuded in the silent *Tempest*. William Schroeller, Elsa Krahl, Egon Brecher, Sigfried Rumman and others complete the cast.

One trusts the future home-made foreign films will be of better artistic and technical caliber.

Bryan Foy handled the direction, but little praise can be given him. Other than in the limited foreign houses, picture has small chance of popularity at home. Even its reception abroad is obviously attined.

S. M. S.

"Hell's Heroes"
(UNIVERSAL)
At the Colony

Hell's Heroes, except for the important sequence of the dying mother, where it falls down completely and pulls an unwarranted and distastefully portrayed episode of childbirth and its ensuing death-cot scene, done slobbering in the traditional Topsy-and-Eva grand manner, is unmitigatedly the most treacherous and gripping Western picture made, notwithstanding the high-water marks set by such productions as *The Covered Wagon*, Bill Hart's masterpiece of *Hell's Hinges* and that excellent shooting opera, *Three Bad Men*.

The story is starkly simple and full of the gore and hardy stuff of the legendary border towns of a former day. Peter B. Kyne, who is generally lyrical about such things, wrote the tale. *The Three God-fathers*, and Universal has given it as a superb a talking screen transcription as it originally justified. This saga of three bad hombres, who kill a bank cashier and escape to the honeycombed and undecipherable desert plains with their loot, with the death of a sick Mexican companion as their only loss, makes a play on the imagination that never ceases to hold, regardless of the few discrepancies that pique one's credulity.

Saved from the red-hot necking party of the village posse, which would have been their fate had they been captured, by an intervening sandstorm, the trio are trekking the hot sands for a getaway when they come upon a woman in child labor. Her pitiable plight is made more so by the unpleasant mannerisms and remarks of the men, who try unreasonably it seems, to resist any display of human frailties. Thus with her death and their promise to return the baby to its father, who ironically enough is the murdered bank cashier, the three god-fathers prepare to carry out their bargain. With only the barest of water



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supply and canned milk for the child, they stalk across the desert back to the town. One by one they drop out leaving only the most truculent of the three to bring the child to safety. Here is the most effective sequence of the story; the sun-scorched, throat-parched and baby-clinging bandit making his way back to the village. He becomes obsessed by hallucinations of the swinging noose that awaits him. With one last spurge, abetted by poisonous arsenic water, he finally falls in a heap in the little church, which is celebrating its Christmas.

One can overlook the strained premise that a child could survive such a terrific ordeal for dramatic license, but not the theatrical quasi-pious setting in which the bad man returns the child and amidst the choral hymns receives we presume his absolution.

Charles Bickford is excellent as the last survivor of this lusty trio. His last scene in the desert, tortured by his obsession, promise and threat, is real strong acting. Fred Kohler and Raymond Hatton, his aids, give good character portrayals. The fourth companion's early demise removes an irritating personage, whose admirable patois was a treat to hear. William Wyler, director, has done his job well. The sound reproduction has the voices distinctly recorded.

Should enjoy a popular success.

S. M. S.

"Tiger Rose"

(WARNER-VITAPHONE)

At the Warner Beacon

That perennial hardy of the Northwest, Willard Mack's *Tiger Rose*, comes to the screen rejuvenated as it were for the second time. Once Lenore Ulric, who created the original stage role, brought it out on the silent screen with fair result, and now that Mexican tamale, Lupe Velez, is heard sputtering the pidgin-English in an amateurish, but undeniably pleasant voice. George Fitzmaurice has reconstructed the tale along familiar lines, and while there is still the well-remembered shooting gallery of broken-dialect natives, traders, Irish mounted policemen playing a game of grown-up tag against the beautifully captured outdoor atmosphere, the production manages to please those who still like their melodramas of the get-your-man school of drama served with a touch of the romantically incredible and peopled by the legendary brawny and stalwart heroes.

Miss Velez's part seems to have been considerably decreased and she appears to be less volatile and tempestuous than Miss Ulric was. Where the latter ranted and raved all over the rugged wilderness when she discovered "her man" was in danger of his life, Benorita Lupe curbs her emotional fireworks and affects a wistful and more subdued manner. Which demonstration of repressed histrionics nevertheless has little effect on her lovely appearance and appeal.

Monte Blue, striving to exorcise himself from the disastrous weight of a heavy blarney lingo, is negligible. He does little but alternately change his pan from smiles to grimaces, depending on how his luck with *Tiger Rose* is proceeding. Grant Withers is well cast as the young lover and fugitive from justice. Boy has neat appearance and adequate voice. H. B. Warner is unbearably stogy as the demented doctor, possessed of a phobia for any inroads of civilization. Tully Marshall is the girl's Irish guardian.

Familiar more or less on both stage and screen, picture should reap a fair profit, as it serves well as an average program picture for most any audience.

S. M. S.

"Seven Keys to Baldpate"

(RADIO)

At the Earl Carroll Theater

This amusing melodramatic farce comedy that saw success on Broadway more than a decade ago has been brought to the talking screen as one of the most faithful transcriptions yet given a stage play in celluloid. It might be said it is a stage play screened. Only at the start of the production has there been an added sequence that sets the rest of the story nicely.

After seeing Radio Pictures' version of this film and the interest with which it holds, even tho the story and much of the action was fully retained in this reviewer's memory, one can readily realize what an excellent piece of writing it is. Earl Derr Biggers wrote the original

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story and George M. Cohan the stage play. That accounts for its first popularity. Jane Murfin, who has coauthored a number of Broadway's stage successes, adapted and continued the story for the screen. The result is a fast moving, laughable, interesting and highly amusing melodramatic comedy with just enough mystery to keep one on the qui vive.

Richard Dix has the star role of the novelist who sets out on a wager to write a book within 24 hours. Dix is admirably cast and has one of the best roles he has yet appeared in. The role is admirably suited from every standpoint and Dix plays it excellently. If William Le Baron, who was responsible for the Dix contract with Radio, can continue to make story selections for Dix that fit his personality as perfectly as this, Dix can be assured of his place in the film sun for many years to come.

The supporting cast includes Miriam Beeger, Crauford Kent, Margaret Livingston, Lucian Littlefield, Joseph Allen, De Witt Jennings, Carleton Macy, Nella Walker, Joe Herbert and Alan Roscoe, all of them excellently cast. Reginald Barker's direction is also worthy of commendation.

Seven Keys to Baldpate tells the story of a novelist who goes to a lonely spot in the mountains to complete a novel in 24 hours. Thinking he carries the only key to the inn in which he hopes to work in quiet, he meets all sorts of amusing characters. There are crooks, an adventuress, the heroine, who is a newspaper woman after a feature story, and a half-demented hermit. All of these characters woven into a delightfully amusing and wholesomely laughable comedy with plenty of action, speed and a snappy tempo that runs from the start of the film to the finish. It develops that these weird characters introduced into the plot are but the characters that has been conjured by the novelist for the story that he was to complete and thereby win \$5,000.

All in all a well-done picture and one that should keep the theater tenanted for some time to come. It is the kind of story that will go well with any audience. It is for the discriminate audience, as well as for the indiscriminate grind houses, who are not so particular about their screen fare. It is one of those things that has appeal for everyone.

H. D. S.

"Sally"

(FIRST NATIONAL-VITAPHONE)

At the Winter Garden

Marilyn Miller, Mr. Ziegfeld's famous musical comedy star, makes her first appearance on the screen as the star of this production. The picture has been done entirely in Technicolor and as a result Marilyn Miller looks even more beautiful on the screen than she does on the stage. Her natural blond beauty lends itself perfectly to the pink and whites and golds in which Technicolor seems to specialize against numerous costumes of turquoise blue. In addition Miss Miller's features also manage to meet the requirements of the numerous screen camera angles.

So many stars of the stage have been a disappointment on the screen. Looking exceptionally well under the grease paint and mascara necessary to the stage makeup they have been a sad disappointment when photographed. Not so with Miss Miller, who looks beautiful, dances marvelously and her singing voice registers as well from the screen as it does from the stage.

First National has been lavish in its expenditure on massive stage settings and numerous stunning costumes. The story has been adapted from the Ziegfeld stage success by Guy Bolton, with music by Jerome Kern. In bringing it to the stage, however, the producers have seen fit to make a few changes in the locale of the story. In the original production Sally was a kitchen slave from the slums of New York. For the film the character

has been placed as a waitress in a Childs restaurant, where her ambitions to dance get her into numerous complications and end with dismissal from her job.

From then on the story follows the stage play consistently. She takes a job in a night club where the Grand Duke Connie is a waiter and is invited to an exclusive affair on Long Island. Here the chief attraction is to be a notorious foreign dancer, who fails to show up, and, naturally, Sally is drafted to fill in the gap. She is exposed, but is offered a job to dance in the *Ziegfeld Follies*, where she does her first ballet work. Of course, there is the musical romance between Sally and the rich man's son, their separation and final climax just before the fadeout.

Joe E. Brown has the role of the Grand Duke, which was so excellently handled in the legitimate production by Leon Errol. The role has evidently been cut to give Miss Miller the screen as much as possible. With the meager material Brown comes thru as well as could be expected. Ford Sterling is excellent as Pop Sherndorff and makes the role one of the most memorable bits in the film. Alexander Gray is the usual musical comedy hero. Pert Kelton appears in a small role, while T. Roy Barnes portrays the character of Otis Hooper, which was essayed by Walter Catlett in the Ziegfeld production.

Sally is mildly entertaining as a whole, but nothing to become rapturous about. Miss Miller's popularity in the larger cities and her fame which has spread to every village in the country should, however, find a generous response at the box office.

H. D. S.

"Dark Skies"

(BILTMORE)

At the Stanley

Evidently the talkies are going to still cater to the grind taste judging by this static puerile production. Picture has nothing to recommend it. Photography is poor, acting is stereotyped and story is terrible. A bad talkie is perhaps worse off than a bad silent picture, and far more uninteresting. Seems to have been made on a shoestring, even if such "name" performers as Shirley Mason and Wallace McDonald are the leads.

Shirley is the poor little slavey at the seashore, whose wicked uncle, William V. Mong, makes her work like a horse and gives her no pay. She falls for Captain Pedro, Wallace McDonald, and her uncle attempts to frame the rum-running senator, Tom O'Brien, who has done relatively nothing since his blustering sergeant's role in the impressive *Big Parade*, is the tough hombre here who is played by the heroine to unwittingly save her lover. Story has McDonald saved from the Coast Guard squad and left to croon the theme song, *Juanita*, rather badly to our little Shirley.

Miss Mason is quite wasted, the rather a fair performer, while McDonald, besides the persistent wearing of a demure smile, labors hard to affect that below-the-border school of pidgin English. Joseph Swickard figures minutely as a night-club proprietor, and William V. Mong is maliciously ineffectual in a weak role.

Will have rough sliding even in the indiscriminate grinds.

S. M. S.

"The Mighty"

(PARAMOUNT)

At the Rivolt

George Bancroft is the star of this production in another crook role that brings a locale of the underworld and the World War to a fast-moving and, at times, gripping melodrama. Bancroft, as usual, gives an excellent characterization of the crook who finds himself before the finish of the picture and wipes out the very gang with which he was in league, before he was forced into the service via the draft.

At the start of the picture Bancroft

is seen as the member of a gang of crooks who stop at nothing. He tries to evade the draft, but in a fight with four soldiers sent to bring him he finally is forced into service. As is suspected, he proves a real fighter in the big fray and receives numerous decorations, at the close of the war being a major.

Stopping off at a medium-sized city en route home after the war to deliver a last message to the family of a young lieutenant who died in his arms, he is offered charge of the police force. The city has been infested by crooks and he is hired to clean them out. General Smedley Butler and his Philadelphia campaign might have suggested the idea for this twist in the story. He does the work well, but his old gang hearing he is the head of the police department in the near-by city arrives with the hopes of getting his assistance in cleaning out the banks of the town. Instead he turns on them and in a finish fight kills the leader and captures the remaining members, realizing that being a real man and true to his trust is far greater glory than all the money the banks hold. Of course, there is the romance, the sister of the dead lieutenant, who naturally is the inspiration that leads to the man finding his better self.

Ether Ralston has the role of the girl and reads the dialog nicely, tho the role offers little opportunity for the display of dramatics. Dorothy Revier handles a vamp role in good style, while Raymond Hatton scores heavily as one of the gang in a character role that is played as only Hatton can play it. Warner Oland is anything but impressive in the role of the gang leader, a rather refined accent discounting the excellent photo portrayal he gives.

John Cromwell did a good job on the direction, while the story by Robert N. Lee is well developed and given an excellent treatment by Nellie Revell.

H. D. S.

Sound Shorts

"Imagine My Embarrassment"

(VITAPHONE VARIETY)

TIME—Twelve minutes.

Frank Orth and Ann Codee, who seem to be mainstays of the Vitaphone Brooklyn studios, are the featured players in this one that has two other unprogrammed players in the supporting roles. Orth enters the boudoir of Miss Codee and when she awakens suddenly he is presumptuous and thinks she intends being friendly. What was evidently intended to be built for risqué laughs develops into only mediocre comedy. It is finally discovered that he is an interior decorator and has entered the wrong apartment, mistaking a No. 9 for No. 6. This comedy is not up to the usual standard of the other Orth-Codee releases.

H. D. S.

Herschel Henlere

STYLE—Musical.

TIME—Ten minutes.

Henlere is the chap well known to vaudeville who recently returned from a tour of Europe. This short bears the title of *The Madcap Musician*. Henlere appears in grotesque makeup and proceeds to do some comedy stuff at the piano. He uses as his chief selection *Sonny Boy*, played as the great masters might have played it. His impressions include Paderewski, Liszt, Beethoven, and as he starts to do Rachmaninoff's *Prelude*, the picture fades and we see Henlere as a one-man jazz band for the finish, in which he has a number of toy animals playing musical instruments for laughs. A fair filler.

H. D. S.

Slim Timblin

(VITAPHONE VARIETY)

STYLE—Black-face comedy.

SETTING—Burlesque darky church.

TIME—Twelve minutes.

Slim Timblin, a good black-face comedian, enacts the role of one of those highly exaggerated yet amusing darky persons who preach the gospel with one hand and take a drink with the other. Assisted by a group of "hallelujahing" folk, Timblin preaches them a rather humorous lecture, which ends in disaster, due to the presence of chickens in the church.

The short is neat, fast paced and well gagged. Should prove popular in most program feature houses.

S. M. S.

"Pack Up Your Troubles"

(VITAPHONE)

TIME—Twelve minutes.

Douglas Stanbury, late of the Roxy gang, is featured in this production in which he is assisted by the Lyric Quartet. At the start the quartet and four other chaps dressed as doughboys sing numbers popular during the war, including *Take Me Back to Blighty*. A bit of dialog breaks the musical numbers. Stanbury after a few minutes' talk responds with *Fuzzy Wuzzy* and follows with *Mendacity*. Stanbury possesses a fairly good screen personality, tho his song renditions do not register as well as when heard from the stage. H. D. S.

"The Haunted House"MICKEY, THE MOUSE, CARTOON
TIME—Ten minutes.

Another one of those amusing cartoon comedy sketches animated with sound of peculiar noises, bells, roaring winds and slamming doors. Like the majority of these cartoon comedies, since sound became an adjunct of the screen, this one proves merry entertainment. The story finds Mickey caught out on a stormy night. Seeking shelter in an abandoned house that proves to be haunted he comes in contact with dancing skeletons, singing and laughing ghosts and the rest of the type of sliding beds, hidden doors, etc., that go with this type entertainment. H. D. S.

"Alpine Love Call"

STYLE—Miniature operetta.

TIME—Ten minutes.

This is done in all-color via Photocolor Process. The setting, as the name implies, is in the Alpine mountains, a studio set, with the principals and leading characters in the colorful Swiss costumes. There are five principals and a chorus of eight girls.

The synopsis of the short musical is the seeking of the hand of a village maiden in marriage. She is wooed by a farmer who offers his worldly goods; a lawyer, who promises to sew, to cook and attend the house, and a youth, who offers nothing but his heart. Naturally she chooses him. Alice Wellman has the role of the girl and plays it in the typical musical comedy manner. The music, all specially written for the production, is tuneful, and the short will serve as a good filler on any program. H. D. S.

"Lazy Days"

(M-G-M)

STYLE—Comedy.

TIME—Fourteen minutes.

This *Our Gang* comedy has little to offer in the way of entertainment other than Farina's over-exaggerated accent and Negro-character mannerisms. The plot of the comedy is brought to an abrupt close for no apparent reason other than the black boy used too much footage in the beginning of the production.

The recording is okeh. Joe Cobb is back with the gang, none of which does any outstanding work.

About the poorest *Our Gang* comedy to date. J. F. L.

Madame Frances AldaIn AVE MARIA
(VITAPHONE NO. 943)

STYLE—Singing.

TIME—Seven minutes.

Madame Frances Alda, of Metropolitan Opera fame, proves an excellent Mike personality. Her singing of the somberly beautiful *Ave Maria*, in Italian, is clear and softly toned and given in an impeccably trained delivery. The setting is the cloister of a nunnery and the noted operatic diva, garbed in the nun's garments, gives her number before the garden niche.

Short should appeal to audiences all over who desire good singing. Also its religious nature might make it pleasing to church societies. S. M. S.

Bert LehrWith Bobby Arbat and Harry Shannon in
THE FAINT HEART
(VITAPHONE NO. 904-905)

STYLE—Two-act playlet.

SETTING—Street and interior.

TIME—Twelve minutes.

Bert Lehr, that swell stage comedian, with the irresistible pan and mugging antics, goes over nicely in a skit assisted by the attractive Bobby Arbat and Harry Shannon. Lehr is an effeminate dress-

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maker of pajamas, whose girl, Bobby, won't have him because he isn't a real he-man. He joins the police force, bags a notorious criminal and gets his ultimate reward, a kiss from the aforementioned Bobby.

Lahr's voice and personality register well, while the dancing and warbling Bobby, this time held in leash with only lines to deliver, is not so hot. More or less for metropolitan audiences. S. M. S.

"Meine Frau"

(VITAPHONE NO. 887)

STYLE—German skit.

SETTING—Interior of home.

TIME—Ten minutes.

Ann Cordee and Frank Orth, assisted by an unknown male, present a highly amusing sketch, sophisticated and intelligible enough for most high-class domestic audiences. While in German, the dialog is faintly reminiscent and can, more or less, be deciphered.

Concerns Orth's meeting with a long-lost pal and their experiences with the latter's wife. Ends by Orth shooting the woman because she's too good to be true. A very good short. S. M. S.

STAGE SHOWS**Capitol, New York**

Teddy Joyce, the former flame of Dolores Del Rio and the idol of many Pittsburgh girls' hearts, where he gained his fame, makes his first appearance on Broadway as guest master of ceremonies at the Capitol this week. Young Joyce has a pleasing personality, a nice manner of handling his orchestra and is a most capable dancer. He introduces three specialty dances, one of which, a skating number with a lobsterscope thrown on him, proves one of the big

hits of the stage show. Also offers a violin selection that is not so hot.

The production this week is titled *Bermuda Bound*, devised and staged by Chester Hale and supervised by Louis K. Sidney. It is not stamped with the elaborate costuming of the usual Capitol presentation. A group of Chester Hale girls are on the stage during most of the running, excepting the scene in which the Runaway Four appear.

The Runaway Four, a comedy tumbling aggregation, who do a bit of dancing, are well known to vaudeville. As a picture house attraction they proved sure fire and stopped the show cold, being forced to two encores before they were permitted to retire. Reis and Dunn, a male harmony team, do one number assisted by the Chester Hale girls. H. D. S.

Paramount, New York

Now and Then is the title of this week's stage show at the Paramount. It endeavors to show the difference between the stage of 50 years ago and the modern production. The Ward Sisters, June McCloy and Tommy Wonder do the modern stuff, with Wonder taking the big hand of the entire bill with an acrobatic dance, and Charles Withers and Company doing the stuff of 50 years ago. Withers shows some old shots, taken from the Stone Library, and then his company goes on in a small theater on the stage, with Withers up above handling the props. The stuff the old boy pulls is rather suggestive at times, but the audience seems to like it not a little.

The finale of the piece is a fan dance by the Maria Gambarelli Girls, who are about the average class dancers. Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Crawford open the bill with several numbers on the organ, among which is a New Year's song set to the tune of *Painting the Clouds With Sunshine* that gets the crowd singing. J. F. L.

Exploitation Tips

The Billboard will be glad to receive and publish accounts of exploitation stunts or ideas that exhibitors have found successful. Address your communications to H. David Strauss, Motion Picture Editor, The Billboard, 1550 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

SHOW BOAT (Univ.)—When this production played the Portenos Theater at Buenos Aires, the management devised an exploitation campaign that would be a credit to any Broadway house. A showboat float was the feature of the campaign. Mounted on a small truck, it was electrically illuminated so as to be suitable for both day and night use. For 40 days prior to the picture's engagement the float was driven in and around the city to set an all-time record for advance ballyhooing.

Bohemios, Spanish for showboat, was used as a teaser campaign of one word several weeks in advance of the opening. A radio campaign of music from the production was used 34 days in advance daily and thereby acquainted the people in the surrounding territory with the music. A Spanish perfume of the same name was released during the engagement of the picture, and samples were distributed in the theater lobby in advance of the showing. Heralds were

mailed to a selected list of residents and to the daily guests of the local hotels. The lobby of the theater was decorated to resemble the forward part of a showboat, with stacks and prominent features of the boat gaily decorated. The patrons entering the theater did so thru the Cotton Palace show entrance.

BROADWAY (Univ.)—Experiencing a great deal of difficulty in putting a human billboard over, the management of the Keystone Theater, Williamsburg, Pa., used the girls in the lobby, which attracted an even greater crowd than the billboard idea on the marquee. A banner across the busiest street in town, well illuminated at night, created a great deal of comment. A calloph mounted on a well-bannered truck, toured the city several days before the playdate. Patrons of 20 restaurants in the city used paper napkins with the picture announcements and playdates imprinted on them. Five hundred bal-

loons were used at a local football game, and 50 taxis carried the announcement on the spare-tire frame. Fifty window displays also featured the campaign.

MYSTERIOUS ISLAND (M-G-M)—At the Majestic Theater, Springfield, Mass., the management was able to secure a dwarf and dressed him up in a costume identical with that used in the picture. He was carried around to the different schools in the city, where he made talks that resulted in a record attendance of kids on a special matinee.

RIO RITA (RKO)—Electric signs that dominated the entire downtown district were used when this production played the Hippodrome, Cleveland. The ushers were dressed in Spanish garb, and the lobby was elaborately decorated to resemble a Spanish hacienda. One hundred thousand paper napkins were printed and used in the various restaurants around the city. Forty thousand excursion sheets were used by local bus company in its buses and stations around Cleveland.

GOLD DIGGERS ON BROADWAY (Warner Bros.)—The Hippodrome Theater, Cleveland, also went a long way to sell this production. Orchestras and radio singers were pulled in line, and played and sang the music over the air and at dances, giving the picture and theater a plug at the same time. Tiny picks and shovels, with advertising attached, were given away at the theater a couple of weeks in advance of the showing. Fifteen thousand balloons were imprinted and furnished night clubs to be given out to patrons. Exceptionally good window displays were secured, and a tieup with the local 10-cent store on a Tip Toe sundae secured one of the best windows in the downtown district.

DISRAELI (Warner Bros.)—When this feature was shown in Cleveland, a tieup with the Public Library proved a great aid in selling it to the city. Bookmarks were used in the library, and posters, approved by the officials, were also posted in the library halls and reading rooms. *Disraeli* offers one of the most attractive tieups that can be secured from a library standpoint, and the advertising value of a tieup of this kind is great.

FLIGHT (Columbia)—During the engagement of *Flight* in Milwaukee the manager of the Orpheum Theater tied up with the Kresge store on a very attractive window display that created a lot of interest and blocked traffic on the main street of the town. A St. Louis toy manufacturing company manufactures planes that are distributed thru the Kresge Company, which has a national tieup with the company, whereby Kresge is to furnish a central window display with girls to demonstrate the planes to passersby. The toy company also furnished 100,000 heralds, which were inserted in all packages leaving the store. This is a double plug for the theater and cost nothing other than a half-minute screen flash and a lobby display of the toys. At the Hippodrome Theater, Cleveland, a plane was flown from Toledo and lent to the theater for 10 days. The plane was a baby Moth, lent by the Curtiss people, and was mounted on a carry-all truck with banners of 30 feet on each side of the truck.

THE ORPHEUM THEATER, Madison, Wis., used three turkeys in a cage and named them "R", "K" and "O". The patrons were asked to guess how many kernels of corn the birds would eat in a given period, the three guessers nearest right being given the turkeys.

THE TRESPASSER (U. A.)—When this feature played the Park Theater, Johnstown, Pa., Manager W. J. Bittner went on the air with the songs, and used his vocal talent to plug the picture's engagement in a manner that was sure to bring them to his theater. Bittner is a regular feature at the local broadcasting station and uses his time between songs to sell the radio audience the Park Theater.

RUDY VALLEE'S The Vagabond Lover (RKO), at the Woods Theater, Chicago, is being exploited by means of fan mail to Rudy Vallee being displayed on the front of the theater. Several hundred of the letters, in their original envelopes, are pasted around the entrance to the theater.

Orchestra and Melody

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Horace Heidt To Monte Carlo

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Horace Heidt and his Californians, West Coast orchestra which scored a tremendous success at the Palace Theater here several months ago, will sail, January 24, for Monte Carlo, where the Heidt organization is booked for an eight weeks' run at the famous Monte Carlo Casino, opening February 8. The booking was arranged by the William Morris office.

The Heidt combination played for four weeks at the Palace here, said to be a long-run record for a band attraction at that house. The orchestra also will be the first American orchestra to play the well-known Monte Carlo resort. Following the Monte Carlo run, Heidt is expected to take his tooters to the various capitals of Europe.

Eddie Hitchcock, Pacific Coast press agent, now with the Fox New England Theaters under Herschel Stuart, will accompany the Californians on the tour to serve in the capacity of press agent and personal representative.

St. Louis Musicians Elect Men Opposed to Settlement

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28.—Disaffection over the recent settlement of the strike of motion picture theaters resulted in the election last week of a new president, vice-president and treasurer of Musicians' Local Union No. 2 here.

Samuel P. Meyers was elected president by a large majority, succeeding Guy M. Daily, who held the office for the last five years. Meyers has been active on union committees, but never held office before. Harry Hoffmann, vice-president, and William Rosenke, treasurer, were the other candidates of the group opposing the strike settlement who were elected. D. K. Howell, veteran recording secretary, and Vincent Wolf, financial secretary, were re-elected. Neither took part in the recent negotiations with employers, which ended with the musicians accepting the terms of the theater owners. The strike was called September 15, when the owners of 50 neighborhood theaters declined to meet a demand that they employ a specified number of musicians in their orchestras.

Schreiber To Manage M. C. A. Western Office

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Following a policy of expansion, the Music Corporation of America is preparing to open an office on the West Coast January 15. Headquarters have already been leased for an exclusive suite in the Oviatt Building in Los Angeles, and several outstanding orchestras on the Coast have aligned themselves with the M. C. A.

J. C. Stein, president of the M. C. A., will be in charge of the office in Los Angeles temporarily, but after things are put in running order there the office will be managed by Taft Schreiber, who has been with the corporation for some years. With him from the Chicago office goes Olive Lindley.

Mal Hallett Touring

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Mal Hallett and his orchestra, featured at the Coconut Grove, Los Angeles, for the last few weeks, is returning east, and arrangements have been made with Charley Shribman, manager of the organization for the M. C. A., to handle his tour back east. One-night stands are now being booked, and the organization will come east about February 1.



ERNE HOLST, whose 10-piece combination will wind up a three months' engagement in the Blue Room of the Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, on January 11, to move to the Colony Club, Palm Beach, for the balance of the winter season. The Holst band has been contracted to return to the Book-Cadillac following its Palm Beach run.

Dornberger Set At Hot Springs

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Charles Dornberger and his orchestra are returning for their third season at the Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, Ark.

The combination will remain at the Arlington for six weeks and will be followed by Weede Meyer and his orchestra. They will broadcast over Station KTHS.

Haselmire Has Band at Coliseum, Tampa, Fla.

TAMPA, Dec. 28.—Dan Haselmire, who has just concluded a fall contract as master of ceremonies and entertainer with his radio partner, Dewey Cone, at the Davis Island Coliseum here, has organized his own orchestra and is now personally leading the outfit at the Coliseum for an indefinite run. The Haselmire is heard regularly over WDAE during its engagement here.

In the combination are Tommie Hearn, drums; Bus Strong, banjo and sax; Ed Taylor, piano and accordion; Pete Lopez, string bass and sousaphone; Alton O'Quinn, flute, saxes and clarinet; "Shorty" Goodson, saxes and clarinet; Bill Kirkl, trumpet and soloist; Don Doyle, trumpet, soloist and entertainer; "Slim" White, trombone and entertainer, and Danny Haselmire, leader and entertainer.

Charles Seaman Venetians Land New York Engagement

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Charles Seaman and his Venetians, formerly at the Penn Alto Restaurant, East Liberty, Pa., are now being featured for an indefinite period at the Mt. Eden Gardens in the Bronx. This is the band's first appearance in New York.

The six-piece aggregation is composed of Micky Sabol, sax and voice; Al Friedman, drums; Harry Model, violin; Bill Stokes, trumpet; Ben Jones, sax, and Charles Seaman, piano.

N. O. Musicians Elect

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—John DeDroit has been elected president of the Musicians' Mutual Protective Union, Local 174, A. F. of M., here. Other officers chosen were G. Pipitone, vice-president; Thomas G. Probesa, financial and recording secretary, and W. B. Miller, sergeant at arms. Board of directors: Albert Kirst, Jr.; George Peterson, M. Cupero, Charles Fischbein, E. Fontana, R. L. Chabao, Henry J. Raymond, Howard W. Teed, A. Fischer, Jr.; Henry Knecht, C. F. Hartman and S. J. Schultz.

Chatterbox Closing; Henry Theis for WLW

The Chatterbox night club, located in the Sinton Hotel, Cincinnati, where Henry Theis and his Victor Recording Orchestra are playing their third consecutive winter season, will cease to operate nightly after the first of the year, according to well-founded rumors which have been making the rounds in the Queen City the past week. Poor business is given as the cause for the shutdown. It is said that the Chatterbox will operate only on Saturday nights in the future and Henry Theis will continue to furnish the music.

Henry Theis, it is stated, has signed a long-term contract with the Crosley Radio Corporation for his band to serve as studio orchestra at Station WLW, Cincinnati.

First Cross Releases Plugged on West Coast

Two new songs are getting a heavy plug on the West Coast these days. They are Kisses, a tuneful fox-trot, and Rock-a-Bye to Sleep in Dixie, a waltz number that is proving a "natural". These songs are the first releases of the S. L. Cross Music Corporation, the new popular music publishing company recently formed in the Northwest.

Gene McCormick, professional manager of the new firm, says that judging from the number of calls for both songs, they are due for a heavy ride. Executive offices of the corporation are in Seattle, Wash., with professional branches being opened at key cities throughout the country. Among the new company's several hundred stockholders are many of the leading artists and music dealers on the West Coast.

Don Lanning Featured In Frolics Floor Show

MIAMI, Dec. 28.—Don Lanning, well-known master of ceremonies, has been selected to head the Frolics of 1929 at the Frolics, one of Miami's leading night clubs, located at 13th street and Causeway, which is slated to begin its winter season tonight.

Others in the floor show cast will be Bryant Rains and Young, adagio trio; Alvira Morton, prima donna; Ann Allison, soubret, and an ensemble of 20 girls. The Frolics Club Orchestra, under the direction of Frank F. Novak, Jr., will furnish the music.

Weekly Show for Rainbow

CLEVELAND, Dec. 28.—The Rainbow Room in the Hotel Winton, where George Williams and his band are featured, have again inaugurated the policy of a year ago, of having a weekly floor show with a feature master of ceremonies and a chorus. In the initial offering this week are featured Ray Walzer, master of ceremonies; the Sherman Kids; Trude Anderson, Edith Powell and Kay Francis.

Isham Jones In Milwaukee

Isham Jones and his orchestra, who have been touring under the Amuse Service Corporation banner for the last 12 weeks, will begin a limited engagement at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, January 1. Following the engagement there, Jones and his music makers are booked for a string of auto shows thru that territory, including the Twin Cities Auto Show in St. Paul.

Last week Jones recorded a number of his old tunes for the Brunswick firm, among them *Swinging Down the Lane*, which he made famous on Brunswick records several seasons ago. The band also "canned" several pop numbers for Brunswick.

Luke Barnett Engaged For Pittsburgh Club

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 28.—Luke Barnett, widely known banquet entertainer, has been engaged as the feature attraction at the Winter Garden Roof, Pittsburgh's newest night club, atop the Mayfair Hotel, formerly the Chatham.

The Roof Garden, which has recently been renovated and redecorated, opened Wednesday night, with Georgie Weber and his Pittsburghers supplying the dance melodies. A revue, headed by Olive and Amdur and Lee Parent, master of ceremonies, also is featured.

Maynard Combo Set At Yen Ho, Boston

BOSTON, Dec. 28.—Frankie Maynard and his singing orchestra, featuring Bob Holder, trombonist, and Tony Viola, alto sax, is now stationed for an indefinite period at the Yen Ho Restaurant on Tremont street. The band comes here after a seven months' run at the well-known Village Nut Club in New York, from where the outfit was heard regularly over Station ABC.

In the Maynard lineup are Roy Flanders, trumpet; Bob Holder, trombone; Sam Sirio, violin and banjo; Karl Chris, piano; Dick Sanborn, bass; Tony Viola, alto sax; Buddy Clark, tenor sax, and Frankie Maynard, drums and voice.

Ray O'Hara Tooters At Governor Clinton

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Ray O'Hara and his Penn-Rensselaer Orchestra, nine collegiate bandsters, opened Monday in the grillroom of the Governor Clinton Hotel for an indefinite engagement. They recently played at the Knickerbocker Grill and prior to that worked at the Oakdale Vanderbilt Hotel, Oakdale, L. I.

The boys, who hail from the Rensselaer Polytechnical Institute, will soon take part in the commercial broadcast of the Bernstein Furniture Company.

Brigode To Tour

CLEVELAND, Dec. 30.—Ace Brigode and his 14 Virginians will leave Danceland here January 15 to make a three weeks' tour of the Eastern States, after which he will return to Danceland for the balance of the winter.

The Beasley Smith combination will fill in at Danceland during Brigode's absence. The Brigode band is playing its third consecutive winter season at Danceland. His tour of the East was arranged by the A. S. O., Chicago.

Asia, Bridgeport, Closes

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 28.—The Asia Restaurant, Chinese eatery and night club, closed its doors last week and filed a voluntary bankruptcy petition. It has housed a number of well-known dance bands.

Melody Mart Notes

THE HEART OF AMERICA Music Company, Kansas City, Mo., has just released a new number, *Beautiful Moon of Waukiki*, written by Jack Smith, Albert O'Rourke, Lee Riley and Lester Novak.

THE ASSOCIATED FEATURES is the new Virginia representative of the Crocker Wilkinson Publishing Company, of Clinton, Mo. W. B. Eddington is manager of the associated concern, and is busy plugging the new catalog which consists of *Down the Lane to Home, Sweet Home; I'm Sorry, Try and Get It and Sunshine, Why Don't You Shine on Me?*

STERLING SHERWIN, one of the leading free-lance songwriters, set a new mark recently when three of his songs were recorded by Bennett on the same day. Their titles are *Burning Kisses, Running Wild and Tarnished Love*.

AL ELDRIDGE, conductor of the Missouri Theater Orchestra, St. Louis, and Truman L. Brown, well-known lyricist, have completed two new songs that look like "naturals". *Do You and Why Don't You Make Up Your Mind?* are being sung and whistled all over St. Louis. They will be placed on the market soon.

EARL H. CRAVEN and Carroll D. Corbaley, who founded the American Music Company, San Francisco, a few months ago, already have six numbers on the market, three of which show signs of becoming hits. The releases include *I Miss You, Trail of My Memory, Doo-Doo; Just One, That's All; Longing and Please Do*. Another number is on the press at this writing, *I've Got a Complex*. Robert Vogel is the firm's professional manager.

JACK KNEBEL and Eddie Jones, former organist at the Olympia Theater, New Haven, Conn., have just composed four new fox-trot ditties, which they have titled *All on Account of You, Why Do It, When Someone Loves You and For You Took That, Too*.

Ballroom Notes

CANTON, O., Dec. 28.—Moonlight Ballroom, where a dance marathon is now in progress, was threatened by fire which destroyed the Park Hotel, adjoining, early Christmas morning.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 28.—Bobby Burns, dancer and monolog artist, formerly with the Al G. Field and Lassies White minstrels, has been engaged as master of ceremonies for the New Year's Eve revel to be held at the Madrid Ballroom here. Others on the bill will include Jimmy Bittner, local soloist; the Nau Sisters Trio, and several specialty artists of Clyde McCoy's Orchestra.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—F. D. Finlay is the new manager of the Balconades Ballroom here, replacing George Puckett, who recently sold his controlling interest in the dancette to Harry G. McKanny, local attorney.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Dario, of Dario and Irene, internationally known dance team, opened the Moon Ballroom, located at 161 East 86th street, Thursday night, with Ben Bernie and his orchestra as the principal features.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 30.—Bert Stock and his orchestra, who were recently held over at the Rosemont Ballroom for an additional four weeks, will conclude their stay at that place January 8.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—"Nick" Nichols and his recording orchestra, who originally moved into the Arcadia Ballroom here, October 8, for a two weeks' en-

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engagement, are still going over big at that place. They will wind up their stay there January 15, after a 14 weeks' run.

GREAT FALLS, Mont., Dec. 28.—Phil Sheridan and his Pioneers of Montana Orchestra are now in their third season at the Granada Ballroom here, and report one of the biggest seasons in the history of the organization. The band is heard nightly over KFBB. Members of the Sheridan outfit are: H. Clarke, Joe Scanda, Bob McAllister, "Hokum" Hunt, Jack Whitaker and Phil Sheridan.

SEYMOUR, Conn., Dec. 30.—Messrs. McCormack and Barry have leased the Strand Danceland here and will operate it during the winter.

AURORA, Ill., Dec. 28.—A ballroom was opened on the second floor of the new Tivoli Theater, Galena boulevard and River street, last Saturday night, with dances scheduled for Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday nights. It is the largest dance hall in this part of the State, with a floor 130x100 feet. The management is booking name bands for one-night stands.

which has been playing fraternity dates for the last four weeks, have just finished an engagement for the Haddaah Club at the Hotel Shenandoah, Martinsburg, W. Va., and are set for the month of January in Scranton, Pa., and Columbus, O.

ART HICKEY and his orchestral combination, now playing one-night stands thru the East, are slated to appear at the Breakers Roof, Atlantic City, New Year's Eve. The outfit is carded to move south shortly.

STEPHEN E. BOISCLAIRE, organist, is again the musical feature at the Mark Ritz Theater, Albany, N. Y. Boisclair left Albany three years ago for Los Angeles, and for a time was featured at the new Stanley Theater, Utica, N. Y.

VIC MEYERS and his Columbia Recording Orchestra are being featured at the New Club Victor in Seattle, Wash. Meyers also is doubling in the m. c. role.

DICK COY and his Racketeers are located for a limited engagement at Saunderson's Inn, Pittsburgh.

DON MILLER, solo organist, for several years at the Paramount, State and Fisher theaters, Detroit, moved into the Grand Riviera, Detroit, Christmas Day, when the house reopened with a new policy of pictures, stage shows and musical features.

JACK PRINGLE, trumpeter, and Frank Scholtz, drummer, have joined William Wilson's Harmony Kings, of Scottsbluff, Neb. There are seven men in the Wilson aggregation.

BOB TURNER and his Original Troubadours recently filled a two-day engagement at the Ritz Ballroom, Wichita. (See MUSINGS on page 31)

Musical Musings

SAMMY WATKINS, prominent Cleveland band leader, has gone to New York to negotiate in placing his orchestra there.

GEORGE KREGLING and his orchestra, playing at the Canton Restaurant, Bridgeport, Conn., for the last three years, closed at that place last week. Their place has been filled by Cliff Seymour and his Melodians.

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Wagner & Erlanger Compete With Duffy

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Charles L. Wagner, in association with A. L. Erlanger, is planning to establish a series of rotary stocks along the Pacific Coast, from Portland to San Diego and extending over into Texas. The first of these companies will open in San Francisco shortly after the beginning of the new year in the old Orpheum Theater, which is being remodeled and will be renamed the New Erlanger.

Madge Kennedy is to be the star of the initial offering. It is understood, and there will be a player of national prominence at the head of each cast. The Wagner-Erlanger project is in direct competition with the Henry Duffy interests. Duffy has for a long time had things his own way along the Pacific Coast. How the threatened competition will affect the Duffy houses remains to be seen.

Mystery Play Newest Cin'ti Civic Production

In the Next Room, mystery play, was the Cincinnati Civic Theater's offering for the week commencing Monday evening, December 30. It served to introduce a new group of players. The original Boule cabinet, constructed for the New York production, was used. The cast assembled by David Lindley, production director, was headed by Natalie Giddings, former Galesburg, Ill., Little Theater member, and included Clifford Lang, pianist and composer, whose concerto at Music Hall was a recent event; Paul Bachelor, dancer, actor, singer and composer, whose ballets are a feature of the Zoo opera; Anne Oelkenbeck, society editor of an evening newspaper; Robert Toepfert, Helen Treadway, George Schattie, David McNeal, Clarence Frohlinger, Henry Woodward and Samuel Griffin. Carl Titman was stage manager and Barclay Shields scenic artist. Owing to the local popularity of members of the cast, many theater parties were arranged.

Coast Theaters Bidding For Horton Productions

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Edward Everett Horton decided to give up local production with the termination of the current run of *Among the Married*, at the Majestic Theater, and devote his time to his work in motion pictures.

It is said that overtures have been made to Horton to take his show, bodily, with settings and cast intact, to San Francisco, with several Bay City producers offering their theaters to the actor-producer. Horton would not commit himself when approached, altho it is known that he has a large following among theatergoers in the Northern California city, and the proposition might fare well enough to warrant the attempt, it is thought. On the other hand, it is not believed Horton will continue with his stage productions, especially outside of Los Angeles, as he is under contract to make three pictures, the first to start shortly after the first of the year.

Pangborn in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 28.—Betty Pierce, recently signed by Franklin Pangborn, opened with the company at the Vine Street Theater, Hollywood, Christmas afternoon in *The Near Car*.

Gay Seabrook plays the other feminine lead, and Producer Pangborn appears in the detective role.



MARION STERLY, leading woman of the new Palace Players, Palace Theater, San Antonio, Tex., during the run of that stock, which closed recently, has played leads in dramatic stock organizations in Los Angeles, Oakland, San Francisco, Memphis and Seattle. She has been featured in "The Patsy" in Australia and New Zealand. She scored a great success in "The Best People", her opening play with the Palace Players.

Springfield Fans Eager To Hold Gifford Players

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 30.—While the Gifford Players contracted for a season limited to 10 weeks in Springfield, it is generally believed that the popular demand for an indefinite extension will induce E. G. Gifford and his associates to continue at the Senate. The Gifford contract expires January 5. Whether it will be renewed depends upon the assurance given by the local stock fans.

Men and women prominent in the professional, business and social life of the city are already tendering checks in payment for another 10 weeks of the splendid productions given by the players. If sufficient assurance of financial support in this form to justify the extension is given in time, the stock will remain. The question is up to the patrons of spoken drama to decide. Few, if any, cities of the size of Springfield have been favored this winter with stock productions of such artistic excellence as Gifford has been presenting. Civic pride has greatly stimulated the movement to retain the stock at the Senate. The campaign for the support needed is now going forward earnestly.

For the week of December 22, a fine production of *The Fool* was staged under the direction of Charles J. Lemmers, followed this week by *Jonesy*, with *Little Accident* underlined.

Henry Duffy Shifting His House Managers

OAKLAND, Calif., Dec. 30.—E. O. Bondeson, who manages the Duffy Theaters in Oakland, is to return to Seattle, Wash., to take over the Duffy President Theater there. Bondeson was recently at the Seattle house before coming to Oakland.

Jay Williams, now in Seattle, will be sent to the President Theater, Los Angeles, while Ira La Motte, who now is managing the President, will return to his old post in Oakland, replacing Bondeson. La Motte is very popular in Oakland.

Return of Stock Enthuses Freeport

FREEPORT, Ill., Dec. 28.—Opening of the Neale Helvey Company at the Germania Theater was signalized by the biggest business on record for this theater. Matinee and night performances were witnessed by audiences that packed the house to the doors. Hundreds were turned away. Manager C. L. Gilbert of the Germania reports. Play and players drew high encomiums from the local press.

This is the second season of the Helvey Company here and all of the old favorites in the cast were given a rousing welcome by the stock fans. The initial bill was *This Thing Called Love*. Responding to the tremendous greeting accorded them, individual members of the company made speeches of acknowledgment. The demonstration of enthusiasm with which the return of stock was hailed augurs for a long and prosperous season.

The policy will be the same as last season. Neal Helvey and Dorothy Dumas continue in the leads. Lee Cogdell is company manager.

Christmas Night Opening For Arthur Casey Players

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—The Arthur Casey Players opened at the Orpheum Theater Christmas night, with Arthur Casey and Mary Hart in joint management. Casey will try out a triple experiment which will undoubtedly be watched with interest throughout the country. The first is to bring in as many as possible of the original cast in whatever bill is offered. The second is a definite policy of two weeks or more run for each play. The third deals with prices, a \$1 top.

The Bachelor Father is the first offering, with *The Sifted House* and *The Royal Family* to follow. Visiting guest artists are George Riddell, the original Larkin; Harriet Lorraine, the original Italian opera singer-mother, and Joan Ruth, well-known opera singer, who played the leads in *Naughty Marietta* and *Merris* in the St. Louis Municipal Opera Company several seasons ago. Resident players are: Mary Hart and Arthur Pierson leads; Grace Troy, ingenue; Lester New, juvenile; Pierre Watkin, who will take the role of the "bachelor father"; May B. Hurst and Alexander Campbell, characters; J. James Downing, general business; S. Henry Norell, stage manager, and Cyril Raymond, production director. Handling the front of the house are V. E. Sutton-Matlocks, publicity, and Jack Bruce, treasurer.

Changes in Empire Cast Give Toronto New Faces

TORONTO, Dec. 30.—There has been a shift in the cast of the New Empire Theater Players. Robert Leslie, who was in his third season as leading man, resigned after the performance of *The Old Firm*. His place has been filled, it is understood, by Jack Edwards, juvenile of the company.

John Holden, who played juveniles last season, is back again and made his first appearance in *The Pied Piper*, a successful allegorical spectacle suitable for the Christmas season. Leslie was out of the cast several weeks ago when *A Kiss for Cinderella* was the bill, owing to a nervous breakdown.

MELVA OERARD advises that she closed her engagement with the Cleman-Walsh Players at the Brandels Theater, Omaha, Neb., last week.

Eagles Just Naturally Take to Air at Columbus

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 30.—Dick Lee, director of the Eagle Players, has been engaged by the Fraternal Order of Eagles of the State of Ohio to organize and direct its Radio Stock Company, which will broadcast a play from Radio Station WAIU, at Columbus, O., each Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 8 o'clock, commencing January 18, for a period of 10 weeks.

He has engaged the following players to take part in these plays: Maudie Duvall, Georgia Noble and James Cooper, all recognized stock players of long experience. The Eagle Players are continuing with excellent business, despite the holidays and industrial conditions in Columbus, and are playing to a big house each night.

Play Recalling Slapper Actress Is Poor Draw

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 30.—Gene Lewis, former stock producer of Dallas and other southern cities, appeared in the leading male role of *Her First Night*, at the Egan Theater, Hollywood. The play's story is likened to that of the Lillian Foster incident in London, and while she does not slap the face of the critic who panned her, the heroine of *Her First Night* becomes a party to a frame-up, with the reviewer the victim. The play is highly amusing. Despite the short cast and apparent small overhead, business is not up to expectations.

Lewis is resorting to the curtain-speech method of arousing interest. He advises those who witness the play to tell their friends, stating that if they will fill out a card, passes will be sent them. These passes will be redeemed at a service charge of 50 cents for each person. In response to sincere tributes of welcome from the audience, Lewis makes an appeal for a better understanding of the theater and its purpose, and informs the patrons that he is a newcomer to Los Angeles, that he wants to remain here, and that their continued patronage of the play and theater will keep him in Los Angeles, but if the public does not respond, he knows he will have to leave the city.

Faversham Guest Star With Stock in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 28.—William Faversham was the visiting star with the Capitol Stock Players in the presentation of *Her Friend the King*, at the Capitol Theater. Business has continued to improve since Manager Oscar J. Ferrin assumed the direction of this company of stock players. Mary Fowler, in *Hawk Island*, supported by Olga Lee and Carl Hubel, is booked.

Allys Dwyer Abandoning Stock To Play in Films

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 28.—Allys Dwyer and Dorothy Lord made their final appearance with the Bainbridge Players, Shubert Theater, last week in *Holiday*. Both enjoy personal popularity in Minneapolis, and the fans gave them a flattering testimonial of regard when they appeared in the opening performance of their farewell bill.

Miss Dwyer, who recently signed for Fox pictures, has been notified that her first picture will go into production January 15. She left Minneapolis for California today.

Houtain Calls for Showdown

Voluntarily assuming the role of counselor for the conflicting interests, George Julian Houtain, executive chairman of the Theatrical Stock Managers' Association, has projected himself into the controversy in which the Actors' Equity and the mechanical forces of the American theater are involved. Houtain introduces himself into the argument "on behalf of the T. S. M. A." and conveys his salutatory in this role thru the Christmas week issue of *The T. S. M. A. Bulletin*, official publication of the association.

Canavan and Webber rejected Houtain's proposal for a conference when the letter reached them December 23. On the other hand, F. Lawrence Weber, for the Managers' Protective Association, pronounced Houtain's suggestion "same and sound." Frank Gillmore said Equity would accept anything for the good of the theater. Lessing, for the scenic artists, said he would attend such a conference—if other crafts were represented. But, as indicated in the first publication of Houtain's move last week, the conference proposal appears to have been found generally unacceptable.

Opening with the conventional greetings of the season, and addressing himself specifically to Frank Gillmore, president of Equity; W. F. Canavan, president of the stage employees' union; Charles E. Lessing, head of the scenic artists; Joseph Webber, president of the A. P. M.; Edward Childs Carpenter, president of the Dramatists Guild; Arthur Hammerstein, president of the M. P. A.; and William E. Green, chief of the American Federation of Labor, Houtain, in a 2,600-word broadside, delivers himself, in substance, as follows, proposing a general conference with a view to remedying existing conditions:

"Dear Sirs—At first blush it may seem an impertinence on the part of this organization to dare to address itself to such powerful interests, and to lay emphasis on conditions which are fast grinding the spoken flesh-and-blood drama under the heel, and wiping it out as a commercial enterprise, with the initiative for artistic achievements, which must go hand in hand with all theatrical financial investments.

"The theaters are dying a slow death as it is, and, perhaps, it would be better once and for all to have it over with, and we now invite you to either make the funeral arrangements or to gather around the conference table, diagnose our ills and not only prescribe, but actually administer the relief which is necessary for our well being.

"Careful consideration will show that stock companies are today the bulwark of the American stage, and in actuality the only group which is upholding our traditions thruout the country. There are practically no more road shows, and the legitimate theater is only operating in the larger cities thruout the country. Why? Because you have made it impossible for production because of high prices. Because of these high prices, you have made it impossible for production to compete with the talkies. The result is that American audiences must rely for their entertainment on canned drama, because the spoken drama is not available to them.

"Mr. Gillmore, you fought the motion picture interests nobly, and must of necessity renew the fight, and not only that, but win it, or the Actors' Equity will become an association of mostly unemployed members. You and your members have rendered material aid to the stock producers, and we, as an organization, have enjoyed your friendship and good will. Your members have met us on salary rates in keeping with the exigencies of the times. We didn't and don't agree with you on Sunday performances, and think you made a grievous mistake in not limiting the number of performances to a six-night week (regardless of whether the off night was Sunday or any other).

"Mr. Webber, I have been reading your advertisements in our national magazines and daily newspapers with deep interest, not unmixed with grief for your plight. I keenly feel the passing of the theater orchestra. So do stock managers. They preferred the orchestra, but you made it impossible for them to continue to hire orchestras. Your salary lists became higher than the highest high C played. You always insisted upon a minimum orchestra. If a manager, for instance, could only afford a three-piece chamber music unit, you wouldn't let him have it, but insisted upon a full orchestra. You be-

came arrogant. But now you have met a mightier master (sound pictures), who, in turn, is driving you and your musicians and the culture of real, well-played and presented music out of the theater. We invite you to rewrite your scale of prices downward, and make livable rules and regulations, not alone for the musician, but also for the manager. We will gladly put music back into the stock theaters if you will meet us on terms of live and let live.

"We have great admiration for you, Mr. Canavan. Your business genius, your organizing abilities, your heart and soul interest in your fellow stage hands. You and your associates have jacked the scale of wages to a point where I have seen managers drive to and from their theaters in small cars, if any autos they have at all, while members of your union have done so in high-grade makes. I have taken off my hat to you on innumerable occasions when I have seen a crew of 8 or 10 men loaf around a whole week, playing cards, because the one set was made ready on Monday for that evening's performance, and stood there for every subsequent performance of that week. And, too, I have seen that manager finally compelled to put up the closing notice, because he couldn't afford to support your totally unnecessary stage crew. Your union, Mr. Canavan, has done more to close stock houses and to prevent others from opening than any other branch of the theater.

"Mr. Lessing, I am informed that many of your talented scenic artists members are suffering from enforced vacations. We regret it very much, because we would like to see them all employed. It seems to me, however, that it wouldn't be a bad idea to take a leaf out of the note book of experience of the musicians.

"The play's the thing, Mr. Carpenter, and you are right in putting yourself on the back, that without the play there would be no theater. Quite true; but that doesn't mean, or shouldn't, that there has to be any unfairness about it. I have seen houses with a small seating capacity paying the same high-priced royalty for a play charged to a larger house in a populous city. It isn't fair or just. When we complain to the play brokers, they pass the buck to you.

At last, but not least, Mr. Hammerstein. You are the head of the Producers' Association of the legitimate theater. Our interests are one in practically every respect, only it is quite possible that you may not care to have the public in general know that legitimate producers and stock producers are sisters under the skin. Our battle is yours; yours is ours. How far are you willing to go to keep the spoken drama alive; to make the theater an attractive place for investment of the American dollar; to contribute to American art and culture?

"Mr. Green, I am addressing you, because, as the father of all unions, you may desire paternally to advise your offspring. You know, as well as I, that with its great mass production, with its necessity for change of programs two and three times a week, with the keen competition of other similar houses in the same town, that the time isn't very far distant when the talkies will cease to attract and entertain, because the supply of good talkie plays will not equal the demand. The public will then turn to the legitimate theater. Will the legitimate theater be ready to receive them when they do?

"I intend no offense in this open communication. I have spoken frankly, because I believe in frank talk. I heartily disapprove of star-chamber proceedings. I believe the people are entitled to know the facts, because they are as much, if not more, interested than we are. I believe in public opinion and that the wishes of the public should be observed. I am hopeful that patrons will interest themselves sufficiently to write to you and to me with their free, unbiased judgment and opinions.

"Cannot we gather around the conference table and talk this matter over face to face? Are you willing to do this? If I can secure the consent of the other gentlemen to meet at a not far distant date, will you be willing to be present with two others, say a committee of three from your respective organizations, as a Plan and Scope Committee of the American Theater, to discuss conditions and try to remedy them so that we may preserve the spoken drama as a fixed institution of our American cultural life?"

Christmas Party Given For Harrington Players

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 28.—A novel Christmas party was staged Christmas Eve by the six usherets employed by Guy Harrington, who is in his fifth season at the Stone Theater here.

The young ladies—Mary and Victoria Ellis, Beva Decker, Mary O'Boyle, Irene Marsh and Nellie Edwards—sent invitations to artists, stage hands, musicians and all connected with the theater, explaining that the gathering had a dual significance. It was a Christmas party and a welcoming affair to Alice Davenport, who was rejoining the Guy Harrington Players, after an absence of four years. Stone Hall, the large assembly room in connection with the theater, was engaged.

A huge Christmas tree was procured and beautifully trimmed, and the Stone Theater orchestra furnished the music, singing and dancing being indulged in for awhile, when the exchange of Christmas gifts took place. A prize waltz was one of the features of the evening, the judges awarding the prize to Minna Ruegge, the ingenue, and Joe W. Standish, Harrington's manager for the last four seasons. A buffet luncheon was also served, and an old-fashioned Virginia reel closed the festivities.

The grand march was led by Guy Harrington and Alice Davenport.

Peruchi Cuts the Scale Of Prices at Jacksonville

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 28.—Following an absence of short duration in St. Petersburg, the Arcade Players returned to the Arcade, opening Christmas afternoon in *The Love Test*. The players were given a flattering welcome on their return. The cast is headed by Leslie Rice and Gerald Rowan.

With the reopening of the company the new scale of prices announced by Chelso Peruchi, manager, became effective. Matinee prices are now 35 and 50 cents and at night 40 and 60 cents. Matinees are given Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Stock Notables Gather At Party for Mrs. Boyle

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Pauline H. Boyle, well known as a casting agent in New York, was guest of honor at a birthday party and Christmas tree celebration at the Hotel Chelsea apartment of Grace Wynden Vail, of Century Play Company, Christmas Eve. Mrs. Vail furnished a big birthday cake, appropriate illumination, etc., to a group of about 30 friends.

Mrs. Boyle had never been backstage in her life prior to the time, some years ago, she decided to carry on the work of management left by her husband at Nashville, Tenn. She went to Chicago, engaged a troupe of actors and for eight years made theatrical history at Nashville. Then she came to New York and within four hours was engaged to manage a company at Rochester, N. Y. She remained there a season and was arrested three times for selling more standing room than was allowed. Next J. J. Maloney engaged her to manage for Percy Williams at the Gotham, Brooklyn, and here she remained for another eight years. There's 17 years of management.

During Mrs. Boyle's eight years with the Keith office she engaged stock companies for winter engagements, demonstrating a particular ability in judging actors. For 12 years she has represented W. B. Lawrence and Doc Howder, of Winnipeg, engaging their stocks without either manager coming to New York and in that time has had only one person from the entire group sent back for incompetency or insubordination, which is a record. Mrs. Boyle also had her fling at a Broadway production, dropping \$45,000 on *Two Little Sailor Boys*, which ran at the Academy for eight weeks. Doug Fairbanks was the juvenile in the company.

The Christmas Eve birthday party was a tribute from a group of friends. Two Santa Clauses did the honors, who, sans beards, proved to be Al Luttlinger, who had slodded in from his stock at Preport, and Jimmy Carroll, who left his troupe at Yonkers flat, to come and play giffle to Pauline.

Among theatrical friends who dropped in to pay their respects to Mrs. Boyle and Mrs. Vail were Maude Eburne Hall and Gene Hall, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Harder, Irene Summery, Bella Cairns,

Nora Ryan, Lorette Brown, Ralph Bellamy and Alice Bellamy, William Blair, Shirley De Mee, John Ravold, Mary Daniel, Sddie Belgarde, Paul Scott, Laura Tinkle, George Gatts and Al Foster, while telegrams arrived from Vessie Farrell at Des Moines, Bill and Dora Walsh at Omaha, Ann Kingsley at Freeport, Charles Harrison at Allentown, Al Jackup at Madison, Wis.; Hunter Gardner at Detroit and others.

Dramatic Stock Notes

DUDLEY MILLER PLAYERS, at Hamilton, O., have just completed six weeks of successful business.

ARMSTRONG-PRAETTER PLAYERS, at South Bend, Ind., report good business.

GUY BEACH STOCK reopened at the Majestic Theater, La Crosse, Wis., December 23.

EARLE ROSS PLAYERS will reopen at the Warrington Theater, Oak Park, Ill., December 29.

HELEN A. STANLAND is continuing with the *After Dark Company*, which reopens December 29 after a two weeks' layoff.

AMERICAN THEATRICAL AGENCY, after January 1, will be located on the seventh floor of the Delaware Building, Chicago.

ANDREW LEIGH returned to his home in Alton, Ill., last week from Florida, where he made a tour of the coast, extending thru two months, recuperating from a long illness, which began last summer when he was playing in the *Mae West Diamond Lil Company*. He underwent a surgical operation in September, which insured his recovery. He will pass the holidays at home.

JOAN GORDON, at the head of the cast in the production of *My Son* by the James J. Hayden Players, Jefferson Theater, Portland, Me., week of December 15, was a strong draw. The house was sold out for the entire week in advance, following the opening performance, at which the guest star was accorded a great reception. Joan Gordon was featured in the original New York production of the piece.

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Gormand-Ford Finishes Run

HAMBURG, Pa., Dec. 28.—The Gormand-Ford Company, under the ownership and management of Harry Gormand and Charles Clynes, has just concluded a successful two weeks' engagement at the Armory Hall, this city, and has left here to continue its tour of houses thru this territory. The company will again play its established territory in Michigan next summer.

During the company's stay here, a special matinee performance was given at the Hamburg Tubercular Sanitarium for the benefit of the patients there. That the patients in the bedridden wards could also enjoy the program, a microphone was installed on the stage, and the presentation was broadcast to all the other buildings on the ground.

The Gormand-Ford roster now includes Harry Gormand, business manager; Charles Clynes, director and leads; Mildred Ford, leads and specialties; Sally Bee Flynn, ingenues and specialties; Paul Swanson, piano and specialties; Stanley (Tye) Ives, juveniles; John Finch, tobies and specialties; Harold Peabody, the "Michigan Kid", as cast; Marc Schurjer, characters and specialties; Owen Cameron, characters and heavies; and Owen Cameron, Jr., dancing specialties.

Harley Sadler Gives Banquet for Company

Billy Neff and wife, Minnie Grey, formerly in repertoire and now playing independent vaudeville dates thru Texas, en route to the West Coast, in a communication to the rep. desk state that they recently had the extreme pleasure of witnessing a performance by the Harley Sadler Show at San Angelo, Tex., and enjoyed it immensely.

"How Harley Sadler can give the Texas folks so much show at popular prices is beyond me," Billy Neff writes, "but of course that is why his name is a household word thruout the State. Sadler not only has a clever dramatic cast, but also carries more feature vaudeville than one can see on the average standard vaudeville bill.

"His band presentation is worth the price of admission alone. The band cuts the standard music and is a wow when it comes to playing jazz. It makes a wonderful feature. Altho we had never the pleasure of meeting Sadler before, he insisted upon our staying over for his annual Christmas banquet, which was given at the St. Angelo Hotel after the show. It sure warms the cockles of one's heart to be received as we were—by not only Sadler and his charming wife, but by every member of the company. The banquet was a huge success. The goodfellowship took me back to the good old days when I trouped with the old reliable Morey Stock Company, managed by Le Comte & Fletcher."

Jim Heffner a Visitor

Jim Heffner, manager of the Heffner-Vinson Stock Company, which concluded its season in the South several weeks ago, was a visitor at the Cincinnati office of *The Billboard* last Saturday.

Heffner advises that he and his wife, Beatrice Leroy, and Sara Vinson, who came into Cincinnati the forepart of last week for a visit at the Heffner homestead over the holidays, will leave next week for Miami for a four weeks' vacation. From Miami they will go into Valdosta, Ga., to begin preparations for the 1930 tent season, which is carded to get under way about April 1.



MARION ROBERTS, in private life Mrs. Billy Wehle, leading woman with the Billroy Comedians, owned and operated by her husband. Miss Roberts will this winter be featured with Cal West in an act which Billy Wehle will put out shortly to play theaters in Florida. Besides being a clever leading woman, Miss Roberts also is a talented dancer.

Billy's Comedians Enjoying Good Run

Fred Flood, veteran actor and advance agent, is reported to be putting Billy's Comedians in some good spots in the mining fields of Missouri, Oklahoma and Arkansas, and the company, according to reports, is enjoying big business in that section. The seven-people troupe is presenting a good line of script bills, with a novelty orchestra presenting a 30-minute musical presentation before each show.

In the cast are Billy Morse, manager; Marjorie Morse, Ted Angel, Fred Garrow, Tillie Garwood, Louis LaBat and Phil Whitmore.

Des Roche Resuming Tour; Michigan Good, He States

Joe Des Roche, who closed his Happy Hour Show, vaudeville and picture outfit, just before Christmas for a brief holiday layoff, announces that the company will resume its bookings next week. Manager Des Roche advises that Michigan has been very good for his small company.

"Saw lots of shows in Michigan this season," Des Roche says. "Some were doing very well, while others of the fly-by-night type were leaving a black streak behind them for others to follow. We have only a small moving picture and vaudeville show on one truck, but what we have is good and clean. That accounts largely for the success I have been having."

L. C. McHenry To Prepare

ALVA, Okla., Dec. 28.—L. C. McHenry, who last season piloted a Jesse James show under canvas thru Kentucky, is now located at his home in this city. He announces that shortly after the first of the year he will begin work on overhauling the show's trucks and other equipment in preparation for the 1930 season, which will open early in the spring. McHenry states that he is ordering a new light plant and calliope.

Del Delmar Is Host To Winner Players

FORT ATKINSON, Wis., Dec. 28.—Del Delmar, leading man with the John D. Winninger Players, was host to the members of the company at a Christmas dinner at the Black Hawk Hotel here Christmas Day. Following the Christmas celebration, the Winninger Players resumed their work at the local theater, after a three-day holiday layoff. The company is now in its 19th week of the present season, which in many respects is one of the best the company has enjoyed in a long time.

Manager Winninger, who was confined for four days at the Highland Hospital, Belvidere, Ill., after being struck by an automobile there last Saturday afternoon, jumped back into the cast here Christmas night, altho still suffering from effects of the accident. Winninger sustained a broken nose, scalp wounds and bruises about the body.

Adamses in Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. James Adams, of the James Adams Floating Theater, stopped off here last week for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer LaZone, of the former Original Williams Stock Company, residing at 4200 Pearl street. From here the Adamses went to Miami for a several weeks' vacation.

William Reap Better

William Reap, manager of Lincoln's Uncle Tom's Cabin Company, who has been confined at the Shounaron Hospital, Shounaron, Sask., Can., for some time with a serious illness, is reported to be out of danger now, and his complete recovery is looked for in several more weeks. However, Manager Reap will not be able to return to his job for a long time.

C. E. Jones in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 28.—C. E. Jones, owner and manager of the Summers Shows, is attending the Heart of America Showman's Convention here. Jones reports that he enjoyed a pleasant season thruout Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming and Colorado. Last season the company played 84 cities on its tour of one-nighters.

Rep. Folks in Ocklawaha

OCKLAWAHA, Fla., Dec. 28.—Minnie Huntington, Bill (Freckles) Stanton, Fred Lincoln, Myrtle Huntington, Marie Williams and Joseph Toniutti, all members of the Stanton-Huntington tent show company, are located here. All will remain until spring, when Manager Stanton will again begin his tour thru Ohio under canvas.

Kansas City Ripples

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 28.—Fred Vance, formerly of the vaudeville team of Alleen and Vance, is taking a part in the cast of the Oberfelder-Ketchum Stock at the Orpheum Theater, this city. BIG AND LIT, the Whitehouse Twins, came in from Kansas during the holiday layoff of the North Show, and after a brief visit with their folks in Houston, Minn., will reopen with the North Show the first part of January. WILLIAM H. AND BESSIE LEE TIBBILLS, agent and character woman with the Kell Comedians the last three years, reached the city early last week and will remain here until after the first of the year.

Kane-Mack Players Doing Fair in Ohio

Harry Kane, of the Kane-Mack Players, informs that the company is enjoying only fair business on its tour of Ohio, but, considering the general business depression everywhere, things are as good as can be expected. Some of the smaller Ohio towns have been "burned up" by amateur shows, Kane says, and as a result it is difficult to get the people to come out to see another show.

"In many of the towns this season," Kane says, "we have played the Grange halls, and have found our engagements in them very successful. Many of the Grange halls can be obtained rent free, thus lifting a considerable load off the rut. Would advise other shows to try the plan."

In the cast of the Kane-Mack company are Harry Kane, leads; Virginia St. Clair, leads; Edith Rose, general business; Harold Love, characters; Wanda Kirk, general business; Evelyn Kirk, characters; Walter Lake, general business, and Jimmie Mack, general business and business agent.

Rep. Tattles

EDDIE AND TILLIE PAOLI visited their old friend, Jerry Thornton, at Coffeyville, Kan., for a few days before joining the Dude Arthur Company, in stock at Corpus Christi, Tex.

ADAMS T. RICE, owner-manager of the Detroit Players, is constructing a new garage for storage of the show's trucks and equipment at the company's permanent quarters near Utica, Mich.

JEANNETTE REESE, leading woman with the Allen Bros.' Show, is at present visiting with her mother in Buffalo, New York.

THOMAS F. BITZER, formerly in stock and rep., is now confined at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital at Fort Lyon, Colo. Bitzer asks that old friends drop him a line to help break the monotony of his confinement and help in driving off the blues.

EDDIE PAOLI was a visitor on the Billy's Comedians show at the Palace Theater, Quapaw, Okla., Monday of last week.

TOM AITON'S Ten Nights in a Barroom Company left Cincinnati Monday to begin a tour of the South on one-night stands. The show's opening stand was Vanceburg, Ky.

JESSALYN DELZELL, of the Frank Winninger Company, will reopen with the show this week, after spending the holiday season in Chicago.

TOM COYLE and Marie Belmar are recent additions to the cast of the J. B. Rotnour Company.

ROSA AND EDDIE PHILLIPS, now celebrating the holidays in Sidney, O., will return to their recently purchased home at Royal Oak, Mich., the latter part of this week. They will remain in Royal Oak until the bluebirds make their first appearance next spring.

THE MYRTLE ROSS PLAYERS are reported to be enjoying a successful run in Marion, O. Their holiday offering was *Vivue Awakened*, in which the cast was seen to good advantage.

D. VIC ROSS and wife, Eloise Adams, who in the past have appeared with various rep. and stock attractions, are

now located at their home, 1628 Main street, Brockway, Pa. Vic has organized an eight-piece orchestra, with which he is playing dance dates in and around Brockway. They expect to remain at their home town through the winter.

ROSS TURNER has opened a dance studio in Jacksonville, Tex. They closed with the J. Doug Morgan Show recently.

AL PALING, musical director with the Allen Bros.' Stock Company for the last six seasons, is located for the winter at his home in Cincinnati. Paling expects to line up something to keep his mind occupied over the cold months and will be back on the road again early in the spring.

JACK AND IRENE VIVIAN, owners and managers of the Allen Bros.' Stock Company, are now taking a well-earned rest at their home in Montier, Mo.

Fires and Robberies

ALBANY, N. Y.—The Rex Theater in Middleburg, N. Y., was destroyed by fire December 18. The theater, under the management of Manley Mattice, was equipped with sound picture apparatus two weeks ago. The fire started in a garage adjoining the theater property.

KANSAS CITY—A bandit entered the office of the Uptown Theater, Broadway and Valentine Road, as the last performance at the theater was ending December 22. Manager S. Bernard Joffee, who was alone in the office, was forced to open the safe and hand over \$3,500. The bandit escaped without attracting attention. This was the fourth time within a little more than a year that the theater had been robbed.

MANHATTAN, Kan.—Fire damaged the Miller Theater here recently to the extent of \$12,000. The organ and roof were completely destroyed.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—The Gould Theater Building, a North Side motion picture house, was damaged by fire December 10. Loss estimated at \$30,000.

COBLESKILL, N. Y.—Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the Middleburgh Garage Building, which housed the Rex Theater, December 12. New Vitaphone equipment had just been installed in the theater at a cost of \$10,000, all of which was destroyed.

MERIDEN, Conn.—Ernest A. Dorau, assistant manager of the Palace Theater, was held up by an armed bandit in the manager's office December 23. The man demanded that Dorau open the safe which contained the week-end receipts amounting to \$2,800. When Dorau refused to do this the bandit relieved him of \$35 of his personal funds and made his escape.

St. Joseph, Mo.

As usual St. Joseph is the winter mecca of many showfolk.

The Ortons are wintering at their quarters in Lake Contrary Park. The little circus, neat and clean in its appearance, attracts much attention from visitors to the lake.

Mrs. Frances Henry Hill, local impresario, will bring a series of notable concert artists here during the winter.

Max Zalken's place has become the headquarters of many of the showfolk gathered here and each evening a score or more of them may be found in the store listening to the radio, exchanging stories of the last season and planning their next season.

Harry Dubinsky, acting for the Dubinsky Brothers, has abandoned the policy of vaudeville and pictures at the Crystal Theater after a six weeks' try and has instead established a tabloid musical comedy and first-run picture policy. The change has resulted in improved business.

The Electric Theater is reported to be going into a vaudeville and picture policy soon after the first of the year.

"Butch" Girard, for years connected with local theaters, has taken a traveling position with Swift & Company.

"Redy" Murphy has been installed as manager of the Royal Theater here. Murphy has been connected with St. Joseph theaters for many years.

The old Western League baseball park here has been abandoned and as a result a potential circus and carnival lot has been created. The ball park lot em-

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According to local rumors a new million-dollar movie theater is to be constructed here in the spring by either the Fox or Public interests.

Many improvements are to be made at Lake Contrary Amusement Park during the winter months. The park is owned and operated by the Ingersoll interests.

Dick Eads, friend of showfolks, has opened a road house and cabaret just north of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd L. Bell and two daughters left here last week for the Southland. Bell, who is press agent with the Ringling-Barnum Show, has been spending several weeks here.

MUSINGS

(Continued from page 27)
Kan. A capacity throng attended the special engagement of the band, which presented Barbara Barron, soprano, as an added attraction.

PETE ASH and B. BURNS are the organizers at the Music Box Theater, Portland, Ore., and their special solo numbers are meeting with marked success.

PHIL LEVANT and his Royal Revelers, who for two years were featured at L'Aiglon Cafe, Chicago, have been booked into Vanity Fair in that city.

THREE ORCHESTRAS of the 16 heard over the air in a national hookup New Year's Eve were arranged through the M. G. A.—Lloyd Huntley and his Isle of Blues Orchestra, featured at College Inn, Chicago; Ted Florito and his Edgewater Beach Hotel Orchestra, broadcast from Chicago, and the Seven Aces, broadcast from the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Denver.

AL KATZ and his Columbia Recording Orchestra are to open at the Ambassador Cafe, Berlin, Germany, February 5, having been booked there by M. G. A., which also has had an orchestra at the Kit Kat Club, London, the past year.

VAUDEVILLE NOTES

(Continued from page 13)
to slight injuries sustained by the girl of the act while they were playing the Chester, Bronx. They also canceled this first half at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn.

JAY BRENNAN and Stanley Rogers will return to the RKO fold this last half at Keith's 51st Street, New York. The boys have been booked for several weeks in New York.

GRACE WYLIE, heading a nine-piece flash, started on RKO dates this first half at the Chester, Bronx, agent by Harry Romm. She is assisted by Johnny Lee, Beatrice Wiley and the Eskimo Collegians.

TECK MURDOCK has completed rehearsing a new four-piece act, which he will take out on a long tour of RKO Western dates, starting January 18 in Winnipeg. Marion Meredith is included in the supporting cast.

DICK JACKSON and Frank Lee, new team, have completed their Eastern break-ins and are awaiting an RKO, showing date being angled for by the Max Hayes office. Jackson was recently

teamed with Sid Tays, who is now in Miami, while Lee was formerly with Padlocks of 1929.

JEAN RANKIN and Her Blue Belles, girl band, started on RKO dates the last half of last week at the Chester, Bronx. Were booked direct.

At one time, and not very far back, vaudeville was identified with strict censorship of photos used in lobby displays. To see a set of photos turned out last week for one of the presentation units sponsored by a certain chain of national importance would make one think that censorship went the same way as straight vaudeville. Looks like amusement-seeking families will have to patronize burlesque now.

BLOSSOM SEELEY and Benny Fields will go west for RKO, starting the week of January 11 at the Palace, Chicago. The week following they will play Cleveland.

BILLY DUNN and WEST have been added to Franklyn Graham's list for indie representation. Graham is also angling in the indies for dates for the seven-piece act headed by Hamid Bey.

MADGE KENNEDY, who is working for RKO around New York in her new sketch, has been booked by the circuit for Midwest dates. She will start January 11 at the Palace, Chicago.

TED LEWIS, who just completed a two-week run at the Palace, New York, was slated for the Riverside, New York, this week, but the office switched him. He is playing this week on a split between Flushing and Proctor's 86th Street, New York.

FLEDGLINGS OF 1930, Seven-piece flash, shoved off for RKO this week on a split between Troy and Schenectady. Dave Jones and Charles Wingo are featured in the cast, which includes Beatrice Claire, Peggy Lee, Dorothy Westworth, Helene Griffin and Sylvia Fisher.

JOE PHILLIPS brought his new act, Under the Budget, to the Loew fold this week at the State, Syracuse. Collette Ryan is featured in the cast.

CHANDLER BOYS, male harmony quartet, have broken up their act Three of the boys, Alvin Eley and John and Charles Davis, are doing a singing and comedy affair, which showed for RKO this first half at Proctor's 125th Street, New York.

JIMMY BURCHILL and Blondes of 1930, five-piece flash, went RKO this week in Elmira, agent by the Harry Romm office. The act has been working in the East on Fox and Loew dates.

GARR LYNN, Scotch single, returned here from Europe last week. He is being slated by RKO for a string of New York dates prior to his taking a trip on the Interstate Time.

CADET SEXTET, headed by Wally Hunt, took time off from its activity on the Loew Time to show for RKO this first half at Proctor's 125th Street, New York.

HARRY HOLMAN is now out and about after undergoing a minor operation at a private hospital in Brooklyn.

He had to cancel showing his new sketch, Speculations, for Loew bookers December 18 at the Lincoln Square, New York, but will get another showing date soon.

RKO came out last month with a flat statement that acts will no longer be imposed upon to play benefit houses. These are tied up with funds for war charities or national disasters. From our point of view the benefit evil has not yet been wiped out in the major circuit. It appears that the monthpieces of the circuit hit off more than they could chew by issuing the "no more benefits" statement. At the time it made good news anyway.

GULLY PEPPER, brother of Jack Pepper, is doing a singing and musical act with Alyce Gerald. They were launched on RKO dates this first half at the Buswick, Brooklyn.

BENNY DAVIS is heading a new four-piece offering, which opened for Loew this week at the Metropolitan, Brooklyn. His act replaced Billy Farrell, who canceled his bookings in order to start rehearsing with a new unit.

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Koppin, Detroit, Houses Tabloids

DETROIT, Dec. 28.—The Koppin Theater, leading Detroit colored house, which has been playing a policy of colored road shows and talking pictures under the management of Martin Klein, opened Christmas Day with a new policy of stock tab. shows, using a white company. The house was recently closed for alterations.

Three colored acts are being booked into the house in addition to the regular show on a split-week basis by the American Theatrical Exchange, of Detroit. The permanent company is headed by Bob Ferguson, Billy La Pointe, Roy Sears, Estelle Melmar and Frances Horn.

New Specialty Acts At Montreal Theater

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—The Starland local tab. house, has signed the Yaquis, Jack Shaune and Margot Raymond as featured specialty artists to appear in conjunction with the regular stage shows there.

The Yaquis, full-blooded Indians, are offering an act embracing roping, shooting and whipsacking; Margot Raymond is heard in song numbers, and Jack Shaune serves as master of ceremonies and vocalist.

Karine Gordon Show Enters Fifth Week

PENSACOLA, Fla., Dec. 30.—Karine Gordon's Red-Hot Steppers, under the management of Jack DuVarney, today begin their fifth week of an indefinite engagement at the Belmont Theater here. Business has been satisfactory since the show's opening here, and from all indications the DuVarney "opy" is set here for the winter.

In the roster are Karine Gordon, ingenue leads; Jack DuVarney, manager and straight; Jack Bragg, general business and dance specialties; Maxine Elliott, specialties and chorus; Carl Stevens, featured comic and producer; Bill Royce, second comic; Joan Stevens, soubrette; Billy Morely, comic and specialties; and DuBarry and Carson, specialties.

The chorus is made up of Mickie Bowling, Maxine Elliott, Joan Stevens, Peggy Moreno, Naomi Joyce, Peggy Marsh, Billie Carson and Babe Lane.

Halton Powell Re-Enters Field

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 28.—Halton Powell, one of the pioneers of the tabloid field and whose World of Pleasure and Sahara companies of several seasons ago were among the topnotchers in the miniature musical comedy field, has taken a lease on the Princess Theater here and is installing a musical comedy company to work in conjunction with pictures.

His last fling in tabs, was last summer. He organized a 25-people company the middle of May and closed the same about a month later when suitable booking became difficult to find, and sought permanent retirement at his new home in Keokuk, Ia.

Eddie Ware Back in Cast

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 28.—Eddie Ware, comedian, has returned to the cast of Leo Burke's company at the Colonial Theater here. He plans to make an extended stay at the theater.



ERNEST RICHTER, musical director, now with Fred Hurley's "Flash Parade" Company, Bad Bronnie, manager. The company will soon move into stock at the Murray Theater, Richmond, Ind., after a highly successful run at the Band Box, Springfield, O. Richter is one of the best-known leaders in the tab. field, and in the past has appeared with many of the larger miniature musical tabs, including the Lewis Mock Players.

Siner's Company Doing Very Well

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 28.—Virgil E. Siner's Syncopated Steppers Company, which moved into the Ada Meade Theater here several weeks ago for a two weeks' stay, will remain at the local house until January 25 and on the following day will open at the Murray Theater in Richmond, Ind., for a month's run. The booking was made by the Gus Sun office.

The Syncopated Steppers have been doing remarkably well at the Ada Meade and last week set a new box-office record for a tabloid attraction at that house.

S. A. Fogleman To Tour South Under Sun Banner

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Dec. 28.—Stewart A. Fogleman's Dixie Security Revue, which enjoyed a successful tour thru the South last winter and which has recently been reorganized, will shortly begin a Southern tour under the direction of the Gus Sun Booking Exchange Company. The company is at present playing here under the Sun banner.

Fogleman before taking out his own attraction last season was stage manager of Bill Leicht's Teddy Bear Girls over the Sun Time.

Billy Wingert Reports Good Biz Thru Illinois

ALTON, Ill., Dec. 28.—Billy Wingert, whose Showboat Revue has been playing picture houses thru Illinois for the last five weeks, reports that he has enjoyed good business in all the spots played to date. The company will open with one of the leading carnivals early in April.

In the roster are Florence Kuhlman, leading woman; Ernibe Lewis, leading man; Pauline Krambo, soubrette, and Jerry Jerrills, ingenue. A six-piece orchestra, under the direction of Charles Rice, is a feature.

Vardo & Kinney Co. On Indefinite Run

BAY CITY, Mich., Dec. 28.—Vardo & Kinney's Musical Dance Shoppe, 17-people New England show, which has been touring the Sun houses, has just begun an indefinite stock engagement at the Temple Theater here.

In the Dance Shoppe lineup are Vardo and Kinney, managers and musical act; "Slipfoot" Clifton, first comedian; George (Boob) Hanscom, second comic and props; George Troy, straight; Grace Maxwell, prima donna; Frank MacDonough, piano leader, and Charlie and Hazel, formerly of the Whirlwind Bretts, dancers.

The chorus, under the direction of Inez Doloryse, includes Gertrude Rose, Louise Flammia, Helen DeCicco, Louise Rye, Babe LaMay and Inez Doloryse. All the girls do specialties.

Reevin on Business Trip

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 28.—Sam E. Reevin, treasurer-manager of the T. O. B. A. Circuit, left here last Friday evening for Pittsburgh, where he will attend to business relative to the bookings of shows in that city. He also will visit Cincinnati for a conference with Jack Lustgarten, of the Roosevelt Theater there. The T. O. B. A. head has several other towns on his itinerary.

Prior to leaving here Reevin said: "It is not to be assumed that there is trouble on the circuit which serves as the reason for my trip. It is just a regular business trip." It has not been definitely learned when Reevin will return to his desk.

Kemp's Jazz Revue Folds Up Suddenly

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., Dec. 28.—Kemp's Jazz Revue, headed by G. Kempton Read, which has been touring thru the New England States for the last several months, closed suddenly here recently. Manager Read refused to comment on the sudden closing and canceling of bookings other than to say that his orchestra, which was a feature of the show, will continue working. The musical combination is slated to move in the Grand Gardens, Chinese-American restaurant, Boston, for an indefinite period, commencing New Year's Eve.

Several of the members of the Jazz Revue lineup will continue with the band as featured specialties.

Beckridge Ending Youngstown Stay

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 30.—Low Beckridge's Facts and Figures Company, which came to the Princess Theater here December 8 for what was to have been a two weeks' engagement, will conclude a four weeks' run there Saturday night, after which the outfit will embark on a tour of the Sun Time. It is likely that the Beckridge organization will move into another stock location around the end of January.

In the Beckridge roster are George B. Hill and Rufus Armstrong, comics; Lois Fairfield, featured fem; Helen Dayton, prima donna; Nina Vale and Bobby Fields, soubrette; Low Beckridge and Bill Russell, straight; "Red" Wilhoite and Frankie Yamin, juveniles; George Riddle, accordion specialties; and Billy Cassidy, musical director.

The chorines include Willie Horner, Bee Bryan, Nellie Pearson, Ruth Greens, Irma DeWitt, Peggy Allen, Alma Todd, Belle Johnson, Margaret Kunkle and Anna Lee. All productions are staged and directed by Low Beckridge.

Tab. Notes

VERNE PHELPS, Dora Cullenbine and "Sally Ann" Steffen, who closed recently with the Why Worry? Company on the Sun Time, are now playing vaudeville, and last week appeared on the bill at the Oriental, Detroit, billed as the "Three Cotton Blossoms".

CHLOE BELL, who closed recently with the Harry Evans Players, has joined the Al Franks Musical Comedy in Portland, Ore.

GEORGE CLIFFORD'S Pep and Ginger Company, playing an indefinite stock run at the Bijou Theater, Savannah, Ga., celebrated Christmas Eve with a big party at the Hotel Savannah, that city. All the members of the company were present, and many gifts were exchanged. Charles (Joy) Gramlich acted as m. c., Newton Ross entertained with several vocal numbers, and Clara Dawn served as a Santa Claus. Earlier in the evening the company had been the guest of the management of the Bijou Theater at a dinner at a local cafe.

JOE POLI opened with Charles Bangor's High Flyers Revue in Lima, O., on Christmas Eve. He was until recently with Hal Hoyt's Why Worry? Company.

HENRY (SINGLE) WHITE, who stepped out of the tab. racket this season to direct four high-school bands in and around his home town, Hamersville, O., recently presented the combined units in a concert over Station WHED, Mount Orab, O. Things must be moving along pretty well for Henry, as he recently traded in his old juggernaut and is now avoiding the bumps in a new diver.

ABE ROSEWALD is heading the new musical tab. show recently organized for the Dubinsky Crystal Theater in St. Joseph, Mo.

PAUL RENO, until recently at the Colonial Theater, Indianapolis, shoots in the pleasant news that he and Mildred Wood were married several months ago in the Hoosier capital. They are at present playing occasional vaudeville dates in and around Indianapolis and will remain there until they line up something permanent for the remainder of the winter season.

TOMMYE O'DELL has forsaken tabs for the time being to work clubs in and around San Antonio as a song and dance single. He has just completed a delightful engagement at the Gunter Cave, new night club, located in the Gunter Hotel, San Antonio. O'Dell advises that he is getting in some good golf in San Antonio's sunshine.

THE JOHN LAWRENCE PLAYERS are set for an indefinite stock engagement at the Gordon Theater, Middletown, O.

JOHNNY BURTON, the "piano-playing fool", who formerly had his own tabloid attractions on the Sun Time, is now working the Loew Time in the East as a member of the team of Burton and Holmes, comedy, acrobatic and musical turn.

THE BERT SMITH REVUE is reported to be doing a healthy business in its stock run at the Hippodrome, Baltimore. The Smith company, which in the past featured revue-type bills almost exclusively, is now presenting high-class royalty bills and in a big way, too.

WORLD AND URTH, formerly known as Queen and King, who recently closed a 10 weeks' stock run in Erie, Pa., have just joined the burlesque stock company at the Lyceum Theater, Canton, O. They

spent Christmas week with William B. Carmen, manager of the Crawford Theater, Walbridge, O., who also booked them at various dates in that territory. "The season to date has been a tough one," Frank Wurd pens. "We have more than \$150 in back salaries 'coming', and on one show after playing two and a half weeks on full salary were asked to take a 20 per cent cut. We are not crying the blues, however, as we are looking forward to a red one in 1930."

HENRY PRATHER'S Honeymoon Limited Company has finished its engagement at the Savannah Theater, Savannah, Ga., and will shortly be installed in a stock date in Illinois now being arranged by the Sun office.

RUTH M. GOULDING, formerly for several seasons with Max Golden's Buskin' Around Company and various other tab, and burlesque attractions, recently became the bride of Loren L. Smith in Columbus, O., and has settled down permanently in a cozy little home at 808 South Richardson avenue, that city. Norma Fair, Ruth's former partner

BE A BOOSTER FOR MILT SCHUSTER My thanks to everybody for kind remembrance. Happy New Year to you all. 36 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.

TABS—BITE #3; TABS; REVUES #5. 50 One-Act Plays, \$5. Big Revue. One new HITBACK sides in competition. ONE DOLLAR A COPY. ORDER NOW. FREE LIST.

BERNARD'S BOOKS Comedy Digest, 1 and 2, \$1.00 Each; Hit and Black-Out Books 1 and 2, \$2.00 Each; or the full set, \$7.00. Ideal material for conscientious producers. No C. O. D.'s. HARRY BERNARD, 3421 Madison Ave., Hollywood, Calif.

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in crime, was among those present when the knot was tied. Ruth states that all her old trouper friends are invited to drop in for a visit any time. Congratulations, "Ruthie".

JACK (SINGLE) CROOM advises that he has fully recovered his health and recently closed with an act which has

been playing the picture houses thru the South to spend the holidays at his home. He plans to rejoin the act in a couple of weeks.

ARTHUR HAUKE'S Sunshine Revue will succeed Low Beckridge's Facts and Figures Company at the Princess Theater, Youngstown, O., January 5.

A GOOD HOTEL IN MIDTOWN NEW YORK Rooms With running water, for one \$14.00 a week for two \$17.50 a week With private bath, for one \$17.50 a week for two \$24.00 a week Suits Two rooms and bath, \$35.00 a week Three rooms and bath, for 3 or 4 persons, \$45.00 a week HOTEL WELLINGTON 7th Ave., at 55th St. Under KNOTT Management

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CONNECTICUT Springdale Amusement Company, Stamford, motion picture theater, \$10,000; Max Cohen, William J. Kierman and Robert Wiener. DELAWARE Newsreel Laboratories, Inc., Wilmington, \$25,000; Colonial Charter Company. Crescent Amusement Corporation, St. Louis, \$375,000 preferred, 15,000 shares common; Corporation Service Company. National Circus Company, Wilmington, entertainment, 100,000 shares common; Corporation Trust Company of America. FLORIDA Amusement Corporation of Lake Wales Lake Wales, moving and talking pictures and other amusements, 50 no par value shares; R. E. Bradley, Mildred McCallister and James E. Marshall. NEW JERSEY Grand Amusement Company, Camden, to operate theaters, \$2,000; New Jersey Corporation Guarantee & Trust Company, Camden. NEW YORK Marel Movies, Manhattan, motion pictures, \$10,000; H. T. Mencher, 225 West 34th street. Vitofilm Service, Manhattan, \$14,000 preferred, 100 shares common; I. Lazarus, 11 West 42d street. Pebbled, Manhattan, motion pictures, 100 shares common; B. F. Isaacs, 1776 Broadway. International Mutoscope Reel Company, Manhattan, vending machines, \$100,000; F. M. Rosenstock, 475 5th avenue. Globe Film Exchange, Manhattan, motion picture apparatus, 100 shares common; S. Goodwin, 1501 Broadway. Peerless Vending Company, Brooklyn, \$20,000; Albany Service Company, 2609 24th street. Three-I-Corporation, Manhattan, theatrical, 100 shares common; J. I. Goodstein, 21 East 40th street. Ida May Chadwick, Manhattan, theatrical, \$5,000; E. Apstein, 51 Chambers street. E. F. Bostwick, Great Neck, motion pictures, 100 shares common; E. J. Parsons, Great Neck. Papa Juan Company, Manhattan, to operate theaters, 100 shares common; Frank Well & Strouse, 185 Madison avenue. U. Don't Say So Company, Manhattan, theatrical, 200 shares common; M. Winkler, 1440 Broadway. SOUTH CAROLINA Marlboro Amusement Company, Inc., Darlington, to operate theaters, \$1,000; George B. Hendrickson and Helen M. Hendrickson. TEXAS Hippodrome Amusement Company, Fort Worth, to operate motion picture theater, \$2,500; Herman Gartner, Ben F. Allen, Jr. and J. P. Murrin. Grandda Theater, Inc., Dallas, to operate motion picture theater, \$2,000; Oscar Korn, John T. Gano and E. Molison. Yoakum Amusement Company, Inc., Yoakum, to operate theater, \$20,000; H. J. Wolters, Mart Cole and R. O. Garbade.

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IN PITTSBURGH IT'S HOTEL HENRY Single Rooms, Hot and Cold Running Water, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Double Rooms, Hot and Cold Running Water, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$4.50, \$4.00. Single Rooms, with Bath, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 and \$4.00. Double Rooms with Bath, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50. Large Parlor Rooms with Bath, four persons to the Room, Special Rates. CAFE COFFEE SHOPPE Located on 6th Ave., at Sewfield Street. GEO. S. LEHNER, Manager.

Burlesque

Conducted by ALFRED NELSON—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

Burlesque Ball Tickets on Sale

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Emmett Callahan, president of the Burlesque Club, Meyer Harris, chairman of committee, and Lew Lesser, salesman-in-chief of tickets for the Burlesque Club Ball at the New Palm Garden, Sunday evening, February 9, are making a public appeal to all allied with, or interested in burlesque, to send in their orders accompanied by check or money order for admission tickets and boxes.

Boxes seating 10 are all sold. Boxes seating six and eight can be had at \$18 and \$24 each.

Admission tickets at \$2 entitles the holder to a four-hour stage show, supplemented by mirth, melody, floor dancing and music till morn.

The Burlesque Club maintains a valuable piece of ground and building in the heart of the theatrical district, also a benevolent fund for the aid of burlesquers in distress.

Yearly dues of members aren't sufficient for its dual maintenance, therefore the ball to increase its revenue.

If talented players in and out of burlesque are willing to donate their services in entertaining it's up to burlesquers and their friends to contribute \$2 each for a ticket, even though they cannot be present, for the money goes to the maintenance of the club and its benevolent fund.

Mail your orders immediately to Lou Lesser, care the Burlesque Club, 245 West 48th street, New York City.

Detroit Delineations

National Theater — Eddie Green, straight man, closed December 22, being succeeded by Andy Andrews, late of the Times Square.

Palace Theater—Toots Brawner, Marie Rafferty, Maxine Densly and Pearl Draper, posing girls who augmented circuit companies, closed December 22. Gus Arnold became a producer with the opening of stock December 22; Evelyn Fields produces the numbers. Elsie John an added attraction.

Avenue Theater—Walter Derring dislocated his shoulder during a heavy bit last week.

Times Square Theater has taken over a half-hour period twice weekly on radio station WMBC, advertising the stage attractions and using bits and features. Harry Abbott and other members of the Loop Theater Company have also been broadcasting.

Burlesquers Come Back

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The St. Regis Restaurant, for many years a favorite tryout tree for showfolks, especially burlesquers, is making another strong bid for popularity with the profession. Manager Soloway has renovated the place into a modern delicatessen-restaurant. Early evening dinners and midnight lunches are specialties.

SARAH OSBORNE, with the *Sliding Billy Watson Show*, in going from her dressing room to the stage at the Empress Theater, Cincinnati, fell and hurt her back and was unable to work the rest of the week. Jean LaRue called on her. The latter is an added attraction with the *Moslin Rouge* company at the Empress this week.

The Gayety Theater Stock

MONTREAL, Dec. 28.—The Gayety Theater reopens today with a stock company, the first time a presentation of this kind has been tried in this city.

With the exception of a few local girls the entire cast has been recruited in New York. Joe Rose, as producing principal, has a cast that includes Mollie Williams, Isabelle Van, Alma Montague, Karl Bowers, Morris Perry, Tom Moran, Frances Naomi, and Walter Brown, straight man, with Paul Kane as number producer.

John Appleby, of the Theatrical Exchange, Ltd., has the handling of the girls for the chorus.

Top prices have been dropped from \$1.10 to 85 cents. The runaway which was removed at the opening of the current season is being replaced by popular demand. This house is owned by the Consolidated Theaters, Ltd., and managed by Al Gauthier.

Changes on Circuit

Charles Franklyn, with all the optimism of a typical Greenwich Village native, the day after Christmas was emphatic in his statement that there wasn't any indication for any radical changes contemplated on the circuit for some time to come.

The official route sheet shows four companies laying off, viz.:

Parisian Flappers, out of Gayety, Brooklyn.

Best Show in Town, out of Bridgeport, Sugar Babies, out of Utica.

Bowery Burlesquers, out of Kansas City.

The foregoing shows lay off week of December 30-January 4.

Record Breakers, out of Gayety, Brooklyn.

Pass Pass, out of Bridgeport.

Hello, Paris, out of Utica.

Social Misds, out of Kansas City.

The foregoing shows lay off week of January 6-11.

Sporty Widows jumped from Milwaukee Saturday night to Schenectady to take up the route of *Lid Lifters*, which closed its season Saturday.

Placements

Ike Weber Agency, New York, viz.: Gayety Theater (Stock), Montreal, Can.—Joe Rose, producer and principal comic; Karl Bowers, Dutch comic; Morris Perry, Hebrew comic; Walter Brown, character straight man; Tom Moran, straight man; Frances Naime, Alma Montague and Isabelle Van.

Dauphine Theater (Stock), New Orleans—Belle Miller signed up for an additional six weeks; Roy Butler and Alice Ritchie.

City Theater (Stock), New York—Sam Raynor, Wayne McVeigh, Eddie Lorraine; Miss Nungon, classic dancer; Eddie Hirsch and Billy Sharpe, number producers.

Milt Schuster Agency, Chicago, viz.: Majestic Theater (Stock), Ft. Wayne—Koia Serenaders, Jean Brown, Leo and Graff, Wilson and Erenman.

Gayety Theater (Stock), Detroit—Elsie John.

National Theater (Stock), Detroit—Russell Trent.

Empress Theater (Circuit), Chicago—Thelma Gleason, Kitty Warren.

Palace Theater (Stock), New Orleans—Allan Walters.

Academy Theater (Stock), Chicago—Mary Walton, Carmen.

Gayety Theater (Circuit), Milwaukee—Thelma Miller.

Grand Theater (Stock)—Flora Dearth, Megg Lexing.

Capitol Theater (Stock), Rockford—Evel Hart, Bert Simmons.

Stock for Youngstown

YOUNGSTOWN, O., Dec. 28.—Stock burlesque will be tried out at the Hippodrome, which all summer and early this fall offered dramatic stock, and which for some weeks has been the only available house here for legitimate. *The Nite Club Girls* is the initial attraction, and the cast of principals includes Billy and Thelma Lewis and "State" McClelland. There is a chorus of 16.

Changes in Casts

State-Congress Theater (Stock), Chicago—Billy Tanner closed Saturday and entrained for the Dauphine Theater Stock Company, New Orleans.

Academy Theater (Stock), Chicago—Carmen, formerly of the Haymarket, opened Monday. Mary Walton opened December 20.

Palace Theater (Stock), New Orleans—Sheklee closed Saturday and entrained for the Majestic Theater Stock Company, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Star & Garter Theater (Stock), Chicago—Flo Hill opened December 23.

National Winter Garden Theater (Stock), New York—Boots Rush, late of *Lid Lifters*, reopened Monday.

Burlesque Revue (Circuit)—Herbert Harris and Nellie Olsson closed at Chicago; Grace Dillon, billed as Nadja, also closed.

Apollo Theater (Circuit), New York—Eddie Green, former colored comic of Minsky's supplemental stock company, more recently in *Hot Chocolates*, reopened last week at the Apollo.

Gayety Theater (Stock), Detroit—Russell Trent reopened December 23.

Record Breakers (Circuit)—Ada Delisle closed suddenly Monday at the Empire Theater, Newark. Jack Ryan, straight man, succeeded Fred Reese at the Hudson Theater, Union City, N. J.

Burbank Theater (Stock), Los Angeles—Louise Keller, late of Chicago, opens in January.

American Music Hall Theater (Stock), New York—Paul Kane, number producer, closed December 21 to go to Montreal. Al Ferris, eccentric comic, late of *Lid Lifters*, opens January 5.

Added Attractions

Joan Collette, at the Garrick Theater, St. Louis, for seven weeks, augmented *Bowery Burlesquers* at the Gayety, Kansas City.

Thelma Miller augmented *Sporty Widows* at the Gayety, Milwaukee.

Elsie-John augmented Tony Brill's Majestic Theater Stock Company, Ft. Wayne, week of December 23.

Hee Lee augmented Leo Stevens' Academy Theater Stock Company, Chicago, week of December 23.

Jerri McCauley, featured fem. of *Record Breakers*, filled in her lay-off week out of Brooklyn by augmenting *Crackerjacks* at Schenectady.

Flo Devere, featured fem. of *Sporty Widows*, filled in her lay-off week out of Kansas City at the Gayety Theater as a holdover, augmenting a circuit company.

Buffalo Manager Resigns

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Roy E. Van, manager of the Gayety for the last three seasons, retired Saturday night. Van has been directing Mutual Burlesque Association theaters in this city for 10 years. He will be succeeded at the Gayety by Jake Levene. The theater has been losing approximately \$1,000 weekly since this season opened.

CIRCUIT REVIEW FRIVOLITIES

—With—
FRANK HARCOURT AND ADELINE
Book by Frank Harcourt. Music by Sieg Lachman. Numbers by Paul Kane. Presented by the Renee Amusement Company at the Columbia Theater, New York, week of December 23.

CAST—Frank Harcourt, Adeline Parks, C. B. Hayworth, Jim Hall, Johnny Cook, Ed Soper, Ethel Albertini, Annabel Collins and Evelyn Johnson.

CHORUS — Misses Clark, McDonald, Lewis, Hall, Miller, M. Johnson, Reid, Craig, Lattino, Hodges, Hayworth, Crestman, Dolores Rogers, Vilma Rogers, Robson and J. Miller.

PRODUCTION—The usual full-stage sets, silk semicloys, drapes, pictorial drops and chic costumes, with one ensemble in gowns, all showing more than the usual care.

PRESENTATION—A series of familiar sketches, bits, dialogs, male quartet and novel ensemble numbers with special music.

CHARACTERIZATION

Frank Harcourt, one of the few remaining from Columbia Circuit day comies, made his entry in his former famous characterization of a street fakering doctor, thence into frequent changes of comedy-clothed characterizations, during which he brought into play all of the tricks of old-time burlesque in garnering laughter and applause for his cleverly camouflaged double-entendre comedy, singing and dancing.

Adeline Parks, a fuzzy-headed brunet with an ever-present ingratiating smile, flirty eyes, modellesque form, effervescent vivaciousness and sense of humor in her delivery of lines and singing in leading numbers, and the tantalizing personality of Eva Tanguay in her dynamic dancing.

Adeline in her chic costumes was an optical feast of delight that was submerged in one number by a long gown entirely out of place on her otherwise pleasing personality.

C. B. Hayworth, a pleasing reminder of Tom Howard, has all his natural characterizations enhanced by a stilted mannerism and humorous delivery of lines and actions. Can be improved by a slower droll dry delivery, a la Tom Howard, that, in all probability, will enable him to graduate from burlesque to Broadway in the near future.

Jim Hall, a classy-clothed, clear-dictioned, aggressive straight man, fed the comies sufficiently fast and funny to keep them stepping.

Johnny Cook, a nattily attired juvenile, worked effectively in scenes and stood out distinctly as a singing and dancing specialist.

Ed Soper, an able character man in several scenes, distinguished himself admirably as a melodious, voluminous singer in a specialty and leading numbers.

Ethel Albertini, a pleasingly plump brunet prima donna a la operatic, humored her lines in scenes for burlesquing purposes, and in a singing specialty with Marie for repeated encores that brought her back to lead an ensemble number with *You Were Meant for Me* for additional encores that she fully merited.

Annabel Collins, a boyish-bobbed brunet soubret, had personality and pep aplenty in leading numbers, and was a fluent master of ceremonies in introducing specialists in a cabaret scene.

Evelyn Johnson, a personally attractive brunet, led numbers a la strutting stripper, supplementing with acrobatic splits of her slender symmetrical form. A real dancing routine by this girl would enhance her value greatly.

Comic Harcourt, Straight Hall, Juvenile Cook and Character Man Soper, as a quartet, sang in harmony and exited as able yodelers.

Straight Hall and Comic Hayworth put

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over a nifty talking parody, singing and guitar-playing specialty.

Prima Albertini and Character Man Soper blended harmoniously in a singing specialty with *I'd Love With You*.

Dolores Rogers, a pretty, petite, ring-letted semiblonde, stepped out of line for a toe-dancing specialty admirable. If pleasing personality and toe-dancing ability is wanted on Broadway this pretty kid has all the essentials.

CHORUS—With several exceptions typical of the circuit, in a series of novel numbers that they have failed to master, their only redeeming feature being well-calculated legs. Considering their lack of pleasing personalities, talent and ability, the least they can do is to put some pep into their performances, something that they failed to do at the Monday matinee, for they appeared to be suffering from sleeping sickness.

Harry Strouse, operating manager of the company, may have a reasonable alibi for the makeup of the house program lacking the first name of principals and chorus, but he has no excuse for leaving reviewers unfamiliar with his company to guess at their first name.

COLUMBIA THEATER COMPANY

Willie Creager, musical conductor, evidently free of Billy Kouda's former demand to milk the Monday matinee audience for unwarranted encores for the runway numbers, provided a musical entertainment par excellence.

Jean Steefe continues to stop the show with her numbers.

Mary Lee Tucker, having made pals of most of the patrons, gave them a surprise on Monday with a costortional dance that stopped the show.—NELSE.

Christmas Tree Frolic

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 28.—The members of the Leggin' Thru Company, thru the courtesy and good cheer of Manager Irving Becker, enjoyed a Christmas tree.

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dinner and entertainment at the House of Farnham, Albany, Tuesday night after the performance. A gala time it was, too. Among those present were Irving Becker, the host; Joe Van, Art Gibson, Anna Foley, Althea Conley, Leona Proctor, Don Proctor, Vinnie Phillips, Joe Underwood and others.

Seen and Heard—by NELSE

FRANCIS PARKS, formerly of Chicago, now with Dalton's Burbank Theater Stock Company, Los Angeles, is scheduled to be a featured fem. in a Mutual Circuit company later this season or next season.

PEGGY REYNOLDS, featured fem. of the Irving Place Theater runway, New York, took a week off to visit Midgie Gibbons, featured fem. of *Let Lifters*, at Schenectady. She returned to the Irving Place Monday.

ED SIGN DALEY, former agent in advance of Columbia Circuit companies, more recently in the sign-painting business in Reading, Pa., accompanied by Mrs. Daley and their pedigreed prize-winning Alredale, "Dollar Dog", entrained December 22 for the Grand Hotel, San Francisco, where Sign and his "Dollar Dog" will do some novel exploitation work.

BELLE THOMPSON is now confined to her home by illness, and will welcome letters and visits to her at 619 17th street, Brooklyn, New York.

FRANK O'ROURKE was somewhat

peevish at the rumor that he wouldn't play the Trocadero Theater, Philadelphia, with the *Oriental Girls*, but as he did play it week of December 16, there was no foundation in fact for the rumor.

MRS. JACK GARRISON, the pretty petite brunet wife of Jack Garrison, manager of the Hudson Theater, Union City, and incidentally treasurer of the house, is suffering from minor injuries received in an auto accident, while her many friends are praying for her recovery.

DENNY CREED, former treasurer of the Gary Theater, Gary, Ind., is now the treasurer at the American Music Hall Theater, New York.

SALLY SWAN, whose red-headed personality, talent and ability stood out distinctly in the American Music Hall Theater Stock Company chorus, substituted so well for Billy Shaw, soubret, during her illness that Irving Bellig has made her a principal.

SAMMY RICE, JR., late of *Moulin Rouge*, is now master of ceremonies at the Port Arthur Restaurant, Providence, where he is in demand by his home-town friends.

JEAN McDONALD, chorister of *Parisian Flappers*, was evidently awaiting the opportunity, for she substituted for Bobby Nilson, soubret, during the Orpheum, Paterson, week, and "put it over" par excellence.

JEAN BEDINI, censoring doctor of Mutual Circuit shows, is producing the shows for the American Music Hall Theater Stock Company.

Theater Staff Notes

LOUIS GILBERT has succeeded Henry Sommers as manager of the Pickwick Theater, Greenwich, Conn.

GEORGE WALL, assistant manager at the Jeffis Theater, Janesville, Wis., for the last several months, has been promoted to the office of the treasurer of the Wisconsin Theater, Milwaukee, both houses being a part of the Fox chain. Douglas Conine, chief of the service in the Wisconsin Theater, was promoted to the place at the Jeffis recently held by Wall.

HERALD BERNETTE, assistant projectionist at the Globe Theater, Christopher, Ill., for a number of years, has replaced John Williams as manager of the Opera House, Sesser, Ill., since its acquisition by the Fox West Coast Theaters.

R. E. BROWN, formerly of Warner Bros. Liberty Theater, Pittsburgh, has assumed management of the Enright Theater, East Liberty.

C. H. POWERS has been appointed assistant manager of the new Netoco Colonial Theater, Natick, Mass. Mrs. Nancy G. Harris is manager.

HARRY A. COHEN, formerly manager of the Fox-Poll Majestic Theater, Bridgeport, Conn., a first-run movie house, has been transferred as manager of the Fox-Poll Bijou Theater, New Haven, Conn.

GLENN LEKANDER, of West Chicago, who has been manager of the Fargo Theater, Geneva, Ill., for the last year, has been chosen by Polka Brothers to manage the new theater recently built in De Kalb by H. B. Fargo, of Geneva, and leased to the Polka Brothers. Lekander will be succeeded in the Fargo Theater by Elmer Patterman, of Aurora who has been in the employ of the Great States Theaters in Aurora for the last 11 years.

ARTHUR HANSON has been employed as manager of the new Fox Theater. (See STAFF NOTES on page 55)

The Irvine Players Of New York

On December 15, the Irvine Players of New York City presented a series of one-act plays for the benefit of the "Hundred Neediest Cases" in New York City. The plays given were: *Sabousooka*, by Ethel Van der Veer; *Best of All Wags*, by Julia Farrell Whitely; *Burgins in Cathay*, by Rachel Field; *Wisdom Teeth*, by Rachel Field; *The Death Trap*, by H. H. Munro, and *The Third Angle*, by Florence Ryerson.

Included in the cast were: Laura Moffatt, Ruth Miller, Hermina Costello, Clarice Mayer, Florence Soches, Autumn Sims, Clinton Deane, Neona Sturgeon, Lawrence Williams, Norma Cargill, Billy Bradshaw, Leslie Denison, Elizabeth Fitz-Randolph, Richard Mickey, Helena Dickinson, Frank Mosier, Elaine Melchior, Mildred Fitzpatrick, Willard Joray and Alan Maguire.

The plays were given at the Davenport Theater under the direction of Theodora Irvine.

Great Northern Players Assist Community Service

The Great Northern Players of St. Paul are co-operating with the Community Service, of St. Paul, in presenting Roland Oliver's *Fast Workers*, January 24, under the direction of J. Joseph Brown.

The ladies of the cast are recruited from the several dramatic organizations in St. Paul. Luella Olson plays the part of Mrs. Baldon; Lauretta Vaughan, Olga; Margaret Busker, Kittle, and Donna Fisher, Millie Davis. The male members of the cast are William Barry, Henry Bender, Marvin Streblow, Maurice Maguire and Henry Crosby, all of the Great Northern Players.

The players have a heavy program arranged for the latter part of the season, as arrangements have been made for the presentation of three comedies and a mystery play.

Pasadena Community Playhouse Produces "Blue Bird"

A magnificent holiday production of Maeterlinck's *Blue Bird* opened at the Pasadena Community Playhouse, with Philippe de Lacy, boy film star, playing the role of Tyltyl, the woodcutter's child, who sets forth on the search for the "bluebird of happiness".

Philippe, the Belgian orphan rescued as a baby on the battlefields of the World War by Miss de Lacy, a Red Cross nurse, has been a motion picture favorite since he was three years old, being selected recently by John Barrymore to play the youthful Barrymore in *General Crack*. He will be assisted by Virginia Davis, a juvenile screen and stage player who first scored in *Alice Comedies*, and a cast of 135 picked players.

This mammoth production of Maeterlinck's Christmas fantasy compares in magnitude with the Playhouse production of *Lazarus Laughed*, having over 150 characters, elaborate costuming, music and settings.

Scenic effects by Janis Muncia, former director of the Art Theater of Riga and winner of the Grand Prix at Paris in 1925, follow the Russian mystic interpretation of the Maeterlinck play.

Directed by Gilmore Brown, assisted by Leonore Shanewise, the *Bluebird* will run until January 4.

New Orleans Theater Has One-Act-Play Contest

The workshop of Le Petit Theater du Vieux Carre is instituting a contest for one-act plays. The prizes are: First prize, \$50; second prize, \$25, and five prizes of \$5 each for honorable mention. The contest is open to any resident of Louisiana, and it closes January 31.

The judges will be Jessie Sharp, Habbu Louis Binstock and Dr. Pierce Butler.

Bernard Shaw's three-act play, *The Devil's Disciple*, was produced early in December by Le Petit Theater du Vieux Carre, of New Orleans. The cast was as follows: Louise Stevens Jensen, Inez Gonzales, L. Alfred Reiber, Adam Lorchum, Jr., Lois Wurtel, William Siskel, Timothy Duggan, Martha Gilmore Robinson, Fred A. Wulff, Jr., Natalie V. Scott, Walker M. Ellis, Watson Chapman, Chester G. Jaeger, Arthur C. Fritchard, Thomas E. Dabney and Philip A. Lane.

Albany Players, Albany, N. Y.

The Albany Players of Albany, N. Y., have elected the following officers for the season: President, Thomas C. Stowell; vice-president, Norman R. Sturgis; secre-

Little Theaters

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT

(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

Rip Van Winkle Returns With Magic of Marionets



You remember in the first act of *Faust*, how the tenor hero is blessed with a vision of Marguerite sitting sweetly at her wheel spinning her flax and her dreams. Behind the bottles, cobwebby retorts, rickety shelves loaded with enormous tomes and marvelously impossible magical instruments, thru a hole suddenly rent in the "back drop" Goethe's pretty blue-eyed heroine is discovered to *Faust* in a halo of light like a Cupid in a Murillo picture.

This is stage magic which provides ecstasy and thrills to the audience in search of them, and I am sure that in some such magical manner the genius of Tony Sarg has brought to life the children of his dreams—the Tony Sarg Marionets.

At the Assembly Theater last Friday night this extraordinary company of little puppets brought to life, in a miraculously human sort of a way, the cup-imbibing, wayward and lovable Rip Van Winkle, his family and associates.

From the land of fantasy, where Rip; his dog, Wolf; the little men of the mountains, and the ghostly band of sailor men engaged in nightly revel, it was difficult to return to this place of reality where one must realize that these people were, after all, not real people.

tary, Mrs. Gladys Wilson Boyce, and treasurer, Harold P. Winchester. Directors: Dr. Clarence P. Graham, Mrs. Margaret R. C. Hoggson, Mrs. Mary Hare Thompson, Reynolds K. Townsend and Mrs. Faye Smalley Stowell.

The company will inaugurate its regular subscription season of four months January 24, with a series of one-act plays, terminating the season with a long play. The committees have been named and the casting committee will report during the week.

The Albany Players will include in its repertoire several plays not yet produced, according to a policy already inaugurated, and also the featuring of children's performances.

The Civic Players' own little playhouse in Schenectady, N. Y., was not completed so that the company could give its opening performances as planned.

They were only mute marionets upon and almost into which Tony Sarg and his clever assistants had breathed the breath of life, and at whose bidding and manipulations of the strings they performed. They gave, these mechanically manipulated Lilliputians, what seemed to this writer at least, a far more real and human exhibition than has been executed in a number of recent Broadway productions.

Credit, lots of it, must go to the rich dulcet voices behind the scenes for their marvelously perfect synchronization of vocal and string manipulation. It was magic, as was also the setting, shifting and presentation of the eight scenes thruout the play. Wolf, the dog, was a gem; his bark and wagging tail registered unmistakably his deep affection for Rip and his fear and resentment of Dame Van Winkle.

There was a terpsichorean lesson to be learned in the dance dust between Rip's daughter, Judy, and the boy, Hendrik. Such kicks and such splits would make even Jack Blue turn green.

Here indeed was a dream come true, an illusion without a disillusion made possible by Tony Sarg, master of marionets. J. M. B.

Arrangements have now been made to dedicate the theater about January 15.

The Albany Players gave their first out-of-town performance on December 5 in the high-school auditorium in Schenectady for the benefit of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion.

The program comprised three one-act plays which were presented in a most finished manner which made a strong impression with a capacity audience. The plays produced were *So This Is Paris Green*, by Kenyon Nicholson; *The Bank Account*, by Edward Brook, and *Good Medicine*, by Edmund Burke. The principal roles were excellently interpreted by Faye Smalley, Gladys Wilson Boyce, Margaret R. C. Hoggson, Thomas C. Stowell and Paul M. Hewlett. Mr. Stowell was the director and Mr. Hewlett, stage manager. *The Bank Account* was given with the same cast which won for the

Albany Players the silver loving cup offered by the Town's Players of Pittsfield in the Western Massachusetts Little Theater Tournament last season.

Mobbie Players Present New Play

My Son, a three-act drama by Martha Staley, was presented by a picked cast of actors at the Little Theater, Mobbie, Ala.

Mrs. Marion Haas, who played the part of Ana Silva, a middle-aged Portuguese woman, exhibited her talent as an actress in Indianapolis, where she played leading roles in a stock company. From Ana Silva's point of view the whole drama hinges on the fate of her only son, who in spite of his foreign parentage is truly an American.

Hattie Smith, an American mother, was played by Mrs. Edna Schoen, who has taken part in a number of the Little Theater's plays. Nina Nicks took the role of Rosa Pina, a young Portuguese girl. Betty Smith, played by Emma Tam, is an incurable flapper who has never had a serious thought and is trying hard to avoid having one in the future.

Others in the cast included H. H. King, Ben Stainback, John O'Neill, F. E. Armstrong and C. G. Dolan.

The set, designed by Edmond de Celle, represented the living quarters of a shanty store on the Maine coast. One of the unique features of the set was a full-rigged clipper ship which appeared in the background. The miniature was made by Capt. J. B. Roberts. Roy Smith, Henry Badoux, Fred Vogel and Joe Midget were in charge of the lighting and mechanical effects. The costumes were by Lauretta Fowler.

A Note From San Antonio, Tex.

The following note was received from the Little Theater of San Antonio, Tex.: "Harry A. Porter, a member of San Antonio's Little Theater cast, proved that he has the real troupers' spirit. He had a prominent part in the cast of Mrs. Bumpstead-Leigh, the comedy drama on the Little Theater boards.

He was about to go on for the initial performance when he was handed a telegram that his daughter, Catherine Porter, was one of 10 who perished in the fire that destroyed the Manhattan Film Studio in New York.

With the grim tragedy gnawing at his heart, he went on at each of the three performances given by the company.

Schenectady Players To Dedicate New Playhouse

The Schenectady Civic Players of Schenectady, N. Y., expect to dedicate their new little playhouse about January 15.

The casts for the three plays which will mark the opening performances have been announced by Mrs. C. M. Ripley, chairman of the casting committee. The repertoire will include *Aria de Capo*, by Edna Vincent Millay; *The Mask*, by Frynwyd T. Jesse, and *So Is Your Old Antiquer*, by Clare Kummer. The sets have been designed by Mildred Meyer, Mrs. Charles Ruffner will have charge of properties and Mrs. R. M. Herrick will supervise the costuming.

Altho he received word of his father's death a half hour before the opening of a recent production, John D. Hitch- (See LITTLE THEATERS on page 41)

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WMCA's 1930 Outlook

Donald Flamm, president of the Associated Broadcasters, and who is now operating Station WMCA in the Hammerstein Theater Building, New York, has expressed the following opinions and thoughts on radio's 1930 outlook:

"The beginning of a new decade finds radio passing its formative years and settling down to the serious business of good entertainment to the masses. The floundering of the early stages of radio broadcasting are past. The future is assured, and, at Station WMCA, we feel that steady progress has been made to guarantee that future to be a golden one, not only for those engaged in radio, but those who are simply engaged in listening to it."

"During the past year," said Mr. Flamm, "plans were made and perfected along three separate lines of entertainment for the betterment of WMCA programs, and during 1930 those plans will mature. They are plans, you will observe, that follow the trend of the times."

In an effort to maintain a higher standard of good dance music, WMCA has engaged Maury Rubens, composer of *The Greenwich Village Follies* and other productions, to supervise all orchestral arrangements of dance tunes.

"The proximity of WMCA's studios to Manhattan's great theatrical district makes it an ideal station for the broadcasting of theatrical news and events. Many stars of the stage and screen have appeared on theatrical-radio programs of the past year, and this merger of two great professions will be augmented during 1930 to greater extent than ever before."

Harry C. Butcher To Operate New Washington Studio

The Columbia Broadcasting System has leased for its headquarters in the National Capital a large suite of offices in the new Shoreham Building, Washington, D. C. Plans for modern studios are now being drawn, and when the suite is completed some of the nation's most important broadcasts will be heard from the Shoreham studio, thru Station WMAL.

With the announcement of a new studio came word that Harry C. Butcher, well-known Washington correspondent, is to have charge of the Columbia System Washington headquarters.

EDDIE DOWLING, actor-playwright, who recently turned his talents to the talking pictures, will be the guest star of the WPCB movie period from that station. He will tell something of his experiences in Hollywood, and will sing a selection from his latest United Artists picture. Mr. Dowling will be introduced by Radie Harris, prominent screen writer.

WELCOME LEWIS, contralto crooner, and Billy Hillpot, novelty vocalist, selected popular song hits from recent and current musical comedies for the New Year's program, heard thru the NBC System. *A Little Kiss Each Morning*, song hit from Rudy Vallee's talking picture hit, *The Vagabond Lover*, was one of the popular numbers.

G. UNDERHILL MACY is one of those favorite novelty air performers that radio audiences wait and watch for. He is Hank Simmons, of *Hank Simmons' Show Boat*, one of the most popular hours on the air. *The Show Boat* is broadcast over the Columbia chain thru Station WABC.



G. Underhill Macy

heard from Station WHAM, Rochester, N. Y., on Thursday, January 2, at 7:45 p.m.

JACK GRAY and Gene Cobb, known as "Smoke" n' Honey Gal, are broadcasting colored domestic trials and tribulations over Station WIL, St. Louis, at 7:15 nightly, except Sunday.

VIC IRWIN and the members of his Mayfair Roof Orchestra, heard over WOR, New Jersey, each Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, believe that a theme song is essential to the success of a band,

Radio Entertainers

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT

(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

Radio Seen as One of Biggest Branches of the Show Business

With television just around the corner, and, according to the best predictions, likely to come into general public use within a slim two years, entirely revolutionizing the field and equipment, radio is fast reaching the magnitude, world importance and financial security that threatens to make it equal, if not superior, to any other branch of show business.

Against its wishes in some respects, the amusement industry is being forced more and more to recognize the radio field as one of its most important and powerful branches. Five years ago a hybrid form of entertainment and frowned on by show business in general, the radio infant has grown within record time to the point where today it is second only to motion pictures as a gigantic industry in the entertainment business. And it is growing bigger all the time.

During the past year the strides made by radio have been more forward than those made by any other branch of show business since the beginning of amusements. With most other branches of the amusement industry weakening, with the exception of motion pictures, which like radio owes its renewed strength to the mechanics of talkies, radio's future is rosier than ever before.

Besides the advances made in programs over the air, radio is stepping ahead in equipment, with 1930 likely to offer new improvements over the screen-grid tubes brought out during the past year, and

the electro-dynamic loud speakers the year before.

Altho not expected so soon, 1930 may get television under way for the home. Definitely planned by the leading manufacturers, according to reports, is the popularization of the combination radio and phonograph sets, with radio recently claimed to have stimulated the sale of records thru plugging of popular songs and others over the air.

Amateurs, who made radio at the beginning, are cut almost entirely now. Radio, during the past year, has introduced the various forms of entertainment to the air that its guiding geniuses have found are in demand, and which entitle the industry to closer recognition as a genuine branch of the show business. Comedy had been demanded and received, and all material on leading chains has had to pass an acid test, whereas before anything went.

The improvement in radio programs has been such within the last 12 months, with audience appeal catered to, and the chains signing only the best of talent, that radio has settled itself as one of the biggest parts of show business now.

It and motion pictures are, apparently, the only two branches of the industry that are forging ahead. Both, with radio having the edge, are seen as the future forces of entertainment. Both are already big monopolies.

and, therefore, are anxious to have their listeners contribute one. Got any theme-song ideas?

ANDY SANNELLA, the saxophone virtuoso, and popular NBC broadcasting artist, was guest of honor at the special celebrity night, held at Barron's Exclusive Club in Harlem. He played his latest composition, *Alone*, for the guests there.

"MITTY" ANN LEAF, Columbia's diminutive organist, whose midnight melodies bring the programs of the day to a close, has chosen the *Meditation* from *Travis* to open her next broadcast over WABC and W2XE.

BYRON HOLIDAY, tenor, will sing one of the outstanding numbers from the talking film, *Sunny Side Up*, in a program to be broadcast from WABC Tuesday evening. You ought to hear Byron sing *My Fate Is in Your Hands*.

EMERY DEUTSCH and his Ensemble will be heard in the program, *Romany Patterer*, to be broadcast thru WABC and stations of the Columbia Broadcasting System, at 10:30 o'clock, Friday evening, January 3. The broadcast will originate in the New York studios of WABC.

PAUL TREMAINE, the youthful band maestro, who, together with his Aristocrats of Modern Music, is a daily feature from WABC, has just completed work on a series of five articles on the subject, *In Defense of Jazz*, that will appear in forthcoming issues of *A Tempo*, a musical publication.

ELMER F. BERNHARDT, baritone, will be heard on the program broadcast from Station WHAL, Baltimore, Saturday, January 4, from 8 to 9 p.m.

FELICE IULA conducted a special New Year's Eve program from WHAL. The program consisted of popular hits from 1919 to 1929. One of the numbers included in the program was *A Little Garden*, which was written by Mr. Iula himself.

ZARA BOUSON, soprano, made her

radio debut on Christmas Day in a program broadcast from Station WPCB. Miss Bouson had previously been with the Los Angeles Opera Company. Morton Lang assisted her at the piano.

CHIC ENDOR, the international entertainer, will offer specialty songs from a broadcast thru WABC on Wednesday evening at 9:30 o'clock. Mr. Endor is a late star of *George White's Scandals*, and is widely known for his appearance in vaudeville and musical comedy.

ARTHUR WARREN, director of the Park Central Orchestra, chooses song hits and dance numbers from the season's sound pictures. In a broadcast thru NBC Thursday night at 6:30 Mr. Warren will feature one of these programs.

OLGA PARADO, soprano, Roy Nerhood, tenor, and Allan Parado, accompanist, are three new faces in the Dixie Singers program, one of the "milk" features from Station WOR. Josephine M. Evans remains the director and contralto, and Richard E. Parks the basso.

THE ARZEN KIDS, two pianos and a violin, are popular entertainers at Station WHAM, Rochester, N. Y.

CLARA BARRY and Orville Whitledge, comedians, appeared in the special New Year's Eve program broadcast by the RKO hour. Dance music was provided by Leo Reisman and his orchestra. Mr. Reisman played seven selections, with a standard vaudeville act following each one.

RAE SAMUELS, Jim and Betty Morgan, Billy Hobbs, and Jay Velle and Netette Marchand, were on the RKO Radio program New Year's Eve. A special arrangement of *Auld Lang Syne*, by Leo Reisman, welcomed in the new year.

KEN MURRAY and his gang, including Foster, Pagan and Cox, dainty little Helen and Mit Charleston, will appear on the RKO program scheduled for Tuesday night, January 7.

BILLY BEARD, one of the Raybestos Twins, heard thru the NBC System, goes

into vaudeville in January and will be booked thru a circuit of Southern theaters.

LITA GREY CHAPLIN, former wife of the movie comedian, broadcast thru Station WJBO, New Orleans, during her stay in that city. At the same time WWL presented Milton Palasant, singing guitarist, who is steadily gaining popularity thru that station.

GENE ARNOLD, program manager of Station WENR, Chicago, gained his ex-

perience as stage manager in the world back of the footlights. Mr. Arnold is best known to the radio audience thru his work as director, producer and interlocutor of the Weener Minstrel Show, regarded as one of the station's most popular programs. He has also acted as announcer during other important features, such as the U. S. Concert Orchestra program and the Edison Symphony recital.



Gene Arnold

News From New Orleans

C. W. Nelson, formerly director of KFI, Los Angeles, and associated NBC stations, has been induced by J. H. Uhalt, owner of WDSU, to remain for an indefinite period as program director and guest announcer.

Among artists who are appearing from this station are Johnny Saba and Benny Benital, the Radio Twins; the Sunshine Artists, Jerry Osbourn, Herman Cooper, Erma Haugers, Jerry Behrens, Lillian Gerson, Bessie Weinberg, Alice Walker, an artist new to the city, May Schaufuss Eytling, the Owls Orchestra.

Mr. Nelson has expressed himself as being favorably inclined toward the development of local talent of promise and will hold daily auditions to further their ambitions. With these plans in full operation there is no question but what New Orleans will become an important factor from a broadcasting standpoint.

HARRY STOCKWELL, who enjoyed great success in *Marching Home to You*, recently shown at the Roxy Theater, introduced the stirring song, *Border Ballad*, by Sir Frederick Cowan, in the concert numbers program recently presented by Roxy and his gang over Station WJZ and associated radio stations of the National Broadcasting Company.

New Radio Station For Brockton, Mass.

With the completion of a three-week survey of conditions in Brockton, Mass., and interviews with leading business men, the Radio Broadcasting System of America announces that a radio station will be opened in this city the latter part of January.

Officers of the new firm were in the city seeking a suitable location in which to erect the transmitting plant and equip a modern broadcasting studio.

Here's "Amos" Right Name

Freeman F. Gosden is the name of one of the highest salaried radio stars in the United States. He is the "Amos" of the now famous team of "Amos 'n' Andy".

Charles J. Correll is "Andy" of the famous duo, who are heard every night except Sunday over the NBC coast-to-coast network.

HILDA STONE, formerly organist at the Plaza Theater, San Antonio, is now broadcasting over Station KTSA in the Plaza Hotel, San Antonio.

"BAMA LEE PRICE, formerly at WRC in the Club L'Anglon, Washington, and WLAF, Louisville, is now holding forth with his Negro spirituals and minstrel work at WHAS in the latter city. He is carded to remain at WHAS indefinitely.

GLADYS DEVOE, blues singer, is now being featured over Station WAPL, Birmingham. Miss Devoe has been doing night club work in the South.

RADIO COMEDY COLLECTION

GAMBLE'S BIG RADIO COMEDY COLLECTION contains New MATERIAL for Radio Entertainers. For \$2. Acas. \$1. Mocoos. \$1. Striches. \$1. Piss. \$1. Recitations. \$1. Jokes. \$1. New PARODIES. \$1. E. L. GAMBLE, Playwright, East Liverpool, O.

Fred Kaufman Will Open Soon

VALDOSTA, Ga., Dec. 30.—Fred Kaufman's European Novelty Show is rapidly rounding into shape at the show's winter quarters here, and the company is expected to take to the road January 6 for a winter season in theaters and auditoriums thru the South. The Kaufman organization will be transported in five passenger cars and a large truck.

In the roster will be Fred Kaufman, manager and illusionist; Mrs. Fred Kaufman, treasurer; Barnes and Edwin, comedy sketch team; "Happy Dick" Boes, black-face comedian and producer; Miss James, pianist; the Con Corns, jugglers and musicians, and Ed. Barnes, agent. Among the illusions to be featured by Kaufman this season are The Doll House, The Holland Styles, Appearing and Disappearing Doves, The Wind Mill and several others. Featured free acts will include a blindfold drive, strait-jacket escape and his Mechanical Doll.

In the spring Manager Kaufman plans on enlarging his show for a tour under canvas. He formerly played thru the South in vaudeville and with various chautauqua companies.

Thos. E. Lucy Agrees With Wallace Article

"The article, 'More on Magic Exposure', by Wallace, the magician, which appeared on the magic page in the issue of December 21, was both interesting and constructive," writes Thomas Elmore Lucy, widely known lyceum and chautauqua entertainer.

"I have never seen his performance and do not know just how far Wallace goes with the exposition of tricks, but I believe in the main he is right in his deductions. Any performance is cheapened when the technique of a finished bit of artistry is exposed to the laity, but there are many time-tried feats that have become the common stock of the embryo magi, and when a professional conjurer uses them he must necessarily effect a change in the method.

"After all, the trite saying that there is nothing original save original sin is not far from the truth. The power of the true artist is in his originality. The Emersonian mouse-trap trail is a beaten path, but the early bird who caught the mouse-trap worm blazed his own trail—he did not follow the cowpath. I have seen readers and cartoonists presenting hackneyed bits, but their interpretation gave a freshness to the rendition that had a box-office charm. Gunga Din has had a dozen different interpreters, and I have heard The Shooting of Dan McGrew read in such a way that no one left the house.

"I am not sure that I care to see Hamlet dressed in plus-fours, but I do believe there is lots of room for original treatment of old plays, monologs, readings and vaudeville skits. If the rule holds good in other lines, why not in magic?"

"Let's 'on with the dance' in this exciting racket—and may the fittest ever survive!"

Wallace Preparing For Southern Trip

Wallace, the magician, who spent the holiday season at his home in Durham, N. C., is preparing for his annual tour thru his old-established territory in the South which he has covered for the last 12 years. He plays the larger schools and auditoriums exclusively, and boasts of the largest one-man magic show on the road. All his equipment is transported on a large truck.

Wallace concluded a successful tour thru the Dakotas several weeks ago. This was his first visit to that territory, and he reports that he found business highly satisfactory there.

WHILE ON THE SUBJECT of magic names, Mystic Clayton writes in to say that another magician up in Tom's River, N. J., has copped his moniker and is working under that title in the territory where the Clayton name is well known. Clayton informs that he has just concluded a four weeks' stay at the Park Theater, Williamsport, Pa. Clayton benefited by the fact that no mindreader has played the spot in several years.

Magic and Magicians

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS
Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.



RAJAH RABOID, widely known mentalist, who recently came out of retirement to begin a tour of the Public houses in New England. Raboid is slated to begin a long RKO route following the Public dates.

Count Von Luckner Is I. B. M. Member

Thru the efforts of Wallace, the magician, another internationally famous personage has been added to the roster of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. The latest figure of prominence to sign his name to an I. B. M. application as an honorary member of the organization is Count Felix Von Luckner, famous German sea captain, who has been on a lecture tour of the United States for the last several years.

Wallace's idea to make Von Luckner a member of the I. B. M. came after reading the latter's most recent book, in which Von Luckner describes how he entertained the former Kaiser Wilhelm II and the late Czar of Russia and the members of their staffs with a magical routine, following a banquet on a German cruiser several years before the World War. Wallace had almost given up the idea of making the Count a member of the I. B. M. when, while passing thru Bismarck, N. D., several months ago, he noticed Von Luckner's billing, announcing that the latter was to appear there several days later. Wallace sent him a letter, explaining the organization and enclosing an application for membership. During a visit in Cincinnati recently, Wallace received thru The Billboard's mail department Von Luckner's signed application.

Von Luckner is the second internationally prominent figure to become a member of the I. B. M. During a visit to Cincinnati several years ago, Charles A. Lindbergh was presented with an honorary membership in the I. B. M. by Felix Blé, then a member of The Billboard staff.

Magic Carnival Scheduled

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Parent Assembly No. 1, S. A. M., will stage a magic carnival at the Hecksher Theater here on the night of February 23. Hardeen will supervise the affair, which promises to be the biggest magical attraction ever staged by the parent body.

Dantinis Begin Southern Tour

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Dantini Brothers, who have been breaking in their new magic show in and around New York for the last month, left here last week for an extended tour thru the South. The company's last stand here was at the Hearson High School, where the Dantinis performed before a vast number of students.

The show's first stop out of here was Baltimore, where the troupe is booked for 30 days' work in Baltimore proper and surrounding territory. The company is completely motorized.

George's Show as Seen By Hoyt, the Magician

Hoyt H. Wheeland, known professionally as Hoyt, the magician, "caught" George, the magician, at Circleville, O., recently, and was so impressed with the latter's performance that he was moved to write a review on the show. This was Hoyt's first visit on the George show since the latter's departure for South America several years ago, but, according to Hoyt, George is still the impressive showman of olden days. "If George would be a bit more aggressive, and book up with a real agent, he might surprise himself," Hoyt says.

"George opens his show with a mammoth production, which includes most of the things you could expect—and, perhaps, more," Hoyt informs. "Included in the program is a good block routine, cards from hand to pocket (delivers this with a wallop), Nixon's duck vanish, the Hindu needle trick, another production, and a girl vanish that takes your breath.

"George works 45 minutes in full stage, using an unusual and original setting. His wife (not at all hard to look at) works with him, and the two make a pleasing appearance.

"Another unique feature of the outfit is a traveling bungalow which makes for comfortable transportation and living quarters. It is a large motor bus, which has been equipped with berths, shower, electric griddle, lights and wardrobe, together with plenty of space for storage of paraphernalia."

Comments Still Come In

Criticisms, good and bad, continue to come into the magic desk on the article, "Clearing the Decks for Magic," by Harry Blackstone, which appeared in the Christmas issue of The Billboard. We have printed several of the magicians' views on the Blackstone article during the last several weeks, but lack of space does not permit us to continue this.

Anyway, practically all of the comments received are of the same tenor, and smack of that which already has been said on this page before. And then again it's action that counts, and all the articles and comments in the world won't aid in stopping this so-called "expose evil." Among those who sent in criticisms on the Blackstone article recently are Landry, the French Court magician; Lawrence A. Gale, Clement T. Magrum, King Felton and George S. Greene.

MYSTERIOUS HOWARD reports a fairly good season in the Tennessee territory. He writes in to say that he is booked for a string of schools and theaters in that section.

Shapiro-Panzelle Frame Magic Show

Prof. Shapiro and Panzelle, the magician, after closing a fairly good season with the Bruce Greater Shows, have organized a magic show, to be known as the Shapiro-Panzelle Company. The new outfit will play schools, auditoriums and theaters in North Carolina and Virginia.

There are three people in the turn, presenting a one-and-a-half-hour show, featuring spirit cabinet, the strait-jacket escape and chain and mail-bag escape. Panzelle, in a communication to the magic desk, states that the show is booked solid until the last week in January.

G. E. Neff in Pulpit Of New Frisco Church

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—G. Ellisworth Neff, psychic, has just returned to San Francisco after a successful tour of the Western States.

He has taken the pulpit of the new Spiritualist Church of Health and Prosperity here, where he will be pleased to meet any of his old friends in the mental profession. Neff is contemplating a spiritualistic revival in the near future.

Magic Notes

THURSTON is winding up a two weeks' stay at the Hanna Theater, Cleveland.

LESLIE P. GUEST gave a half-hour magical performance at the Electrical Trades School, Cincinnati, last week.

CHARLES NAGEL is playing to big results in the club in and around New York City with his new magic show, which he has titled *Here Comes Charlie*.

BECKER, THE MAGICIAN, writes as follows: "Have been doing pretty good so far on my tour thru the South, playing a lot of towns Birch and Wallace have played in the past."

BILL FREYBOURGH, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., who is reputed to have one of the largest libraries on magic in the country, also is considered one of the leading card manipulators in the East.

BILL FRAZEE is working a heap of profitable dates in the New York City territory these days. He is about the only magician who can place four golf balls in his mouth and still be funny enough to make the kiddies laugh.

THE BOYS in and around New York City will meet at Frank Ducrot's magic shop, 304 W. 24th street, each Saturday afternoon in the future. All the magi and friends of the art are invited to attend these sessions.

PATRICOLA concluded his season of club dates at Painesville, O., recently. He has been working a cigar and silk routine, featuring a new gag with the Baker slate and super vision. Patricola is at present enjoying a layoff in Fairport, O., where he is entertaining plans for taking out a full-evening show early in the new year.

SIEL TIEL, the German "Pickpocket Magician", continues to meet with favor in the various New York night clubs. One of his pet stunts is to pick the pockets of a committee, which he has assisting him in his trick. After dismissing them, he calls them back to return their watches, pocketbooks and other articles.

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Minstrelsy

By BOB EMMET
Communications to 25 Opera
Place, Cincinnati

NO USE ARGUING with Happy Benway. You can't get around the logic of a man who sets forth a proposition such as the Alabama colored put to the colored man in the woods near Birmingham, as related by Hi-Brown Bobby Burns. Says Bobby: "The colored was hunting in that neck of the woods. So was the colored man, but neither knew of the proximity of the other when both fired at the same wild turkey. A buzzard was also in flight when the guns were fired. The two birds came down together. The colored and the 'colored' boy reached the game at the same time. The colored looked at the black boy's smoking gun. He looked at the turkey and he looked at the buzzard. Says the colored: 'Somebody shot a turkey. I'm not the man to take advantage of anybody, black boy. I am going to give you your chance. Now, which will you have? You can take the buzzard and I'll take the turkey, or I'll take the turkey and you can have the buzzard.'" Happy Benway is willing to acknowledge that this bass drum contest was originally promoted to determine whether Bobby Gossans or Fred Leslie is the champion bass drummer of American minstrelsy. But he writes from Saranac Lake, N. Y., on the subject, to wit: "What's the use of beating around the bush? Here they are digging up bass drummers back to '61. Fifty million Canucks can't be wrong. Even I, as one of them, admit that I am the great and only bass drummer. Gossans tried to ring in Fred Leslie, who, as everybody knows, could never read music. Neither can I, but I never had the tin ear that Gossans has. I can prove it by any hooper or acrobat in the world that I always had the touch that would make land leaders feel afraid of their jobs, because I can beat that time, that is so often sped. It's the double beat, the beat that sends the band sometimes six or seven miles off the regular parade course. Bob Conn, Edward Leroy Rice, George R. Guy, Nell O'Brien and all those who are in the know admit that I am the 'it' guy with the bass drum. Now just to show you and the minstrel fans that I am not afraid of this manager and ex-comique called Gossans, I will even stage this match over the long-distance phone. I know my beats carry. That's

where Gossans is weak. His beats don't carry at all. I don't want to knock, but as a drummer he is terrible. He may be as good as Speedy McCarthy, but I even doubt that. I can only class him with one bass drummer that I know, a bass singer called Bill Collette. He was lousy, too, but not as bad as Gossans. There is only one thing to do. That's to send me the prize and call this thing off. There is no one as good as I am. That's that. And don't forget that I am T. B. That means Tough Baby."

A UNIQUE CORK OPRY was the minstrel show staged by William Taylor and William Reid for Baron De Kalb Council, Knights of Columbus, at Solace Auditorium, Coney Island, N. Y., December 10. It was a semi-pro. affair with talent drawn from the colony of professionals by the sad sea waves as well as from the native ranks. Walter Lege and his orchestra were harmoniously there, insuring the best of instrumental accompaniment for the lengthy and diversified program. The success of the show inspired the officers of the council to announce that it will be an annual event.

THE ANNUAL MINSTREL production of the Y. M. C. A. boys at San Antonio, Tex., was given at the "Y" December 28. Ralph Soape, assisted by Mrs. George Bush, directed. A minstrel choir of 30 reinforced the vocalists in the first part.

INTERESTING communication comes from that veteran comedian, Tom Birchmoore (originally Moore), now general manager of the Birchmoore and London attractions, *The Gay Cadets* and *The Pirot Players*, whose home office is at Bournemouth, England. He incloses a program of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, corkological combination, which ran for many years continuously at St. James Hall, London. This particular bill was for the week of August 9, 1890. It shows Birchmoore, whose name had been changed because it conflicted with that of George W. (Pony) Moore, doing the featured tambo end and working in the afterpiece. Pony Moore will be recalled by oldtimers as a sports promoter as well as principal owner of the Moore and Burgess troupe. He was, by the way, the father-in-law of Jake Kilrain, who attempted to put John L. Sullivan out of the championship class, and promoted Tug Wilson to go up against the Boston Boy. Tom Birchmoore, now 74, began his career in 1872 in the United States. His first engagement, he relates, was with Sheridan and Mack, opening in Quincy, Mass. Sheridan was the original Widow O'Brien in *Fun on the Bristol*. Later the troupe combined with Sam Sharpley's, and Moore, as he was then known, doubled with Frank (Casey) Dunderleish. In that company was Charley Seamon, later of Seamon and Summers. On the death of Sharpley in Providence, R. I. the show disbanded and Moore joined hands with Monte Collins, the team being engaged for Beethoven Hall, Boston, by George Swaine Buckley. Later they went into variety and while playing at Hooley's, Brooklyn, were engaged for Dan Sprague's Theater in Galveston, Tex. There Moore met Lizzie Wilson, formerly of Schumann's Transatlantic Novelty Company, whom he married and who survives. In 1877 the team of Collins and Moore went to England. After playing the London music halls for a year they were signed for Sam Hague's Minstrels, Liverpool. Collins returned to America soon afterwards, but Moore was engaged for a tour of India with Dave Carson's company, opening in Calcutta. John E. Drew was a member of that company, another being Joe Arthur, who later wrote *The Still Alarm*. Moore then joined the Moore and Burgess troupe at the famous home of minstrelsy in London, remaining with the company 20 years, after which he joined Frank Dumont's Minstrels at the 11th Street Opera House, Philadelphia. At the end of the first year he was compelled to return to England to look after family affairs, declining a renewal of his contract and an enticing offer from Billy West, who desired to feature him with the Primrose & West Minstrels.

LEROY (LASSES) WHITE, operating his own minstrel company on tour the last 10 years, formerly featured comedian with the Nell-O'Brien and Al G. Field shows, will begin the new year producing amateur minstrels in the Southern country. F. L. Brown, manager of the Columbia Theater, Columbia, S. C., informs, Lasses expects to put on shows for the Shriners, Elks and other

organizations in various cities. He will direct, play leads and supervise all details of the production. Bookings will be made in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida by Brown. The first show will be given late in January in Columbia, under the auspices of the local lodge of Elks. Productions for other organizations in Charlotte and Durham, N. C., will follow.

Stage Employees and Projectionists

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1560
Broadway, New York

GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD of the I. A. T. S. E. and M. P. M. O. will meet in mid-winter session at New York headquarters January 20. All local unions and members having business which requires some action are requested to compile and forward it. This will be the last meeting of the board prior to the convention. The next convention city is to be selected at the impending session.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES will audit the finances of the I. A. T. S. E. beginning January 20. When the audit is completed an itemized account of the receipts and disbursements will be forwarded to all locals.

WILFRED W. CONOVER, a suspended member of Corning, N. Y., Local 480, is reported traveling around the country claiming affiliation with Local 480. He is said to be carrying a letter of recommendation purportedly signed by the secretary of Local 480. A member of El Paso (Tex.) Local 153 has made complaint against him. This member says he cashed a check for \$30, which was promptly returned marked "no funds". Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Conover is requested to wire Frank B. Sutherland, secretary of the Corning local.

WM. P. RAOUL settled a controversy in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., by securing a renewal of the present scale and conditions.

JOS. CAMPBELL has taken an assignment to Fort Smith, Ark., to negotiate a contract with a new house for Local 455.

WM. DILLON has been assigned to Danbury, Conn., at the request of Local 662.

ROAD CALLS LIFTED: Springdale Theater, Stamford, Conn.; Palace Theater, Norfolk, Va.

CARL BIRGER, Local 644, made a transcontinental hop aboard a T. A. T. plane last week photographing the American scene from coast to coast for Visigraphic Pictures.

JULES SINDIC is shooting tests for Caravel Pictures at their Long Island studios.

AL WILSON is shooting tests for Metro at the Audio-Cinema Long Island studios.

AL MARINER is at Philadelphia shooting the Philadelphia Public Ledger plant for Visigraphic Pictures.

RANDOM NOTES—By Wesley Trout
IN CHARGE of the projection at the Warner Theater, New York, is Brother Max Feinberg, chief projectionist Warner Bros.' theaters, metropolitan district, and Charles Sherman, Max Raskin, Al Engel, Ben Silver, I. Sherman, Ed Greene, J. Caravelli, Henry Weinberger and Harry Kaplan, assistant projectionists. Bert Frank is in charge of sound in all the Warner Bros.' theaters in this district. The projection room is equipped with the very best in projection and sound equipment.

ED BROWNING, projectionist at the Kansas Theater, Wichita, recently visited relatives in Blackwell, Covington and Enid, Okla. Brother Browning is a member of Local 312, Enid, and member of the American Projection Society, Wichita.

LEE KICKRELL, projectionist Miller Theater, Wichita, was recently initiated in the Masonic order in that city.

THOSE IN charge of the projection

Theatrical Mutual Assn.

By DAVID L. DONALDSON
Grand Secretary-Treasurer

Brother W. J. McConnahey, grand president, has appointed the following as deputy grand presidents to assist him in the work thruout the country: Charles J. Levering, Philadelphia Lodge; Alex Anderson, Hamilton Lodge; J. S. Haughey, Portland Lodge; Phil Sugarman, Providence Lodge; A. C. Scroggins, Wheeling Lodge; John P. Nick, St. Louis Lodge; Joseph P. Bender, New York Lodge; Al M. Ruland, New York Lodge; R. B. Jacques, Pittsburgh Lodge; Donald Urquhart, Buffalo Lodge; George Postel, Cincinnati Lodge; James Duncanson, Louisville Lodge; William C. Duerrler, Newark Lodge; J. A. Clives, London Lodge; Nate Stein, Chicago Lodge; George Gru, Brooklyn Lodge; Thomas Lloyd, Long Island Lodge; George Lee, Boston Lodge; James A. Ryan, Cleveland Lodge; W. W. Hayes, Toronto Lodge; Daniel A. Garner, Baltimore Lodge; William C. Daul, Oakland Lodge; A. J. Skarren, New Orleans Lodge; Charles R. Wells, Minneapolis Lodge; Frank Heints, Rochester Lodge; R. C. Watson, New Haven Lodge; Shirley D. Boyle, Beaver Falls Lodge; O. B. Eustace, San Francisco Lodge; Al B. Cohn, San Francisco Lodge; and Edward Ohegan, Bronx Lodge.

With regret we report the passing away of Brother David Nelson, Grand Lodge member, who was buried in the T. M. A. plot December 19.

London Lodge No. 23 made many poor families and inmates of many institutions very happy at Christmas time by the distribution of baskets of food and toys in the good old Santa Claus way. C. C. Saunders, first grand vice-president, was chairman of the Christmas committee.

Pittsburgh Lodge No. 37 expects to take a new lease of life shortly and go after new members. It is also considering the group-insurance plan.

The Pride of Long Island Lodge elected officers for 1930 at its last meeting. After the meeting a Christmas party was held. Preparations are all made for the lodge's installation and dance in January.

Buffalo Lodge No. 18 held its regular meeting Sunday, December 22, with a fairly good attendance. The following were elected to conduct the affairs of the lodge for 1930: Richard Thomas, past president; D. L. Donaldson, president; Phil Lewis, vice-president; J. W. Fryer, recording secretary; Gus P. Meister, financial secretary and treasurer; Donald Urquhart, chaplain; George Rohloff, marshal; Frank Galley, sergeant at arms; Charles Dukesberry and Jacob Letcher, trustees. The resolution to increase the dues and take up the group insurance was voted on at this meeting and was carried almost unanimously, there being only two votes against it. Installation of officers will be held at the January meeting Sunday, January 26. A social will be held after the meeting. A smoker is planned for February. Brother Don Urquhart is chairman of the smoker committee and will be assisted by Brothers Dick Thomas, Jacob Letcher and Phil Lewis.

at the Criterion Theater, New York, are Arthur Kleisrath, C. Miller, P. McKeever, M. Joseph, Jack Serphine, S. Innerfield, Paul Morris and Frank Elkins.

THE PROJECTION results at Loew's Paradise, New York, are in charge of Projectionist Otto Kafka, member of Local 306, and president of the American Projection Society, that city.

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New Complete Minstrel Show, \$5.
E. L. GAMBLE, Playwright, East Liverpool, O.

MINSTREL COSTUMES

AND SCENERY RENTAL
Free Catalog to Clubs
JOHN D. KELLER, Designer,
34 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

Beauty Box

Fannie Hurst Says We've Gone Into Bondage

Fannie Hurst, our own novelist and story writer, does not approve of our new femininity, so it is said. She is even quoted as saying that when we put on long skirts again we have gone back into bondage, and that the "leg" is becoming nasty again with its long silken covering of skirts.

Proper Use Of Creams

As a cleansing agent cold cream is by far the best and is indispensable for removing from the pores of the skin all powder, rouge and dust accumulations. It should therefore be used freely every night before retiring.

A good nightly cleansing method is to massage a pure cold cream into the skin, after which a towel (as hot as can be borne) should be folded over the face for a few moments. The cream should then be wiped from the face (with soft tissues, of course) with just a final dash of cold water to close the pores.

A fine, pure cream which we can highly recommend will aid greatly in retaining your fair, young complexion. The cream itself is a delicate flesh color and comes in a beautiful Grecian vase jar designed for both beauty and utility. You will want to keep the jar as a decoration for your dressing table. This cream will not turn rancid and cannot encourage hair growth. You will like this lovely cream. \$1 a jar.

An Indelible Lip Stick

Our readers often ask for an indelible lip stick, and as we know of a very good one we invariably recommend it. Comes in a beautiful red Oallith container. One of the nicest things about this lip stick is that it has no drying effect upon the lips, but gives them a fresh, natural rosiess. Comes in light naturelie, dark naturelie, raspberry and medium shades for \$1.50.

For Those First Gray Hairs

Here's the ideal way to touch up those first gray hairs and the ugly, streaky tell-tale white line that shows between coloring. It is a darkening pencil intended as a temporary touchup and is not a dye. However, it can be used after any dye and washes out with shampoo. Will not smudge or smear. The pencil is daintily encased in metal container and the price is \$1.

New Powder Puff Is Big Success

Some time ago we told you about a lovely new powder puff made of lamb's wool with eiderdown finish. We've had excellent reports about it and the girls are simply delighted with it. It is the kind of puff used by the smart and beauty-loving women of France and this is the first time it has been introduced in America. Very soft and does not rub or grind the makeup into the skin, and gives a smooth finish to the entire makeup. Washable, too. Price 50 cents.

Treatment for Eruptions

The causes of blackheads, if not quickly checked, soon lead to unsightly eruptions. In addition to particular attention to fresh air, exercise, careful diet and plenty of water, a soothing and healing treatment should be followed faithfully. At night cleanse carefully with a pure cleansing cream, remove with cleansing tissues, then pat firmly, but gently with a good skin tonic. This is very important to stimulate the circulation. Then apply a healing acne cream over the eruptions, smooth on gently and allow to remain on as long as possible, preferably overnight. We gladly recommend an excellent skin tonic, a formula of a well-known New York beauty specialist. The price of the skin tonic is \$1.50 and the same beauty salon prepares a very healing and effective acne cream, made especially to carry out this treatment as suggested. The acne cream may be obtained for \$2.

If this treatment is followed faithfully it will soon clear up any condition of blackheads, eruptions or acne.

Feminine Frills

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

A Happy New Year

SEE THIS DARING little vagabond? She's dancing 'cause she is happy, thrilled to pieces that she made that nifty costume all by herself. She says



It was all quite simple, really. She just selected a pattern at 40 cents from a catalog of fancy dress costumes for which she also paid 40 cents.

This catalog shows 300 designs, of which 82 are in three colors. Costumes of all descriptions and for every sort of an occasion are shown and included are national and period costumes for both men and women. The catalog is 40 cents and another special catalog of children's patterns is also 40 cents. Both these catalogs are certainly wonderful helps and at such small cost.

ANY GIRL SHOULD be able to make the little costume we have just described, but seems it just "ain't in the cards" for some of us to sew. If you have been stricken with that darling little pantie costume and you would like to have something similar we know just where you can get the velvet panties and silk blouses very inexpensively. The panties come in black, navy, red, lavender and green. Blouses in white or colors. The panties cost \$2.75 and blouse \$2.75. If you would like the set complete it can be bought for \$5 and now I ask you if that isn't a bargain! Send bust, waist, hip and thigh measurements.

IT CERTAINLY IS fun experimenting with marionettes—you can make them do the trickiest things. Some folks we know have started with one little marionette, then added another and another until they had a complete marionette show. They are about 17 inches tall with unbreakable head and 14 body joints so which 17 or more control strings can be attached. With practice you can put the marionettes thru the motions of the human body such as dancing, running, jumping and clowning. Marionettes cost \$2 each and controls are \$1.50 each. They are just heaps of fun and if you train them right they'll be glad to help make your fortune for you.

VERY OFTEN a perfectly good pair of dancing shoes must be discarded because they are "scuffed". They may be restored to spick-and-span newness by the application of a liquid shoe polish which comes in black, cordovan, nut brown, light tan, neutral, white kid, white canvas and 10 colors in suede. Price is 50 cents a bottle.

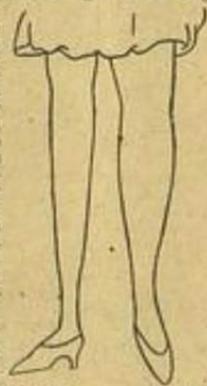
PERFORMERS WHO wear abdominal supports will find interesting a new combination supporter of knitted elastic. A special feature of this supporter is the arrangement of formerly troublesome undertraps. These are so placed that they grip the inner surface of the thigh and do not cut. Literature on request.

LACE SHAWLS GAIN in popularity as the vogue for silk fishnet frocks increases. They are worn, too, with the silk and crepe gowns and are seen a great deal in the theaters. French designers edge them with tiny balls of chenille and they are certainly attractive worn crosswise over the shoulder much in the manner of the recent Beauville scarfs. Lace shawls come in all colors, pastel and black and white for as low as \$4.50 each.

CHINESE BRAIDS, colorful, decorative, lend a touch of charm to a costume, to curtains, to stage props. One firm that we know of imports thousands of yards of beautiful braids from China in a great variety of colors, widths and designs. Best of all, they are most inexpensively priced. Would you like some samples and prices?

RUSSIAN BOOTS come in patent leather, kid, suede and kid combinations and velvet and kid in black and colors. Terribly cute ones at \$9.98. Others, with red work decorating the black, can be had for \$6.98.

IT IS RUMORED that legs are among the deciding factors with today's producers, and that one of the very first requirements is a good-looking pair of 'em. Well I suppose we haven't got legs with S. A. L. what're we poor gals going to do? We scouted around and found the answer and The Billboard artist has sketched it for you, too. Legs before using the leg pads and legs after. Awfully simple to apply and wear and absolutely defy detection. If you would like to improve your lines we will send you literature upon request.



AND SAY! Do you use the concave arch, soft-toe ballet slippers? If not, we suggest you treat yourself to a pair as a New Year's present to your poor little feet which have stood by you all year. These ballets are made from the finest materials and with expert craftsmanship. Flexible as can be and always permit pointing of the toes from any angle. Come in black kid for \$3.50; pink, black or white satin for \$3.75; white or pink kid for \$4; white or pink canvas for \$3.25; special-colored kid at \$4.50; gold or silver brocade at \$5.50; gold or silver kid at \$6. Elk soles \$1 extra. All plus 25 cents postage.

WHEN YOU WOULD like some grand and glorious new costumes made just the way you want them, with the added art of the designer, let us know. We will be glad to send you the name and address of a customer who is a real artist and what's more her prices are remarkably low. She caters to the showfolk—that's why.

Footlight Fashions

Madge Kennedy At the Palace

This captivating little star is always smartly gowned whenever and wherever we have seen her. At the Palace last week she looked particularly lovely in a frock of printed silk. By the way, printed silks are the new note of chic for all occasions, formal and informal.

Miss Kennedy's frock was belted at the normal waistline with two circular ruffles slanted from the waist to the uneven hem, and two oblique pieces inserted at front and back of skirt gave an unusual and stunning effect.

When one had the time an inclination to stray away from the vivacious and rolling eyes of Eleanor Brooks (also her sparkling titian hair) one discovered her scanty but most attractive gown of white silk. The bodice and skirt (of uneven length) were heavily and gorgeously decorated with glistening crystals and rhinestones.

Clara Barry was in beige lace. This, too, is highly popular this season and is seen a great deal in the new Broadway productions as well as in smart theater and supper club audiences. Miss Barry's gown boasted two circular tiers descending from hip to sweeping hemline and this accentuated the fullness of the trailing lines. Bertha collar was slit at the shoulders, hanging loosely and reaching nearly to the natural, belted waist in back and front.

Deep Purple in "Sherlock Holmes"

Deep purple seems exactly the color for Roberts Beauty to wear in *Sherlock Holmes*, Erlanger & Tyler's play at the New Amsterdam Theater. Developed in velvet of deep purple and violet it follows the extreme princess silhouette. Skirt is very long, reaching to and on the floor on all sides thru the assistance of flowing panels. These panels, too, opening in the front, display the knees at times. Neckline is oval and trimmed with floral designs in sparkling rhinestones and brilliant.

Mrs. Fiske Wears Beige

In *Ladies of the Jury* Mrs. Minnie Madden Fiske wears a chiffon broadcloth frock which buttons all down the front. A cute cape with ties in front and a V neckline adds charm to this ensemble.

Carola Goya Wears Exotic Gowns

One most unusual costume worn by Carola Goya, Spanish dancer, appearing at Hampden's Theater, has a bodice of silver, very tight fitting and extending just a little below the normal waistline. A huge velvet flower rests in the center low neckline. Another flower nestles on the right hip. The wide, wide skirt of silk has rows and rows of tuck flounces running unevenly around the skirt. A lace mantilla dotted with chenille falls over the head and high Spanish comb and down over the right arm, giving the effect of one sleeve. Very striking.

Many Capes Seen at the Opera

Capes are becoming more and more important as evening wraps and are seen in theater and opera audiences in profusion. They are as popular as the three-quarter fur wraps now. They were particularly profuse in the smart audience at the opening of John Barrymore's new film, *General Crack*.

When Ordering

All articles mentioned in this column and in the Beauty Box may be ordered thru *The Billboard Shopping Service*. Remittances should be in the form of money orders or certified checks. Please do not send personal checks or stamps. Address correspondence to *The Billboard Shopping Service*, 1560 Broadway.



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Costumers

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1550
Broadway, New York

SCHNEIDER-ANDERSON are executing costumes for the presentation *Jazz Preferred*, which comes to the New York Paramount Theater Monday. The firm is also costuming a revue act for Neville Pierson in which Helen Shipman is featured.

EAVES has already begun to execute some costumes for the annual Beaux Arts Ball to be held at the Astor Hotel in February.

MME. BERTHE is preparing costumes for three new scenes to be incorporated into the Plantation Club floor show. A. Vasilchikov, designer for Mme. Berthe, is making sketches for the revue costumes at the Casino de Paris, Paris, France.

CHRISDIE supplied costumes for the following productions: *Forever After*, Lyric Theater, Birmingham, Ala.; *Way Down East*, Lyceum Theater, Paterson, N. J.; *The Old Homestead*, Brockton Players, Brockton, Mass.; *The Barker*, George Sharpe Players, Pittsburgh, Pa.; *The Shanghai Gesture*, Kedzie Theater, Chicago.

PRACTICALLY ALL the costume houses report a considerable augmentation of business from orders for masquerades during the holiday period.

Scenic Artists

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1550
Broadway, New York

THE JURISDICTION of Local 829 over display work at exhibitions, pageants and fairs, which seemed safely settled at the time of going to press last week, developed a new critical state in the interim. The result was that on Monday, December 23, A. G. Volz, business agent of Local 829, ordered a strike of all scenic artists on display work at the Grand Central Palace and throught New York City until district council No. 9, which had 20 men at work at the Grand Central Palace despite last week's ruling of the general executive board of the P. D. P. H. of A., shall finally consent to recognize the jurisdiction of Local 829.

A RESOLUTION which proposed that the president of Local 829 be considered a paid officer and receive a salary of \$125 weekly was turned down by a vote of 179 to 87 at the annual election last week.

A RESOLUTION providing that the salary of the business agent of Local 829 continue at \$100 weekly was approved by a vote of 196 to 73. The alternate proposal was that the salary be reduced to \$68 weekly. A. G. Volz has been business agent of Local 829 for the last six years.

THE FOLLOWING amendment to the constitution of Local 829 was passed by a vote of 226 to 43: That all mixing, priming or applying of any medium on scenery or props, display creations or motion picture settings shall be done by members of Local 829 and registered students only.

LITTLE THEATERS

(Continued from page 36)
cock, senior at Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., went on with his role. Word of the death of Charles H. Hitchcock, former mayor of Glens Falls, N. Y., reached his son too late to permit obtaining a substitute in *Master of the House*.

Memphis To Give "The Dark Angel"

The Dark Angel, by H. B. Trevelyan, will be the third offering of the Little Theater of Memphis, Tenn., for the 1930 season, and Director Alexander Wyckoff has assembled an excellent cast for the presentation. This season, in its new home, the Memphis group has made greater strides than in the last four seasons. The production schedule calls for seven plays, one of which will probably

be of the musical type. In addition to the regular schedule a children's theater will be operated, as well as workshop classes, and a series of radio programs. The radio program goes on the air every other Thursday evening from Station WQBC and the group is very anxious to receive material for use on the air. Any one having or knowing of skits free from royalty will do the Memphis Little Theater a great favor by sending such information either direct to the group in Memphis, Tenn., or to Station WQBC, Inc., Memphis.

Oneida Players Repeat "Kick-In"

The Oneida Players of Oneida, N. Y., production of Willard Mack's four-act mystery play, *Kick-In*, made famous some years ago by John Barrymore at the Republic Theater, New York, played to an audience of over 1,100, November 21, in a high-school auditorium that seats but 750. Many were turned away when there was no more standing room.

Impressed with the production and work of the players, the American Legion Post immediately booked it again in the same auditorium for Friday, December 13.

Oneida Players are unusually strong in talent despite the fact that they have only a small room in the city hall in which to rehearse, often without heat, and can only play in a high-school auditorium for a school organization or American Legion because of the school laws which govern use of school buildings by outsiders.

The cast of *Kick-In* was composed of Mark Dalton, E. C. McCale, Daniel Conroy, Clarence Terrell, Glen Rinehart, Robert Brennan, Margaret Rice, Ann Hunziker, Loretta Chesebro, Marian Curtiss and Alice Barnes. The production was directed by LaVerne (Chip) Allen.

Gulfport, Miss., Plans Little Theater

Plans and work for the year are now under way with the Gulfport, Miss., Little Theater, altho no definite dates have been set for any of the plays to be given. The newly elected officers are Rev. Robert W. Emerson, president; Mrs. Bucks Yerger, vice-president; W. T. Moore, secretary-treasurer.

The Manhattan Theater Of Manhattan, Kan.

The Manhattan Theater has concluded the first two performances of its season. *The Queen's Husband* and *Young Woodley*, Young Woodley, having its first amateur presentation in that part of the country, was received enthusiastically. Roscoe Paunce, a new member of the department of public speaking at Kansas State Agricultural College, played the leading role.

In its third season the Manhattan Theater has a membership of 800 season ticket subscribers, an increase of about 100 over last year. The board of directors which has been elected for the ensuing year is composed of Dr. H. T. Hill, chairman; Harold Mangelsdorf, Mrs. Belle Spencer, Lester Burton, and H. Miles Heberer, director.

The remaining three plays for the season will be *The Royal Family*, to be presented January 31 and February 1; *The Emperor Jones*, March 7 and 8, and a revival of *Rip Van Winkle*, April 18 and 19.

St. Paul Players in Second Successful Year

The St. Paul Players of St. Paul, Minn., reached midseason of their second successful year with the presentation of *Lilium*, by Franz Molnar.

This work, the greatest work of an able dramatist, produced on the small stage of the Playhouse, was predestined to receive the praise of critics and theatergoers alike for the superior artistry of its presentation and its technical excellence.

LILIAM, both in the interpretation of the lines and the meticulous accuracy of the staging, was the cumulative result of the experienced direction of Maxwell Sholes, backed by an efficient and smoothly operating little theater organization.

This year the season opened with *Funny's First Play*, by George Bernard Shaw, and was followed in late November by *Lilium*. The third play, already in rehearsal, is, by the local playwright,

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Oakley Stout, winner of the Drama League of America's prize play for 1929. His play, *Barrens*, having as its background the burned-over lands of Northern Minnesota, should be of special interest to St. Paul theatergoers.
The children's branch of the St. Paul Players are rehearsing *Pinocchio*, dramatized by Remo Bufano, under the direction of Alysie Bould Sholes.

LONDON

By COCKAIGNE

Marchants, Haddenham, Thames

The Billboard on sale at GORINGE, 17 Green St., Leicester Square, and DAW'S, American News Agents, 4 Leicester St., Leicester Square.

Legitimate Stage

LONDON, Dec. 10.—The usual dreaded fall in bookings during the few weeks before Christmas is unusually marked this year, and this is to a great extent due to recent events in Wall street and the city. The sale of tickets in the Stock Exchange area is a fairly reliable one, but is at present phenomenally poor.

The Bachelor Father is again to the fore in spite of its checkered career, which seems in no wise to have killed faith in the ultimate commercial success of this American piece. Now Violet Melnotte has taken it up, and will represent it this week at the Garrick with Peggy O'Neill in the part in which Miriam Hopkins recently made a hit, while Aubrey Smith will reappear in his original role.

Rosalinde Fuller will be breaking new ground for herself when she becomes leading lady in the Bernard Shaw season which Charles Macdonald will present at the Court Theater beginning December 23. Arms and the Man will be the opening piece, and Eme Percy is to be the male star.

It is now announced in London that George Grossmith will not be able to act or produce for the West End stage for some time to come. His new Hollywood contracts, including his work in the film Beauty, with Lon Chaney in the leading role, are likely to keep him your side for a long term.

Anna May Wong is making a personal appearance today at the Regal, where The Pavement Butterfly film is being presented.

Tunnel Trench, the war play with which the charming new theater, the Duchess, opened, has flopped badly and came off on Saturday after only two weeks' run. Typhoons, with Dennis Neilson-Terry and Mary Grew, will follow it.

Love Lies, the unusually successful musical comedy, celebrated its 300th performance at the Gaiety last night.

Sunny Jarman's engagement to Francis Francis, an officer of the Royal Horse Guards, has led to enormous press publicity. This is because of the old rule by which a Guards officer has to resign his commission in the event of his marrying an actress. Considerable feeling is being expressed about the folly and snobbery of this antique tradition. Other actresses whose fiancés were thus compelled to abandon their Army career include Nora Blaney, Marie Studholme, Zean Dare, Mabel Russell and Teddie Gerard.

Atlantic, the biggest British film of the year, is to be shown at the Alhambra from December 23 onwards, when this house enters on its talkie career.

Vaudeville Field

Sunny Jarman made her variety debut this side yesterday at the Coliseum, supported by Gilbert and French and the Grafton dancing girls, and got a great hand for the true American vitality of her dance act. Renee Kelly is paying a return visit to this house in her success, *Professionation*, supported by Hilton Allen. America is strong at this Stoll house this week, Chick Parr with Oswald Waller and Lillian Francis, Marton and Ruth Weeks, the sisters of Ada May, G. H. Elliott and Kautzky's Bears on their first appearance in England making a powerful U. S. A. representation.

At the Holborn Empire Pld Gordon went fine yesterday, the program also offering the American-Russian dancers from *Wake Up and Dream*, the Berkoffs, Skeets Martin, Nina Doris, the Lawn Brothers and the Juggling Jewels, the last named doubling their act with another at the Palladium.

Tallulah Bankhead, in the Edwin Burke sketch, The Snob, with Bernard Nedell and Edwin Jay, was highly successful at the Palladium last week and is retained at the top of the bill. Con Colleano, Teddy Brown and the Four Harmony Kings are compatriots who figure big, and Max Wall and the Juggling Jewels also appear.

Con Colleano announces that he is going back to America in March to join the Ringling-Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Faylora made a triumphant return to the London stage at Golders Green

last week, when the enthusiasm of the audience proved how much she has been missed from the English stage during her long tours abroad.

Russell and Marconi have gone up North to Newcastle-on-Tyne, where their song-and-dance act is a winner.

Joe Marks has just returned from his South African and American tour, and is scheduled for two weeks at the Palladium next month.

The Chinese Syncopators are back in the West End, where they formerly established themselves as favorites, and are in the Alhambra bill.

Scott and Whaley are back in town in their latest revue, *Business Is Business*, which is going well at the Alexandra.

Ken Maynard, accompanied by his horse, Tarzan, is to appear in London variety when he is thru with his present work for Universal Films.

The Hai-Yung Family, Chinese sensationals, arrived here last week for the Lyceum pantomime, for the run of which, dated from December 23, they have been booked for some time.

A Bostock Circus opened a six weeks' season at Glasgow last week with some strong acts, including Stevenson's Riders, Swallow's Horses and Elephants, Dorris Troupe and Five Resna Roller-Skating Girls.

Carry Lynn, whose mimicry is a popular show here, returns to American vaudeville next month, opening at Miami January 2. He played his last date in England at the Palladium Saturday.

Cabaret at the Melton often provides some original turns, and is at present offering *Sweets E. Dolly*, an American newcomer, whose eccentric dancing act and singing are a welcome novelty. Charlie Robins, from *Hit the Deck*, also puts it over fine, and Al Jasper and Winifred do well.

Marie Burke is this week's new draw at the Cafe Anglais.

Nora Bancroft and Diana Maxwell, the Spanish dancer, Tirana, and Bert Wright are Piccadilly Playtime's cabaret entertainers.

AUSTRALIA

By MARTIN C. BRENNAN

198 Pitt Street, Sydney

SYDNEY, Nov. 30.—Frank Neil is now presenting *Gloam in Gloam* at the King's Theater, Melbourne, this house being available by arrangement with Williamson-Tait. Neil is not in any way connected with the Williamson firm, being merely lessee of the theater, and also, by arrangement with the firm, will include in the production the Hardgrove Brothers, dancers, and Ann Penn, dainty comedienne and impersonator, who were outstanding performers with the World's Entertainers, recently disbanded vaudeville enterprise of Williamson's.

The Malco, which has been berthed at Circular Quay during the week, left on its return trip to United States early Thursday morning last. Many prominent citizens of this city were entertained aboard at a luncheon on Monday last, making the personal acquaintance of the visiting Americans, who will carry many delightful memories of this country with them on their pleasure cruise.

W. Harrington Miller is back in Australia after several years abroad. This gentleman, who formerly was managing director of the Greater J. D. Williams Company, and who since his retirement has lived in London, arrived here by the Makura. His stay here will be but short, however, as he will go to Los Angeles in a few weeks' time.

Hon. Hugh D. McIntosh is making his presence felt since his return to this country. Being identified with the Tivoli Theater, Sydney (closed down some time ago), it is rumored that this property has been sold for a very large sum, altho no definite announcement has been made.

The Amby Rochelle-Stan Foley Revue Company, which recently had such a wonderful season at Broken Hill, go into the Bridge Theater, Newtown, Saturday, November 30. Included in the company, in addition to the principals, are Amy Rochelle, Stan Foley, Keith Connelly, Cyril James, Lulla Fanning, Iris Ackworth, Stan Iverson, Blanche Jones, Rene McGuire and the Janetzki Trio (xylophonists) and ballet of six, "Kitch" (Harry Kitching) is business manager.

Old-time minstrels and vaudeville are continuing most popularly at the Grand Opera House, presenting weekly changes of program.

Karyl Norman, the Creole Fashion Plate, is added to the Frank O'Brian

Revue Company this week. This show is one of the brightest revues seen at the Fuller Theater for some time.

In Perth (West Australia) theatrical offerings are conspicuous by their absence. This clearly indicates the trend of present-day shows in this country, for the talkie vogue has it on its own in this Western city. His Majesty's and the Royal, the last two theaters to close, may remain dark for but a short while, but the Luxor, which has mainly been devoted to revue shows, is screening pictures. Performers in Perth are getting their only opportunity of a few dates in stage presentations at the various picture theaters.

Nellie Bramley, with her dramatic company in Brisbane, has been competing in a big charity drive, and was successful in carrying off the "Prince of Sports" competition with a substantial margin.

Jack Thompson and Joe Valle, both well known as members of Pat Hanna's *Diggers*, are at present in Brisbane, playing vaudeville dates. The *Diggers* company is still disbanded, Hanna taking the opportunity of resting after some 11 years of touring and is enjoying a holiday in Melbourne.

Shofo Roof is being featured at two of Sydney's leading theaters. At Her Majesty's is the stage presentation, which includes Frederick Bentley, Owen Lascelles (Magnolia), June Mills, William Innes and many others in a big cast, ballets, ensembles, colorful settings, etc. At the St. James, Universal film of *Shofo Roof*, with Laura La Plante, as Magnolia, gives yet another view of this show, and just within a couple of blocks of the legitimate show. However, the treatment of the two productions is so entirely different that public patronage is being given to both, theatergoers after seeing the one being more than curious to see the other.

An opera company of Jewish artists, which has been presenting its show in Melbourne and getting plenty of interest in it, commences a season at the Palace, Sydney, Saturday, November 30. The opening operas will be *Kol Nidre* and *Bar Kochba*. The personnel includes Jovan Massinoff, tenor, and M. Strunin, leading man, both of whom have big London reputations.

Basil C. W. Dean, lately attached to J. C. Williamson Musical Comedy Company, an astute business man and specialty act and songwriter, arrived in Sydney a couple of months ago and successfully floated a limited company, of which he is managing director. He is shortly releasing a shilling popular edition in sheet music, and will also turn out a gramophone record, under his firm's label, at half a crown.

Mayne Lynton, who for some time has been a favorite leading artist in many J. C. W. dramatic productions, has formed a company and will present plays at popular prices at the Savoy Theater, High street, Sydney. Lynton hopes to have everything in readiness for an opening performance December 26 next.

Leo Carrillo, star of Lombardi, Ltd., now playing the Criterion, Sydney, performed the opening ceremony of the Exhibition of Contemporary Artists at the Grosvenor Galleries, Sydney, last Tuesday afternoon. Included in the exhibits are G. Rikard Schjelderup's portrait of Margaret Cullen Landis. The artist is the husband of Natalie Moya, also of the Lombardi Company.

Bert Bailey is at present in Sydney, after a long season on tour with The Patsy for some 33 weeks, finding this production a popular one as he did exceptionally well with it.

Rio Rife, starring Gladys Moncrieff, is now being featured at several New South Wales country dates, and will probably be a Christmas attraction in Melbourne. Janette Gilmore, dainty comedienne, is still with the company.

W. H. Ayr, one of the more prominent of touring managers, has temporarily disbanded his company, owing to illness. Ayr is at present in a hospital at Melbourne.

Muriel Starr, with her well-selected company, is presenting *Left That Off* at the principal centers thru the northern rivers of this State and playing to excellent business. She will tour until the end of next month and will open at the Palace Theater, Sydney, Boxing Day, December 26.

George Dixon, musical Jack-in-the-box, who recently returned here from England, is at present in Melbourne.

Josie Melville, Australian star, who made her first hit in this country in the role of Sally, comes back next month from England, under engagement to J. C. Williamson to star in that firm's musical play, *Turned Up*.

BERLIN

By O. M. SEIBT

183 Uhland Str., Charlottenburg

The Billboard on sale at the Aldon Hotel and at Glender's, Newland, 111 Friedrich Str., one block from Wintergarten.

BERLIN, Germany, Dec. 15.—Julius Marx, managing director of the Scala and the Plaza of this city and also associated with the Flora, Hamburg; Tivoli, Hannover, and Circus Renz Variete, Vienna, has added another house to his chain, the Drei Linden at Leipzig, opening same Christmas Day with popular vaudeville on the same policy as the Plaza. Marx says that he is also taking over the Apollo, Mannheim, shortly.

Dante, magician, touring the Rhineland and Westphalia prior to opening at the Civa, Hamburg, January 1, has been signed for the Circus Schumann in Copenhagen for the month of March, playing there the full evening program with his own show.

The Three Swifts, American club jugglers, are due to open at the Scala January 1. In a return date for the whole month.

The Helen John Gloria Girls' Band, a recent arrival from New York, has left for London on a tour over the General Theaters Circuit, opening at the Palladium.

Bob Ripa, famous boy juggler, is featured at the Theater Variete, Prague.

Glady's Quincey in her exquisite underwater act, Neptune's Garden, is the main attraction at the Thalia, Elberfeld.

President Konorah, who celebrates his 25th anniversary as president of the International Artists' Lodge, is now able to announce the forthcoming opening of the new parity agency which is to supplant all the private vaudeville, circus and cabaret agencies in this country. Konorah makes no secret out of the fact that it was mainly his own person as leader and organizer of the new big agency that stood in the way of a great number of managers before they gave in. While the law for the disappearance of the agents does not become effective for another 12 months, the new office will be opened around April.

The Circus Managers' Union will shortly amalgamate with the Vaudeville Managers' Association.

Des Program relates the story how Paul Spadoni almost lost his agency license two years ago when it leaked out that the large number of bookings he did for the Sowjets, Russian State circuses, was gracefully performed by a kickback of half his commission for A. Wollburg, Russian booker. The Sowjets on their part severed all business transactions with Spadoni and exiled Wollburg to Siberia, where three months later Wollburg opened a circus.

Circus Giesch, now touring Spain, will be the first German circus to visit Czechoslovakia, which country up till now has refused permission to any foreign circus.

Jean Gilbert, well-known composer, has been signed for the Plaza. Another feature of the current bill is Goldmann's animal act, including a number of trained foxes, and the 10 Deblars, cycle revue.

Con Colleano returns to the Scala February 1. Another important Scala booking is Al Jolson, who opens in March.

Winston's Water Lions and Diving Nymphs are headlined at the Coliseo des Receives, Lisbon, Portugal. This well-known American act will play in England after concluding its tour of Spain and Portugal.

A new actors' union, comprising mainly all the prominent local legitimate actors, has been founded. Dissatisfaction with the Legitimate Actors' Association is said to be the cause.

Germany's highest paid actors are Fritz Massary (\$2,500 weekly), Max Falkenberg, her husband (\$1,750 weekly); Elizabeth Bergner (receives one-third of the gross takings), Heinrich George (\$1,000 weekly), Werner Krauss (\$1,000 weekly), Fritz Kortner (\$800 weekly), Eugen Kioepfer (\$800 weekly), Kaethe Dorsch (\$1,000 weekly). In grand opera and musical comedy stiff figures are paid Michael Bohnen, Vera Schwartz, Richard Tauber, Leo Schuetzendorff and Karin Brannell.

Max Reinhardt is producing *Desire*, a new comedy by Sascha Guitry, at the Kammertheater next week. His *Fledermaus (The Bat)* still draws full houses in its seventh month.

Around the Loop

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Because many of those who use *The Billboard's* mail-forwarding service neglect to send in their addresses promptly, a great deal of Christmas cheer in one form or another is going to be delayed in reaching its destination. It is suggested to those who read this column that they turn to the letter list, and if their name appears there, send in a forwarding address promptly. Don't stop at this. Notice whether the names of any of your acquaintances are listed. If they are, pass the word along to them. It may be only a holiday greeting card awaiting them. Or, again, it may be something much more important. At the present time there are several letters in the Chicago office that by reason of the black-bordered envelopes are revealed as notices of death, but because we have no addresses for them they can not be delivered. Look over the list and help us speed the hundreds of pieces of Christmas and other mail on its way.

Chicago is getting its first glimpse of Rudy Vallee's *The Vagabond Lover*, which opened Christmas night at the RKO Woods.

Show Boat will remain at the Illinois until January 18. If business doesn't take too much of a nose dive, it's nothing to brag about at present. Slated to follow is Eddie Cantor in *Whoopie*.

Rumors that the Haymarket, long a "burlesque" house, will go into sound pictures, are discounted on the rialto.

Madison, Ind., is the old home town of a lot of showfolks. Four of 'em were in Chicago at the same time during the holidays, and remarked on the diverse fields represented. They were George Donahue, dramatic booking agent; J. C. Donahue, general agent Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus; Mike T. Clark, general agent S. W. Brundage Shows, and Irene Dunn, featured in *Show Boat*.

Ashton Stevens had a hard time figuring out his schedule this week, with five openings to review, but most of his readers won't worry seriously as long as Ashton manages to turn out his "Column or Less" regularly. Which is not saying his reviews are not eagerly read. They are, and frequently he turns out a real gem.

A. Milo Bennett was all set to provide extras for *Street Scene*, which opened here Christmas night, but at the last minute the hopes of local actors who expected to earn some holiday coin were dashed, when Bennett received word from New York canceling the order, the management having decided to bring the 18-buck thespians along from the East. And how some of the local boys need those 18 smackers!

Up and down the rialto: Chick Castle, manager of the Robbins Music Corporation, back from New York in time to spend Christmas with the homefolks.

Dr. Walter L. Wilson, Kansas City tent man and radio feature (he has a morning Bible class of a million listeners), visiting George Metzhan, local Ringling chief.

Bill Donahue and his band playing at the Drake Hotel to the delight of U. of I. grads. The new intimate art theater, on Chicago avenue (299 seats is its capacity), formally opened this week by the M. P. Theater Guild.

Al Martin, veteran circus man, just back from Panama and other southern points, and enthusiastic over the delights of that part of the world.

Frederick Stock, ending his 25th year as head of Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Charles King, star of *Broadway Melody*, recording his talkie triumphs for Brunswick-Balke-Collender, with whom he has signed a two-year contract.

Bouncing checks, one man in a sanitarium, and lights turned off, spell the plight of one local small movie.

And orchestra booking on a soberside has put one Loop concern into financial hot water.

Toledo

Two mammoth kid parties were staged by Toledo theaters. The Vita Temple Theater held its first annual Vagabond party in the Toledo Convention Hall, with 5,400 youngsters present. The party was given by Jack O'Connell, manager of the theater, in a teup with *The Toledo Blade*. O'Connell had the Vagabonds on the air before Christmas, and won a lot of praise. He conferred honorary memberships on Grove Patterson, editor of *The Blade*, and Mayor William T. Jackson. The other party was staged by the Toledo Paramount, and it lasted thruout vacation. During the first week of vacation, more than 3,000 youngsters

were admitted free to the Paramount. The act was one of the Paramount's Good-Will projects.

George Dewey Washington, colored singer, was the headliner at the Toledo Paramount last week. He is followed by Nick Lucas.

The Toledo Paramount Theater has hooked up with the Page Dairy Company for the broadcasting of a program every Tuesday night. Another radio project is being contemplated whereby Merle Clark, popular organist, will broadcast a commercial program once a week.

Jack O'Connell, manager of the Vita Temple Theater, said "Merry Christmas" to Toledo in a big way. He had 100 24-sheets printed, with Christmas greetings on them. They took well with the people, and much favorable comment resulted.

Salt Lake City

The New Year's Eve program for Salt Lake is replete with many features. The RKO Orpheum is planning a midnight show and the Publix houses are planning dances on the stage. The RKO house is also giving a big party for its employees. Manager Charles W. Clogston will give his party on the stage at the Playhouse for his employees, according to present plans.

Cabarets are making a big play for New Year's Eve business and all-night dancing will be allowed the only time in the year. Outside the city the night clubs over the county line plan a big night.

Business at RKO Orpheum has been pepped up considerably at matinees by giving away a radio at the Christmas matinee. Only tickets sold at matinees were allowed on the drawing.

The week before Christmas the Playhouse closed and also closed for Christmas Eve, playing an extra matinee Christmas Day.

The night clubs have profited by the closing of the theaters, particularly the new Blue Moon, which has done a wonderful business with Jerry Beeley's Orchestra.

A clever tieup in the way of advertising was worked with the Playhouse and radio. A lobby display with newspaper cuts on the leading players, Don Woods and Diana Esmond, received wide publicity. Recently the appearance of Rose's Midgets at the RKO Orpheum also made a big tieup with Crosley possible.

One of the biggest attractions of its kind is KSL Midnight Shell Revue, staged each Saturday night at 12 o'clock at the Playhouse. Roscoe Grover and Jerry Meeks stage the show and the house has been packed.

Omaha

Billy Meyers, Chicago singer, has succeeded Bobby Jackson as m. c. at the Paramount Publix Theater here. He also conducts the Wednesday night whoopee program and the Sunday night Paramount Publix program over radio station KOIL.

Herbie Koch, solo organist at the Paramount Theater, leaves for an eight weeks' engagement at the Des Moines Paramount Theater. Following this he will make a short tour of the Southern Publix houses and then be steady at the Minnesota Theater at Minneapolis, following Eddie Dunastetter. Con Marfis, from the Denver Theater at Denver, succeeds Koch here.

Margaret Shotwell, famous Omaha pianist, headlines the current bill at the RKO Orpheum. A feature of the Orpheum is the serving of free tea to all lady matinee customers.

Clement-Walsh Players, now in their third week at the Brandeis, have selected Billy Byrns, veteran showman, as house manager. Wm. Walsh manages the Players.

Art Randall's Orchestra has returned from a short engagement at the Casa Loma at Toronto and are now back in their old place, Fontenelle Hotel.

The Campus Quartet, composed of Nebraska champion high-school singers, sings over KOIL every Saturday evening from 11 to 12. The quartet is composed of Ken Golden, Russ Honza, Clarence McFarland and David Lazarus.

San Diego

The Savoy Theater announces a new producing schedule starting January 5, when musical comedy productions will alternate weekly with dramatic stock. Buddy Wattles, of *Hit the Deck*; Douglas Keaton, Margaret Lee and Duane Thompson have been added to the cast

for the musical comedies. *Hit the Deck* will be the opening bill, to be followed by *Oh, Kay*, *The O'Brien Girl*, *When Dreams Come True* and others. Dramatic plays scheduled are *Sahara*, *Little Accident* and *Danger*. Lawrence Marsh will have charge of both dramatic and musical show production, with Leo Flanders and Jessie M. Ratliff assisting Dudley Ayers, leading man, and Theodore Warfield, leading woman, are terminating their engagements this week.

Warner Bros. have recently purchased a half block of land between the RKO and the new Fox Theater on B street and will start work soon on a new \$1,000,000 theater building.

Portland, Ore.

The acoustics of the Portland Auditorium have been materially bettered by hanging a few hundred yards of heavy cloth drapes in the building.

Larry DeLaney, Hollywood Beau Brummell, appeared at the Oriental Theater last week with his stage success *Typical-Topical Songs*.

A can of beans, a pound of rice, a loaf of bread, a bag of "spuds", just so it's food, admitted any child under 15 years at the Alder Theater Saturday afternoon, December 21. Several truck loads of food for the poor and needy were gathered as a result.

At a Saturday morning matinee performance at the Portland Theater, December 21, the price of admission for children was a broken toy. These were collected by the Portland firemen, who repaired them for youngsters who otherwise would go toyless this Christmas.

Needy children of Portland were the guests of the Orpheum Theater at a Christmas party given there Tuesday morning at 9:30.

The American Legion will stage a *Circus Maximus* December 30 to January 2 at the armory. Trained lions, elephants, ponies, dogs and high-school horses from the California movie studios provide the program.

Christmas week marked the opening of the redecorated, refurbished and newly equipped Columbia Theater on 6th street by the Woodlaw Investment Company, owner and operator of several Portland theaters. The latest model Photophone reproduction equipment has been installed in the theater.

Toronto

Jack Arthur presentation director, has opened a dance school on Jarvis street. The talent of the school will be drawn upon for ballets and presentations at the local theaters.

Reports received at the local headquarters of Trans-Canada Theaters indicate that the touring companies, particularly the all-English ones, are not doing the accustomed amount of business in Western Canada. Most of them are relying upon their bookings in Toronto and Eastern Ontario to carry them thru until the end of the season.

Minneapolis-St. Paul

The RKO Seventh Street Theater opened December 21 with pictures and vaudeville.

The new studios of WCCO, on the 13th floor of the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, were formally opened December 22 with the broadcasting of an hour of opera under the auspices of the Northwest Corporation.

Dallas

John Boles, star of the singing films, is spending the holidays with his parents at Greenville. Boles made a personal appearance last Tuesday night at the Palace Theater, Dallas. He was led to the stage and introduced by Mayor Tate. A reception was held in the lobby to meet his former friends here.

Morris Gest, producer of *The Miracle*, which opens this week at the Auditorium, arrived in Dallas one week ahead of the opening. The attraction is expected to break all theatrical attendance records.

The St. Louis and Kansas City offices of Tiffany, together with their sales territories, have been placed under the direction of Ralph A. Morrow, Southern sales supervisor.

R. & R. Theaters gave a Christmas party for their employees December 24. Guests from the various exchanges were invited, and all who attended had an enjoyable time.

San Francisco

The days of *The Flat Tire*, now in its 15th week at the Green Street Theater, are numbered. Manager Sid Goldtree already has started casting of *The Peep-Hole*, played in Vienna under the title of *Das Guckloch*, which is scheduled to open at the North Beach playhouse the second week in January.

She Couldn't Say No is in its seventh week at the President Theater, and Charlotte Greenwood's popularity is such that the end is not yet in sight.

Kolb and Dill, in *Now and Then*, at the Alcazar, got off to a good start and they seem all set for a long run. Apart from the fine work of the principals, acting honors belong to Julia Blanc and John G. Fee, with Flora Bramley and James Bush handling the juvenile roles acceptably, and Henry Shumer, William Lloyd and others doing smaller parts.

Theater Arts, Inc., will present the prize-winning plays of its recent playwriting contest as its next production sometime in January. Elene Wilbur captured first honors in the contest with her drama of San Francisco's Chinatown, *Nerze*.

The German Grand Opera Company will appear the week of March 17 at Dreamland Auditorium.

The Columbia Theater, which for the last few weeks has been devoted to motion pictures, now has the Stratford-on-Avon Festival Company for a two weeks' engagement in Shakespearean repertoire.

Craze Wilbur and wife, Beatrice Blinn, are visitors here for a few days.

It is rumored around town that Homer Curran and the Wobber Brothers, who are interested with him in the Curran and Geary theaters, have had offers from a hotel company, which would like to build a hotel on the sites of the Curran and Geary playhouses. If the deal goes thru Curran will still have the Capitol, Ellis street house, which he recently leased for the run of *Follies Thru*.

Journey's End, at the Geary Theater, is still proving a popular attraction.

San Francisco is to have a "first production on any stage" January 12, when a musical piece, bearing the title *Bambino*, will be seen at the Curran Theater. Rehearsals are being held at the Troupers' Clubhouse, Hollywood, with Edward Rice directing. The principals already engaged are Nancy Welford, Marie Wells, Earnest Woods, Al St. John, Fred Graham, Hedley Hall, Wilbur Evans and Laurel Emmett. There will be an ensemble of 62 altogether.

Cleveland

The old-time acrobatic trio, Keno, Keyes and Melrose, are operating several sandwich shops in this town and vicinity.

Billy Burke, well-known minstrel man, is clerking these days at the New Erie Hotel, and putting on amateur minstrel shows in the near-by towns at nights. He is at present lining up a troupe for the American Legion of Medina, O.

Morris Parkas stopped over here recently to visit his son, Sanford Parkas, manager of the State Theater, en route from Atlanta to his home in New York.

Madge Calger, singer, was laid up last week with laryngitis, but is now back again at Frankie Burn's Plaza Club.

Julian Woodworth, songster, who spent Christmas here, will return to New York to sing with Phil Spitalny's band at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

Marque and Marquette are the new dance team at the Hollenden Hotel Show Boat.

Mike Gallagher, burlesque comic, has arrived in town for the remainder of the winter.

Manager W. J. Smith, of the Savoy Theater, has had the house remodeled for sound films.

Fred Carlone's Band, Capt. Powers, ventriloquist; Majestic, the Mechanical Man, and "Otto" and Bill Ivery, magicians, put on the entertainment for the Shrine Luncheon Club's annual Christmas party at the Hotel Allerton.

Fred and Lorette Mayo, Clevelanders, formerly on the Keith Circuit, have returned to the boards after an absence of a year. They are working at the Rainbow Room of the Hotel Winton as Mayo and Mayo.

John Silveroli, local musician, leaves in January for a six weeks' tour of Europe.

Joseph Koeth has succeeded Henry Abel as doorman at the Uptown Theater.

Francis Kromer, Cleveland, is now at the console at the Uptown. He was for three years at the Diversey Theater, Chicago, and more recently at Loew's, Akron.

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Houtain Sits in Judgment

George Julian Houtain, counsel and general manager of the Theatrical Stock Managers' Association, in open letters and in private correspondence, has complained of the attitude of various theatrical unions whose requirements and practices he believes are making it difficult for stock managers to show profitably.

Of Equity Houtain wrote in a letter addressed to the president and published by *The New York Times* on Sunday, December 22:

"You fought the motion picture interests nobly and must of necessity renew the right, and not only that but win it.

"You and your members have rendered material aid to the stock producers, and we, as an organization, have enjoyed your friendship and good will. Your members have met us on salary rates in keeping with the exigencies of the times. You have been fair, and sometimes more than fair.

"We didn't and don't agree with you on Sunday performances and think you made a grievous mistake in not limiting the number of performances to a six-night week (regardless of whether the off night was Sunday or any other).

"You must feel as oppressed about it as we do, because it isn't right that the actor (who symbolizes the stage to our great American public) should be made to uphold its great traditions on salaries which are hardly in accord with a living wage."

Equity, of course, appreciates the recognition of its intentions and practices which are accorded by Houtain and regrets that the exposition of the Sunday-performance question both at the meeting with producing managers at the Hotel Astor on November 8 and the general meeting of Equity members on November 18 has still left Houtain a dissenter from Equity's decision.

At the same time Equity cannot refrain from remarking that at the meeting with the managers they were given every opportunity and encouraged to produce any plan or statistics supporting their contentions which would prove that Sunday performances were either necessary or would serve the purpose for which they were being proposed. And neither Houtain nor any of the other managers presented more than their conviction that Sunday shows were necessary and would do the things claimed for them. Furthermore, the overwhelming sentiment of the managers present, if not of Houtain himself, was for a seven-day week. That was what they hoped to get from the meeting.

So while Equity listens with interest and courteously to anything Houtain has to say on this subject, as it would to any one who knows the field and has studied it as Houtain has, it feels that until more and better evidence to the contrary is presented it was justified in taking the stand it did, and in maintaining that stand.

Thinks Well of Equity

Wheeler Dryden, an Equity member, has just turned over to Equity a letter written by one of his friends concerning the regard in which Equity is held by the International Labor Office (which is the labor side of the League of Nations, with offices in Lausanne, Switzerland). He wrote that he had heard "An address by Dr. Kose, the Czechoslovakian representative at the International Labor Office. His subject was *Les Conditions Sociales Des Travaillleurs Intellectuels*."

"After explaining the difference between the so-called intellectual workers and the manual workers and the reason for the scarcity of the former since the war, Dr. Kose started to give examples

of the co-operation and sympathy between these two classes. He cited as the truest example the recent strike of the cinema operatives at Hollywood and the simultaneous sympathetic strike of the American sailors who were called upon to work a ship on which these intellectual workers were to be employed.

"He informed us that it was his job at the International Labor Office to look into the conditions of artistic employees, and that he had visited the film studios in almost every European country, including England, and that he had commented in his report on the great injustice of the private agents' fee of 10 per cent on all the artist's earnings. Then he made the following statement, which directly affects you and which, I think, will give you pleasure. He said:

"The main source of my information on this subject is a paper called *Equity*, a periodical published in the United States of America and received regularly in the International Labor Office. It is a paper that deals very thoroughly with the needs of theatrical employees and has been a real use to me in my work. I read it carefully through each month as soon as Dr. Herbert (also of the Labor office) hands it to me."

"Dr. Kose then said that he was not aware how this paper had found its way into the International Labor Office, but whoever it was who had caused it to be sent had helped to lay the foundation stone for a better understanding between the intellectual and the manual workers."

And that, of course, is very gratifying to all of us.

Eggs, Dresses and Plays

Now that many of those connected with the legitimate theater are searching their hearts and minds for new methods and new viewpoints to meet the competition of new forms of entertainment and changes within the old forms, Equity has received a letter from Leslie King, deputy of *The Jade God* Company, from Cleveland, where the company has been playing. The letter included also a clipping from the dramatic column of William F. McDermott, critic of *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*. And it seems to Equity to offer a suggestion which might well be taken into consideration by dramatic producers. After commenting upon *Jane Moon*, a company of which had just opened, and paying his respects to it as a play, he went on to say:

"That was the most obvious reason why it attracted customers in profitable numbers. I think there was also another reason. The play was fresh. Fresh I mean in the sense that it was produced only a relatively short time ago in New York. It has sometimes happened that an excellent comedy or melodrama when it comes to Cleveland does a disappointingly small business, but it has been a huge success in New York.

"The professors of the local theater are shocked and puzzled by such tragedies. They don't understand it. I think I can give them a plausible reason, tho it may not really explain anything at all. . . . the same that causes a basket of eggs to do badly after being kept on the market a couple of years.

"Suppose our merchants sold no women's gowns that were not at least a year old. Suppose our movie Caesars—and a pretty wise lot they are—brought no films to Cleveland until they were shown somewhere else for a few years.

"Such a policy would be unimaginably stupid and commercially suicidal. Yet that is about what the legitimate theater does as a matter of course.

"Under present theatrical conditions phenomenally successful plays in New York will run a year or two years. It is quite generally the custom to let

them exhaust their New York clientele before sending them on the road. The motive often assigned by the producers is theoretically admirable—they want to give 'the road' exactly the same actors and production that New York applauded.

"That was fine years ago when really successful plays didn't run so long in New York and when there was not anywhere near the same insistence on newness and timeliness that currently exists. Now we seldom get a successful play in the local theaters that is not anywhere from one to three years old.

"Good plays nowadays run so long in New York that many of them never get here at all. . . . except in stock or repertory productions. There was *Front Page*, which lasted so long in New York that it was worn out when it finally reached the road and finally wilted before getting to Cleveland. There was *Holiday* and *Paris Bound* and many other plays which have more or less recently wound up long runs on Broadway and yet never get to Cleveland.

"I think there is little doubt that plays such as these, if they were caught at the height of their New York run and sent out to such of the larger cities as Cleveland, would drive a profitable trade.

"Many of our people commute occasionally to New York. They see there most of the theatrical successes that run any length of time and they don't want to see them later in Cleveland. Even those who never go to New York read the newspapers. They know what plays are hits there at the time they become hits and they dissent a little, I think, at seeing these plays after they are no longer news.

"Wouldn't it be wise for the producers to refuse to wait until the shows develop the whiskers and the rheumatics of old age, but to send them out with an adequate second company as soon as the New York success seems established?"

"The Original New York Company" doesn't mean a thing on the road any more, even if the label is honest. Any theatergoer would prefer such a No. 2 company as presented *Jane Moon* here last week to the kind of company that usually arrives 'direct from New York' after a show has run two years in the metropolis with several changes in the cast and everybody that remains pretty well tired out.

"The theater in this respect needs a simple change in policy. It needs to put more emphasis on the timeliness which is demanded of every other business that succeeds in a swift and tiring age."

Equity is not prepared to say that here is the panacea for all the current complaints concerning theater business, but it seems a reasonable idea which ought to be worth the consideration of any manager or managers' organization, or any such body as, say, the American Theater Board, when that body begins to function.

ACTORS' EQUITY ORGANIZATION.

Chorus Equity Assn.

DOROTHY BRYANT, Executive Secretary

Faie Neal, who put on the dances for the London companies of *Pussy Feet* and *Oh, Kay*, is going to London to put on the dances for *Heads Up*.

Eight new members joined the Chorus Equity in the last week.

We are holding checks in settlement of claims for Ivan Alexis, Charles Coleman, Peggy Dalton, George Ebert, Wilford M. Friend, Gloria Gunther, Jane Hurd, Elizabeth Huyler, Florence Knight, Ruth Kennedy, Jan Linderman, Judy Lane, Peggy McGowan, Joanna Parker,

Hazel St. Amant, Margaret Samson, Muriel Seely, Katherine Skidmore, Joseph Stein and James Weston.

Mail is forwarded only on the request of the members. We are holding a great deal of Christmas mail for which members have not called. If you are on the road write to the office and ask to have your mail sent on.

Members are warned that they should not go into rehearsal with any company without first registering at headquarters. There is a list of unfair managers posted on the bulletin board in the office, on the bulletin board in the office. Members who work with any manager on that list may be suspended. No member can plead ignorance, as it is the duty of each member to report here before going into rehearsal.

Your list of New Year's resolutions should include that of registering in one or more of the Chorus Equity classes. Some of our members complain of the number of new people joining the Chorus Equity weekly. The people who join all have engagements and the majority of them obtained those engagements as a result of hard training for months in some dancing school.

This is a profession in which you cannot afford to stand still. Only by constantly improving your work can you hope to get ahead. The roster of the dancing classes in the Chorus Equity will show the names of many important people in the theater who have realized the value of constant study.

Nowhere in the city can you get instruction such as that given at the Chorus Equity for 50 cents an hour.

Since the classes are limited you must register in advance. The acrobatic and tap-dancing classes run all day. Ballet lessons are given from 1 to 2 each day and dramatic lessons from 12 to 1. Register now.

From deputies of traveling companies we have had complaints that members disregard the fire laws which prohibit smoking in the dressing rooms and backstage. Those rules are for your protection. Even if you don't mind losing your life in a fire yourself you might consider the others of the company. Any member who violates this rule and who is reported to the Chorus Equity will be fined.

Register in the Chorus Equity classes now.
DOROTHY BRYANT,
Executive Secretary.

Richmond

Jake Kaminsky, popular Richmond violinist, is preparing to enter vaudeville. Heretofore he has done only hotel, theater, radio and concert playing and directing.

After redecoration the Wilmer & Vincent Bijou Theater reopened Christmas Day with *The Virginian*.

Probably the most elaborate lobby display ever used in a Richmond theater was seen at the Colonial for the last few days. In one immense snow scene Manager J. R. Mountcastle used over 400 pounds of salt. The display filled the entire lobby of the theater and has caused considerable comment.

The death of W. G. Neal, formerly associate of Jake Wells and owner of the old Academy of Music, has made Richmond's theatrical public very sorrowful. Neal was one of Richmond's magnates of the old days when the Academy booked the heavy melodrama.

Before opening for a two-week run *Gold Diggers of Broadway* was given a special advance showing at the Byrd Theater Christmas night.

Theaters Planned

ALTURAS, Calif.—J. A. Yates, veteran showman, will build a theater seating 1,200, to cost \$30,000. It is to be constructed primarily for sound pictures. Yates recently sold the Empress Theater, which he had conducted as a playhouse for the last 15 years.

BILLINGS, Mont.—Theater to be built here for the Fox Theaters, Inc., as part of the corporation's \$15,000,000 construction program.

EL PASO, Tex.—Bids received by the Dent Theaters, Inc., on contract for a \$450,000 theater building. W. Scott Dunne is the architect.

PAYETTEVILLE, Ark.—Plans prepared for theater to be built by the National Order of Chi Omega. The theater will be presented to the University of Arkansas as a gift. It will seat 2,750.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y.—Plans completed for a modern theater and commercial building to be erected on the site of the old Plattsburg Theater, destroyed by fire. It is understood to be a Paramount project.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—Ground broken for the theater and office building at Wilshire boulevard and Hamilton drive, which has been leased by the Fox West Coast Theaters from the builders, the Wilshire-Hamilton Corporation, Inc., of which Albert H. Chotiner is president. The house will seat 2,500 and will be ready for occupancy June 1.

JOPLIN, Mo.—Plans under way for \$300,000 theater and commercial building to be erected for the Joplin Theater Building Company. Plans prepared by United Studios, Inc.

MILWAUKEE—New theater to be built on the site of the Butterfly Theater, Wisconsin avenue. John R. Freuler is backing the project financially. The theater is to seat 2,500.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The Crescent Amusement Company plans to erect an eight-story theater and office building at Church street and Sixth avenue. Work is to start shortly, according to announcement made by Tony Sudekum, president of the company. The structure will occupy the site of the old Capitol Theater, which was destroyed by fire some time ago.

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Independent Order of Odd Fellows is having plans prepared for a theater to be constructed at Church street and Sixth avenue.

PEARISBURG, Va.—Frank B. Miller invited bids December 16 on a three-story theater, store and apartment building. The architects are Garry & Sheffer.

POINT PLEASANT, N. J.—Harry May, Jr., has purchased a site on which to build a vaudeville and talking picture house.

POMONA, Calif.—Theater to cost \$250,000 will be built here for the Fox West Coast Theaters, Harry Arthur announces. Construction to begin in January.

POTTSTOWN, Pa.—Theater and office building to be built for the St. Clair Corporation. Henry Reinhold is the architect.

PULASKI, Tenn.—Plans for a new motion picture theater approved. The theater will stand on the site of the old Cumberland Presbyterian Church and will be equipped for talking pictures.

SANTA MONICA, Calif.—Fox West Coast Theaters, Inc., will erect a new motion picture theater, seating 2,500, at 14th street and Santa Monica boulevard. Construction to start at once.

STOCKTON, Calif.—What is said to be the first theater to be built architecturally for talking pictures and the new stereoscopic films in the West will be the new Fox West Coast house at Stockton. The house, which will have a seating

capacity of 2,200, will cost about \$600,000.

SWEETWATER, Tex.—Plans completed for a theater to be built for the R. & R. Theaters. W. Scott Dunne is the architect.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—Theater to be known as the Duffin will be built for C. F. Duffin. The theater is to seat 900. Tucker & Howell are the architects.

TAMPA, Fla.—Ike Weiss will build a theater to cost \$50,000, seating 1,200. Roy A. Benjamin, Jacksonville, is the architect.

TORONTO—W. L. Nathanson and associates will build a theater seating 5,000 at Yonge and Dundas streets on part of the tract of land recently acquired at a cost of \$600,000.

Theater Deals

BOSTON—James W. McNamara, district manager for the New England Theaters Operating Company, has added the Community Theater, North Attleboro; Marlboro; Marlboro; Criterion, Roxbury, and new Colonial, Natick, Mass., to his field, which already included four community theaters in Boston.

BRYSON CITY, N. C.—H. R. Randolph, Jr., has taken over the Frymont Theater from A. M. Frye, and the Swain Theater from C. R. and H. R. Browning. Both theaters are located in Bryson City.

COBLESKILL, N. Y.—J. C. Carpenter, for many years manager of the Park Theater here for Schine and Fox, has taken a long-term lease on the theater and plans to make it a first-class talkie house.

CRAWFORDSVILLE, Ind.—Report is current here that the Strand Theater, for the last year and a half operated by the Vonderschmidt Amusement Company, of Bloomington, Ind., soon is to be leased by the Public Theater Corporation for a period of 20 years. The deal is expected to become effective January 1.

CRYSTAL CITY, Tex.—Ownership of the Guild Theater has again changed hands. Dan Sloan, of Little Rock, Ark., has purchased the house from F. W. Pulliam. It will be operated as a talking picture house.

DE KALB, Ill.—The Egyptian Theater, nearing completion, has been leased to the De Kalb Egyptian Theater, Inc., a group headed by John C. Miller, owner of the Miller Theater at Woodstock. Dale A. Leiffheit is president of the company, and C. P. Renich secretary.

DETROIT—Public Theaters have obtained control of four residential theaters from Charles W. Munz, making a total of 15 Public-operated theaters here.

DULUTH, Minn.—The Lyceum Theater Building has been purchased by Public Theaters Corporation. Al Anson will continue to manage the house.

ELGIN, Ill.—Mrs. Harry Wilson and son, Neil Wilson, managers of the Marquero Royal Theater here, have sublet the theater to Charles Anderson, of Rockford, Ill. Anderson plans to install sound pictures and add vaudeville to the programs.

LOGAN, Kan.—J. N. Welby has leased the Logan Theater from Elmer Dye, and the house will be managed by Mrs. Lily Ormsbee.

MADISON, W. Va.—F. Middelberg, of Logan, has acquired the Rialto Theater here from C. D. Hager and Rupert McNeely. Talkie equipment is being installed.

MIAMI, Fla.—Public Theaters Corporation has acquired the Leach interests in a chain of Miami theaters formerly held jointly by the two interests. The stock transferred is said to be valued at \$600,000.

POMEROY, Ia.—Louis Lyuk, formerly with the Standard Oil Company, Forest City, Ia., has leased the motion picture house here.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—The Alamo Amusement Company, lessee of the Palace Theater here, has turned the lease back to Ransom and Silsbee, according to

officials of the amusement company. Albert Kronosky is president of the Alamo Amusement Company.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.—Joe Caudell has purchased the Garden Theater, changed its name to the Richmond Theater and has installed sound equipment.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—Officials for Public Theaters have signed a 10-year lease on the Artec Theater here, which calls for an annual rental of \$75,000 in addition to taxes and insurance during the term of their control. Public now has control of three houses here, the Texas, the State and the Artec.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—The Empire Theater has been leased to Edgar G. Uhl for five years at \$216,000. An entirely new thermostatic system, Western Electric talkie equipment and new spring-cushioned chairs are improvements included in the \$90,000 remodeling program. Opening is expected about January 10.

TOLEDO, O.—The Overland Theater has been leased to Albert Zebro, of Racine, Wis., thru the Harry Gould Realty Company. The theater is being remodeled and talking picture equipment installed.

VALLEJO, Calif.—The Fox West Coast Theaters, Inc., has taken over the Virginia Theater, movie house.

Theater Openings

ANDERSON, Ind.—The new Public Theaters Corporation house, the State, which was built at a cost of \$500,000, was formally opened Christmas Day.

ATLANTA, Ga.—The new Fox Theater opened Christmas Day. The theater is the last word in theater luxury, with a seating capacity of 5,000. Besides being equipped for talking motion pictures and stage presentations, it has one of the finest broadcasting stations in the South. Plans have been completed to have the various artists appearing at the theater to broadcast regularly from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. daily on WBS programs. R. T. Newton, district manager for Fox, is the active directing head of the new theater.

AURORA, Ill.—Tivoli Theater, Great States-Public house, opened Christmas Day with talking pictures. The house seats 1,000.

BUFFALO—Shea's Seneca Theater, the latest link in the Shea-Public chain of theaters here, is soon to be opened. The theater is modern in every detail, and has a seating capacity of 2,500.

CUSHING, Okla.—The Paramount Theater has been formally opened as a straight picture house.

MADISON, Wis.—The new Eastwood Theater was opened Christmas day by the Desormaux Theater Corporation. The theater has Western Electric and Vitaphone equipment.

NATICK, Mass.—Netoco Colonial Theater has been opened under the management of Mrs. Nancy G. Harris. The house seats 1,500 and is equipped for talking pictures. The stage, 28 feet deep, was designed to accommodate road shows.

NEW YORK—The Beacon Theater, located in the Hotel Beacon, opened Christmas Eve. The house seats 3,000 and represents an investment of \$2,000,000. Warners have a long-term lease on the theater.

ROCKINGHAM, N. C.—Richmond Theater formally opened with dedicatory speeches by Mayor W. G. Pittman and R. F. Woodall, of General Talking Pictures, New York. Joe Caudell is owner of the house, formerly the Garden Theater. The DeForest sound system has been installed, and the house has been remodeled.

SOUTH BEND, Ind.—Public Theater Corporation's Blackstone Theater opened Christmas Day. The lobby has been decorated and alterations made on both the exterior and interior. Complete sound equipment has been installed. The show displays first-run talking pictures.

TRENTON, Mo.—The Trenton Amusement Company opened a new \$350,000

theater and hotel here Christmas Eve. The theater seats 900.

VILLECA, Ia.—Motion picture theater, recently equipped for talking pictures by F. B. Pennington, was formally opened December 21.

REOPENINGS

CHESTER, Pa.—The New State Theater, formerly the Washburn, has been reopened with talking pictures.

DOUGLAS, Wyo.—Princess Theater reopened as a talkie house.

KEWANEE, Ill.—The Plaza Theater, Public house, reopened Christmas Day as a talking picture house.

LOS ANGELES—The Orpheum Theater reopened Christmas Day with an all-sound policy.

MINNEAPOLIS—The Seventh Street Theater, after extensive improvements, reopened as a vaudeville and picture house December 21. Improvements cost \$90,000.

MORRISTOWN, Ind.—Liberty Theater reopened under new ownership.

ROBSTOWN, Tex.—Talking equipment is being installed in the Palace Theater. The theater is being redecorated and repainted and will reopen under the new policy January 1.

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—The Fox Capitol Theater reopened Christmas Day, after being closed several weeks for repairs on account of fire. The house offers talking pictures.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—The Empire Theater will reopen January 10. Western Electric sound projection system will be installed.

SANBORN, Ia.—The Princess Theater reopened with talking pictures after being remodeled and modernized.

WILLMANTIC, Conn.—The Capitol Theater, dark for several months, reopened December 20 under the direction of Warner Bros. John R. Pickett is manager.

Theater Alterations

ALICE, Tex.—The Texas Theater is being remodeled and will be equipped for talking pictures. The house is owned by the Charles Brothers.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia.—The old Isis Theater is being remodeled at a cost of \$50,000.

FARMVILLE, Va.—The Eco Theater, motion picture house, is being overhauled and will be refurbished. I. D. Whitaker is manager of the house.

FOLKSTON, Ga.—Contract for alterations and repairs to the Paxton Theater has been awarded to P. C. Hall.

JACKSON, Calif.—Jackson Theater is being remodeled, and equipment for tem also will be installed.

MCCOMB, Miss.—Extensive improvements given to the State Theater, movie house. Talking picture equipment installed. J. E. Alford is manager.

MANDAN, N. D.—The Palace Theater is being overhauled and many improvements made, including talking picture equipment installation. The Palace is owned and operated by John K. Kennedy, Frank Wetstein and John Timmerman.

MASON CITY, Ia.—Manager J. M. Heffner, of the Palace Theater, has announced plans for extensive remodeling at a cost of \$6,000, which will give a new front, a marquee, 44 feet wide, extending entire front of the building, with electric lighting system using 1,500 lights.

MASSILLON, O.—The Lincoln Theater will be dark for some time to make extensive improvements. Among the changes will be the erection of a new marquee, redecorating of lobby and main auditorium, new carpet in the balcony, new draperies, new seats and new furniture. A complete new heating system also will be installed.

PLYMOUTH

Beginning Saturday Evening, Dec. 21, 1929

HALF GODS

A play by Sidney Howard. Staged by Arthur Hopkins. Settings by Albert R. Johnson. Presented by Arthur Hopkins.

Stephen Ferrier.....Donn Cook
Hope Ferrier.....Elizabeth Goodwyn
Ada.....Elizabeth Goodwyn
Dennis.....Paul Porter
Rush Bigelow.....Walter Regan
Judge Sturgis.....Walter Walker
Helena Grey.....Dorothy Sands
Dr. Manning.....Edward Keene
First Policeman.....Robert Bruce Williams
Second Policeman.....Philip Beveridge
Pauline.....Laura Hamilton
First Porter.....Arthur Shaw
Second Porter.....Hal K. Dawson
Third Porter.....Thaddeus Glasse
Dr. Wohlhelm.....Siegfried Rumann
First Detective.....Arthur Shaw
The action takes place near New York during the present day.

ACT I—Scene 1: The Ferriers' Flat. The Bedroom. A Morning in October. Scene 2: The Ferriers' Flat. The Living Room. Evening. Scene 3: Dr. Manning's Office. Afternoon. Scene 4: Helena Grey's Bookshop. Afternoon. Scene 5: Judge Sturgis' Private Office. Scene 6: The Ferriers' Flat. The Living Room. The Following Monday. Scene 7: Pauline's Sitting Room. The Following Afternoon. Scene 8: The Ferriers' Flat. The Bedroom. That Evening.

There are many surprising things about this new Sidney Howard play called *Half Gods*, produced under the banner of Arthur Hopkins. A play filled with brimming in parts with good theater and elements of excellent entertainment at times becomes so tiresome and forced that it is almost unendurable.

The first surprise is the staging of Arthur Hopkins, claimed by many within the theater as the greatest director of his age. It is probably the spottiest direction Arthur Hopkins has ever done. There are places in the play, in fact, that are spoiled by staging. Strained efforts for relief that fall flat. The employment of slap-stick comedy by Arthur Hopkins is truly an astonishing thing. It is nothing short of amazing after one has seen the slapstick.

Until *Half Gods* this reviewer had for years maintained that Arthur Hopkins' contribution to the American theater equaled that of any contemporary director. With Hopkins came the true realism. He has had more imitators in this department of dramatic production than any director of this period. It is nothing short of delusion to see *Half Gods*, that is from the second to, but not including, the final scene. Here we have the adept Sidney Howard playwrighting and the expert Hopkins director. Between the first and last scenes not much that either man might have done is recognizable.

Just what Sidney Howard had in mind is uncertain. What started out to be a satire on the liberalism of the modern woman developed into a farce of classification that cannot be identified during the fourth scene of the play. His thesis, presumably argumentative and based on the ratiocination of a feminine mind, in the end proves nothing, even the several of the characters in many speeches preach sermons, and finally it does not mix well together in what was designed to ultimately result in a good play. The dialog is laden with platitudes that bear down the interest. Only the sterling, continued, constant and even performance of Donn Cook, who is almost continuously on stage from the beginning, holds interest when the play sags badly. Giving up finally that *Half Gods* is a miserable failure the final scene is reached and like a shot everything comes back. The Howard workman-like talent and the Hopkins direction.

A young couple bored with life, but enduring it, starts the play in the morning with the fallings of the wife as a manager of her family and household clearly established. She leaves the binding ties to gain freedom and live. From then thru seven puzzling scenes the play goes on, with Ferrier going nearly insane from being alone, and the wife, Hope, willing to experiment with life. She achieves some success, divorce seems imminent, but the babies come down with whooping cough.

At this point Siegfried Rumann enters the action as a pediatrician, then administering to the Ferrier children. His work as the philosophical doctor who interprets life thru its biological reactions is an outstanding contribution to the play. It is somewhat overshadowed by a scene between three trunk movers clashing over the right of way on a staircase that just precedes it but Rumann soon has his audience tense and hanging

NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY (Continued)

onto his every word. This, too, in spite of the talky part given to him. Hope cannot leave the house after the doctor's dissertation on maternal instincts and Stephen punches her on the jaw and storms out of the house. Of course, the divorce business ends and in the final scene we are led to believe that Stephen gives his wife another chance and they start life over again.

As Hope, Mayo Methot does well. Her efforts are even, her voice placement at times arresting, because without overacting she presents a troubled, upset character as a woman in her peculiar state of mind might actually have acted. Dorothy Sands, too, gives much to the play as a sister of the Hope who has been divorced and is all for matrimony with its tribulations. Walter Regan and Walter Walker, two generally good actors, are cast in parts that are nearly actor proof, altho the character Howard has drawn of Judge Sturgis is hardly believable.

Albert Johnson's donation to the production is the one brilliant attribute it possesses. His settings are remarkable and compelling. One psycho-analyst's office set that is modernistic and yet quietly effective is worth investigation. Lights and black and white are the sole elements used and the effect is arresting.

Half Gods is a well cast, well decorated production that is quite evidently not worth the effort expended.

CHARLES MORAN.

JOLSON'S

Beginning Monday Evening, December 23, 1929

BABES IN TOYLAND

A revival of the Victor Herbert operetta, with libretto by Glen Mackintosh. Music Staged by Milton Aorn. Settings by Holo Wayne. Presented by Jolson's Theater Musical Comedy Company (the Shuberts and Milton Aorn).

Uncle Barnaby.....Wm. Balfour
Jack.....Mary Tearman
Adele.....Adele Bayove
Tom Tom.....Marcella Swanson
Hilda.....Mona Maray
Conzengo.....Harry Lupino
Roderigo.....Burrill Darrall
The Widow Fisher.....Jayne Wadsworth
Bo Peep.....Margaret Byers
Jill.....Wee Griffin
Pebby.....Helene Rae
Baby Shattoe.....Harry Lupino, Jr.
Jack.....Mary Tearman
Sally Waters.....Kleanor Gilmore
Curly Locks.....Martha Gale
Tommy Tucker.....Evelyn Brown
Simple Simon.....Frances Bavello
Little Red Riding Hood.....Ethel Lyndon
The Widow Fisher.....Helen Etheridge
Bo Blue.....Dene Dickens
Janet.....Betty Byron
Alan.....Frank Gallagher
First Dandy.....Frank Yanelli
Frances Dancer.....Frances Catlin
Contrary Mary.....Leolaand Lane
Inspector Marmaduke.....W. J. McCarthy
Master Teymaker.....Dean Raymond
Grumio.....Chester Herman
Max.....Frank Yanelli
The Baby Bear.....Harry Lyndon, Jr.
The Giant Spider.....Joe Schrode
A Fairy.....Dene Dickens
Sonia Oslus.....Louis Diamond

TOYLAND MIDGETS—The Toy Sisters (Helen Etheridge and Marguerite), Prince Ludwig, Adolf Piccolo, Addie Frank, Freddie Goodrow and Thomas Keenan.

TOYLAND TOTS—Jane Meter, Anita Stewart, Anna Marie Pink, Shirley Gordon, Alice Peley, Harry Lupino Jr., Tom Lupino and Dorcas McKeane.

GIRLS OF THE ENSEMBLE—Wee Griffin, Mary Tearman, Ethel Lynne, Helene Rae, Frances Bavello, Kleanor Gilmore, Adele Bayove, Nell McCormack, Florence Lamoree, Elizabeth Flanagan, Sally Galvath, Lillian Wallace, Evelyn Brown, Frances Moore, Dorothy Wadleigh, Helen Etheridge, Dene Dickens, Martha Gale, Velma Laine Sutton, Nettie Smith, Martha Joiner, Maxine Inman, Thelma Goodwyn, Anne Hally, Beth Renard, Catherine Cain, Adele Lacey, Ada Lubin and Clarice Carr.

BOYS OF THE ENSEMBLE—William Burbank, Louis Diamond, George Keontig, Harry Knabenbauer, Bernie Seger, Bronck Wroblecki, George Flommer, Jack Willard, Daniel Medici, Alfred Deste, Frank Yanelli and Don Catlin.

VIRGINE MAURET BALLET—Helen Selva, Judith Orney, Mildred Reeves, Sally Merrill, Mildred Harris, Anna Pair, Betty Knox, Betty Howson, Bunny Risk, Thelma Oskova, Sara Daine and Catherine Luytke.

PROLOGUE—Electric Storm at Sea and Wreck of the Gallion. ACT I—Scene 1: Country Pete in Contrary Mary's Garden. Scene 2: Garden Wall Back of the Garden. Scene 3: Spider's Forest. ACT II—Scene 1: The Christmas Tree Grove in Toyland. Scene 2: A Street in Toyland. Scene 3: March of the Toys. ACT III—Scene 1: The Master Toy-maker's Workshop. Scene 2: A Street in Toyland. Scene 3: The Temple of the Toyland Palace of Justice.

Victor Herbert's charmingly sentimental fantasy is given a better production than has been the fate of the previous musical revivals at Jolson's this season. This may be accounted for by the

fact that instead of the short two weeks' engagement at Jolson's for which the earlier revivals were brought back to life with the exception of a few that were sent on tour, the light opera season is to be extended to other cities, including the Shuberts to spend more money on the presentations.

Still the revivals are some distance from being straight Broadway offerings. The chief defect in *Babes in Toyland* was the misguided decision of someone in authority to inject modern wisecracks and witticisms into the book. This gave many of the scenes the aspect of vaudeville.

Barry Lupino was amusing as a burlesqued ruffian. Leotabel Lane's singing was shrilly in spots. Her acting was too much of the conventional musical comedy type. Marcella Swanson capably played a boy's role, but seemed almost wholly lacking in fervor. William Balfour gave a good performance as the scheming miser.

W. J. McCarthy was as consistently funny as he has been thruout the revival series. Frank Gallagher displayed a fine voice. He is personable and a good actor. Betty Byron is lacking in voice, but is an amusing comedienne. Jayne Waterous played the part of the lonely widow with 14 children in satisfactory style. Margaret Byers as Bo Peep was pleasing in song and otherwise. Dean Raymond as the toymaker was inclined to overemphasize his role, and Chester Herman as his assistant was given to shouting.

The voices of the girl ensemble were very satisfactory. The male contingent did not measure up so well. The costuming and execution of the dance of the toys was first-rate and showed what could be done when accomplishment is demanded.

Several of the sets were good, others only fair. The direction was spotty. The animal effects were fair efforts.

EDWARD HARRISON.

HAMPDEN

Beginning Wednesday Evening, Dec. 23, 1929

RICHELIEU

A new version of the play by Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton by Arthur Goodrich. Directed and staged by Claude Brangdon and Walter Hampden. Settings designed and supervised by Claude Brangdon. Presented by Walter Hampden, starring himself.

Gaston, Duke of Orleans.....Louis Polan
Count de Baradas.....Moffat Johnston
Clement.....E. Thomas Gomez
Marion de Lorraine.....Ethel Goodrich
Sieur de Beringhen.....Gordon Hart
Chevalier de Mauprat.....Ernest Rowan
First Gamester.....Clark Hundley
Hoguet.....C. Norman Hammond
Francis.....Robert C. Schmitzer
Joseph.....Ocell Yapp
Cardinal Richelieu.....Walter Hampden
Julie de Mortemar.....Ingeborg Torrup
Anne of the Twenty.....Evelyn Cushman
Another of the Twenty.....Gage Bennett
Duran.....Gage Bennett
Louis XIII.....Dallas Anderson
First Guard.....Stroben Irving
Second Guard.....Harold Williams
First Secretary of State.....Edwin Cushman
Second Secretary of State.....Gage Bennett
Third Secretary of State.....Franklin Salisbury
Courtiers, Gamesters, Soldiers, Conspirators, Ladies of the Court, etc.

THE SCENES
ACT I—Scene 1: At the House of Marion de Lorraine. Scene 2: At Cardinal Richelieu's Palace. Later the Same Day. ACT II—Scene 1: At Arden de Mauprat's House. Afternoon of the Next Day. Scene 2: At Cardinal Richelieu's Palace. Later That Same Afternoon. Scene 3: Same as Preceding Scene. Shortly After Midnight. ACT III—Scene 1: At the House of Marion de Lorraine. An Hour Later. Scene 2: The Gardens of the Louvre. Ten O'Clock That Morning. Scene 3: Same as Preceding Scene. An Hour Later.

There is something added to that sturdy play of another century by Arthur Goodrich. The *Richelieu* that Walter Hampden revives now is far more intense than the older one of Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton, altho everything that forces the interest in this newer production belongs to Bulwer-Lytton. Goodrich's work is always evident. It is not obstructive, but yet it is there. Mostly it is a quickening process he has done. The action is faster, the dialog more to the taste of this day in the theater than in the glossy, windy and flowery language of the original play.

Hampden's production is a worthy work. It is likely as not one of the best productions Walter Hampden has in his repertoire.

The plots, intrigues, conspiracies and counterplots in this new *Richelieu* are all taken from the original play. Good-

rich and Hampden have collaborated to the end that a script permitting faster timing was supplied and Hampden has lavished minute direction in bringing to it a life that the play of the early 19th Century did not have. If anything this production is indeed an improvement upon the old play, with all of it preserved excepting the unnecessary embroidery.

Hampden's company does well by the work. His own performance is an outstanding bit of characterization, with, of course, his makeup as there as any he has ever employed.

Only one bad selection seems evident in the cast. As Julie, Ingeborg Torrup seemed timid and unsure too many times in the most necessary speeches attending her part. Physically she was perfect, but her ability falls a trifle short of the requirements.

Moffat Johnston, excepting Hampden himself, does the surest work in the play. Commendable performances are turned in by Charles McCarthy, Jr., and Ernest Rowan also. Ocell Yapp, as Joseph, is nearly letter perfect. At all times does he stay in character and thus provide one of the most amusing characterizations in the play.

The settings employed are not lavish, neither are they cheap. They adequately fill the bill, and augmented by splendid lighting effects furnish a handsome background for the action of the play.

The new *Richelieu*, if, indeed, it can be termed new, is a splendid play well acted, always interesting, and certainly deserving the attention Walter Hampden has devoted to it. CHARLES MORAN.

GUILD

Beginning Monday Evening, December 23, 1929

METEOR

A play by S. N. Behrman. Directed by Philip Moeller. Settings designed by Raymond Sovey. Settings executed by R. W. Bergman Studios. Presented by the Theater Guild.

Ann Carr.....Lynn Fontanne
Douglas Carr.....Douglas Montgomery
Shirley Pennell.....Shirley O'Hara
Sheridan Maxwell.....Martin Berkeley
Curtis Maxwell.....Lawrence Leslie
Dr. Avery.....Edward Emery
Raphael Lord.....Alfred Lunt
Mollus.....Leonard Lean
A Butler.....Charles McClelland
ACT I—Living Room in Dr. Avery's House in Small University Town in Massachusetts. ACT II—Living Room in Raphael Lord's House in New York City. Five Years Later. ACT III—Same as Act II. Two Years Later.

Meteor is another one of those plays in which the builder leans over backwards to avoid the obvious and commonplace to the ultimate detriment of the structure. By no means is it an uninteresting drama. There are times when it commences to reach and reach high. Sadly it cannot be related that it attains the heights it might.

S. N. Behrman, whose plays have won him an enviable distinction, breathed a remarkable idea into *Meteor*, but then spoiled it with useless and false embroidery.

It is a psychological study that, if stripped bare and viewed without the life which Alfred Lunt puts into Raphael Lord, is obviously philosophically unsound. And so the conclusion is that what is philosophically unsound when it deals with so mystifying a subject as the mind is bad theater in the final estimate. The reaction of *Meteor* is depressing, and depressing simply because it strains to refrain from becoming common.

It is the story of an egotist, a unique egotist who imagines he foresees everything that happens in life. Of course, his analysis of the actions of men who react to things after they occur, just as he believes he saw them before they happen, is explainable. The man is possessed of such overwhelming confidence that it is easily seen that he might lead himself to believe the obvious happened simply because he willed it. He is also endowed with a will that drives men to accomplishment, and so to doing things because he has so willed it. These things are believable.

But when Raphael Lord rises from obscurity to the great power he becomes in the world of finance and then plays with fate to test his strange, clairvoyant powers, we believe Mr. Behrman has played with the fate of his play. We believe he has bent over backwards to avoid the commonplace and has thus fashioned a depressing work when it might have been a great play.

The audience jumps into the wild life of Raphael Lord when he is in college, leaving it, as a matter of fact, for greater (See *NEW PLAYS* opposite page)

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Mayor Hanna, of this city, selected a committee December 23 to name a site for the proposed municipal auditorium. The mayor's action followed when the Common Council adopted an ordinance to request him to choose such a committee.

ATLANTIC CITY.—An editorial in *The Atlantic City Press* points out that for a young institution, the Municipal Auditorium is doing very well. Such notices are being read thruout the United States about a proposed Schmelling-Godfrey fight in February or March, followed by the 1930 National Junior Indoor Track and Field Championship Meet, skating races, big-league hockey games, the annual National Industrial Exposition and many other noteworthy events. When an auditorium can advance that far in such a short time, it proves convincingly that co-operation from newspapers can do much to promote activity in an auditorium, but then such an institution as the Atlantic City Municipal Auditorium deserves praise.

TAMPA, Fla.—The *Passion Play* will be presented to the citizens of Tampa the last week in February at the Municipal Auditorium. The company presenting it will be known as the Freiburg Players and will be sponsored by the Tampa Ministers' Association. Four members of the original German cast as well as many noted American actors will take part in the production.

CLEVELAND.—Starting with a group of holiday events, the Public Auditorium here has a long season ahead with practically constant activity assured for the offing.

During the holiday period, five big Cleveland corporations co-operated in bringing circus acts for their annual Christmas parties to their employees, in the main arena. Thousands of folks saw the performances free and were given Christmas gifts as well. Each firm had a night reserved for its own employees. While these parties were in way in the main arena, the Music Hall presented college plays in its splendid theater. Princeton, Ohio State, Yale and Michigan were represented by productions. A dance, in the auditorium's ballroom, followed each night at the close of the parties and college entertainment.

Col. H. J. Twelvetree, manager of the auditorium, has reported that following

Auditoriums

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

the holiday events a number of expositions have been booked. Among those now contracted are the Auto Show, Food Show, Sportsmen's Show, Flower Show, Retail Delivery Exposition, Dog Show, Foundry Show and Horse Show. Also, the annual tournament of the American Bowling Congress will be held at the auditorium next spring.

The Music Hall has several events coming, too, such as Heifetz, Gigh, German Grand Opera, Mme. Onegin, Ponselle, United German Singing Society, Orpheus Chorus, two concerts by the Cleveland Symphony, the production of *The Chocolate Soldier* and other programs. In addition to a number of school commencements.

The Arena of the auditorium has athletic events scheduled to come off between expositions. The Cleveland team of the American Basketball League will play all its games at the arena. A number of prize fights and wrestling matches have also been booked.

The Metropolitan Opera Company will come again this spring for a week's engagement. The Little Theater, which has a seating capacity of 700, is in constant demand for recitals and business meetings. Col. Twelvetree has just contracted for 20 weekly productions at the Little Theater by the foreign-language groups of Cleveland.

While the auditorium is making its biggest return to the city for 1929, it is now evident that 1930 will be a still greater year, since the new addition of the north and south wings has made possible a great many events that could not have been considered heretofore. According to all concerned with the auditorium, Cleveland, the practically a pioneer in the municipal auditorium field, should enjoy its greatest auditorium success in 1930.

DES MOINES.—La Argentina, Spanish

dancer, will appear at Hoyt Sherman Auditorium sometime in January, it is announced by George F. Ogden, promoter of that house.

ST. PAUL.—Plans for the improvement of the St. Paul Auditorium to make it thoroughly modern, have been announced by J. C. Niemeyer, city architect. The plans call for an entire conversion of the present building into a large arena, raising of the floor level about 15 feet to provide a new floor for exposition space, erection of a new building for a theater and concert hall, to seat 3,500, and erection of a new building to house smaller convention halls, restaurant and other facilities. A fund of \$1,500,000 is available from St. Paul's \$15,000,000 improvement program bond issue for the work.

WORCESTER, Mass.—Much averse to public opinion, the order instructing the city solicitor to petition a loan of \$3,000,000 from the legislature for the construction of a municipal auditorium went down to defeat in the legislature last week. However, city council has issued a new order, which instructs the solicitor to file a new motion for a loan of \$2,000,000. This latter sum is to be used in building an auditorium capable of seating 4,000, or twice the capacity of the largest hall in Worcester at present. It is expected that this last plan will go thru.

LEXINGTON, Ky.—The city of Lexington proposes to build a \$400,000 municipal auditorium on a rental-lease plan and not by the customary bond issue. Under the present plans the auditorium is to be financed and built by the Security Trust Company of Lexington on a rental-lease basis to extend over a period of 20 years. The plan further stipulates that the structure

must be completed in one year and turned over to the city immediately thereafter. Whether this probability will become an actuality will be decided by the courts of Lexington when they determine whether the contract with the financing company is legal. An auditorium has been a much-needed want of Lexington for many years and citizens are awaiting anxiously the courts' decision.

LOUISVILLE, Ky.—The Jefferson Post of the American Legion has arranged to bring the Freiburg Players in *The Passion Play* to the War Memorial Auditorium for 11 performances beginning February 1. The Passnacht family, which has presented the play since 1264 A. D., will be assisted by a chorus of 150 singers from Louisville churches and by 250 extras.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—Bids are now being considered for the construction of an outdoor stage and amphitheater for this city. The plans for the proposed structure call for a seating capacity of 30,000 and in view of this great seating, if the plans materialize, the building will be done in units. From time to time units will be added to the main structure. The proposed site, the Lone Star Garden, affording natural acoustics, was found to be a perfect location for an amphitheater. The Lone Star Garden was recently used for presentations of Civic Opera. The amphitheater will be of Grecian design, having colonnades, and officials believe it will do much to add to the beauty of San Antonio.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28.—George H. Holcombe, general director of the National Exhibition Company, operating the new mammoth Arena here, said to be one of the largest show buildings in the world, departed Monday for New York City to confer with John T. Ringling and William Greve, president of the Prudence Bond Company of New York City, relative to building a similar auditorium in Brooklyn. While in the East Holcombe also has an appointment scheduled with Colonel J. P. Hammond, of Newark, N. J., relative to the building of an arena in that city.

NEW PLAYS

(Continued from opposite page)

things in New York, and for one reason apparently—that he is compellingly jealous of a football player, the idol of his college. Curtis Maxwell, the player's brother, then enters the action. He is a scheming promoter who sees profit in the ability of his brother. Lord and Douglas Maxwell quarrel and Maxwell dies from a heart attack. Propelled by vengeance, we see Curtis Maxwell, five years later in the employ of Lord, plotting his ruin. He accomplishes his purpose before the run of the play.

The embroidery that is involved in the story is Lord's disregard for everything in life, including his wife, whom he lets leave him because of his unconscionable urge to continue his quest of egoistic power. He goes on. Here we believe Behrman has slipped badly. Not that what he has shown might not happen. It might. Anything can happen. But what he has set down as happening in the life of Raphael Lord is unlikely.

Never is *Meteor* uninteresting. It provokes thought, attention and at times entertainment. Alfred Lunt in this difficult role clearly establishes himself as the first actor of his day. It is different from anything this reviewer has ever seen him do. It is different from anything he has done. His interpretation of the character of Raphael Lord is the best acting current in the theater. By the sheer force of his acting, he lifts this play out of depths into which it would have plunged permanently without the Lunts. Miss Fontaine is there. They are all there, but somehow invisible when Lunt is on stage—so forceful is his work.

Lawrence Leslie, in his New York debut with the Guild, is miscast. He does well, excellent in fact, with the role of Curtis Maxwell, but he is acting always. He should not be called upon for such a part. There are men within the acting company of the Theater Guild who could have done better with the heavy part entrusted to Leslie. Edward Emery is well cast as the studious professor. His work is admirable.

Moeller's direction is commendable. Interest where it might lag for want of more play has been perked up by tight direction. Everything the play possesses is extracted by the expert timing and pace Moeller has instilled into the work.

The first setting, a college professor's study, is restful and so accurate in detail that it is breath taking. The other setting, while decorative, is a standard luxurious drawing room setting.

Meteor, for all its faults, is a play to be seen. By all means a play to be seen. It will provoke talk, argument, interest and furnish entertainment.

CHARLES MORAN

St. Denis-Shawn Open New York Engagement

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Heralding in the holiday season with a fortnight's recital of the dance, Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn opened their joint program at Forest Theater December 23, with all indications pointing to a successful engagement. The celebrated team presented in the main numbers many of which have been seen here before, but while familiar, their performance is as ever vital and interesting. Miss St. Denis still possesses her youthful spirit, while her partner retains as ever his striking charm and technique.

Miss St. Denis is by far our greatest interpreter of the dances of the Far East, and in her *Bas Belle's Figure From Angkor-Vat* study she reaches a high order of expression. Her *Waltz (Brahms)* and *Liebesträume (Liszt)* were particularly clean cut and were given in the best classical tradition. Her *Serimpi*, a stylized sequence of abstract posturings, proved interesting more from the dancer's approach to the subject than from its delineation. Other of her dances ranged from the too fragile *White Jade* to the colorful *Neutok* number.

Ted Shawn, given to the more theatrical in his performance and often seen to purer advantage in detailed choreographies, applied his most robust talents to that stirring spear dance. His *Cosmic Dance of Siva*, a legend from Hindu

theology, was impressive, as was his *Bull* dance.

Together the duo fared particularly well in their ever-charming *Josephine and Hippolyte*, and in the *Nocturne*, from Debussy, in which their art is at its most lucid and delicate mood. Thruout the engagement their program will be varied from time to time. Sol Cohen, violinist, leads a capable musical ensemble, consisting of Mary Campbell, piano; Hugo Bergmasco, flute, and Muriel Watson, percussion.

S. M. SANDERS

Keating-Carroll Show Provides Amusement

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Fred Keating, the magician recently featured in John Murray Anderson's *Almanac*, and Albert Carroll, whose impersonations are constantly seen in *The Grand Street Follies*, provide an entertaining evening with their joint program of magic and mimicry. They opened at the 49th Street Theater last Sunday night for a two weeks' engagement.

Keating's tricks, displayed with 100 per cent showmanship, form the major part of the program. As a master of ceremonies Keating is just about unsurpassed in this town. Clever enough to poke fun at himself, he is also charming and ingratiating at all times. He offered such diverse stunts as cutting a woman into eight pieces with an ingeniously devised guillotine of meat cleavers; shooting thru Albert Carroll, arrayed as Jane Cowl; an escape from a trunk, and various intriguing feats of prestidigitation. Keating is ably assisted by the Great Alexander, so called, and Clara Williams.

Albert Carroll's best work was his highly comic impersonation of Beatrice Lillie singing *Georgette*, the sweetheart of the regiment. For the rest Carroll seemed inclined to rather morbid studies, ably enacted, such as that of Emily Stevens in the suicide scene from *The Fugitive* and Laurette Taylor as Ophelia. Stevens' mimicking of Mayor Walker was composed of the obvious, and the bit about *Rope's End* likewise failed to come off.

EDWARD HARRISON

BROADWAY RUNS

Performances to December 28, inclusive

Dramatic	Opened	Perf.
Babes in Toyland	Dec. 23	10
Lady Square	Nov. 4	63
Hud in Hand	Nov. 4	313
Broken Dishes	Nov. 5	61
Candle-Light	Sept. 20	103
Cherry Orchard, The	Sept. 23	11
Cradle Song, The	Sept. 17	9
Criminal Code, The	Oct. 2	101
Death Takes a Holiday	Dec. 23	4
First Mrs. Fraser, The	Dec. 28	1
Gambling	Aug. 26	146
Game of Love and Death	Nov. 25	49
The	Nov. 21	9
Happy Days	Dec. 9	134
How's Your Health	Nov. 26	38
Inheritors	Oct. 4	4
Inspector Kennedy	Dec. 20	11
It Never Rains	Nov. 19	43
It's a Wise Child	Aug. 6	163
Jenny	Oct. 8	95
Journey's End	Mar. 27	325
Jane Moon	Oct. 3	96
Ladies of the Jury	Oct. 31	75
Lady from Alpacaca, A	Sept. 20	15
Living Corpse, The	Dec. 15	7
Magic	Sept. 23	118
Many Waters	Sept. 23	118
Master Builder, The	Sept. 19	41
Mendel, Inc.	Nov. 25	16
Michael and Mary	Dec. 23	8
Miss Bourrat	Oct. 7	19
Novice and the Duke, The	Dec. 9	16
Peter Pan	Nov. 2	17
Playboy of the Western	Dec. 27	2
Wild, The	Dec. 27	18
Red Run	Dec. 23	5
Richelieu	Dec. 23	8
Robin Hood (3d Engage-	Dec. 23	7
ment)	Dec. 23	7
Salt Water	Nov. 26	39
Sea, The	Sept. 16	34
Seven	Nov. 25	37
Sherlock Holmes	Nov. 25	37
Street Scene	Jan. 10	432
Stetley Dishonorable	Sept. 19	129
Subway Express, A	Sept. 20	126
Sunny Morning, The	Dec. 23	13
Top Speed	Dec. 23	7
Wolf, Wolf	Dec. 23	6
Would-Be Gentleman, The	Sept. 21	9
Young Sinners	Nov. 18	38
Your Uncle Dudley	Nov. 23	42

Musical Comedy

Bitter Sweet	Nov. 5	63
Fifty Million Frenchmen	Nov. 27	25
Head Up	Nov. 11	56
Little Show, The	Nov. 29	289
Scandals	Sept. 23	111
Sketch Book	July 1	209
Sons of Guns	Nov. 25	39
Street Singer, The	Sept. 17	111
Sweet Adeline	Sept. 2	137
Wonderful Night, A	Oct. 31	68

36TH YEAR

The Billboard

Founded by W. H. DONALDSON

The largest circulation of any theatrical paper in the world.

Published every week

By The Billboard Publishing Company

W. J. RILEY Editor
 E. W. EVANS Business Manager
 J. M. McHENRY General Manager
 F. G. KOHL President

Main Office and Printing Works
THE BILLBOARD BUILDING

25-27 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.
 Phone, Main 5300
 Cable Address, "Billbyby," Cincinnati.

BRANCH OFFICES:

NEW YORK—1360 Broadway, Rooms 209-10-11. (Entrance on 46th Street.) Phone, Bryant 2434.
 CHICAGO—310 New Masonic Temple Bldg., 32 W. Randolph Street. Phone, Central 8460.
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Last advertising form goes to press 11 a. m. Monday. No telegraphed advertisements accepted unless remittance is telegraphed or mailed so as to reach publication office before 11 a. m. Monday.

The Billboard reserves the right to edit all advertising copy.



Vol. XLII, JANUARY 4, No. 1

The Toledo Stagehands Lend a Helping Hand

HATS off to the stage crew at the Empire Theater, Toledo, a Mutual Circuit burlesque house. In voluntarily accepting a \$10 wage cut that the theater might remain open, this crew has shown a fine spirit of co-operation that will redound not only to their individual credit, but that will create tremendous good will for the entire body of stagehands. In discussing the ills of the theater it has become a habit to lay much of the blame at the door of some of the labor factions in the theater. Many critics have been bitter and caustic in flaying the attitude shown by some of the unions within the theater. The reasonableness shown by the Toledo union demonstrates without doubt that the unions can be counted on to do their share when and where other conditions are acceptable.

Unquestionably burlesque has been given a helping hand only because that branch of the amusement business is well organized and has a designated center of authority. The Mutual Burlesque Association, thru J. H. Herk, frankly laid its cards on the table and showed by figures that it would be hopeless to continue operations at the Toledo house unless overhead could be cut down. But the burden was not placed entirely on the shoulders of the stage crew. House managers were ordered to cut \$100 from the weekly guarantee to companies and principals were forced to accept reductions in proportion to this drop. Thru this close working of all departments no one was forced to bear the entire burden and everyone is assured of employment for the balance of the season at least.

When figures showed that some of the Mutual Circuit houses could not possibly make money under existing conditions, Herk did not cry poor mouth and ask the public for its sympathy. He went to William Canavan, president of the International

Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, and frankly told him the situation. Canavan, being a reasonable man, saw that employment for hundreds of his own people, as well as actors and musicians, was in jeopardy. He ordered a \$5 a week cut.

Is it possible that the legitimate producers cannot take a lesson from this? Certainly they can see that the unions are willing to do their share if other conditions are right. Frankly, we do not see how the unions can be expected to make concessions in the legitimate field when the managerial ranks are so disorganized. Let the managers get together, form a permanent organization, work for the best interests of all the members and then approach the stagehands, the musicians, the actors and the scenic artists. We'll wager that they'll find these bodies anxious to co-operate.

By the action they have taken in the burlesque field the stagehands have shown very clearly that they are willing to co-operate in promoting the development of flesh and blood entertainment. By so doing they have emphasized the fact that responsibility for the present state of the legitimate theater is squarely on the shoulders of the managers.

This game of passing the buck had gone far enough. The actors, thru Equity, have shown time and time again that they are working for the good of the theater. Now the stagehands demonstrate that they are open to reason. The managers remain silent. Who can they blame now?

Is Movie Play Backing A Menace to the Stage?

THERE are those who are inclined to become alarmed over the increasing amount of motion picture capital that is being thrown into the backing of legitimate theatrical productions. They see in this the possibility that the movies will soon control the theater.

Certainly more and more picture money is being thrown into the legitimate theater. A high percentage of the productions current on Broadway are backed by leading motion picture corporations. Is this a serious menace to the theater? Economically we do not think so; artistically we do.

No one can ever convince us that the legitimate theater will ever die, at the hands of the picture interests or of anyone else. In fact, we maintain that a few years will find the stage in a far stronger position than it is at present. Viewing it thus, then, it appears to us that film capital is to be welcomed in the theater. The limitless resources of the picture people offer a stabilizing hand to the theater. Sound capital behind productions means better employment conditions, higher wages. We feel that real capital, whether it be from the film corporations or anyone else, is better for the theater than the hundred and one fly-by-night, cheap, racketeering promoters who now infest Broadway and bodily call themselves producers.

It is from an artistic standpoint that motion picture capital is dangerous. Film people back legitimate productions only to secure the film rights on plays. It stands to reason that they will not put money behind anything that does not offer possibilities for the sound screen. Thus, it places a limitation on the playwright that is unhealthy. It means that the author, if he is to be commercially successful, must confine himself to the stereotyped, cheap, uninspiring stuff demanded by the screen for general consumption. That is serious. No theater can prosper without experimentation, without freedom of thought.

Erlanger Awakens to Auditorium Possibilities

A. L. ERLANGER has awakened to the possibilities offered by auditoriums as a booking outlet for legitimate attractions. It was only a question of time until enterprising theatrical men

had to realize the tremendous future offered by this rapidly growing field. In leading the way Erlanger shows that he is a wide-awake showman.

A list of "Auditoriums Playing Road Attractions", published recently in *The Billboard*, shows over 300 of these buildings equipped to handle attractions. In fact, all of them find their greatest problem in securing productions to fill their needs.

The auditorium men have been trying for years now to develop a chain booking plan whereby attractions could be booked over a long circuit of auditoriums. They bumped up against several serious obstacles. In the first place, it was discovered that no attractions could be found that suited the requirements of every auditorium on the list. In most cases this was thru no technical limitations, but it resulted from conditions peculiar to the different cities. Thus, Atlantic City, Cleveland, Detroit and other cities similarly situated, were not interested in booking legitimate attractions because they already have regular legitimate theaters that are well supplied during the season. On the other hand, communities like Chattanooga, Birmingham, St. Joseph, Memphis, were crying for stage shows. They could not get together.

At the recent convention in Detroit, the auditorium men decided to classify the member auditoriums as to cities, size, type of attractions wanted, etc. It would appear that in so doing they have solved their greatest obstacle.

Erlanger has pledged his organization to the furtherance of a plan to book a chain of auditoriums. It is a move in the right direction, for if the road is to make a comeback these auditoriums offer the most logical means for it to do so.

Indications at present are that by the time next season rolls around the auditorium booking problems will be well taken care of. That it will find the smaller cities and towns getting first-class legitimate attractions.

With Erlanger making the start it will not be long until others have to follow suit. It is time for the legitimate theater interests to get together with the auditorium men. Working together they can do much to bring back the road.

A Word of Warning That Should Be Heeded

FOR a long time now *The Billboard* has been trying to impress on outdoor showmen the fact that they must organize for mutual protection if they are to hold their proper place in the world of amusement. The plea remains unheeded.

Recently a bill which called for a 10 per cent tax on all admissions was presented to the Legislature of Tennessee. It was defeated, but not thru the organized efforts of the outdoor show world. One or two leaders in the field did their bit, but the remainder were apparently disinterested.

The daily newspapers of that State led the fight against the tax. We quote from a letter received from the managing editor of one of Tennessee's most influential papers. It gives an excellent idea of how the outdoor show world appears to an interested observer. It is the opinion of a man who was in the midst of the Tennessee tax fight and who was a leading figure in opposing the bill. The letter reads:

"It is tragic to note the indifference many showmen have toward the welfare of the profession in general. They seem to be more interested in fighting competition in their own particular group than in mutual protection. It reminds one of the adage which warns us 'Don't cut off your nose to spite your face.' UNLESS SOME OF THESE PEOPLE WAKE UP, IT WON'T BE LONG UNTIL THERE WILL BE SO MANY RESTRICTIONS, TAXES, ORDINANCES, ETC., LEVIED AGAINST THEM AS TO MAKE A LIVING ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE."

Is any further warning needed?

Where Is the Gain?

Editor *The Billboard*:

Insofar as talking pictures have displaced stage shows in various theaters through the country, it is necessary to attempt to understand just what is the value and the advantage of this new adaptation of phonographic inventions.

On one hand, in what way is it an improvement—what does it add to the modern world? 1. It brings to a larger public musical comedy and dramatic entertainment of first quality. Before long a town will be indeed small which has not a theater presenting talking pictures.

2. In all these out-of-the-way communities and smaller cities people are now in a position to see pictures in which are gathered all the biggest stars of the speaking and entertaining world at very small cost.

This, to my mind, sums up the advantages of the talking pictures.

What now are its disadvantages, inasmuch as it replaces real flesh-and-blood performers? 1. Whatever its perfection, it is not real; it is only an imitation.

2. Insofar as it replaces real stage shows it is bringing great hardships to actors, stagehands, musicians, etc., who are losing their opportunity of earning a living by this new development.

3. It enables motion picture magnates to reap a golden harvest, taking money through means without stimulating any business in hotels, restaurants, laundries, express companies, etc., such as was the case with stage shows.

4. Its results are leading more and more to a golden theater, also of motion picture productions, by a few individuals. Its tendency is toward the suppression of individuality and it leans toward mechanized methods of picture productions, as Ford produces automobiles.

From a social standpoint, in these questions I would answer an emphatic No!

Are the talking pictures, insofar as they replace stage shows, advantageous to the community? Does the possibility of many people in out-of-the-way communities being able to see what was before the expense of the transportation for the elimination of stage shows in larger places where they were before accessible?

Does this compensate for the many people deprived of their living as a result of the innovation?

From a social standpoint, in these questions I would answer an emphatic No!

Then who gains and wherein lies the real advantage? The real gain is made by the motion picture magnate. To him goes more and more money as talking pictures, thru his will in many cases, vaudeville and stage entertainment. His is the 100 per cent profit, the 500 per cent profit, the 1,000 per cent profit, while thousands of actors, musicians and stage employees walk the streets (some whose heads are grown gray in service to their profession) and beg for work in vain. This while the motion picture magnate lines his coffers with gold and more gold.

His is all the advantage, to him goes all the gain, and if progress means that the few shall reap the harvest at the expense of the many we have another step in progress.

FRED F. LEWIS.

New Haven, Conn.

We wish to congratulate Mr. Lewis on his excellent letter. We agree with him. It is our opinion, however, that the present sad condition of the flesh-and-blood performer is only temporary. We cannot see anything but better days ahead for touring attractions of all kinds. Too much of anything is unhealthy. The motion picture people nor anyone else cannot force a product on the public to the exclusion of all other products. It may work for a time, but such a condition cannot be permanent. With nothing in the way of amusements but pictures, the public will put up with it for a time. In the end we believe that public demand will force a return of touring attractions of all kinds. Already there are many indications that theatergoers are becoming fed up on a straight picture diet. It will not take long for this movement to gain strength. At the same time there is every indication that competition between motion picture theaters is becoming too hot for comfort. With the novelty of the talkie worn off we maintain that the picture public will demand a high quality of entertainment that will be hard to meet under the necessary system of mass production. We believe that it will be just as impossible for motion picture producers to reach and hold a high quality of picture entertainment that can keep the thousands of picture theaters operating at a profit as it was for the legitimate producers to hold to a schedule that could keep over 70 legitimate theaters in New York lighted. It is our opinion that when conditions have righted themselves there will be room for all branches of the business, picture, vaudeville and legitimate. It may be that the motion picture corporations will control all of them, but that matters little to the performer just so long as he gets steady employment at a good salary.—Ed.

Raise Vaude. Prices

Editor *The Billboard*:

The writer has been in various fields of the profession for the last 14 years and is still young and never thru learning, which, however, has nothing to do with the present vaudeville situation. It seems to me, tho, that vaudeville has



played to too small a gate admission. I know of many vaudeville houses a year ago that charged only 50 cents for a short subject, feature picture and six good acts. Today they play only canned stuff and are getting 60 cents and more for it.

Thus, by raising the admission on the talkies, they have cheapened vaudeville.

While "talkies" are only an imitation of the real thing, why should imitations have a greater market value than the genuine real thing?

I believe, tho, that when the novelty of talking pictures wears off and vaudeville stages its comeback (for the living flesh and blood are still in demand) all box offices should welcome it with higher admission prices.

JOHNNY WILSON.

Ripon, Wis.

Changing Their Tune

Editor *The Billboard*:

It gets a laugh out of me to see how the leading legitimate producers change their tune when they swing over to the cowboys. When does Arthur Hammerstein get off predicting that the stage will soon be dead? Apparently he has changed his mind since getting a lucrative contract with the talkies. Isn't Mr. Hammerstein president of the Managers' Protective Association? It would seem to me that in that case he should be fighting tooth and nail to promote the best interests of the legitimate theater rather than throwing up the sponge.

The theater cannot hope to get anywhere

pack any amusement place, be it indoor or outdoor.

KIRMA BARLOW.

New Orleans.

In a general way there is much truth in the above letter. Certainly it is obvious that many vaudeville comedians stoop to smut for their comedy. It is equally apparent that the average vaudeville program contains little that carries a direct appeal for the children. When vaudeville was in its glory, women and children comprised the biggest part of the audience. On the other hand, we think that the writer is altogether wrong in assuming that girl acts, simply because they are such, are bad. Some of the most pleasing acts that have ever appeared on the stage have been girl acts. In fact, we think that girls should be encouraged to have girl revues, provided they are of the proper type. The writer of the above letter, we believe, makes a mistake in assuming that all girl acts are wrong because she has come across some that were a disgrace to the amusement business and an insult to the public. The idea of girl revues is sound, and they should, if handled properly, have a tremendous appeal for women and children.—ED.

Everybody Welcome

If you have something to say about conditions in the Amusement World this is the place to say it. Letters concerning personal grievances, however, are not acceptable. It is not necessary that you agree with the *Billboard*. Get busy! Let us have your opinions. Make them short and snappy.

until its leaders get together, bury their petty jealousies and work as a unit to bring back the legitimate drama.

CHARLES FRANCIS.

New York City.

Appeal to the Children

Editor *The Billboard*:

In "The Forum" each week I read articles having to do with vaudeville. It is my opinion that vaudeville has lost its popularity because it is no longer entertainment for ladies and children. It has reached the point where the average person would hesitate about taking his mother, wife, sister, sweetheart or children to a vaudeville show for fear that they would be offended by the girls without tights and the would-be comedians with their smutty jokes.

On the other hand, if there is a circus in town there is no hesitancy about taking women and children, for in the circus there is always plenty of good, clean comedy in addition to many trained animals and other thrilling novelties. The same may be said for the grand-stand program at a fair. It is getting so that the grand stand at the average fairgrounds is not large enough to hold the crowds. Many fairs have to enlarge their grand stand every season, and still it is not able to accommodate the increased patronage. Why? Because the people know that it is amusement for the entire family.

Some circuses and fairs make the mistake of adding a specialty of dancing girls. I know of one circus that added this specialty with ballet girls and almost went broke doing it, but business has been good since it cut out that part of the program. Some fair secretaries also add girl-revue acts to the programs, but the majority of them are putting on programs that appeal to family audiences.

I am sure that this is the answer to the vaudeville question. Give them entertainment that will please the women and children. Think it over. How many comedians in vaudeville today can really make the children laugh like they do at the circus or at the fair? What vaudeville needs is good, clean comedy and thrills and far less dance acts and smutty jokes.

My father had a dog and pony wagon show on the road years ago and I recall that he always put on the handbill: "A show for the entire family. Nothing said or done that will offend the most fastidious lady or gentleman."

If followed today I think that slogan would

Co-Operation

Editor *The Billboard*:

The spirit of co-operation which, if broadened, would go far toward rehabilitating the financial interests of every branch of the theater is strikingly exemplified in a new story from New York which appeared on the first news page of *The Billboard*, issue of December 28. It told of the sacrifice made by the stage crew of the Empire Theater, a Toledo (O.) burlesque house, in order that the theater might continue to carry on and provide employment for manager, staff, actors and others not protected by the union to which these men belonged.

Whether this theater was to remain open or be closed rested upon a decision to be made by six union men. The house was not operating profitably. A reduction in operating expenses would enable the lessee to keep the house open. Voluntarily the six men, using sound judgment, agreed to accept a cut of \$10 a week each. The local union ratified the agreement.

Perhaps if this same spirit had actuated stagehands and musicians through the United States a year or two ago there would be fewer theaters closed today, fewer legitimate houses surrendered to pictures, fewer musicians out of work, and better conditions existing for everybody employed in the theaters of America.

FRANK ALBERTSON.

Chicago.

Blackstone's Article

Editor *The Billboard*:

It appears that a young controversy is about to get under way over Blackstone's article in the Christmas Special Number, "Clearing the Decks for Magic". Far be it from me to enter the dispute, as I am already entangled as an exposé, or so some would claim. I do believe, however, that Blackstone's article offers an excellent opportunity for arriving at a decision one way or the other.

I dispute Blackstone's statement that he does not have an ax to grind. It appears to me that having an article published in *The Billboard* is excellent publicity. Not that I condemn Blackstone for this; all magicians owe on publicity, altho from this letter I shall most likely receive a kind of advertising I will not like.

I would ask one question, and it is as

follows: Why is it that exposés consider themselves in a position to condemn exposing?

As I have intimated, I am considered a hard-boiled exposé, whose articles have petrified in the service of taking bread from the mouths of magicians; in giving their antiquated tricks a breath of publicity before they are relegated to the scrap heap. Now I propose a different stand, that of conducting a test on the magician who declares himself a believer in exposing and scrapping the old tricks and inventing new ones. His stand is a good one; the question before us is, is he really sincere?

To date I have not so much as whispered to the interested reading public a trick essentially belonging to this performer. But would he still say the same if the panel in the back of his spook house was illustrated? Or the false background in the horse-vanish lent; the trapdoor in the bear trick; the two mirrors in the birth of fashion; the sleeve filled with feathers after the bird-cage trick; the hooked belts in the table lifting; or the false back of the Hindustan cabinet.

No, I have no present intentions of doing this. I would like to know, however, if out of Chicago there has been produced one honest magician who dares to admit that exposing is publicity and stick by it. If such is the case, I shall forgive Chicago its questioning reputation and declare that a revolutionary change has taken place in magic.

GEORGE S. GREENE.

Editor *The Billboard*:

The article, "Clearing the Decks for Magic" by Blackstone has caused considerable comment. I am gratified both as a writer and professional wand wielder, in the organizations of both the S. A. M. and the I. B. M.

Various responses of the magicians in the past few weeks prove that this subject of exposing is not to be overlooked and that its interest will be for the good of magic.

"Let the Public Know" was an article written two years ago in *The Billboard* by that well-known magician, Dante. Dante also mentions that an exposé of magic would do the public a general good. In the various magicians had their discussions, among them Mysterious Smith, who was altogether against exposing. Blackstone also responded to Dante. His article shows that he was greatly against exposing. I will be quite in part just what he said in response to Dante's article in *The Billboard*: "Let the public know? I should say not. Try it out amongst your friends and see how long your popularity as a magician will last—Exposure was right-foot 'em from a commercial and artistic standpoint. There are more people that want to be entertained than students. Think it over!"

Why is it that Harry is in favor of exposing magic now? Truly, great minds differ. It's just a matter of magical conviction that Harry wants to cause amongst us magicians. Blackstone hasn't exposed anything as yet, and I don't think he ever will, he knows his business.

Blackstone mentions that the oldest tricks in magic should be exposed because bookers won't book these acts. Well, the bookers will book the egg bag, the linking rings, and what not, but the magician must have such a knack with him that they appear new. I might say that all the new tricks being presented today are nothing but an improvement over the older ones, and so it is with all the illusions. Magic is improving right along.

Exposing robs the mystery that surrounds a good magical performance. Remember the purpose of a magic show is to puzzle and mystify, not to expose. Let each and every brother magician pledge himself to secrecy and carry on the good work that the Society of American Magicians has set before it.

CLEMENT T. MAGRUM.

Rock Island, Ill.

Movie Competition

To the motion picture industry the suits just instituted by the United States Department of Justice against three leading film corporations, representing mergers and consolidations lately effected, are said to be a complete surprise. The federal government is invoking the Clayton antitrust law in an effort to dissolve combinations and restore the competition said to have existed prior to the so-called Fox-Warner acquisitions. The complaints assert that the defendants operate film exchanges, control many theaters, maintain laboratories in several States, conduct business on a national scale and so come within the purview of the federal antimonopoly requirements.

That the motion-picture industry needs a certain amount of healthy competition is too obvious for elaborate argumentation. Many patrons of motion pictures are chronically dissatisfied with the entertainments commonly provided. Everybody concedes that there is ample room for improvement in the quality of many films. The embattled minorities who when they go to motion-picture houses appreciate art, thought and beauty should not be overlooked by the powerful producers. There are certain superior motion-picture theaters, to be sure, but they do not exist in sufficient numbers, and, moreover, most of them seem to be operating under handicaps.

A clear and reasonably full statement by the Department of Justice of the reasons which led to its instituting the two suits against alleged illegal mergers in the motion-picture industry would possess considerable educational and moral value.—*The Chicago News*.

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ALL-WOOL MEN'S SUITS, \$24 DOZ.— Heavy Overcoats, \$25.00 dozen. **KROGER CO.**, 225 W. Chicago, Chicago. j11

AMAZING PROFITS SHOWING RAY— on Bedspreads, Linenlike Tablecloths. Wash like oilcloth. Samples free. **BESTVEYER CO.**, 114 Irving Park Station, Chicago, Ill. j11

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CALIFORNIA PERFUMED BEADS selling like hot cakes. Agents earning money. Big profits. Catalog free. **MISSION FACTORY L.**, 2335 West Pico, Los Angeles, Calif. j11

DON'T SELL FOR OTHERS—EM-ploy agents yourself. Make your own products. Toilet Articles, Household Specialties, etc. 500% profit. Valuable book free. **NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC LABORATORIES**, 1914 W. Broad, Richmond, Va. j11

BIGGEST SURPRISE OFFER EVER made—Be sure to answer this ad. My line of Soaps, Coffee, Tea, Spices, Toilet Articles, Household Specialties, pays you bigger profits. **M. G. ROTH**, President, 3722 Dodder, St. Louis, Mo. j11

DISTRIBUTORS FOR NEW 5X Candy Specialty. **TERRAL**, 246 Fifth Ave., New York. j11

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GOOD INCOME SILVERING MIR-rors, Plating and Refinishing Lamps, Reflectors, Autos, Beds, Chandeliers by new method. Outfits furnished. Write **GUNMETAL CO.**, Ave. G, Decatur, Ill. j11

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MAKE BIG MONEY SELLING HAIR Straighteners to colored people. Write for free samples and terms to agents. **MARCELLENE CHEMICAL CO.**, 1901 West Broad, Richmond, Va. j11

MEN'S IMPERFECT SILK AND Wool Hosiery. \$15.00 gross. Imperfect Fancy Silk, \$15.00 gross. Send deposit. **LEWIS HOSIERY**, 12 North Third, Philadelphia, Pa. j11

SILK EMBROIDERED SCARF—OUR "Hot-Shot" Sales Number at \$8.00 per dozen "knocks 'em cold". Direct from manufacturer. Send \$1.00 for sample. Money-back guarantee. **HILDEBRAND EMBROIDERY CO.**, 834 North Ave., Chicago. j11

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YOU CAN MAKE BIG MONEY IN the Food Business. No capital or experience needed; credit given. Here is your chance to establish a permanent business of your own in exclusive territory. We furnish free sample case and free samples for customers. Repeat orders every week. Ask now. **FEDERAL PURE FOOD CO.**, 82311 Archer, Chicago. j11

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Vaudeville May Come Back

VAUDEVILLE, long a popular form of entertainment, has disappeared from the principal theaters. For the present the new factor, the talkies, has the call. It is packing the theaters and managers smile at the generous measure of good fortune that is theirs. The tumult and the shouting are for the talkies, and with much justification, but there are many who would be happy to see good vaudeville restored and made a part of the bill.

And it may come back. Possibly it will be changed, less of cheapness in it, more of merit that made it popular during the long period of its glory. Vaudeville suffered seriously during recent years, when managers engaged in unwise competition and lowered the standard in trying to devise new bills that were novel. That unwise management appears to have reached its end. Theatrical control now rests in a few hands, there is no occasion for unwise competition. Theatrical rumors tell of plans to terminate all the inflated Hollywood salary contracts in vaudeville, drop the unattractive, adjust salaries to harmonize with box-office figures and restore real vaudeville to the public. It will mean a long drop for some, but it will be sound business to follow out those plans.

Vaudeville made the Keith fortune. That proves what good entertainment of that sort can be made to produce. Good, clean, snappy bills, free from coarse lines, will bring joy to many veterans and theatrical people believe it would be welcomed by the public. They claim the present situation is one that was forced by the managers so adjustments might be made and theatrical housecleaning completed. There are few producers, no foolish competition to secure a star, no auction bidding for a new feature. There is more of business on the business side of the theater than in former years. Salary adjustments will mean nothing to the patron, the admission, doubtless, will remain the same, but if the managers, who now are in position to be the real managers of their business, give good bills the public will be entirely willing to pay.—*The Ohio State Journal*, Columbus.

NEW! DIFFERENT! MILADY'S Novelty Clothing Brush. Rainbow colors create instant sales. Washable made 24 first day. Free sample. **A. JENSEN CO.**, 304 South Dearborn, Chicago. x

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NO PEDDLING—FREE BOOKLET describes 67 money-making opportunities for starting own business, home office. No outfit. **ELITE**, 84 Elizabeth St., New York. j11

PROFITS SELLING OUR FUN BUSI-ness Cards, Clever Novelties, etc. Samples and prices, 10c. **NATIONAL SPECIALTY SUPPLY COMPANY**, Box 798, Cincinnati, O. j11

SELL KOEHLER'S BLUE SIGNS— Want quick action? Send \$3.50 for 100 wonderful sellers. **KOEHLER'S**, 717 North Fourth, St. Louis, Mo. j11

SELL CHANGEABLE SIGNS TO stores. 3 colors, 6 lines, size 14x24; costs 40c, sells for \$1.50. Two sample Signs, post-paid, \$1.00. Particulars free. **NATIONAL SIGN SYSTEM**, 215 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. j11

SOMETHING NEW—WHOLESALE. New item just out. Sample, 10c. Factory price list. **KEENAN'S RUBBER SERVICE CO.**, 131 Orchard, Elizabeth, N. J. j11

MAKE YOUR OWN PRODUCTS— Employ agents yourself. Toilet Articles, Soap, Extracts. We furnish everything. Valuable book free. **NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC LABORATORIES**, 1914 W. Broad, Richmond, Va. j11

80c PROFIT ON \$1.00 SALE—SPLEN-did Cleaner for Automobiles, Furniture, Metal and Glass. Your name on labels. Exclusive territory. Sample 10c. Particulars free. **MINUTE KLEEN LABORATORIES**, Dept. W., Evansville, Ind. j11

\$12.00 DAILY POSSIBLE SELLING New Tablecloth. Washes like oilcloth. No laundering. Free samples. **JONES**, 882-D North Clark, Chicago. x

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DEEP SEA WONDERS AND CURI-osities. Pit-Show, Museum, Side-Show Attractions. Giant Devilfish, in Liquid. Giant Sea Turtle, 11-foot Shark, 11-foot Alligator, 8-foot Shark, Giant Snake. All stuffed. Send for catalog. **JOSEPH FLEISCHMAN**, 1105 Franklin, Tampa, Fla. j11

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HOLIDAYS OFFER—EUCLIPTUS Bears, tame, \$50.00; Boonkum Bears and Coati-Mandia, \$10.00 each. Write orders. **LAREDO ZOOLOGICAL BIRD & ANIMAL CO.**, Laredo, Tex. j11

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SELL BY MAIL! BOOKS, NOVEL-ties, bargains! Large profits! Particulars free. **F. ELFCO**, 325 South Dearborn, Chicago. j11

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BURLESQUE COSTUMES—A LARGE assortment of Shorts, Character, Wigs, Tights for rental; made to order for sale. Indian, Cowboy, Big bargains. All kinds. Costumes due to our removal to our new quarters. **STANLEY COSTUME STUDIOS**, 153 West 46th Street, New York. j11

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FORMULAS—ALL KINDS, CATA-log free. **CLOVER LABORATORIES (B)**, Park Ridge, Ill. x

MILLER, "FORMULA KING", D-31 Main, Norfolk, Va. Formula Book, \$1.00. j11

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NIGHT CLUB—IDEAL LOCATION, beautiful building, excellent floor space. An opportunity to establish the most successful night club in the South. The grandeur of the Spanish exterior, the massive ball room containing 200,000 cubic feet will qualify this as the most brilliant club of its kind. Long or short-term lease at a reasonable figure. **R. L. S. DOGGETT, JR.**, P. O. Box 2123, Miami, Fla. j11

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BRAND-NEW 6c NO-VALUE Checks, \$7.50 per 1,000; 25c No-Value Checks, \$12.50 per 1,000; 50c No-Value packages; Ball Gum, \$12.00 case 10,000 Balls; Candy Coated Peanuts, \$14.00 per 100 pounds. **ROBBINS CO.**, 25 Dodworth St., Brooklyn, N. Y. j11

BUY YOUR NUMBERED BALL GUM from the manufacturer. Get my prices...

NO KIDDIN' - HAVE 35 A. B. T. Pool Tables, used slightly over three months...

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TWO GREASELESS DOUGHNUT MACHINES, never been used; cheap. WALTER F. BARBER...

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CORN POPPERS - ALL KINDS. Popping Kettles cheap. NORTHSIDE CO., 1306 Fifth, Des Moines, Ia.

BARGAIN - 25 A. B. T. 5 SHOT FOR 1c Pistol Machines, repainted light blue, beautiful appearance...

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BRASS CHECKS FOR BELLS OR NO Value, perfect size, 5c size, \$7.50 thousand. Quarter size, \$10.00. SERVICE COIN MACHINE CO., 2037 W. Charleston St., Chicago.

CRIBBETTE MACHINE - LONG-EAKINS, complete, first-class, \$110. NORTHSIDE CO., 1306 Fifth, Des Moines, Ia.

FIFTY FLOOR TYPE EXHIBIT Card Venders, \$20.00 each. Thirty Item Floor Type Microscopes, with reel, \$30.00 each...

FIFTY IMPROVED JACKPOT ATTACHMENTS for Mills, new, \$6.00 each; Ten Jackpot Attachments for Mills Front Vender...

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FOR SALE - DELCO LIGHT PLANTS. One three-kilowatt non-battery plant. One six hundred-watt with batteries...

JACK POT ATTACHMENTS - SELF-loader type for Mills or Jennings Machines, best made, \$10 each...

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MILLS OR JENNINGS BELLS - Nickel Play, \$30; Dime Play, \$35; Quarter Play, \$40...

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OPERATORS BECOME A PARTNER with the world's largest operators. We will put you in business and supply you with as many machines as you can run...

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\$24.50 - GUITAR - BANJO, SIX strings, Rogers head, cost \$90.00; also 1,000 other Musical Instruments. Send free list. WEIL'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 20 South Second St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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A BUSINESS OF YOUR OWN - Operate from your home if desired. For full particulars write CLEAN EASY PRODUCTS, 1504 Cass, St. Louis, Mo.

BUSINESS STATIONERY - LARGEST line, highest quality, quickest delivery, biggest commissions, liberal bonuses, free copy-righted cuts every business. Experience unnecessary. Instructions and outfit free. DAVID LYONEL PRESS, 312 S. Hamilton, Dept. 126, Chicago. X

Paul Robeson

HOWEVER base and sophisticated he may pretend to be, the college student cannot suppress his hero worship. Moving pictures which depict the entire college community crowding wide-eyed about the dashing quarterback are not far from the truth...

In every New York subway station we cannot escape the full-length beaming portrait of a college superhero whose glory has not faded. Paul Robeson was a three-letter man at Rutgers, in track, football and basketball...

Shortly after his graduation, Robeson was acting one evening in a Y. M. C. A. play. Eugene O'Neill happened to be in the audience, was impressed by his dramatic gifts, and went backstage and prevailed upon him to play the leading part in The Emperor Jones...

The triumphs of a member of a minority people like Robeson's bring honor not merely to himself but to his race as well. Pride in his career at Rutgers was not limited to his classmates. It is well to familiarize ourselves with the incidents of a life like his in order to learn in fuller measure what the members of his race are capable of contributing...

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70 MILLS FRONT VENDERS - Brand new. Serials over 212,000. Cost \$95.00. Will sacrifice at \$72.50. Send cash or one-third deposit. POSTAL CONFECTION COMPANY, 2037 W. Charleston St., Chicago.

\$1.45 - CHICAGO, RICHARDSON AND Winslow Rink Roller Bearing Skates, good size. We buy or sell them. WEIL'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 20 South Second St., Philadelphia, Pa.

200 PENNY MACHINES ALL KINDS. Must be sold at once regardless of price. Write for latest price list. C. G. MOORE, P. O. Box 317, Bedford, Va.

1929 BALL GUM BABY VENDERS - Plays 4 colms. Standard fruit reels. Cost \$7.50. Never used. Must dispose of quickly. \$20 each. CIGAR STORES NOVELTY CO., Peoria, Ill. \$122

HELP WANTED 10 CENTS A WORD - MINIMUM 10 WORDS. CASH WITH COPY.

TEAM - NOVELTY SINGING, DAN - Change three nights. Good singing write. Open January 13. PROF. M. M. WHELDON, 314 Carterette, Pueblo, Colo.

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MANUFACTURER WANTS DISTRIBUTOR for 300-mile \$2.00 "Pocket" Radio. "Bells itself with music." Pays 100%. **SPENCER RADIO**, Dept. 11, Akron, O. x

PICTURED SIGN CARDS — 400% profit. Samples, 10c. **BRENNEMAN**, J.-3, Lima, O. j44

RESURRECTION PLANT — UNIQUE novelty; miracle of nature. Money maker for salesmen. Cost low. Write **C. E. LOCKE**, T Rio St., Mesilla, New Mexico. x

SALESMEN — WONDERFUL SIDE-line. 40% commission paid daily. Bells all merchants. Pocket outfit free. **WILENSKY CO.**, Dept. 377, 2130 Oldway Ave., Chicago. x

SELL NOTHING—EARN UP TO \$170 weekly empty-handed. No sample case to tote. Oldest and largest salesboard firm established 20 years, rated \$500,000, announces amazing new plan. Salesmen cleaning up. No one invests a penny. We even pay express charges. Unsuitable merchandise returnable. Big season now here. Full commission repeat business. Grab this quick. **K & S SALES CO.**, 4318 Ravenswood, Chicago. j44

TRADEBOARDS—HOTTEST Largest money-making line ever offered. Season starting. Best commission. Nothing to carry. Catalog free. **Act! M. & L. SALES**, 261 W. Adams, Chicago. j44

VENDING MACHINE MEN—GRAB this \$12.50 commission every call. New different, low priced, whirlwind seller. Act quick. **POSTAL CONFECTION MFG.**, 2033 W. Charleston, Chicago. j44

\$5.00 EVERY TIME YOU SELL MY tailored-to-order, \$35.00-value, all-wood Suit for \$23.50. If you want to try, write. Every thing furnished free. **A. BOBB**, 2258 S. LaSalle, Chicago. j418x

\$282.80 COMMISSION POSSIBLE ON a \$10.00 original sale. Every merchant a prospect. Absolutely new and different. Exclusive territory. **SALES STIMULATORS**, 339 W. Madison, Chicago. j42x

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BEAUTIFUL DYE DROPS, BANNERS, Scenery. Send dimensions for Cut Rates. **ENKEBOLL SCENIC CO.**, Omaha, Neb. j44

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BALLROOM AND STAGE LIGHTING Effects—Motor-Driven Color Wheels, Crystal Showers, Spotlights. **C. I. NEWTON CO.**, 253 W. 14th St., New York. j418

BLEACHER SEATS, WITH FOOT Rests; comfortable as chairs; indoor and outdoor use. **FENN BLEACHER SEAT COMPANY**, 1207 West Thompson St., Philadelphia, Pa. j423

CHAIROPLANE, JONES GLIDER, complete, \$400; good condition. **EVELYN FLAKKE**, Red Lion, Pa. j44

NORTH TONAWANDA ORGAN with Electric Motor for Skating Rink or Carrousel. Sell cheap. Write details. **WEL'S CURIOSITY SHOP**, 20 South Second Street, Philadelphia, Pa. j44

RAILROAD PASSENGER CAR, FOUR Hundred Dollars; Warlikest Organ, style 153, Four Hundred; New Portable Maple Skating Floor, Three Hundred; Chicago Skates, \$1. All in good shape. **WAYNE HALE**, Lenox, Ia. j44

WHIP FOR SALE — GOOD CONDITION. Cheap for cash, quick sale. **P. O. BOX 103**, Johnson City, Tenn. j411

20x30 KHAKI TENT, TOP ONLY, fair condition. Fifteen Dollars. **THOS. L. FINN**, Hooisick Falls, N. Y. j44

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10 CENTS A WORD—MINIMUM 10 WORDS. CASH WITH COPY.

RADIO ARTISTES, ATTENTION! A new song. "Keep the Blues Away" — Print. Address **CLARENCE BANERWITZ**, 329 Antietam Ave., Dayton, O. j423

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ALL the leading governments of Europe, according to the report of Dr. Allen D. Albert, assistant to President Dawes, of the executive committee of the Chicago Century of Progress Exposition, have promised hearty co-operation in the effort to make of surpassing interest the exhibition at the fair of the world's masterpieces in painting and sculpture.

France, Belgium, Spain and other countries have agreed to send their cherished art treasures to the Chicago exposition. It is impossible to doubt that hosts of visitors from every part of the civilized world will be attracted to the fair by those masterpieces. To make the galleries and pavilions devoted to painting and sculpture as rich and alluring as possible is a happy inspiration.

That other fine art, music, the most universal and appealing of all, cannot wisely be neglected or subordinated. The fair should emphasize the noble part which music plays and will continue increasingly to play in the intellectual life of peoples. All the leading orchestras of the world should be invited to the fair and there afforded ample opportunity of displaying their powers and resources. Similar invitations should be extended to the artistic chamber music organization, and to conspicuous solo artists of the violin, violoncello and piano.

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Montmartre Staging Comeback

PARIS—But a few short years ago no conscientious tourist left Paris without spending at least one night in making the rounds of Montmartre. During the last two seasons not only the tourists seemingly have abandoned this once gay quarter, but many of the music halls, theaters and cabarets closed their doors, and up until a week ago no less than nine former cabarets within a radius of two blocks were dark, as were two of the principal theaters, the Moulin Rouge and the Gaity.

Whether it is simply the hopes of quick profits over the holidays or real optimism in a brighter future, there has been a sudden wave of animation in Montmartre, and musicians, entertainers and amusement purveyors are all showing unusual activity.

An important factor is the reopening of the popular Moulin Rouge—no longer a music hall, but a brightly lighted art modern sound picture house, which changes the entire aspect of the Place Blanche. A few steps from the Moulin Rouge, the handsome, new "Menus Plaisirs" music hall is nearing completion and will soon offer a gay revue. Two minutes farther down the Rue Fontaine the ancient Gaity is presenting a modernized facade, and before Christmas will open as the Theater Varia. Above Zelli's cabaret decorators are preparing a new night club, and around the corner Lou Mitchell has reopened the popular "Plantation" and installed an attractive "quick-lunch" room on the ground floor. "Pile ou Face", on the Rue Pigalle, reopens this week, and the Chateau Caucassen is once more lively with American jazz and American entertainers. Nearby the Oriental cabaret, "Yedo", has been thrown open, and on the Rue Fromentin "Prisco" is rushing work on a new American cabaret.

The limits of Montmartre are hard to define, but in the radius of four blocks from the Place Blanche and the Place Pigalle before Christmas the following theaters will be in full swing: Theater Pigalle, Saint Georges, Grand Guignol, Comedieu, Deux-Ames, Comedie Moliere, Varias and Lune Rousse presenting legitimate or musical shows; the Cirque Medrano, circus; the Moulin Rouge, Gaumont Palace, Artistic, and an as yet unnamed new house, sound pictures; the American, Pigalle and Cigalle, motion pictures. Cabarets in the same district are Zelli's Palermo, Plantation, Music Box, Brick Tops, Pile ou Face, Chateau Caucassen, Caveau Caucassen, Floresco, Yedo, Lajunie's, Sevilla, Royale, New Monaco, Savoy, Pigalle's, Grand Ecart, Casanova, Borgia, Abbaye de Theleme, Rat Mort, Chauve Souris, Arizona, Prisco's and Narguilah. Among the dance halls are the Bal Tabarin, Bal du Moulin Rouge, Mikado, Boule Noire, Moulin de la Galette and Paradis. With several small clubs and other amusement resorts, such as Fred Payne's, Arseno's, Chat Noir, Neant, Ciel and Enfer, this small district contains one of the most compact and varied amusement centers in the world.

The comeback of Montmartre is not only of interest to French entertainers and musicians, but of great interest to Yankee performers, for Montmartre has always been their principal center in Paris, if not in all of Europe.

Broadcasting Profits

Profits in the radio broadcasting field are apparently far from certain. According to report of the Radio Commission about half the broadcasting companies showed profits while the other half lost money.

To be exact 140 companies reported losses and 168 showed profits.

The high-powered stations were shown to be very costly, the expense increasing rapidly with the larger volume of watt power. There was, however, no great uniformity in the reports. Some of the big stations made money and some of the low-watt stations also were profitable; while at the same time stations widely variant in size made profits.

In a new industry such as broadcasting the percentage of losses is naturally high. Like all new industries the field is overcrowded and it will take time to weed out the weaker units besides what may be done by regulation.

As yet the broadcasters seem to be willing to assume all the expense. The public as audience is not asked to contribute anything for the entertainment and evidently will have it gratis for an indefinite period.—*The Boston Post*.

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Maise, Billy, Co. (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y. Mandel, Wm. & Joe (Grand) Calgary, Can. Mandis, Joe, Trio (Premier) Brooklyn. Marcus Show No. 1 (Capitol) Davenport, Ia. Marcus' Youth & Beauty Revue (Orph.) Omaha, Neb. Marguerite & Gail (Pitkin) Brooklyn. Market, Russell, Girls (Stanley) Utica, N. Y. Marie, Dainty (Albee) Providence. Martinez, Seven (Albee) Providence. Mario & Lazarin (Loew) Canton, O. Marion, Sid (Orph.) Tacoma, Wash. Martine & Crow (Regent) Paterson, N. J. Martov, Leonid (Fairmount) New York. Maryland Collegians (Imperial) Montreal. Mascago Four (St. Louis) St. Louis. Masters, Frank, Co. (Premier) Brooklyn. Max & Osg (Riverside) Milwaukee. Maxwell, Joe (Hipp.) New York. May, Bobby (Elst. St.) New York.

Medley & Dapree (Pal.) South Bend, Ind. Meekhan's Dogs (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y. Meran, Three (Central) Jersey City, N. J. Melino & Davis (Perry) Erie, Pa. Melody Mansion (Capitol) Windsor, Can. Melvin Bros. (Loew's 46th St.) Brooklyn. Mercedes (Proctor) Albany, N. Y. Metropolitan Singers (Stanley) Utica, N. Y. Meyers, The (Albee) Cincinnati. Meyers, Lubow & Rice Revue (Loew's 46th St.) Brooklyn. Midnight Revels (Albee) Cincinnati. Mijares (Pal.) Chicago; (Pal.) Akron, O. 4-10. Millard & Marilyn (Loew) Montreal. Moffet, Glad (Pal.) Akron, O.; (Hipp.) Buffalo 4-10. Moore & Pal (Fairmount) New York. Moran, Warner & Marge (Central) Jersey City, N. Y. Morgan & Lake (Orph.) Memphis. Morrell & Beckwith (Gates Ave.) Brooklyn. Morris & Campbell (Orph.) Oakland, Calif. Morris & Shaw (Gates Ave.) Brooklyn. Most & Fry (Hipp.) New York. Morton & Mayo (Perry) Erie, Pa. Mullahy, Tommy (Orph.) Omaha; (Orph.) Kansas City 4-10. Mulroy, McNeene & Ridge (State) Newark, N. J.

Murand & Girtton (185th St.) Cleveland. Murdoch & Mayo (Carolina) Charlotte, N. C. Murdoch, Teck (58th St.) New York. Murray, Lee, & Girls (Lincoln) New York. Murray, Ken, (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y. Myrtle, Odette (Pal.) Rochester, N. Y.

Nash & Fately (Grand) Calgary, Can. Nathal (Proctor) Troy, N. Y.; (Hipp.) Toronto 4-10. Neiman, Hal (Orph.) Seattle, Wash. Neff, Hal, Co. (Orph.) Woodhaven, N. Y. Neff, Jack, (Proctor) White Plains, N. Y. Norton, Ruby (Orph.) Seattle, Wash. O'Connor Family (Bay Ridge) Brooklyn. O'Diva & Seale (Oriental) Brooklyn. O'Donnell & Blair (Pal.) Akron, O.; (Hipp.) Buffalo 4-10. O'Neil & Manners (Orph.) Madison, Wis. O'Neil & Lamey; San Antonio, Tex. 27-30. Osmaka, Nina (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y. Osker, Victor, Co. (Keeney) Elmira, N. Y. Oser, Oser, & Johnson (Orph.) Vancouver, Can. Opera vs. Jazz (Orph.) Memphis. Ortons, Four (Mastbaum) Philadelphia; (Stanley) Pittsburgh 3-8. Osborn, Lane & Chicks (Fordham) New York. Owen & Mann (Keith) McKeessport, Pa.

Packard & Dodge (Loew) London, Can. Paige & Jewett (Mandan) Bombay, India, Jan. 7-31. Pallenberg's Bears (Fahlan) Hoboken, N. J. Pardo, Eddie, Co. (Orph.) Portland, Ore. Parker & Babb (Maj.) Dallas, Tex. Parks, Grace & Eddie (Nail.) New York. Pastor, Ethel (Premier) Brooklyn. Patricia (Keith) Flushing, N. Y. Paula, Paguita & Chisita (Pal.) Chicago. Paul (Kings) Brooklyn. Pavly Ballet (Grand) Calgary, Can. Pearl Twins (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y. Permaine & Shelley (Maj.) San Antonio, Tex. Phillips, Four (Keeney) Elmira, N. Y. Richard & Seal (Pal.) South Bend, Ind. Plummer, Jr., Walter, Jr., Bay Ridge) Brooklyn. Polar Pastimes (Pal.) Peoria, Ill. Powers & Jarrett (Orph.) Spokane, Wash. Powers & Wallace (Lyric) Indianapolis. Preiser & Klais (Maj.) Dallas, Tex. Price, Georgia (Pal.) Cleveland. Princess Pal (Maj.) Dallas, Tex. Princeton & Renee (Capitol) Windsor, Can. Princetoniens (Central) Jersey City, N. J. Prosper & Maret (Victoria) New York.

Rah Rah Girls, Three (State) New Orleans. Ralston, Esther (Keith-Albee) Boston. Ralston, The (Grand) New York. Rankin, Ed (Maj.) Kansas City, N. Y. Rankin, Jean, & Blue Belles (58th St.) New York. Rathburn, Vernon, Co. (Princess) Nashville, Tenn. Ray, Chas., Co. (Pal.) Peoria, Ill. Ray & Harrison (Orph.) Seattle, Wash. Reed, Etta (Lincoln) New York. Reed & LaVere (Grand) New York. Reed & Lucy (Ohio) Mansfield, O. Regal, Henry, Co. (Bedford) Brooklyn. Regan, Joe (Maj.) Kansas City. Renie & Calvert (Teatro Carrillo Puerto) Vera Cruz, Mex. Reno, Allen (Stuart) Lincoln, Neb. Reynolds & White (Midland) Kansas City. Rhythm & Taps (Keith-Albee) Boston. Rice, Joe (Maj.) Kansas City, N. Y. Rich & Hart (185th St.) Cleveland. Rich, Larry, & Friends (109th St.) Cleveland. Richardson, Flo (St. Louis) St. Louis. Ritz Bros. (Stanley) Pittsburgh. Robbins & Jewett (Ward) Woodhaven, N. Y. Robinson, Bill, Pal. Chicago. Robinson & Pierce (Orph.) Boston. Rogers, Roy (Bushwick) Brooklyn. Rogers & Wynne (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 4-10. Rolle, Great (Pal.) New York. Romare & Castle (State) Houston, Tex. Romatine, Homer (Delancey St.) New York. Rooney, Ed & Jennie (Capitol) Atlanta, Ga. Rose's Midgets (Riverside) Milwaukee. Rostando & Co. (Strand) Ithaca, N. Y. Royce & Maye Co. (Midland) Kansas City. Royce, Ruth (Orph.) Boston. Ruddle & Donegan (State-Lake) Chicago. Ruggles, Chas., Co. (Pal.) New York. Ruiz & Bonita Co. (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y. Runaway Four (Orph.) Boston. Russian Art Circus (Main St.) Kansas City. Ryan & Nobleite (Imperial) Montreal. Ryan Sisters (Georgia) Atlanta.

Sale, Chic (Pal.) Chicago. Salines Circus (Chester) New York. Sally, Irene & Mary (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y. Samaroff & Bonis (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y. Sanders, Scott (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 4-10. Santley, Zaida, Co. (Byrd) New York. Santos, Alexander & DuFranne (Keith) Flushing, N. Y. Sanico, Butler & Co. (Pal.) Cleveland.

Bargent & Gammie (Pal.) Rockford, Ill.
Savage, Steve (Pittkin) Brooklyn.
Saxon, Reed & Kenny (Mal.) Dallas, Tex.
Saxton & Farrell (State) Jersey City, N. J.
Schopp's Circus (Orph.) Oakland, Calif.
Schilling, Margaret (Pal.) Newark, N. J.
Senna & Deas (Orph.) Des Moines, Ia.
Senter, Boyd (Pal.) New York.
Sharples, Wally, Co. (Paramount) New York.
Shaw, Carl, Co. (Grand) New York.
Shaw, Lillian (Met.) Brooklyn.
Shirley, Gil (Loew) Baltimore.
Sidney's, Jack, Frolickers (State) New York.
Sidneys, Royal (Loew) Montreal.
Silvers, Three (Loew) Canton, O.
Sinclair, Dixon & Co. (Piazza) Corona, N. Y.
Siselles, The (Star) Philadelphia.
Skelly, Monica & Ann (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 4-10.
Small, Danny (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.
Smith & Hart (Capitol) Atlanta, Ga.
Snooper Junior (Pal.) St. Paul.
Snow, Columbus & Ingram (Loew) Canton, O.
Snyder, Bono (Orph.) Denver.
Spangler, Jack & Kay (Jefferson) New York.
Spirit of Minstrelsy (7th St.) Minneapolis.
Spurr, Horton (Loew) Washington.
St. Claire Richlers (Loew) Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Stanton, George (Albion) Miami, Okla.
Stanbury, Douglas (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y.
Stang, Oscar, & Orch. (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
Stanley, Mary, Co. (Jefferson) New York.
Stanley Richlers (Loew) Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Starr, Bee (Golden Gate) San Francisco; (Orph.) Oakland 4-9.
Stedman, Al & Fanny (Orph.) New Orleans.
Stewart & Lash (Orph.) Spokane, Wash.
Stickney's Circus (Orph.) Rochester, N. Y.
Stop, Look & Listen (Met.) Miami, Okla.
Strong, Smith & Lee (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
Strons Twins (State) Norfolk, Va.
Suite 16 (Loew) Cedar Rapids, Ia.
Sullivan, Sam (Loew) Baltimore.
Su-Tanney, Follies (Nat'l) New York.
Sweet Cookies (Pal.) Bridgeport, Conn.
Sydell, Paul, & Spotty (Albee) Providence.
Sylvester, Fred (Orph.) Seattle, Wash.

T
Talent & Merit (7th St.) Minneapolis.
Telfor, Eric (Pal.) New York.
Tempest & Sunshine (Pal.) Cleveland.
Termini, Joe (Victoria) New York.
Texas Comedy Four (Coleman) Miami, Okla.
Thomas, Norman, Five (Hipp.) Buffalo; (Hipp.) Toronto 4-10.
Thomas, Joe, Baxter (Orph.) Madison, Wis.
Tillis & LaRue (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
Tilton, Corinne (Keith) Syracuse, N. Y.
Tumble, Chas. Slim (Main St.) Kansas City.
Tiny Town Revue (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
Tintoco, Eddy, Co. (Keith) Syracuse, N. Y.
Townsand & Beles (Hipp.) Toronto.
Tracey & Hay Co. (Piazza) Corona, N. Y.
Trissault, Ivan (Kings) Brooklyn.
Trix, Helen & Josephine (Hamilton) New York.
Types (Fox) St. Louis.

U
Up in the Air (Pal.) New Haven, Conn.
Usher, Harry & Frances (Fay) Providence; (Riverside) New York 4-10.
Usher, Jack, Co. (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

V
Vermilion, Irene (Met.) Houston, Tex.
Veronica, Betty (Pittkin) Pittsburgh.
Voice of RKO (Franklin) New York.

W
Wahl, Walter Dare (Pal.) Chicago.
Wainman, Harry, & Debutantes (Pal.) South Bend, Ind.
Waldman, Ted & Al (Bedford) Brooklyn.
Waltersman, Bids (Capitol) Hartford, Conn.
Watson Sisters (Hipp.) Buffalo; (Hipp.) Toronto 4-10.
Watts & Hawley (Strand) Ithaca, N. Y.
Weaver Bros. (Madison) Brooklyn.
Webber, Bernard & Co. (Met.) Brooklyn.
Webster & Lyons (Royal) New York.
Wheeler & Morton (Coleman) Miami, Okla.
White, Frances (Albee) Cincinnati.
White & Manning (Pal.) Rochester, N. Y.; (Keith) Youngstown, O. 4-10.
Wilkins, Marie, Co. (Georgia) Atlanta.
Williams & Delaney (Riverside) New York.
Williams, Herb (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y.
Williams' Midgets (Perry) Erie, Pa.
Wills, West & McConity (Proctor) Schenectady, N. Y.
Willy, N. K. & Irene (Capitol) Union Hill, N. J.
Wilson, Kippie & Betty (Pal.) Akron, O.; (Hipp.) Buffalo 4-10.
Wilton & Weber (Pal.) Newark, N. J.
Winlow, Steele (Riverside) New York.
Winterberg, F. (Pal.) Cleveland.
Wood, Brit (Harris) Indianapolis.
Woodruff, Charlotte (Valencia) Jamaica, N. Y.
Worth, Loma (Keith) Youngstown, O.
Wright, Douglas, Co. (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
Wylie & Young (Princess) Nashville, Tenn.

Y
Yacopi Troupe (Mal.) Waco, Tex.
Yates & Lawler (Bill St.) Los Angeles.
Yoran, Paul, Dancers (Princess) Nashville, Tenn.

Dean, Birdie (Indiana) Indianapolis.
Dewey, Francis (Ohio) Columbus.
Duffin & Draper (Olympia) New Haven.
Dunn, Jammie (Paramount) Des Moines.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Olympia) New Haven.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Chicago) Chicago.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Michigan) Detroit.
Evans, Fred, Ensemble (Ohio) Columbus.
Evans, Fred (Paramount) Des Moines.
Fierling, Luella (Saenger) New Orleans.
Five and Ten Follies (Uptown) Chicago.
Fong, Joe (Paramount) Des Moines.
For Art's Sake (Olympia) New Haven.
Forsythe & Kelly (Michigan) Detroit.
Foster Girls (Brantford) Newark.
Fredericks, Chester (Olympia) New Haven.
Gambrell Girls (Paramount) New York.
Gambry-Hale Girls (Paramount) Des Moines.
Garden of Love (Paramount) Omaha.
Gaskins, Pauline (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Gaudinith Brothers (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Gerardot Sisters (Brantford) Newark.
Gilbert, Elsie (Michigan) Detroit.
Gobb, Two (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Gordon, Al, Co. (Brantford) Newark.
Gordon, Al, Co. (Brantford) Newark.
Gould, Dave, Girls & Boys (Met.) Boston.
Gould, Dave, Girls (Denver) Denver.
Gould, Dave, Girls (Texas) San Antonio.
Gould, Dave, Girls (Pal.) Dallas.
Gould, Dave, Girls (Paramount) Toledo.
Gould, Dave, Girls & Boys (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Hale, Joe & Willie (Saenger) New Orleans.
Harmonists, Four (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Harris, Edna (Met.) Boston.
Hasson, Claude (Saenger) New Orleans.
Hatchins, Bill & Harriet (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Ingwers' Gambol (Stanley) Jersey City.
Jazz Clock Store (Chicago) Chicago.
John, T. (Loew) Baltimore.
Kirklunds, Four (Chicago) Chicago.
Knox, Cromwell (Olympia) New Haven.
L. La Grand (Uptown) Chicago.
La Piere, Anita (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
La Salle, E. (Ohio) Chicago.
La Vere (Ohio) Columbus.
Lane, Laura (Pal.) Dallas.
Lang, Habley (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
Lax, Miriam (Paramount) Omaha.
Lee, Thelma (Paradise) Chicago.
Lea, Co. (Texas) San Antonio.
McClay, June (Paramount) New York.
McKenzie, Madelyn (Met.) Boston.
Marathon Follies (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Mardi Gras (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Marshall, Bernice (Denver) Denver.
Marr, Harry & Grace (Indiana) Indianapolis.
Match Box Revue (Brantford) Newark.
Maureen & Sunny (Paramount) Toledo.
Miller, Woods (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Morris & Gertie (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Mortality & Burns (Brantford) Newark.
Murphy, Senator (Denver) Denver.
Myers, Billy (Saenger) New Orleans.
Now and Then (Paramount) New York.
Newville, Dorothy (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Oscar & Gertie (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Painted Melody (Indiana) Indianapolis.
Paul & Ferra (Pal.) Dallas.
Paquall Brothers (Met.) Boston.
Pepper, Joe (Saenger) New Orleans.
Perkins, Joseph (Met.) Boston.
Pinkus, Bobbie (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Pirates of Melody (Paramount) Des Moines.
Quinlan, John (Paradise) Chicago.
Radio Romance (Pal.) Dallas.
Ralph, Buddy (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Randy, Eugene (Saenger) New Orleans.
Reade, Mary, Girls (Paradise) Chicago.
Renoff & Renova (Paramount) Omaha.
Riley, Belle (Texas) San Antonio.
Rio Brothers (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Roberts, Whitey (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Rocher, Doris (Met.) Boston.
Rolling Stones, Three (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
Roas & Edwards (Pal.) Dallas.
Rowan, Don (Met.) Houston.
Royal, Charles & Helen (Matbaum) Philadelphia.
Savoy, Harry (Indiana) Indianapolis.
Schucky, Sunny (Denver) Denver.
Sedley, Roy (Uptown) Chicago.
Semon, Adeline (Michigan) Detroit.
Servalo Ballet (State) Cleveland.
Shanghai Jesters (State) Cleveland.
Shaw, Ruby (Michigan) Detroit.
Sherdahl, Eugene (Saenger) New Orleans.
Sherman, Al (Paramount) Toledo.
Showland (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Smith & Hedley (Paramount) Des Moines.
Song Shop (Paramount) Toledo.
Sorel, Felicia, Daisy Sextet (Paramount) Omaha.
Sorel Steppers (Uptown) Chicago.
Streets of Bombay (Met.) Boston.
Taylor, Irene (Indiana) Indianapolis.
They're Off (Michigan) Detroit.
Tiffany Twins (Chicago) Chicago.
Vacation Days (Denver) Denver.
Varsity Four (Paramount) Brooklyn.
Violet Revue (Pal.) Chicago.
Vestoff (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Walters, Walter (Paradise) Chicago.
Walton, Jules & Jessie (Ambassador) St. Louis.
Ward Sisters (Paramount) New York.
White Caps (Paramount) Brooklyn.
William Sisters (State) Cleveland.
Winnert Sisters (Denver) Denver.
Withers, Charles, Co. (Paramount) New York.
Wonder, Tommy (Paramount) New York.
Zastro & White Revue (Denver) Denver.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL
After Dark: (Davidson) Milwaukee 30-Jan. 4
Animal Crackers: (Grand) Chicago
Bird in Hand: (Harris) Chicago
Blue Heaven: (Garrick) Chicago
Boy's Boy: (Broadway) Jackson Heights, N. Y. 30-Jan.
Brothers: (Erlanger) Chicago
Carroll, Earl, Vanities: (Ohio) Cleveland 30-Jan. 4; (Wilson) Detroit 6-11
Chavre-Souris: (Curran) San Francisco 30-Jan. 4
Children of Darkness: (Nixon) Pittsburgh 30-Jan. 4
Coburns, Maurice, Co.: Vancouver, Can., 30-Jan. 4; (Met.) Seattle, Wash., 7-11

Connecticut Yankee: (American) St. Louis 30-Jan. 4
Dear Old England: (Apollo) Atlantic City 30-Jan. 4
Diamond Lil: (Biltmore) Los Angeles 30-Jan. 4
Dracula: (Erlanger) Buffalo 30-Jan. 4; (Princess) Toronto 6-11
Duchess of Chicago: (Shubert) Philadelphia
Escapade: (Shubert) Newark, N. J. 30-Jan. 4
Follow Thru: (Shubert) Rialto) St. Louis 30-Jan. 4
Follow Thru: (Capitol) San Francisco 30-Jan. 4
Follow Thru: (Majestic) Brooklyn 30-Jan. 4
Hamper, Genevieve, Co., Herman Lewis, mgr. (Hariman) Columbus, O., 30-Jan. 4; Ft. Wayne, Ind., 6-8; Indianapolis 9-11
Hot Chocolates: (Tremont) Boston
House of Fear: (Plymouth) Boston
Illegal Practice: (Playhouse) Chicago
Infinito Showblack: (Princess) Chicago
Journey's End: (Shubert) Kansas City 30-Jan. 4
Journey's End: (Erlanger) Atlanta, Ga., 30-Jan. 4
Journey's End: (Geary) San Francisco 30-Jan. 4
Journey's End: (Lyric) Philadelphia
June Moon: (Selwyn) Chicago
Leiber, Fritz, Co.: (Civic) Chicago
Leslie, Lew, Blackbirds: (Adepho) Chicago
Love Duet: (Alvin) Pittsburgh 30-Jan. 4
Mama, Chevrolet: 6-11
Little Accident: (Werba) Jamaica, N. Y. 30-Jan. 4
McLeod, Gordon, Co.: (Met.) Seattle, Wash., 30-Jan. 4
Major Barbara: (Hollis) Boston
Mother Goose: (Royal Alexandra) Toronto 30-Jan. 4
Miracle, The: (State Fair Aud.) Dallas, Tex., 30-Jan. 11
Mile, Modiste: (Keith) Philadelphia
Nancy's Private Affair: (Werba's Flatbush) Brooklyn 30-Jan. 4
Naughty Marietta: (Maj.) Boston
New Moon: (Great Northern) Chicago
New Moon: (Porrett) Philadelphia
Night in Venice: (Maj.) Chicago
Oh, Susanna: (Mayan) Los Angeles 30-Jan. 4
Padlocks of 1929 (G. E. Winter's) Tulsa, N. Y. 30-Jan. 4
Pleasure Bunch: (Chester St.) Philadelphia
Poor Dear Mother: (Maryland) Baltimore 30-Jan. 4
Pony: (Lyceum) Minneapolis 30-Jan. 4
Queen Bee: (Cort) Chicago
Queen Was in the Parlor: (Case) Detroit 30-Jan. 4
R. U. S.: (Spodecker) Chicago
Ric Ritz: (G. E. Winter's): (Broadway) Denver 30-Jan. 4
Rope's End: (Wilbur) Boston
Sap From Syracuse: (Walnut St.) Philadelphia
She Got Away With Murder: (Broad St.) Newark, N. J. 30-Jan. 4
Sherlock Holmes: (Nat.) Washington 30-Jan. 4
Show Boat: (Illinois) Chicago
Strange Interlude: (Princess) Toronto 30-Jan. 4
It's Majesty's: (Montreal) 6-11
St. Nicholas: (Adepho) Chicago
Stratford-Upon-Avon Festival Co.: (Columbia) San Francisco 30-Jan. 4; (Belasco) Los Angeles 6-10
Street Scene: (Apollo) Chicago
Strike Up the Band: (Shubert) Boston
Tenderloin: (Adepho) Philadelphia
Trevety's Ghost: (Nat.) Washington 30-Jan. 4
Waterloo Bridge: (Broad) Philadelphia
Whoopie: (Garrick) Philadelphia
Wine, Beer & Europe: (Ford) Baltimore 30-Jan. 4

MUTUAL BURLESQUE
Bare Facts: (State) Springfield, Mass., 30-Jan. 4; (Grand) Hartford, Conn., 6-11
Best Show in Town: Open week 30-Jan. 4; (Fox) Jamaica, N. Y., 6-11
Big Revue: (Pax) Jamaica, N. Y., 30-Jan. 4; (Apollo) New York 6-11
Bohemians: (Gayety) Buffalo 30-Jan. 4; (Colonial) Utica, N. Y., 6-11
Bowery Burlesque: Open week 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Milwaukee 6-11
Broadway Bandals: (Apollo) New York 30-Jan. 4; (Steinway) Astoria, N. Y., 4-11
Burlesque Revue: (Gayety) Detroit 30-Jan. 4; (Empire) Toledo, O., 6-11
Cacker Facks: (Columbia) New York 30-Jan. 4; (Wedgway) Schenectady, N. Y., 6-11
Dainty Dolls: (Columbia) Cleveland 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Buffalo 6-11
Dimpled Darlings: (Trocaero) Philadelphia 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Baltimore 6-11
Flapper Follies: (Academy) Pittsburgh 30-Jan. 4; (Lyceum) Columbus, O., 6-11
French Models: (Modern) Providence 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Scranton, Pa., 6-11
Froivolites: (Wedgway) Schenectady, N. Y., 30-Jan. 4; (Empire) Newark, N. J., 6-11
Get Hot: (Grand) Hartford, Conn., 30-Jan. 4; (Lyric) Bridgeport, Conn., 6-11
Ginger Girls: (Empress) Chicago 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Detroit 6-11
Girls from Follies: (Empire) Newark, N. J., 30-Jan. 4; (Empire) Newark, N. J., 6-11
Girls from Hollywood: (Casino) Boston 30-Jan. 4; (Trocaero) Philadelphia 6-11
Girls in Blue: (Gayety) Scranton, Pa., 30-Jan. 4; Allentown 6; (Orph.) Reading 10-11
Hello Paroo: (Colonial) Utica, N. Y., 30-Jan. 4; open week 6-11
High Flyers: (Irving Place) New York 30-Jan. 4; (Empire) Newark, N. J., 6-11
Hinda Belle: (Orph.) Paterson, N. J., 30-Jan. 4; (Hudson) Union City, N. J., 6-11
Jaztime Revue: (Garrick) St. Louis 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Kansas City 6-11
Kuddling Kutties: (Hudson) Union City, N. J., 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Brooklyn 6-11
Laffin' Thru: (Piazza) Worcester, Mass., 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Boston 6-11
Mischief Makers: (Howard) Boston 30-Jan. 4; (Modern) Providence 6-11
Moonlight Maids: (Gayety) Boston 30-Jan. 4; (State) Buffalo, Mass., 6-11
Moulin Rouge Girls: (Empress) Cincinnati 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Louisville 6-11
Naughty Nitties: (Gayety) Milwaukee 30-Jan. 4; (Empress) Chicago 6-11
Nibe Club Girls: (Empire) Toledo, O., 30-Jan. 4; (Columbia) Cleveland 6-11

Oriental Girls: (Gayety) Baltimore 30-Jan. 4; (Gayety) Washington 6-11
Parisian Flappers: Open week 30-Jan. 4; (Casino) Boston 6-11
Pretty Babies: (Lyceum) Columbus, O., 30-Jan. 4; (Lyric) Dayton, O., 6-11
Puck Puck: (Lyric) Bridgeport, Conn., 30-Jan. 4; open week 6-11
Reed Breakers: (Gayety) Brooklyn 30-Jan. 4; open week 6-11
Social Maids: (Gayety) Kansas City 30-Jan. 4; open week 6-11
Speed Girls: (Gayety) Washington 30-Jan. 4; (Academy) Pittsburgh 6-11
Sporty Widows: (Empire) Albany, N. Y., 30-Jan. 4; (Piazza) Worcester, Mass., 6-11
Steppin' Show: (Lyric) Dayton, O., 30-Jan. 4; (Empress) Cincinnati 6-11
Step Livey Girls: (Steinway) Astoria, N. Y., 30-Jan. 4; (Star) Brooklyn 6-11
Sugar Babies: Open week 30-Jan. 4; (Howard) Boston 6-11
Take a Chance: (Star) Brooklyn 30-Jan. 4; (Columbia) New York 6-11
Tempters: (Orph.) Reading, Pa., Jan. 3-4; (Irving Place) New York 6-11
Watson, Sliding Billy, Show: (Mutual) Indianapolis 30-Jan. 4; (Garrick) St. Louis 6-11
Wine, Women and Song: (Gayety) Louisville 30-Jan. 4; (Mutual) Indianapolis 6-11

REPERTOIRE

Rhoads, John, Players: (Auditorium) Lewes, Del., 30-Jan. 4; (Selbyville) Selbyville 6-11
Wilson, Raleigh, Players: (Haxton) Colo., 1; Imperial, Neb., 2; Wallace 3; Paxton 4; Granton 5.

T. O. B. A. CIRCUIT

Brown Gal: (Pike) Mobile, Ala., 30-Jan. 4
Dashing Dinah: (Dunbar) Austin, Tex., 30-Jan. 4
Dixie Flashes: (Washington) St. Louis 30-Jan. 4
Drake & Walker: (Frolic) Birmingham 30-Jan. 4
Happy-Go-Lucky: (Lenox) Augusta, Ga., 2-4
Hotshots: (Star) Shreveport, La., 30-Jan. 4
Jumble Jazbo Jamboree: (Pythian) Columbus, O., 30-Jan. 4
King Cotton Revue: (Globe) Cleveland 30-Jan. 4
Midnite Steppers: (Lincoln) New Orleans 30-Jan. 4
Moanin' Low: (Pal.) Memphis, Tenn., 30-Jan. 4
Musical Sam: (Liberty) Chattanooga, Tenn., 30-Jan. 4
New York Nine Club Revue: (Roosevelt) Cincinnati 30-Jan. 4
Night in Harlem: (Ill) Atlanta, Ga., 30-Jan. 4
Ratin' Cain: (Central) Dallas, Tex., 30-Jan. 4
Shake Your Feet: (Liberty) Greenville, S. C., 2-4
Shake, Rattle & Roll: (Liberty) Columbus, Ga., 30-Jan. 4
Sycopaated Maniacs: (Elmore) Pittsburgh 30-Jan. 4
Visions of 1891: (Lincoln) Louisville 30-Jan. 4

TABLOIDS

Burke's Jack, Bud Strack Revue: (Maryland) Cumberland, Md., 30-Jan. 4
Fancy & Co.: (Pittkin) Low Beekridge, mgr.; (Princess) Youngstown, O., 30-Jan. 4
Flash Parade, Bud Brown, mgr.: (Murray) Richmond, Ind., 30-Jan. 4
Musical Dance Shoppe, Verdo & Kinney, mgrs.: (Temple) Bay City, Mich., 30-Jan. 4

MISCELLANEOUS

Arnte, Billy, Happy Days in Distland, Leon Long, Bus, mgr.: (California) Los Angeles 1-10
Becker, Magician: Ft. Worth, Tex., 30-Jan. 4
Texarkana, Ark., 6; Magnolia 7; El Dorado 8; Smackover 9; Camden 10; Fordyce 11
Daniel, B. A., Magician: Brookhaven, Miss., 30-Jan. 4
Oscar, Billy, Circus Expo: Pine Bluff, Ark., 30-Jan. 4; Stuttgart 6-11
Lamont Brod. Animal Show: Kingsville, Tex., 1; Fairburn 11
Lippincott, Magician & Co.: Bowling Green, Ky., 1-3; Franklin 6-7
Lucy, Thos. Elmore: Sylvan Grove, Kan., 5-8
Larned 8; Sparrville 9; Chmarron 10; Liberal 11
Mysterious Smith Co. Union, S. C., 2-4
Cumberland, Md., 6-11
Roosevelt, The Whale: Austin, Tex., 4-7; Waco 9-12
Thurston, Magician: (Hanna) Cleveland 30-Jan. 4

Additional Routes on Page 96

STAFF NOTES

(Continued from page 35)
Merrill, Wis. For 11 years he was an attache of the Grand Theater, Wausau, during which time he served in every department. Later he was in charge of advertising publicity for the Adler theater circuit, with headquarters at Marshfield.
J. CLAYTON TUNSTALL has taken over the management of the Lyric and Gem theaters, Brownwood, Tex., for the Mid-Texas Theaters, Inc.
G. M. MAXFIELD has been appointed manager of the Lenox Theater, Hartford, Conn.
LOUIS MARCUS, head of the Public Marcus theaters in Utah and Idaho, is retiring from the company.
J. L. CARTWRIGHT is the manager of the new State Theater, Jackson, Tenn.

M. P. PRESENTATIONS

Adler, Lawrence (Pal.) Dallas.
Animated Rag Dolls (Olympia) New Haven.
Anniversary Show (Penn) Pittsburgh.
Arnold, Phil (Uptown) Chicago.
Barron, Jules (Paramount) Omaha.
Bard & Avon (Chicago) Chicago.
Bare & Speck (Paramount) Omaha.
Believe It or Not (Ohio) Columbus.
Bemus & Brown (State) Cleveland.
Berke, Dorothy, Girls (Paramount) Omaha.
Berke, Dorothy, Girls (Buffalo) Buffalo.
Berke, Dorothy, Girls (Saenger) New Orleans.
Berke, Dorothy, Girls (Indiana) Indianapolis.
Berke, Dorothy, Girls (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
Bernie Brothers, Three (Met.) Houston.
Blum, Gusie & Al (Texas) San Antonio.
Bordel, Jean (Stanley) Jersey City.
Break's Horse (Olympia) New Haven.
Butler, Clarke (Saenger) New Orleans.
Byron, Dorsey (Olympia) New Haven.
Carlton & Balles (Paramount) Toledo.
Carr, June (Uptown) Chicago.
Carnett Sisters (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
Covey, Edna (Brantford) Newark.
Creole Nights (Minnesota) Minneapolis.
Dragon & Canelax (Paradise) Chicago.

Circus and Side Show

Conducted by CHAS. WIRTH—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Harvey in New York Lining Up Features

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—In keeping with the plans of Col. Zack T. Miller to enlarge the 101 Ranch Show eight cars next season, H. M. Harvey, general representative, was here over the week-end, in quest of suitable features for the forthcoming tour. Two big sensational imported acts, which cannot be produced advantageously under a circus tent, have virtually been closed. Harvey stated:

"By adding eight cars," Harvey informed, "more acts and more people will be employed, and the running time of the program will be increased 15 minutes, and the program will have more of a military tournament effect," he explained.

The 101 Ranch Show, it is understood, will materially increase its route of fairs for 1930, as the Wild West form of entertainment clicks excellently as a grandstand offering. Three fairs were played last season, the biggest date being Jackson, Miss.

Harvey departed for Marland, Okla., to confer with Colonel Miller.

Tex Cooper Will Rejoin 101 Ranch Next Season

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Tex Cooper, while en route from Boston to Baltimore with the Whoopee Company, and who plays the role of the two-gun deputy sheriff in the musical, informed *The Billboard* that he would rejoin the 101 Ranch Show next season. While Tex was very active last summer, directing his freak animal show in Coney Island, as well as appearing with Whoopee at the Amsterdam Theater, he is counting the days when he will be back with the Ranch Show. Last season was the first in 20 years that he missed with that organization.

Merry Christmas at Woods?

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 28.—Christmas Eve was celebrated at the Woods Hotel here by a big bunch of circus and carnival followers who make this hotel their winter home. A Christmas tree was set up in the lobby and decorated with varicolored electric light bulbs and holly. There was music from the Christy musicians wintering here who formed an impromptu orchestra and there were speeches by "Mack" Foster, who has a museum on Main street; Walter Hodgdon; William Culp, legal adviser of the circus; E. Daniels, manager of the hotel; and Fletcher Smith. Presents were exchanged and the hotel management tendered all a lunch at the Blue Front Cafe.

On Lamont Bros.' Advance

The advance of Lamont Bros.' Auto Shows and Trained Animal Circus includes Ed L. Brannan, general agent; J. W. Woods, contracting agent; E. J. McBaine, manager No. 1 car, with J. C. Phillips and Dan Miller, billposters; D. N. Philleary, manager No. 2 car, with C. J. Adkins, banners, and L. M. Blair, lithographer and on programs. The show recently lost five days due to very inclement weather.

Auskings Closes Season

Clarence Auskings, general agent, closed his season with the Honest Billboard Bros.' Circus at Sildell, La., December 25, and left for his home in Ohio.



ARTHUR BURSON, high slack-wire performer, who has been with the Christy Bros., Gentry Bros. and other circuses.

Equipment of Wheeler Shows in Albemarle, N. C.

ALBEMARLE, N. C., Dec. 28.—All of the outfit brought in by Al F. Wheeler, the entire equipment of the Jethro Almond Show, as well as a large amount of property recently purchased at the Sullivan-Drew sale, including all the trained animal acts of that show, are now nicely put away for the winter here.

Superintendent Springer is in charge of the winter work, and at this early date has already commenced the work of rebuilding the outfit. A contract has been let for the building of four truck bodies, which will include two band trucks and two tableaus. Two more trailer cages are also being built, which will give the show a seven-cage menagerie. All canvas will be new, and will include a four-pole top and three-pole menagerie. The big-show program will have two rings and one stage, with trained animal numbers strongly featured, all owned by the show.

Wheeler left for his home at Oxford, Pa., December 21, and will attend to the booking of the show from that office, Almond being in charge of the office here. A new animal house has just been completed, where the wild animals are now comfortably housed for the winter, while a large warehouse, formerly used by the Almond Shows, has been converted into a ring barn and stables for the ring stock. Dave Costello, of the Costello Circus, and R. W. Rogers, of the Barn-it Bros.' Circus, were recent visitors.

Wests To Play Fairs

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Dec. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. Vernon West, who are making their home here for the winter, expect to play fairs with a well-known circus troupe the coming season. They have purchased a new car and are making a baggage truck out of their old one. They also are making and buying new wardrobe and giving their equipment a complete overhauling.

Lulu Davenport to Paris

After finishing a week's engagement at the Cleveland Auditorium Lulu Davenport left immediately for New York, where she sailed December 26 for Paris. She will spend nine weeks abroad and then return to the States to again join her brother's act.

Engesser Buys Animals

HYNES, Calif., Dec. 28.—Work at the quarters of the Schell Bros.' Circus will commence after the first of the year. Manager George E. Engesser recently returned with two elephants (the show now having four), a lion, pair of tigers and another bear. The pachyderms will be broken by Milton Herriott. The latter has left on a tour with the show's elephants, horses, dogs and ponies to play week engagements in Seattle, Portland and Vancouver.

No Holiday Layoff For R-B Working Crew

SARASOTA, Fla., Dec. 28.—The after-holiday lull may hit other lines of endeavor, but one day is like another at the winter quarters of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus and activity goes on as usual during the interim between Christmas and New Year's.

As usual, a huge Christmas feast was enjoyed at the mess hall of the winter quarters and several invited guests were present to enjoy the big turkey dinner.

Mrs. Nellie Dutton and the members of her society circus have returned from their Cuban engagement and have moved into the Dutton winter quarters here. She plans to give public performances here two days each week during the tourist season. A beautiful tea garden has been built at the Dutton winter quarters.

Harvey Keddy is back in Florida. One experience with a blizzard in the North and Keddy headed his automobile southward again.

Charles A. Bell is in Miami and will remain until after the termination of the race meet there.

Mr. and Mrs. Merie Evans have arrived to spend several weeks here, having made the trip overland from New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Bell spent New Year's in Atlanta and will arrive in Florida next week. Bell, who is on the press staff of the Ringling show, is to handle publicity for the Thearle-Duffield Company at Tampa and Miami until the big-show season opens.

Tom Killilea, of the press staff, is on the staff of *The New York Sun* this winter.

Robbins Troupers in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 28.—The Robbins Bros. Circus was well represented in this city during the last few weeks. At Sears-Roebuck, clowning and Santa Clausing were Johnny Delmore and Harold Hall, of Kenneth Waite's troupe. Delmore is here for the rest of the winter, while Hall left for his home in Decatur, Ill., where he will spend a week or 10 days; then into Michigan until the opening of the show next spring.

Pat Kling and Robert Gow, also of Waite's troupe, are waiting here for the opening in the Stadium in Chicago. Others in the city were Helen Johnson, of swinging ladder and cloud-diving fame; Jewell Jackson and Marie Pink.

Pat Casey, who had charge of the auto show; Walter (Annabelle) Schuyler, impersonator, and Bruce (Blossom) Radcliffe also were in town. Schuyler left for Ft. Dodge to visit with his sister, while Bruce left for a visit with his folks in Oklahoma.

Donald Jackson, of the cookhouse, and Pete and Buttons, candy butchers, are working the convention hall, this city.

Atkinson in Arizona

Tom Atkinson reports good business with his all-Mexican circus, playing the mining towns of Arizona. The show is transported on five trucks and carries a 60 by 90 top, free menagerie, six concessions and band and orchestra.

Santos & Artigas Opens At Merida, Yucatan

The Santos & Artigas Circus, after a most successful run of four weeks at the National Theater, Havana, opened at Merida, Yucatan, night of December 6, to capacity business for a four weeks' run.

The circus is presented on the European style, one ring, which is placed in the center of the building, it being an old bull-fighting arena, seating capacity being approximately 5,000. With the exception of two performances, the S. R. O. signs have been displayed at each entrance long before the performances got under way.

High above the ring in the dome of the arena the Five Fearless Flyers have their apparatus suspended, and are stopping the show at every performance. Bob Fisher, who is the featured performer in this act, displays brilliant showmanship on his double somersault, blindfolded and inclosed in a sack. Maximo, the Cuban wonder on the slack wire, a feature of the Ringling-Barnum Circus, closes the first part of the program and is receiving a big ovation, as is Ira Millette with his head-balancing trapeze act. This act is also from the Ringling Show.

Santos & Artigas followed two circuses into Merida. It is rumored the management will take the circus intact to Vera Cruz, Mex., for a 15-day run at the close of the Merida engagement January 3.

L. A. Breakfast Club Gives Circus Program

The Breakfast Club of Los Angeles held its annual Christmas dinner for the poor children at the club grounds on Los Feliz road, near Glendale, Calif., December 22. A six-pole circus tent was erected and tables set to feed 4,000 children. Transportation for the kiddies was arranged by the police and firemen.

On a stage and in a ring the following program was presented under the direction of John Backman. Music by the 50-piece firemen's band; grand entry; pony drill, Bert Dennis; clown number; dog act, Sharon Rae; elephant act, Irene McAfee; clowns; jumping greyhounds, Bert Dennis; clowns; singing mule "Jerry", presented by Dutch Marco; high-school horses, Betty Roth and Max Sabel; clowns; aerial ladders, Irene McAfee; clowns; wire act, 12 Klunkhart midgets; revolving ladder, Jack McAfee and Fay Walcott. The Joys included McAfee, producing clown; Tom Plank, clown cop; Dutch Marco, Bill Tafe, Danny McAvoy, Fay Walcott, Bozo Pizzo and Clyde Stiltz.

Madam Strwell's Flea Circus has opened on Venice Pier for the winter season, with Ed C. Bard as manager.

Christy Out of Danger

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 28.—This has indeed been a merry Christmas for Mrs. G. W. Christy, Harold Christy and every one with the Christy Bros.' Circus in winter quarters here, for it was announced on Christmas Eve that the circus man was considered out of danger by the doctors at the Baptist Hospital. His fever had disappeared entirely and he was able to raise up in bed and greet friends for a few minutes. Christmas Day he received congratulations from his host of well-wishers both with the show and in Houston and it is confidently expected that he will now rapidly regain his health and strength.

With the Circus Fans

By JOHN R. SHEPARD
609 Fulton St., Chicago
Secretary C. F. A.

CHAIRMAN JAMES CHLOUPEK, of the James A. Bailey Top, of California, informs that C. F. A. George Fritz, of Oakland, is well again, after being confined to the hospital for two weeks.

THE SECRETARY received a large number of Christmas cards from members of the C. F. A. and circus folks. Many of these were along circus lines—very novel and artistic.

THE CHRISTMAS GREETING sent out by National President Wagner was very appropriate, picturing a boy watering a huge "bull", and was entitled "The Making of a Circus Fan".

THE LAST weekly luncheon of the John Davenport Tent, Chicago, was held December 18. Altho the weather was very inclement, 12 were present and enjoyed a very sociable hour. The weekly luncheons will be resumed Wednesday, January 8, after a three-week holiday recess. Many new and novel features are being planned for the new year. Thru the courtesy of Fred De Marrs, clown, the Tent was presented with a Roman chariot, driver and three prancing steeds. Jake Weints was the lucky member who drew a box of fine candy presented by Harry Candel. Weints will furnish the prize for the next free drawing.

ONE MEMBER of the Chicago Tent is the owner of 51 original letters written by the late P. T. Barnum.

Circus Acts Signed For K. of C. Program

Among the acts contracted by Lewis and Zimmerman for the Knights of Columbus Circus, to be held at Music Hall, in Cincinnati, February 20 to 22, are the Aerial Faustus; Taylor and Moore, double trapeze; Banard's dogs and ponies; Banard's bears, dogs and monkeys; Micky Lewis, menage; Silvers Johnson, Micky Blue, Mr. and Mrs. Harry LaPearl, Rubie Walters, Jess Lewis and Midget Sydel.

The show will open and close with a spec. entitled *Egyptia* and will be produced by Ben H. Voorhels, general press representative of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus. Approximately 100 ballet girls will be used in the spectacle, these to come from one of the leading dance schools of the Queen City. Two people have been engaged to sing the principal roles. Voorhels also will direct an intensive publicity campaign that will not only include the local press but billboards as well.

At Peru, Ind., Quarters

Tom Wilson writes that the baggage stock department of the Ringling shows at Peru, Ind., is under the management of Blackie Diller, assisted by Charles Rooney, and that there are a number of long string drivers there. Fifty head of new horses were recently purchased by Diller. Teddy White and George Lyle are in charge of the work stock. Tom Donahue has arrived from Ft. Wayne, Ind., and Tom Bradley, formerly with the D. D. Murphy Shows, is also an arrival. George Clark is in charge of work in the barns. Jack Noel is the stock watchman, and Mike Norris is in charge of the boilers. W. G. Brow has charge of some teams. George Davis served a fine dinner Christmas Day.

Showfolk at Miami, Fla.

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 28.—A number of the boys of the Ringling-Barnum Circus are here. New arrivals include Al Tucker and Harvey Keddy, of the front-door department; Freddie Harris, of the usher department; and Hugh Hart, Sam Marratta, of the concession department, can be seen around Miami Beach daily. Weary Willie, of Dellaven's department, is working at Jim Hathaway's place. James McCall, of the same department, is watchman at the bank, and Joe Mareno is working in the concession department at the Biscayne Kennel Club. John Finnegan has left for his home in Worcester, Mass.

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Circus Pickups
By FLETCHER SMITH
HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 28.—Mack McCabe, who was trap drummer with Everette James for several seasons, arrived here, together with Peggy Blackburn, a few days ago, with their big touring car and have departed east.
Bill Harmon and wife, well-known circus troupers, have arrived here for the winter and the former has secured a position in a job printing office.
Otis LaBerta, who did an impalement act with the Christy Slide Show, has arrived here with his wife, Zona, from Dallas and will remain till spring.
The Richard Bros.' Shows are now headed for Texas and will be near Houston shortly. Lee Hinkley, formerly with the Christy Shows, has the band and his wife the advertising banners.
Lee Ford, formerly of the Lee and Christy Bros.' Shows, is receiving the congratulations of his friends on his recent marriage to Peggie Baker.
Ray Holcomb, a former circus trouper who has located here, last week took over a restaurant on Main street adjoining the Rice Hotel.
William G. McIntosh, who has a concert band this winter at Orlando, Fla., will, in all probability, be back in the circus business the coming season, having the band on one of the prominent railroad shows.
Billy Cordell, last season baritone on the Everette James Band, writes from his home in Balinger, Tex., that he will retire from the road for the present, at least, and is playing in the local picture theater and doing plenty of dance jobs.
Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Griswold, of Plymouth, Ill., the latter the daughter of Mack Foster, arrived here a few days ago to visit her father.
Charles E. Smith is recovering from a severe attack of the flu and is able to be out. He is at the Woods Hotel, Houston, for the winter.
"Bud" Dean, who has made a big hit with his broadcasting from The Post

Dispatch station here, together with two other musicians from the Cole Bros.' Shows, have gone to Port Arthur to do still further broadcasting.
Bob Peasley and wife, Frances, are located at 100 Cortland street, Pittsburgh, and Bob writes that, in all probability, they will not troupe the coming season, as the steel plant in which he is employed has contracts for work two years ahead.
Ernie Dameron, last season 24-hour man with the Christy Bros.' Shows, is spending the winter at Hot Springs.
Several Christy Bros.' advance troupers are located in Fort Smith, Ark., this winter, including S. J. Vogel and Lee and Pat Holley, who are operating a truck line from 910 Parker avenue.
R. J. Blackwell, last season with the John Robinson Show advance, who has been in Houston, is now located in Leavenworth, Kan., till the next season opens. Polk Hemphill, also of the Robinson advance, is putting in the winter at Louisville, Ky.
T. J. Lobenstein, formerly with the Christy Circus, is now located in San Antonio, where he is engaged in the mercantile business.
Walter Hodgeon has returned from his visit to Kerrville, Tex., and will be here for the rest of the winter. He states that Bowman Robinson, Jr., is doing nicely and that he enjoyed several days hunting and fishing with Guy Robinson. Mrs. Robinson has a paying business at her filling station.
HARRY H. HODGE put in a Merry Christmas at his roadhouse, about five miles from Houston, by entertaining those who were appearing at the Loew, Metropolitan and Majestic theaters here. Among his guests was Nat Haines. Ray Morrison kept open house at his restaurant on Austin street Christmas Day and many Christy showfolks enjoyed his hospitality. The employees of the Christy Show, some 20 in all, who are at quarters at South Houston, were given a Christmas spread by Mr. and Mrs. Christy and all were remembered with gifts of tobacco and warm socks.

Picked Up in Chicago
Jack Zanone writes that Ralph Noble, boss canvasman; O. E. Gilson, bandmaster, and Fred Schaefer, boss wardrobe man of the Robbins Bros.' Circus, arrived in Chicago from Des Moines to spend the holidays.
Mr. and Mrs. Mel Hamlin, of the John Robinson Circus, are wintering in Indianapolis. Mr. and Mrs. Chester Felke, of the Sells-Photo Circus, have left the Windy City to spend the remainder of the winter at Miami, Fla.
The opening of hockey at the Stadium was almost a turnaway. General Superintendent Charles (Pickles) Hart had the building in spick and span condition. "English" Hitchcock, of the Ringling-Barnum Circus, has left Chicago to visit in Detroit.
Willie Smith, of the 101 Ranch Show, had charge of trimming the troupers' Christmas tree in the City Hotel lobby. Charles Medin, of the R.-B. Circus, is employed as stagehand in a Chicago theater. Dick Duetching has troupers' restaurant at 19 E. 16th street.
Swede Johnson and Gary Brent, R.-B. troupers, demonstrated toys in a Chicago department store during the holidays. Rita Bell, of the S.-P. Circus, is wintering in Chicago. Helen Astnan, of the John Robinson Circus, is wintering at Long Beach, Calif.
Charles Naylor and John Moorman had a Christmas tree and holiday trimming store during the holidays. Horse Top Mike was a recent visitor at the Stadium. Jack Moore, boss canvasman of the S.-P. Circus, is wintering in Chicago.

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Under the Marquee

BERNARD (BERNIE) HEAD, well known in the white-top field, is agent for the *After Dark* Company.

EARL (SMILING) BUSH, drummer with the Gentry Bros.' Circus last season, has signed with Shipp's South American Circus.

THE EVERETTE JAMES FAMILY moved to Galveston, Tex., to spend Christmas with old friends. Master Harry was well remembered.

JOHNNIE LEIST, formerly with the Downie Bros.' Circus, is now chief electrician with the Broadway production, *Sons o' Guns*.

JIM AND BESSIE WALTERS, aerial contortionists, and the Morales will be with the Downie Bros.' Circus next season.

CHARLES BERNARD, Riverdale Place, Savannah, Ga., will cheerfully give information to any of the fraternity regarding the new Georgia license laws.

LARRY KOHLER, clown, while entertaining at orphan homes in Covington, Ky., during the holiday season, received word of the death of his young sister in Charleston, W. Va.

PETE AND FLORENCE MARDO are spending a few weeks with Mardo's mother at Akron, O. Pete has been posing for clown pictures for the Oak Rubber Company.

BEN H. VOORHEIS who will assist with the K. of C. Circus in Cincinnati in February, has closed contracts for shows in Dayton, O., and Indianapolis under strong auspices. He was a visitor at *The Billboard* last week.

A. E. LIND, who a few years ago had out the Forepaugh-Lind Show, was in Cincinnati last week and gave *The Billboard* a call. It is possible that he may put out a motorized show again the coming season.

THE VARIOUS refrigerator manufacturers are working out special refrigeration units for circus and other show trains that are expected to bring about a revolution in the commissary departments of the shows.

CHARLES VANOY, 1441 Charles street, Charleston, W. Va., desires information as to the whereabouts of his son, Lester, 18, last heard of with the Christy Bros.' Circus. Readers are asked to bring this to his attention.

AL. J. ANDERSON has closed his tent show and is now in Virginia with his indoor show. He was at Harrisonburg, Va., last week, and did very good business. He will open his tent show in the spring.

CHARLIE O'BRIEN, after eight months as a lithographer with the Honest Bill-Moon Bros.' Circus, closed at Lyons, Ga., December 2. He expects to be on the advance of one of the Ringling shows next season, as banner squarer.

EDNA ORTON, daughter of Ruby Orton of the Sells-Floto Circus, is ill in St. Joseph's Hospital, Hot Springs, Ark., where she has been in nurse training. She was operated on for appendicitis and is doing nicely. Miss Orton would like to hear from friends.

AT LEAST ONE CIRCUS has made plans to "dress" the horses for the trek between train and lot next season. Since most parades have been cut out the circus has lost something of its glamour, and it is figured that by dressing the horses attractively on their moves thru town the old interest will again be aroused.

DON CAMERON, ticket seller and announcer, and wife, Pearl, prima donna, who were with the Cole Bros.' Circus last season, stopped off in Cincinnati and visited *The Billboard* last week, en route to Toledo, O., where they will spend the holidays. Following their stay there, they will go to Southern California.

HORACE LAIRD and his Merry Jesters were a big hit at the Grotto Christmas

Carnival at the Mastbaum Theater, Philadelphia, and *The Evening Ledger* gave Laird some nice notices. In the act were Jimmie McCoy, Albert Powell, Vernon McGuire and Thomas Smith. Laird will follow with some vaudeville and indoor circus engagements. He will be with one of the big circuses next season.

FRANCIS HALL is now with the Pacific Steamship Company, running on the City of Los Angeles from San Francisco to Sydney, Australia, as second cabin boy. He has been in the dining department of the A. G. Barnes Circus for several years and was with the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus last season. He will be with the Barnes Show the coming season.

RUSSELL BROS.' Motorized Circus, which is in quarters at Pittsburg, Tex., furnished the program for the Night Hawks Club celebration at Terrell, Tex., and also had some animals for the parade. Lillian Russell acted as queen on the "Hawks" special parade wagon and Chick Reed cut the capers in clown alley. C. W. Webb, Daddy Whitlark and Clair Illington also were among the troupers.

WALTER L. WELLINGTON, clown, with the Hagenbeck-Wallace Circus last season, is spending the winter with Josef Rix of Rix's Ranch, Lansing, Mich. Rix, who lost his wife in August, was with the H-W band in 1924, playing air calliope. At present he is organist at the Colonial Theater. The Three

Comiques, acrobats, were entertained by the boys at the "ranch", previous to their tour thru the East.

BESSIE GUNN, who underwent an operation in Kirksville, Mo., wishes to thank Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. Gust Karras, Nate Leon, John Schiller and others of the Robbins Bros.' Circus; Minnie Atzen, Mr. Smith and members of the C. R. Leggett Shows, for donations, flowers, candy, fruit, etc., and those who remembered her with Christmas cards and presents.

MR. AND MRS. ED P. BARLOW will celebrate their golden anniversary January 14 at South Milford, Ind., and approximately 100 guests will be present. The Barlows, who retired from active show business a few years ago, organized the Barlow Dog & Pony Circus, a wagon show, in 1896, at Syracuse, Ind. They had three daughters, only one of whom, Erma, is living. She is married to Michael Hwatacs. She is in the show business, having an animal act.

THE ERMA BARLOW CIRCUS REVUE was engaged during the holiday season by the Barnett Furniture Store, of New Orleans, and made a big hit with both kiddies and grownups. The circus was housed on the ninth floor of the building. Here a miniature "big top" was fitted up. Attractive posters were hung around the walls and multi-colored pennants and flags were strung along the ceiling. Typical circus paraphernalia was installed. That the public might know of this show, announcement of the arrival of the circus appeared in all the local papers. Performances were given three times a week. The admission was

free. The Barlow show has been re-engaged there for the next holiday season.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES

SYDNEY, Nov. 30.—The Wirth Brothers are now on their annual tour of Victoria, and according to reports to hand are doing well. The show contains several new acts and these will be seen in Sydney shortly.

Perry's Circus is playing country towns of this State to satisfactory business.

The Main Guy

By GEORGE H. IRVING

Among the expressions commonly used in show parlance, and for that matter, in other walks of life, is "Who's the Main Guy?" This remark is even quite familiar to many who are not in the show business, and there are, no doubt, a number who do not really understand its meaning.

Now the main guy is not a person, but is a long rope used in erecting the large poles in pulling up the tents, and is also called the "pull-up rope" for putting up the pole. The expression is often used, however, for the manager of the show, and I have many times been asked by persons in search of the owner of the circus if the "main guy" was around—meaning, of course, the manager.

I was in a grocery store the other day when a drummer came in looking for the Main Guy to sell him a bill of goods. I asked him where he got the idea of calling the grocery proprietor the "main guy". He told me he used to troupe with Forepaugh's Circus years ago and the term was used there for the boss—but he did not seem to really know why, yet he had been with the circus for a number of years and had never learned that it was a rope to pull the pole up. Well, the Main Guy—the manager—pulls all the "poles" up, and is known as the "main guy", but the real Main Guy is a rope!

I. A. B. P. & B. Locals

ST. PAUL, Dec. 28.—The I. A. B. P. & B. Local No. 45, has elected the following officers for the coming year: M. Weiner, president; William Garvis, vice-president; Charles Gossart, secretary; Joe Kugler, treasurer, and G. C. Kugler, business agent. The following are at the G. O. A. Shop: Charles Gossart, head man; M. Wetner, Jack Carling, G. C. Kugler, Joe Kugler, Ola Olson, Percy Ellingson, A. Barnde and William Lafortain. Earl Scott is agent at the Metropolitan Theater, with Mike Newman as assistant. G. C. Kugler, while in Chicago, saw John Jilson, president of the I. A. B. P. & B. Union, and several billposters with whom he trouped 23 years ago on the Ringling No. 1 car, Frank Estis, car manager, and Wash Hoskins, boss billposter.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 28.—Local No. 26 has elected the following officers for 1930: President, Frank J. Rupp; vice-president, Edward Rupp; secretary-treasurer, Edward Miller, business agent, John Whitney; trustees, Frank J. Rupp, John Whitney and Harry D. Wilson, and sergeant-at-arms, Frank Houtz. All members are working. Edward Miller has the Criterion three-sheet boards and John Whitney is agent for Loew's Regent Theater. Frank and Ed Rupp are billing the boxing shows and doing the extra work. Wilson is steward at the General Outdoor plant. The local headquarters are in Union Labor Hall, 221 Market street.

Lloyds Touring West Indies

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Riding Lloyds, formerly of the Ringling-Barnum Circus, are touring the West Indies with Lloyds' Hippodrome Circus, prior to an extended tour of South America. The show played to good business at St. Vincent. The show is now at St. Lucia. Wilkes Lloyd, who is directing the tour, reports business excellent.

Ramsdell Considering Offer

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Lon B. Ramsdell, press agent, back with the Sells-Floto Circus last season, is considering the management of a 15-car show for the coming year. At this time Ramsdell states he cannot divulge the name of the show. Ramsdell is managing the Fox Astoria Grand Theater, a 2,500-seat de luxe house in Greater New York. Billy Walsh, 24-hour man, is his assistant.



CON COLLEANO, EDYTHE SIEGRIST, ALFRED CADONA and CHARLES SIEGRIST, snapped during the Chicago engagement of the Ringling-Barnum Circus last season.

Circus Saints and Sinners Club

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The Monarch Club, of Richmond, Va., has agreed to support the first animal in the Richmond Zoo. Didn't the buffalo used to be Monarch of the Plains, courtesy of Buffalo Bill and others? Zack Miller's monarch of the plains will therefore be supported by the right parties. Pitzer, of "Nuyork", as Harry Tucker puts it, is holding a thanking contest with a chap who calls himself Park Avenue. Pitzer is in the insurance business when he isn't editing the *Scrap Book* or writing humor or writing serials for Tucker. Harry Baugh is going to visit the W. W. Workman Top soon. Why not bring up the circus, Harry, and give the boys a mid-winter sample of the white top?

Everybody extends to Vice-President Harry Chipman, of California, their sincere wishes for the speedy convalescence of his mother.

The last meeting of the P. T. Barnum Tent was sparsely attended, seven members getting lost in the three-day fog. President Frohman is full of surprises, but he will not let the writer reveal a word; in fact, he won't tell what they are.

Chaplain Doc Waddell suggests holding special Sunday services for the CSSCA and oldtimers. Sounds like a fine idea—something when the w. k. Sky Pilot could be there himself and preach a rousing circus sermon. Here's hoping.

A letter just received tells of an old trouper who needs help. For information write Mr. Kneisler, 2324 North

Bodine street, Philadelphia, Pa. The need is for a special brace.

Speaking of Christmas cards, it seems as if they were better this year than ever before. The R-B. card can best be described as a masterpiece of artistry. The good Saint Harry Melville did himself proud on the card of the Melville-Rebas Shows. George Duffy, of the CFA, also President Wagner and Karl Knecht, of the same organization, came thru with their usual, or rather unusual, classics. And it is good to hear from CSSCA, such as Patron Arthur Hopper, and old friends like Doc Ingraham, Eddie Jackson and Clint Finney. President Rupp and Harry Tucker had some most individual cards. And, of course, Billyboy had a dandy. A friend of the writer sent a card of a circus parade, with a pin of a clown on a mule as part of the procession. Pin detachable. Detached and worn at the next meeting at Sardi's.

The rejuvenated *Railroad Man's Magazine* in its first number had a "true" grift and clem story of a group of railroad men breaking up a "hey rube". Not so hot.

The secretary has been appointed director of publicity for the convention of the Federation of Associations of the Hard of Hearing to be held on the Main Stem next June. On the committee will be a number of w. k. publicity people with President Frohman and Freddie Benham, of the Barnum Tent, right up front.

HUGH GRANT ROWELL,
National Secretary.

THE NEW YEAR is at hand.

LET'S HAVE the dates of all 1930 contests as soon as they are available.

TIME HAS COME when knocking don't get you any place.

A NEW YEAR is starting. Now is the time to get together.

AND NOW there is talk of eliminating lady bronk riding from several contests in 1930.

GET TOGETHER for the best interests of your business. There are plenty of knockers outside of the business.

LET US have comment from managements and contestants on the things that will boost and benefit the business.

FRED BURNS and Johnny Agee used to be the "Wild West" over on the Ringling troupe some years back.

WILL THE 101 Ranch Wild West next year have something different to offer in the Wild West line? We understand they will, and how!

TOM MIX used to troupe with the Weldonman "Kit Carson Wild West". So did Henry Boggs (by the way, where is old Henry now?).

NEARLY ALL large carnivals carry Wild West attractions. In addition to the spring and later rodeos, there is plenty of early and mid-season work.

INQUIRIES from readers for addresses of Frank Walker, of Texas & Walker; Australian Jack Morrissey, Buffalo Vernon, Buck McKee, Bee Ho Gray, Charlie Mulhall, Rufus Rollen.

JIM ESKEW AND FAMILY (Dolly, Jim, Jr., and Tom Mix Eskew) are again wintering at Montgomery, Ala. Jim has not yet made known his plans for the coming season.

EVERYBODY, while "resting up", keep partly "on your toes"—in preparation for greater opportunities than were at hand last year. The forecast is encouraging.

REPORT FROM CHICAGO, early last week was that Tex Austin had returned to the Ambassador Hotel, from the hospital, where he was seriously ill with pneumonia.

JOHNNIE AND RUBY MULLENS have been spending the Christmas holidays at El Paso, Tex., after which they go to Tucson, Ariz., to start preparations for the February rodeo there.

A SHOWMAN walked up to a moving picture horse and inquired: "How 'bout you during these 'talkie' days, ol' fellow; you can't talk, can you?" The answer was a neigh (nay).

INDIAN JOE DAVIS' performance went over big with the kiddies attending the Elks' show for them in Cincinnati, the afternoon of December 24. Joe worked several other shows the same day and evening at clubs.

W. D. CONNELL, president of the Southwest Range Stock Show and Roundup at El Paso, Tex., is enthusiastic regarding the forthcoming affair for 1930 there, and says they will have a bigger and better show.

WALTER B. MURLEY, cowboy, who has been in the taxi business in New York, has said good-by to Broadway and hello to Washington until the blue birds chirp in the spring, when he will resume contesting.

SOME OF THE CONTESTANTS wintering at Phoenix, Ariz., are Mr. and Mrs. Jack VanRider, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kersch, Mr. and Mrs. E. Pardee, Mr. and Mrs. John Bowman and Fox and Chuck Wilson.

THE BUSINESS is too big to be moved by petty jealousies. A united stand by those who have the best interests of the profession is what is going to count. Those who expect to play a lone hand will never get by—that is evidently becoming apparent to many each day.

FROM NEW YORK—Lucy Roberts, who made her first appearance in the Dallas Rodeo last season, which was directed by W. T. Johnson, then afterwards appeared at the Rodeo in New York, is reputed to be one of the most beautiful

The Corral

Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.



PEG ATKINS, one-legged bronk and steer rider and trick rider, doing his stuff. Photo by Fiske.

cowgirls in the game. As a bronk rider, Lucyle doesn't have to take a back seat among contestants. Keep a vigil eye on her for 1930.

THE DECEMBER issue of *The West* magazine carried a nifty article on the New York Rodeo, also gave mention to the article presented to the "best cowpony" at New York, which was won by Ike Hude's horse, "Conejo"—better known as "Eggy".

SLATS AND IVA DELL JACOBS are at Merriman, Neb., where they will spend the winter, training trick and bulldogging horses for the Huff Rodeo Company. Write that they closed a successful season and are rehearsing their stuff for the coming tour.

CHUCK O'CONNOR, of the Red Horse Ranch in Connecticut, writes *The Corral* that as foreman of the ranch he recently purchased the herd of bucking steers and show horses of the Diamond D Rodeo Riders, which had disbanded, making the largest string of this kind of stock in the Eastern States.

A NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST should always know his "book" when commenting on any subject—the requirement for being a versatile all-subjects columnist. Also, it isn't ethical, nor diplomatic, to suggest a leaning toward either side when handling a two-sided (circular) matter.

PENDLETON, Ore. — Possibility that the annual Pendleton Roundup may be held either late in August or the first week in September next year was discussed at the annual meeting of stockholders. It is predicted that larger attendance will be possible if the show is held before schools are started in the fall.

THE forthcoming meeting of the Rodeo Association of America, January 27, at San Francisco, will attract interest from several angles. Among these is the naming of the Grand Champion Cowboy for 1929, also the Champion Cowboy of each roundup or rodeo member at last year's affairs—based on "credit points", so to say.

TWO WEEKS from next Monday (January 27) is the date of the annual meeting of the Rodeo Association of America, at Salinas, Calif. Each contest should have a representative (some, several persons) there. A large majority of them have signified intention of doing so. Did you read last issue of this publication?

SEVERAL rodeo workers had their hands and brains working almost overtime recently while corralling and crating a herd of deer, about 60 in number,

at Beaumont, Tex., in preparation for their being shipped to the J. M. West ranch on Clear Creek. Among the corrallers were J. W. Stiles, Frank Walters, S. P. Wetzel and Arnold Smith.

KEN MAYNARD and wife arrived in Miami, Fla., last week, from Los Angeles, via New Orleans and Jacksonville, en route to Cuba—by plane from Miami. They expect to stay a while in Havana and other spots, then return to Los Angeles. Ken is with Universal Pictures and on his return to Universal City will start work on *Song of the Caballero*, another to his list of talking pictures.

THERE WAS SOME really fast and closely contested bulldogging at the recent Buckeye (Ariz.) rodeo. But 1 4-5 seconds between first and second, but 4-5 second between second and third and (think it over, dear reader) but 2 3-5 seconds between first and third time in the contest. More about the event further along in the "column", this issue.

RUMOR has it that John Ringling will have a "different" Wild West headed by Tom Mix under the Buffalo Bill title. Rumor also has it that the original Johnny Baker, Col. Cody's foster son, will be connected with a Wild West. Still another rumor has it that Maj. Gordon Lillie ("Pawnee Bill") will be identified with a Wild West. So now you have some of the holiday rumors that have been floating around.

FROM IDABEL, OKLA. (by Associated Press), dated December 21.—Jockey Elkins, 27, prominent Idabel rodeo promoter and cattleman, was killed here tonight after he was alleged to have advanced on Chief of Police J. J. Touchstone with an open knife. The shooting occurred about 11 p.m.

Witnesses said Elkins was shot after the officer had told him to go home without further argument, but, instead, the cattleman drew a knife from his pocket and started to advance. He was shot through the heart.

LEE WALKER, a rodeo fan, recently wrote: "I have noticed that the 1929 rodeo season was very good, financially and otherwise. But that there was an amazing number of deaths, injuries and retirements among the hands. I note that among the deaths were Ty Stokes, Dusty Ball, Marie Hall, Bonny McCarroll, Steve Tucker, Jack Waldorf and Fay Adams. Among the injured were Cheryenne Kiser, John Slater, Ken Inasley, D. Scott and Phil Yoder. Some of the boys recently voicing intention of retiring from contest work were Red Grimes, Jess Stahl, Norman Cowan, Brama George and F. McCarroll."

ONE OF THE CORRAL readers has sent in the following questions. We would like to have your answers regarding them:

Is it not necessary for all rodeo managements to first form an acknowledged association that will govern the sport in North America before it can offer World's Championship titles?

Is not the Rodeo Association of America the best move along that line that has yet been organized?

Do all members of legitimate rodeo managements yet belong to the above-mentioned organization? If not, why not? Have contestants, during the past year, benefited by the rodeo association in any way, such as non-conflicting dates, universal rules and the selecting of competent and honest judges; paying money as advertised, etc.?

If any one, rodeo management or contestant, has anything better than this association to suggest, why not let us hear it? Was not Tex Sherman's long article along lines that have been covered in your columns time and time again?

FROM UKIAH, Calif.—Among the top hands who have visited the headquarters of the Ukiah Rodeo recently were Norman Cowan, "Donna" Cowan, Broncho Bob Studnick, Shorty Davis, Kenneth Cooper, J. H. Strickland, Buffalo Jones and Rose

Smith. All expressed satisfaction at the dates set for the 1930 Rodeo, which is June 13-15. Many show people and fans will be pleased to learn that Strickland has quite recovered from his broken leg, and has been competing in the calf-roping events with the best of them. Strickland will have charge of the night show at the Ukiah Rodeo this year, which will be on the Rodeo Grounds and not in town, as heretofore, if present plans materialize.

BREAKING big South Dakota bronks to drive is one of the mid-winter diversions of the cowboys who are spending the "off" months in the King Bros. Rodeo temporary quarters at Alexander City, Ala., writes Herbert S. Maddy, who further advises: Some 20 head of horses are introduced to harness daily and as soon as they are thoroughly broken will be turned over to their purchasers, Alabama planters, who are going to relegate the mule to the background. Col. King is disposing of these horses in order to make room for a carload of wild buckers that will soon be shipped in from Valentine, S. D. At the quarters at present are Tommy Cropper, Juan Crethers and wife, "Suede" Johnson, Pauline Lorenze, "Wild Horse" Charley and a number of grooms. "Wild Cy" Perkins is en route from Fort Dodge, Ia., and upon his arrival will overhaul all the bridles, saddles and chariot harness. More than 100 head of stock are being cared for and exercised on the Alexander City Fair Grounds. A cozy little kitchen and dining room have been established in a luncheon building owned jointly by the ladies of the Baptist and Methodist churches. "Blacker-than-hell", a smiling colored boy who "grew up" on Col. King's I. X. L. Ranch, near Henrietta, Tex., looks after the culinary department. The cowboys and cowgirls are living in heated tents. Col. King and wife are at the Roscoe Hotel, where Herbert Maddy has established an office. Preparations are being made for the opening of the Rodeo in March. The first engagement will be in Alexander City, and then the show will be moved in long jumps to the North, where numerous week stands under auspices have been contracted. The show will be enlarged in all departments and will fill engagements in the larger cities.

FROM BUCKEYE, Ariz.—The recent rodeo here, Buckeye's second big event, was a success from an entertainment point of view and drew daily increasing throngs to the arena. At the first affair, held last May, there was a surprise attendance, the grounds being found entirely too small, but this was overcome at the second event by the use of a large tract of ground, about a quarter of a mile from the center of town. About 5,000 persons witnessed the performances the closing day.

Following is a list of the winners in the various contested events, first, second, etc., in order given: First Day—Bulldogging, Jay Shively, 7 seconds; Everett Bowman, 7 2-5; R. Roberts, 8 1-5; Calf Tying, Carl Arnold, 16 2-5; Mike Stewart, 17 1-5; Arthur Beloit, 18. Team Steer Tying, Everett Bowman and Ike Rude, 16 2-5; Dick Connelly and Arthur Beloit, 17 1-5; Beloit and Roy Adams, 18 2-5. Bronk Riding, Jim Jordan and Earl Thode tied for first and second. Harry Knight (Alberta, Can.), Amateur Calf Roping, Chuck Wilson, Phoenix, 21; Pete Kersch, Glendale, 24; Jesse Crooks, Buckeye, 29 2-5. Second Day—Bulldogging, Gene Ross, 6 2-5; John Bowman, 9 2-5; Jack Kersch, 11 2-5. Calf Roping and Tying, Everett Bowman, 15 3-5; Roy Adams, 18 2-5; Carl Arnold, 18 3-5. Team Tying, Herb Woods and J. Altomoro, 18 1-5; Mike Stewart and J. Casolino, 18 2-5; Everett Bowman and Bud Parker, 19. Steer Riding, Eddie Wood, Paddy Ryan, of Phoenix; Rube Roberts, Blackie Russell, Pete Hensher, Amateur Calf Roping, Arden McPadden, Billy Walls, Jesse Crooks. Third Day—A special Calf Tying event between Ike Rude and John Bowman, for a side purse, resulted in a tie. Bulldogging, Everett Bowman, 5 1-5 (New Arizona State record); Gene Ross, 7; Earl Thode, 7 4-5. Steer Roping, Blackie Russell won. Calf Roping, E. Pardee, 15 4-5; Arthur Beloit, 18 1-5; John Bowman, 18 2-5. Finals—Bulldogging, Gene Ross, Earl Thode, Rube Roberts. Calf Roping, Carl Arnold, Ike Rude, Arthur Beloit. Team Tying, Ike Rude and Everett Bowman. Bud Parker and Everett Bowman, Carl Arnold and Ike Rude. Amateur Calf Roping, Jesse Crooks, Arden McPadden, Paddy Ryan. A spectacular event was the attempt of Gene Ross to ride the bronk "Tumbleweed", of movie note. Ross was tossed by "Tumbleweed" after the first three jumps.

Fairs and Expositions

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Western Fairs Association Has Most Successful Meeting

Afflerbaugh is elected president and Paine again chosen secretary-treasurer—100 at banquet—dates for the year 1930 set—next year's meeting is moved up

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—A representative gathering attended the annual meeting of the Western Fairs Association, held at the Whitcomb Hotel here, Friday and Saturday, December 20 and 21. Friday was devoted to organization purposes and discussion of problems confronting the members and planning ways and means of making more successful the 1930 fairs. Charles W. Paine, secretary-manager California State Fair, spoke briefly on the successful State Fair of 1929, and outlined plans for next year's fair, at which it is expected that a number of new buildings will be ready for exhibitors and visitors.

On Friday night the most successful banquet in the history of the association was attended by nearly 100 persons. Carlyle and Ellsworth furnished the entertainment. The speeches were numerous, but brief, the food and entertainment excellent, and an enjoyable evening was spent by all.

On Saturday morning the election of officers was held and the meeting place for 1930 set. It was decided that it would be more advantageous to set the dates forward, and after designating this city as the place, December 12 and 13 were selected. Officers elected for 1930 are C. B. Afflerbaugh, of Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona, president; A. Elliott, Tulare County Fair, Tulare, vice-president; Charles W. Paine, secretary-manager California State Fair, Sacramento, re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Fair secretaries and representatives on hand included William Landis, San Diego County Fair; W. G. Wilde, Ventura County Fair; E. G. Vollman, secretary-manager San Joaquin County Fair; Charles W. Paine, secretary-manager and George K. Edwards, director California State Fair; Cecelia G. Cravens, Riverside County Fair; A. L. Moore, Arizona State Fair; C. B. Afflerbaugh, Los Angeles County Fair; L. B. Nourse, newly elected secretary-manager; Earl Cady, retiring secretary-manager, and O. Kimmock, Kern County Fair; J. H. Chambers, Santa Barbara County Fair; S. W. Stanley, Orange County Fair; A. J. Elliott, director, and H. W. Perry, secretary, Tulare County Fair; N. W. Armstrong, San Leandro Cherry Festival; A. Kirk, secretary-manager, and John J. Flaherty, president, Glenn County Fair; R. Casad, Merced County Fair; David Mitchell, Oroville Orange and Olive Exposition; Robert E. Jones, secretary-manager Pacific Slope Dairy Show; Trefle La Senay, manager Fresno District Fair; Fred McCarger, secretary Salinas Rodeo; F. Weddleton, manager Marin County Fair; W. Caldwell, Hilmar Community Fair; J. L. Stuart, Stanislaus County Fair.

Among the associate members and visitors who attended the convention and secretaries' banquet were Frank Leininger, racing secretary; Fred Carlyle and Charles Ellsworth, pageant producers; J. L. Stuart, tent manufacturer; O. W. Crafts and Al. Fisher, general agent Crafts Greater Shows; Jim McClell, jumping horses; Ed. Wright, Sam J. Garrett, Mrs. S. J. Garrett and Bonnie Jean Gray, of Burbank, free-act producers; Colonel E. M. Burk, retired; Joseph P. Geisler, manager; L. C. Chapman, general agent; Leo Brandon, secretary; C. A. Boasworth, press agent, and C. F. Albright, superintendent of concessions, Foley & Burk Combined Shows; Abe Leffon, announcer and Texaco loud speaker; Hap Young, concessionaire; A. E. Wharf and E. W. Kinser, of J. P. Gordon Company, Columbia, O.; E. W. Downie, tent manufacturer; E. J. Wood. (See WESTERN FAIRS on page 62)

Arizona State Fair Has Its Best Year

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 28.—J. E. Thompson, chairman of the fair commission, announces that a new financial record for the Arizona State Fair was set at this year's event. The preliminary auditor's statement shows a profit approximating more than \$12,000, which is several thousand dollars in excess of all previous financial records, he says.

Gate receipts for the six-day period of the fair were nearly 50 per cent greater than for the corresponding six days in 1928, and exceeded by several thousand dollars the total receipts for the seven-day fair last year. Final accounting of both expenses and net profits will be made in a complete statement issued after the first of the year.

Earnings of the last fair could have been greater, Thompson declared, had there been adequate housing facilities on the grounds. A greater number of exhibits were received than at any previous time, necessitating the moving of many to the open grounds surrounding the buildings.

The Bedinis at Home

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Madame Bedini, whose beautiful horse act is known from coast to coast, was a caller at the offices of *The Billboard* this week. She and Sir Victor have just closed a most successful fair season and will remain at their home in Aurora until after the first of the year and will then begin their indoor dates.

Mr. and Mrs. Bedini attended a Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Bedini's brother, Albert Hodgini, the guests including Joe and Victoria Coyle, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Geist, Mr. and Mrs. Van De Velde and their two children, and Clint Berry and his daughter.

Two valuable Kentucky thoroughbreds are now at the Bedini training quarters in Aurora for training, having been sent there from the famous McCandless stables at Salisbury, N. C.

Heavy Attendance Predicted For Georgia Fairs' Meeting

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga., Dec. 28.—E. Ross Jordan, of Macon, secretary of the Association of Georgia Fairs, urges all fair officials, carnival representatives and others who will attend the annual convention of the association to be held here February 5-7, to get their reservations to the local hotels immediately.

Due to the power development project near Milledgeville, the town is greatly crowded and hotel facilities are inadequate. The Baldwin Hotel has been designated as headquarters for the annual meeting and the association has arranged to take care of all delegates and visitors who make their reservations in advance, but Jordan predicts a large attendance and crowded conditions.



AUGUST STREHLOW, owner of the Strehlow Booking Agency of Milwaukee, is shown here with the bear which he bagged recently in the northern woods. The bear weighed 250 pounds dressed. The steaks of this trophy will be served at a private dinner to be given by Strehlow Sunday evening, January 5, at 6:30 o'clock, to his friends and fair officials attending the annual convention of the Wisconsin Association of Fairs in Milwaukee. The dinner will be the day before the convention opens. Strehlow has been a big game hunter for many years following the close of his fair season. Incidentally, he says he contracted for several large fairs at the big meeting in Chicago.

Sites for '33 Chicago World's Fair Picked

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The architectural commission of the Chicago World's Fair announced this week that the lake front between 16th and 39th streets has been selected as the site of the first group of buildings for the fair.

As previously announced, construction will begin next April on the travel and transportation building. Plans for the administration are to be redrawn and submitted to the commission January 5, and it is probable work on that building also will get under way in the spring. By the middle of February general studies of all the main buildings will have been made, and four months later will see the completion of the working drawings.

The travel and transportation building, designed by Edward H. Bennett, John A. Holabird and Hubert Burnham, will be located between 31st and 39th streets and is to cost \$1,000,000. It will be a 700-foot long two-story structure, terminating at either extremity in circular, domed structures, each 300 feet in diameter and 125 feet high. Tracks leading thru the building will enable trains from primitive wood burners to high-powered electric locomotives to pass before the audience in a pageant depicting 100 years of railroad progress. A highway pageant will be similarly shown, from the covered wagon to the most modern automobile.

A FEATURE of the South Florida Fair at Tampa, for January 30, will be the Juvenile Beauty Revue, sponsored by the local Business and Professional Women's Club. It is to be an all-Tampa affair, with every club and civic body asked to be responsible for one of the floats, which will be only big enough, as a rule to hold one or two kids.

Florida State Fair 25c Gate

Manager Lewis plans competitive ticket sales campaign before opening

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 28.—The 12th annual Florida State Fair has been definitely fixed for March 15 to March 22, by action of the board of directors, it is announced by G. R. Lewis, newly appointed general manager. The fair will be in operation for seven days and nights, beginning on Saturday and closing on Saturday.

An innovation in Southern State fairs will be the inauguration of a 25-cent admission price for all, with the exception of Children's Day, when the price for school children will be reduced to 10 cents, with a minimum admission to all shows and rides.

Part of Lewis' plan to popularize the Florida State Fair is an intensive and competitive local campaign for two weeks before the opening day, when admission tickets, good for any day, will be sold to the public in strips of five for \$1. To insure its success, he will offer cash and other valuable prizes to the individuals scoring the top sales.

From an exhibit standpoint, particular stress will be laid upon Florida achievements in dairying and poultry, and more space and attention will probably be given to these departments than the others. Realizing that Florida's possibilities lie in an agricultural way, in which belief he is joined by the directors of the fair, Lewis' personal attention will be given to these two departments.

The dates fixed are regarded as ideal for Jacksonville. Being a gateway city and practically all of the tourist and other travel to Florida being compelled to pass thru the city to reach other points, past records indicate that the middle of March constitutes the peak of the tourist crowds wending their way home.

Already the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Florida A. & M. College and various other State departments, particularly the Game and Fish Commission and the Forestry Commission, are arranging exhibits that will be prominent features of the Florida State Fair. Shortly, Lewis will undertake a tour of Florida and its various mid-winter fairs to line up exhibits for Jacksonville.

Offices of the fair have been opened in the Chamber of Commerce Building, and Lewis is rapidly gathering about him a staff of experienced and capable fair people.

The Royal American Shows, as already announced in *The Billboard*, will furnish the entire midway, the Florida State Fair being their opening stand of the 1930 season, which will take this amusement enterprise into Canada for a return visit.

Dates of Midwinter Fair At Centerville, S. D., Set

CENTERVILLE, S. D., Dec. 28.—The annual mid-winter fair here will be held January 23-25 by the Mid-Winter Fair Association, of which W. J. Henrich is president and N. Paulson, secretary.

As in previous years, there will be exhibits of live stock, poultry, grain, grasses and other products of the farm, and there also will be a junior department, a women's department and a school exhibit. Prizes will be given to those who make the best exhibits.

400 Expected At Va. Meeting

Secretary C. B. Ralston
announces an interesting
two-day program

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 28.—Approximately 150 reservations have already been made at the Hotel John Marshall here, for the 13th annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Fairs, which will be held at that hostelry, January 13 and 14. C. B. Ralston, secretary of the association, predicts an attendance near the 400 mark. The secretaries from the adjoining States are going to be more numerous than at previous meetings, he says. Practically every fair in North Carolina will be represented, and there will be large delegations from South Carolina, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. The fairs composing the Central Eastern group have just closed a very successful season, and there will be unusual activity in carrying out building plans on the grounds of many of these institutions through the early spring and summer, Ralston declares.

The official program of the forthcoming convention has just been released. It follows:

MONDAY MORNING, JANUARY 13

10:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.—Annual meeting declared in session by the president. Roll call by the secretary. Announcement of committees appointed for the ensuing year: Fair Date, Legislative, Membership, Credential, Speed, Exhibits, Grievance, Resolution.

Welcome to Richmond, His Honor J. Pulmore Bright, Mayor of Richmond.

Response to address of welcome, Honorable Thomas B. McCaleb, secretary Allegheny County Fair, Covington, Va. Annual address, president H. B. Watkins, secretary, Danville, Va.

The Race Program, W. H. Gocher, secretary National Trotting Association, Hartford, Conn.

How County Fairs May Become More Closely Related to the State Fair, ex-Governor Westmoreland Davis, president Virginia State Fair, Leesburg, Va.

A Message From North Carolina Fair-dom, T. B. Smith, secretary North Carolina State Fair, Raleigh, N. C.

Open Forum—Subjects suggested for discussion: To What Extent Does the Life of a Fair Depend on Clean Midway Attractions? The Necessity of Entirely Eliminating Gambling and Objectionable Shows for a Successful Fair. Leader, W. W. Wilkins, secretary-treasurer Halifax County Fair Association, South Boston, Va.

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 13

2 to 4 p. m.—Fair Premiums Stimulating 4-H Club Work, C. A. Montgomery, State Boys' Club Agent, Blacksburg, Va. A Hot Midway, Norman Y. Chambliss, secretary Rocky Mount Fair Association, Rocky Mount, N. C.

Open Forum—Suggested subjects for discussion: Legislative Program, State Aid, Tax Exemption, Other Timely Subjects. Leaders, T. B. McCaleb, secretary Allegheny County Fair, Covington, Va.; Thomas Whitehead, secretary Amherst County Fair, Amherst, Va.; W. R. Legge, secretary Winchester Fair, Winchester, Va.

Business Session—President's Report, Report of Secretary and Treasurer, Report of Standing and Special Committees, Unfinished Business, New Business, Election of Officers, Place and Date of Next Annual Meeting, Adjournment.

On Monday evening, at 7 o'clock, there will be a dinner in the Banquet Hall, at which admission will be by ticket. Members will be required to purchase tickets for their guests. The master of ceremonies will be Honorable E. A. (Deacon) Snead, member of the House of Delegates, Clifton Forge, Va. An address will be made by Honorable Ashton Dorell, Williamsburg, Va. Vaudeville acts and other high-class talent will be presented during the evening.

On the reception committee will be T. B. McCaleb, W. W. Wilkins, W. L. Tabacott, E. T. Robinson and Mrs. Lem P. Jordan. The banquet committee will consist of W. T. Baugh, T. B. McCaleb, H. K. Sweetser, A. L. Tuggle and W. C. Robertson.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

Open Forum—Questions and Answers,

BOOKING DIRECT—FAIRS, CELEBRATIONS, SPECIAL EVENTS, ETC.
I AIN'T GOT A BIT OF SENSE, THAT'S THE REASON I ADVERTISE.

AL NUTTLE

One Man Producing
5 DIFFERENT CLOWN ACTS

MUSICAL CLOWN

Carrying a Truck Load of
Novelty Musical Instruments.
One Man
8 PIECE CLOWN BAND

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FOR INDOOR OR OUTDOOR.

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Grievance Committee Hearing, Legislative Committee, open session. Other committee or group meetings to be called by the president if found necessary or deemed advisable.

The program committee consists of T. L. Felts, B. M. Garner, H. P. Fralin, H. E. Mears and C. H. Perry.

The present officers of the association are: H. B. Watkins, president, Danville, Va.; T. B. McCaleb, vice-president, Covington, Va.; T. L. Felts, vice-president, Galax, Va.; Chas. A. Somma, vice-president, Richmond, Va.; Mrs. Lem P. Jordan, vice-president, Suffolk, Va.; C. B. Ralston, secretary-treasurer, Staunton, Va.

Members of the Virginia Association of Fairs are: Rockville, Md., O. C. Trundie, secretary; Taxwell, Va., C. H. Perry, Jr., secretary; Roncove, Va., W. L. L. Tabacott, secretary; Keller, Va., H. E. Mears, secretary; Winchester, Va., W. R. Legge, manager; Culpeper, Va., Geo. W. Norris, manager; Marion, Va., E. K. Coyner, secretary-manager; Staunton, Va., C. B. Ralston, secretary; Covington, Va., T. B. McCaleb, secretary; Galax, Va., W. C. Robertson, secretary; Woodstock, Va., J. W. Bailey, secretary; Rocky Mount, Va., H. P. Fralin, manager; Mathews, Va., R. W. Foster, secretary; Pearisburg, Va., C. R. Adair, secretary; Lexington, Va., E. T. Robinson, secretary; Roanoke, Va., Lewis A. Scholz, secretary; Norfolk, Va., K. E. Moore, president and manager; Fredericksburg, Va., H. K. Sweetser, manager Lynchburg, Va., F. A. Lovelock, secretary; Bedford, Va., J. Callaway Brown, secretary; Shipman, Va., P. T. Brittle, secretary; Suffolk, Va., Mrs. Lem P. Jordan, secretary; Lawrenceville, Va., R. Lee Chambliss, secretary; Martinsville, Va., A. L. Tuggle, president-manager; Richmond, Va., Chas. A. Somma, general manager; Danville, Va., Col. H. B. Watkins, secretary; Amherst, Va., Thomas Whitehead, secretary; Appomattox, Va., J. C. Caldwell, secretary; Petersburg, Va., W. T. Baugh, president; South Boston, Va., W. W. Wilkins, manager; Emporia, Va., B. M. Garner, secretary; Orange, Va., Edw. V. Breedent, secretary.

Barre, Mass., Fair Will Drop Certain Features

BARRE, Mass., Dec. 28.—That the Barre Fair should be continued and should be maintained at a high standard, tho with the elimination of some features whose drawing power has not been commensurate with their cost, was the unanimous opinion of a large and representative group of Barre citizens who gathered in the office of Judge John N. Smith Tuesday night.

The receipts of this year's fair were revealed as lower than the fair of a year ago, and the result was a material deficit. It was the opinion of the meeting that the horse show should be done away with. Several other features will probably be dispensed with. It was voted to make an appeal for a better co-operation from the citizens of Barre. A committee of five was appointed to bring in a list of officers for the coming annual meeting, which will be held the middle of January upon the return of President Leighton from an extensive trip in Europe. The five appointed were Roscoe E. Johnson, J. W. Ellsworth, John L. Smith, Minot C. Wood and William N. Howard. Vice-President William N. Howard presided at the meeting.

Texas State Fair Committee Assignments for 1930 Made

DALLAS, Tex., Dec. 28.—Committee assignments of the Texas State Fair Association, made by President T. E. Jack-

son, have just been approved by the board of directors. They follow:

Agriculture—W. T. Davis, chairman; John W. Carpenter, J. L. Lancaster, W. L. Yopp.

Art and Textile—E. J. Kiest.
Athletics—Phil T. Prather, Frank Mooney.

Attraction—H. A. Olmsted, E. J. Kiest, R. L. Thornton.

Automobile—Phil T. Prather.
Commercial Exhibits—T. M. Cullum, A. M. Matson, Edward Titcher.

Concessions—Rosser J. Coke, R. L. Thornton.

Grounds—M. N. Baker, John W. Carpenter.

Entertainment—Rosser J. Coke, chairman; Harry L. Scay.

Implements and Machinery—W. T. Davis.

Live Stock—Otto Herold, chairman; P. F. Holland, J. J. Eckford.

Foultry—J. J. Eckford.

Publicity and Press—Fred E. Johnston.

Executive Committee—E. J. Kiest, John W. Carpenter, R. L. Thornton, H. A. Olmsted, Otto Herold, W. T. Davis, Rosser J. Coke.

Fair Notes

THE MUNCIE FAIR ASSOCIATION, Muncie, Ind., has under consideration the question of lighting the track for night racing during the next fair.

G. R. LEWIS, general manager of the Florida State Fair and Exposition, Jacksonville, has engaged Pat Beggs, of the Royal American Shows, to handle the publicity for the fair to be held March 15-22.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., is conducting a questionnaire on whether it is to have a county fair next year. For the last few years the venture has not paid and the directors are putting the issue up to the people.

THE MORRISON County Co-operative Agricultural Society of Little Falls, Minn., will erect two new structures, a dairy building and a grand stand, in time for the 1930 fair, which will be held August 22-24.

UNDER the supervision of their secretary, William Jahnke, the Elks of Saginaw, Mich., remembered the poor of that city with baskets filled with Christmas goodies. About 100 baskets were packed at the Elks' Club a day or two before Christmas, and nobody took greater delight in doing this work than Jahnke, that happy-go-lucky secretary-manager of the Saginaw Fair Association, and a real friend of outdoor showfolks.

THE DIRECTORS of the annual Charlottesville, P. E. L. Fair have decided to hold it this year, starting August 18 and closing August 22. Arrangements are now being made for the attractions and other business details of the exhibition, which up to two years ago was held the last week in September. The August dates were chosen because of the risk of unfavorable weather the last of September, with the dates often stretching into October.

THE 1930 TUSCARAWAS County Fair, Dover, O., will be held September 30-October 3, it has been decided by the County Agricultural Society. There will be three days of racing instead of two as this year, and the fair will also operate two nights. In addition to the usual exhibits there will be a rabbit show next year with premiums of \$200

for this special event. T. J. Haley has been re-elected president of the agricultural society.

THE BOND ISSUE, for the benefit of the South Mississippi Fair, Laurel, Miss., which was voted on recently, carried by three to one. This means the City of Laurel will erect new and up-to-date fair buildings; in fact, it will be an entirely new fairgrounds for the 1930 event. E. F. Ford, at a meeting of the fair board last week, was re-elected secretary-manager. The dates for next year's fair are September 29 to October 4.

A 20 PER CENT dividend on stock of the Jenkins County Fair Association, Millen, Ga., was declared at a recent meeting of officers and directors. This is a larger profit than has ever been paid before and in spite of a season of weather storms and flood discouragements. The board of managers of the fair consists of Robie Gray, president; Allen Edanfield, treasurer; Walter Harrison, secretary, and W. M. Tinley, A. W. Cates, W. H. Ghepherd, G. G. Brinson and W. F. Watkins. Stockholders will hold a meeting early in January when officers and directors for 1930 will be named.

THE EMPLOYMENT. Location and Service Committee of the National Association of Amusement Parks reported to the convention in Chicago recently that New York was contemplating an all-year-round proposition at the Syracuse fairgrounds. Now comes the report thru the daily press, that Colonel George F. Chandler, special investigator of the riot for Governor Roosevelt, was in Syracuse and after looking over the fairgrounds is of the opinion that "trusties" might be quartered there when the fair is not in operation, as a way of relieving the overcrowded Auburn prison, it being only 25 miles from Syracuse.

READ this for a clever piece of work to aid in bringing out a big attendance at the annual meeting of the Michigan Association of Fairs. Printed on a heavy stock of paper, 8 1/2 x 3 1/2, it was mailed to all members of the association a couple of days before Christmas. "Greetings—News Item: President Fred A. Chapman and Secretary-Treasurer Chet Howell, of the Michigan Association of Fairs (a corporation), announced today that a stock dividend payable thruout 1930 had been voted to holders of stock December 25 and January 1, 1930. It is understood the dividend, which is an annual event, will be announced at the State convention in Detroit at the Port Shelby Hotel, January 22 and 23, of the coming year. All stockholders in the company, including presidents, all officers and directors and managers of the fairs in Michigan are urged to be present—otherwise they'll miss out on the melon that is to be cut. Unlike many corporations which have experienced a slump in their stock, Michigan Association of Fairs is today quoted at 250 on a 10 par and is rising daily on a bullish market. The company, it is said, is sound and solvent and enjoys a healthy growth reflecting credit to its president, Governor Fred W. Green, one of the big stockholders in the company, admits he is surely going to be on hand the night of January 22 when the banquet is held, to hear the annual reports of the company and maybe make a speech himself. Immediately after this important piece of news was released a call was issued to all fair officials in the State to be sure and be at Detroit January 22 and 23. It promises to be the greatest State gathering ever held, with constructive thought and plenty of fun on tap. It is said Uncle Johnny Leidteln, of Saginaw, veteran speechmaker, has promised to come and make a few addresses, if he is asked to."

WANTED FAIR ACTS

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AMY COX, Manager,
135 Main Street Theatre Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

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For Fair Season 1930, small Animal Act, Dogs, Ponies and Mules. Act must be high class. Write the STEINBLOW BOOKING AGENCY, 1217 2nd St., Milwaukee, Wis.

Annual Exposition or Fair— Its Functions and Values

EDITOR'S NOTE—Hereafter is presented the address in part of H. W. Waters, Ph.D., general manager of the Canadian National Exhibition, made at the recent convention of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions in Chicago.

I would like you to kindly bear in mind that my topic is the Annual Exposition or Fair, having in mind chiefly those expositions or fairs now general in character, that is, containing products of several branches of industry and dealing with a large range of activity in a determined sphere, which have been built up over a period of time around the basic industry, agriculture, and in contrast to special expositions concerning electricity, chemistry, textiles, leather, etc.

I do not propose to deal with the international world's fairs, of which there have now been quite a number; in fact, it is believed that since the war there have been far too many of such expositions. (On this point Dr. Waters quoted from a special report sent to him in connection with the Diplomatic Conference at Paris on international expositions, held November 12, 1926. He did this to demonstrate the fact that large international expositions and world's fair must be considered apart from the annual exposition or fair.—Ed.)

I might say a few words at this time as to the benefits or otherwise of the holding of an international exposition or world's fair. Whatever the benefits are to the country at large it is a well-known fact that the benefits to the city or locality in which it is held are, to say the least, problematical. There is no doubt that the city derives certain temporary benefits, such as wide publicity, a sales impetus, and a general increase in the returns of the public utilities, caused by the large influx of visitors. But, on the other hand, such an exposition attracts to the city a large and sometimes undesirable labor element seeking employment.

Such expositions also attract a very undesirable criminal element, which usually takes root in the city and is very difficult to eradicate after the exposition is over.

There is also the tendency on the part of hotels, boarding houses and others catering to the needs of the visiting public to charge exorbitant prices. These undesirable features added to the inevitable decline in the city's business following the exposition, which results also in a general depreciation of values and leaves the city with a large surplus or labor, more often than not overbalance the benefits already enumerated.

The worst feature perhaps is the adverse publicity which the city receives as the result of the dissatisfaction on the part of the thousands of visitors who, when they return to their homes, are willing to admit that the exposition was an outstanding attraction, but that their experiences in the city were deplorable.

The cost of staging a world's fair is tremendous, and there is usually a large deficit at its close, a considerable portion of which must be borne by the city. To this deficit must be added the additional expense necessitated by the increase in the estimates of police, fire, parks, street cleaning and other civic departmental estimates.

The Annual Fair

Our experience with the short-term annual exposition or fair proves to us that most of the undesirable elements of the world's fair are absent. Such expositions have been organized with a view to permanency and are intended, in the first place, to serve the community in which they are located, and if they do not yield permanent values they will soon lose the support of the community and will eventually cease to exist. These expositions, in most instances, have been gradually evolved from the small agricultural fair.

Such an exposition may be looked upon as a natural growth with well-grounded roots, that is to say, having permanent connection with the numerous organizations of which the community is composed and thru which the community gives expression to its varied activities. Whereas, the periodic world's fair is merely a surface structure without lasting foundations, which is

brought into being on a wave of enthusiasm and is torn down before even its inadequate foundations have had time to settle.

There are those who seem to think that a local exposition is a luxury which we could well afford to do without, or an appendage attached to a city to satisfy the whims of a few enthusiasts, but as a matter of fact such an exposition is vital to the advancement and success of the community in which it is located. Man is a social being and he will naturally align himself with those who have similar interests. Thus numerous groups or organizations are formed. As there is in the normal man a natural urge to give to his fellow men the benefits of his experiences, these organizations are always on the lookout for a medium of expression. An exposition is just that—no more and no less. That is why expositions and fairs spring up and exist in one form or another in practically every city, town and village on earth. (Dr. Waters then, in a brief way, dealt with the history of expositions and fairs.—Ed.)

I would like to deal in a general way, and quite briefly, with the functions and values of the annual exposition or fair. First, however, let me draw your attention to the fact that the prosperity of a city or town is very largely bound up with the prosperity of the surrounding community, and vice versa. The city buys from the farms, and the farms buy from the city. The city should remember that it is good business to do everything possible to promote the interests and prosperity of its best customers, who are the surrounding agriculturists and suburban dwellers, even tho they do not contribute anything direct to the upkeep of the city establishment in the way of taxes. These customers of the city spend their money with the retailers, manufacturers and others and thus, indirectly, enrich the city. A city in the midst of a barren desert, cut off from outside trade, would soon cease to exist, even tho it were built upon an oasis.

I think it well to state at this point that an exposition by its very nature, unless it receives considerable assistance from outside sources, cannot be made to pay a financial return any more than a university, museum, art gallery, church or any other altruistic organization.

Its Functions

In order to approximately estimate the indirect values derived from an exposition in any city or community and to so organize and manage such an exposition as to secure the maximum values from such an undertaking, it is necessary to have a clear understanding as to the functions of such an organization. What, may we ask, are the functions of an annual exposition?

First: Its first and most important function, as implied by its name, is to provide a show window for the sundry exhibits to be displayed. The success of an exposition as a whole depends upon its attractiveness as a show window. An exposition to be successful must have attractive and inviting grounds, buildings and public conveniences. The displays must be arranged in such a manner as to attract and hold the attention of the public.

Second: Its second function is to secure, by means of prizes, rewards, industrial advantages or other legitimate means, a variety of exhibits to appeal to the varied interests of the visitors.

Third: Its third function is to draw a sufficient number of interested visitors to its show window to make it profitable for the exhibitors to install their exhibits.

In the fulfillment of these fundamental functions an exposition becomes:

(1) An advertising or publicity medium of the best possible type, for in this show window the exhibits are to be seen and compared under the most favorable conditions, and as these exhibits are brought together from varying distances they may be seen with a great saving of time to the visitors.

(2) An educational medium, that is, a medium by which governments, universities, agricultural institutions, manufacturers, agriculturists and the numerous public organizations present their educational ideas to the public in a tangible manner.

(3) A recreational and entertainment medium, as, in order to draw visitors to

Fair Meetings

Wisconsin Association of Fairs; January 6, 7 and 8, Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee. J. F. Malone, secretary, Beaver Dam, Wis.

Indiana Association of County and District Fairs, January 7, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis. E. J. Barker, secretary, Indianapolis.

State Association of Kansas Fairs, January 7 and 8, Jayhawk Hotel, Topeka. George Harman, secretary-treasurer, Valley Falls.

Twelfth Annual Union Agricultural Meeting, January 8, 9 and 10, State Armory, Worcester, Mass.

Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs and Horsemen, January 9 and 10, Lewiston. J. S. Butler, secretary, Lewiston.

Virginia Association of Fairs, January 13 and 14, John Marshall Hotel, Richmond. C. B. Balston, secretary, Staunton, Va.

Vermont Agricultural Fairs' Association, January 14-15, Hotel Vermont, Burlington. G. W. Rublee, secretary, Knosburg Falls, Vt.

Ohio Fair Managers' Association, January 15, 16 and 17, Deshler-Wallick Hotel, Columbus. Don A. Detrick, secretary, Bellefontaine, O.

Minnesota Federation of County Fairs and Minnesota State Agricultural Society (held jointly), January 15-17, Lowry Hotel, St. Paul. R. F. Hall, secretary, Minneapolis.

Tennessee State Horticultural Society, Inc., January 16-17, Hotel Claridge, Memphis. G. M. Bentley, secretary, Knoxville, Tenn.

Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs, January 16-17, Springfield. Stillman J. Starnard, secretary, Springfield, Ill.

Western Canada Association of Exhibitions and Western Fairs' Association, January 20-22, Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg. S. W. Johns, secretary, Saskatoon, Sask., Can.

Massachusetts Agricultural Fairs Association, January 22-23, Hotel Northampton, Northampton. A. W. Lombard, secretary-treasurer, 136 State House, Boston.

Michigan Association of Fairs, January 22-23, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit. Chester M. Howell, secretary-treasurer, Cheesaning, Mich.

State Association of North Dakota Fairs, January 24-25, Hotel Dakota, Grand Forks. Sam F. Crabbe, secretary, Fargo, N. D.

South Texas Fair Circuit, January 27-28, Victoria. Geo. J. Kempen, secretary-treasurer, Seguin, Tex.

Pennsylvania State Association of Fairs, Western Division, January 29-30, Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh. J. F. Seldomridge, secretary, Lancaster, Pa.

Association of Georgia Fairs, February 6-7, Baldwin Hotel, Milledgeville, Ga. E. Ross Jordan, secretary, Macon, Ga.

Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs, Eastern Division, February 12-13, Adelphia Hotel, Philadelphia. J. F. Seldomridge, secretary, Lancaster, Pa.

STATE ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES—Send in your winter meeting dates. Many inquiries are already being made for them by interested persons.

its show window, it must create something outstanding in events and offer unique entertainments. It thus becomes an annual festival to which people look forward all the year and by which they mark the time of year—it is before or after exposition with them.

(4) A marketing medium of the most important type. The agriculturist displays his products in competition and enhances their value by the prizes he wins. This enables him to secure the best possible prices for his surplus live stock and other products. The manufacturer displays and sells his wares. The exposition is instrumental in bringing the producer and the buyer into personal contact.

Indirect Values to City

It will be readily seen, I am sure, that those who participate in the exposition as exhibitors, and the visiting public, derive certain very important benefits or

values from the holding of such an exposition. I would like now to speak more particularly of the indirect values to be derived by the city or town in which the exposition is held.

First: Thru the creation of events, its own advertising efforts and the influx of visitors and exhibitors drawn annually to the city, it becomes the most powerful advertising agency in and for the city. Let us remember that, as an advertising medium, expositions existed long before newspapers or agricultural and trade journals and that their influence extends to a much wider sphere. Many annual expositions are known in distant parts of the world where the names of the large city dailies in the cities in which these expositions are held could not be even named. Nevertheless it is, of course, necessary to the success of an exposition to have the co-operation and support of the local press.

I look upon the exposition and the newspaper as complementary one to the other, and it is interesting to note how they have evolved along similar lines until one is the counterpart of the other.

One of the chief concerns of the newspaper is to build up its circulation, for the reason that its advertising columns become more valuable to the users and it can afford to give a much more valuable news service to its readers with a large circulation than with a small one. For similar reasons an exposition must do everything in its power to build up its attendance; by so doing it increases its gate receipts and enhances the value of its display space and concessions and can afford to spend more money on the betterment of its displays and attractions.

Second: An exposition draws crowds of visitors to a city who have the holiday spirit and therefore spend their money freely. These visitors spend their money not only at the exhibition, but in the city as well, and as a result the railways, the press, the hotels, boarding houses, private homes, taxis, garages, oil stations, departmental stores, retail merchants and others receive considerable benefit and are therefore better able to meet their obligations to the city in the payment of their rates and taxes.

Third: An exposition is a very valuable educational agency. It is the best means of reaching the non-reading public; it is the university of the masses. A city spends large sums of money upon the education of the young; it should be willing to support any and every attempt to educate its citizens and to keep them up to date in matters of health, hygiene, agriculture, industrial developments, the sciences, art, etc. An educated and up-to-date community is invariably a prosperous one.

Fourth: An exposition is a recreational and entertainment medium. The people, it has been said, are willing to be educated, but they insist upon being entertained. Citizens and the surrounding people must have recreation and entertainment if they are to be kept happy and contented. If they are not contented they will drift away, to the loss of the city. The exposition creates outstanding events and entertainments and thus becomes an annual festival and creates a place and time for the meeting of separated relatives and friends, and in this way tends to keep the people happy and contented.

Fifth: The creation and operation of the exposition provides considerable employment for the surplus labor of the city and thus relieves the city of its responsibility, to some extent at least, in providing relief for needy citizens in the winter months. It also creates business for many struggling firms in the city and helps them to establish themselves. One exposition we know spends considerably more than a million dollars annually in staging its show, and the greater part of this amount is spent in the city in which it is held. The combined sums expended by the many exhibitors also represent a large amount of money which is expended in the city or community.

Sixth: In attracting visitors to the city the exposition is indirectly instrumental in presenting the possibilities of the city at first hand and under the most pleasant conditions to its visitors, and as a result many are led to settle in that city. A city needs citizens just as much as a new country needs immigrants. It is usually true that the greater the population the lower the tax rate.

Seventh: An exposition is a strong magnet to manufacturers and merchants and thru its influence and encouragement (See EXPOSITION on page 65)

Free Fair Planned For Toledo in 1930

TOLEDO, O., Dec. 28.—At a meeting of the Lucas County Agriculture Society it was decided that a free fair should be held at the Ft. Miami fairgrounds in 1930.

The most successful fair ever held here from an exhibit and crowd standpoint was the Tri-State Free Fair in 1926, when it was estimated 125,000 patrons passed thru the gates. Arrangements had been made for a fair in 1929, but fire destroyed some of the buildings, causing the fair to be called off.

Toledo and Northwestern Ohio is believed have caught on to the free fair idea, and B. Ward Beam, who has been appointed manager for 1930, says that with good weather capacity crowds are expected. The grounds have been re-wired and parking lights arranged since 1926. This in itself is expected to add to the crowd materially, as during the 1926 fair many people could not find parking space.

Negotiations are now under way to secure one of the best crowd-drawing attractions, and arrangements for the midway attractions will be completed by January 15.

The dates of the Tri-State Free Fair are August 11 to 16, inclusive, six days and six nights. President Frank Glann has appointed a premium list committee and everything possible will be done to attract a large showing of live stock.

The board as a whole will attend the Ohio Fair Managers' meeting in Columbus January 15-17.

Menomonie Fair Shows Profit of Almost \$6,000

MENOMONIE, Wis., Dec. 28.—At the annual meeting of the Great Dunn County Fair here the secretary's report showed receipts for 1929 greatly in excess of any previous year. Receipts for 1929 were \$27,212.89 as against disbursements of \$22,745.29, leaving a neat profit and cash balance on hand of \$5,765.45. In addition improvements were made to grounds and buildings amounting to \$1,389.79. The report showed the association to be in excellent financial condition.

All officers were re-elected by a unanimous vote. T. H. Moore is president; S. B. Ingram, treasurer, and R. L. Pierce, secretary.

Dates were set for August 25 to 29, inclusive, for 1930.

Fair at Vero Beach, Fla., Will Be Held Next March

VERO BEACH, Fla., Dec. 28.—Indian River County is to have a fair in March, according to plans adopted by the board of directors of the Fair Association at a special meeting in the office of President Waldo E. Sexton. A proposal submitted by the Elwood Dillon Company to finance and stage a fair to continue four days the second week in March was discussed by Waldo Sexton, George T. Tippin, Harold G. Redstone, J. D. Edwards, Albert Schumann and Dillon.

The only expense to the fair association is to be \$250, which is to be posted, with \$1,000 advanced by Dillon to insure the cost. The company is to provide the carnival free acts, music, premium money, ribbons, advertising and publicity matter, premium list, and have supervision over the concessions.

The buildings on the ground are to be placed in condition to receive exhibits of various kinds. Tents will be provided for exhibits not housed in the buildings.

Dillon is to be in charge of the fair at Titusville and Homestead this year, and has been engaged to stage the harbor opening celebration at Fort Pierce.

Blue Grass Fair Board Meets and Selects Dates

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 28.—At a meeting of the board of directors of the Blue Grass Fair Monday, at its offices, 141 North Upper street, matters concerning the 1929 fair were taken up and discussed; also holding of the fair in 1930. The week of August 18-23 has been set aside as the probable date.

Another meeting will be called within the next 10 days, when a board of directors and officers will be selected for 1930.

Fair Elections

MARSHALLTOWN, Ia.—John P. Rylander, LeGrand, Marshall County State representative, was re-elected president of the Central Iowa Fair Association at the stockholders' annual meeting. Other officers re-elected were D. S. Collins, Lincoln, vice-president; H. Harney, treasurer, and V. McGrew, secretary.

The meeting was the largest attended gathering of stockholders in recent years and the secretary's report showed total receipts for the fall fair of \$23,322.78, with expenditures of \$23,123.23, a net profit of nearly \$200.

PENN YAN, N. Y.—Directors of the Yates County Agricultural Society have re-elected the following officers for the 1930 fair, the dates of which will be August 19-22: Assemblyman Edwin C. Nutt, of Torrey, president; Fred Holwell, vice-president, and G. Harold Spencer, secretary (fourth term). Herbert Comstock was named treasurer upon resignation of Stephen Whitaker, who has held that office for some time and who has been made a director, succeeding Comstock.

ROCKVILLE, Md.—Directors of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society have re-elected these officers: President, Clarence L. Gilpin, Sandy Spring; vice-president, William Wata, Gaithersburg; assistant secretary, Anna Gilpin, Sandy Spring; treasurer, Ferris E. Waters, Pottomac.

August 19-22 were selected as the dates for the next fair to be held here.

DELPHI, Ind.—At a meeting of the officers and directors of the Carroll County Fair Association, the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, C. V. Hoover, secretary, Charles Schnepf, vice-presidents, George Sites, Mrs. B. B. Mayhill; treasurer, C. B. Shaffer. Directors: Frank Redenbacher, Clay township; Burton Honan, Madison township; George Sites, Jefferson township; Frank Riley, Tippecanoe; Frank Moss, Democrat; Van Blue, Carrollton; director at large, Mrs. Will Klepinger. Will Ashba, Will Brown and Frank Riley are members of the auditing committee.

CALDWELL, O.—The annual meeting of the Noble County fair board was held here. Officers of the organization were elected and other business transacted. The Noble County Fair Board is made up of 15 members, the terms of five of them expiring each year, and the election carries with it three years' service. The directors whose terms expired this year were re-elected. They consist of H. Clay Blake, Homer Groves, R. B. Caldwell, Joe H. Ryan and Ed H. Johannung. O. J. Lorenz, a member of the board for many years, resigned his membership and in his place Attorney W. H. Smith was named for an unexpired term of two years. The board as now made up consists of Madison Iams; Hugh Cox, Jr.; W. T. Crow, T. R. Hazard, Harry R. McClintock, Glen Archer, R. H. Parrish, C. I. McKee, J. R. Merry and W. H. Smith, besides those mentioned above who were re-elected.

The board of directors organized by the election of Madison Iams, president; W. T. Crow, vice-president; O. J. Lorenz, secretary; Harry R. McClintock, treasurer. Lorenz has for the last few years been treasurer of the fair board.

The report of Treasurer Lorenz shows that the fair was able to reduce its debt some \$2,500 last year. Plans are in the making for the 1930 fair.

The officers, together with several members of the board of directors, will attend the annual meeting of the Ohio Fair Managers' Association to be held in Columbus.

TUNKHANNOCK, Pa.—At the annual meeting of the Wyoming County Fair Association held here the following officers were re-elected: President, John C. Bowman; vice-president, A. C. Keeney; secretary, Percy H. Brunger, and treasurer, George N. Doyle.

The 15 directors for the ensuing year are: J. C. Bowman, A. C. Keeney, C. Elmer Dietrich, L. H. Williams, D. H. Bartran, Joseph Robinson, F. H. Jarvis, B. O. Sheldon, Percy H. Brunger, A. N. Bowman, Howard Sands, Benjamin Harding, Ira M. Meade, Nelson Ball and R. W. Greenwood.

GOSHEN, N. Y.—At the annual meeting of stockholders of the Orange County

Agricultural Society held in the Chamber of Commerce rooms at Middletown, Howard D. Seely and Benjamin B. Strong, both local farmers, were elected to the board of directors for the coming year. Seely was also re-elected vice-president of the organization which annually stages the Orange County Fair in Middletown during the month of August.

ANNUAL ELECTION of officers of the Hamilton County Fair, Cortihage, O., was held at the office of the fair board at the Courthouse in Cincinnati December 21. D. R. Van Atta was re-elected president of the society; Dr. C. C. Meade, vice-president; D. L. Sampson, secretary; Miss M. A. Hartke, assistant secretary, and E. M. Armstrong, treasurer.

Following its reorganization, the society fixed August 13, 14, 15 and 16 as the dates for the 1930 fair.

All members of the society were designated as delegates to the annual convention of the Ohio Fair Managers' Association, which will be held in Columbus January 15, 16 and 17.

MIDDLETOWN, Ind.—The stockholders of the Middletown Fair Association have elected the following officers: President, R. E. Cooper; vice-president, F. A. Wisheart; secretary-treasurer, V. U. Cromer; superintendent, W. F. Becker.

The dates for the 1930 fair have been fixed as August 29-September 1.

GOSHEN, Conn.—The Goshen Agricultural Society has elected the following officers: E. O. Wright, president; William H. Miles, vice-president; Mrs. Edith W. Cooke, secretary; Joseph Cooke, assistant secretary; Frank W. Seaton, treasurer. Herman Walther will be superintendent of rentals and Samuel Blakeslee and Harry North, superintendents of grounds.

The 1930 fair will open Labor Day.

OWATONNA, Minn.—John Jurgensen has been elected president of the Steele County Fair. He succeeds John Lynam, who until his death in October had been head of the fair for 11 years. Other officers elected were Fred C. Johnson, vice-president; C. A. Tincher, secretary, and F. H. Joesting, treasurer.

The Steele County Fair, known as Minnesota's biggest county fair, set a new attendance record last season with a paid admittance of 60,753. Its total receipts were \$33,354.88.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—At the annual meeting of the executive board of the St. John Exhibition Association, Andrew S. Allan was elected president. E. J. Terry, president for several years, declined re-election, and G. O. P. McIntyre, vice-president, declined renomination for the presidency, although he was re-elected vice-president. H. A. Porter was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Carl G. Fraser was elected one of the two vice-presidents on the retirement of George D. Ellis. A vote of thanks for his services was tendered Terry, retiring president. S. B. Lordy and Mrs. F. E. Holman, new members of the executive board, were welcomed by the association. The new president has been active in the association for some years.

FREDERICTON, N. B.—Joseph A. Cain was re-elected president of the Fredericton Exhibition, Ltd., at the annual meeting of the board of that organization. Other officers re-elected were Harry A. Smith, vice-president; C. D. Holder, treasurer; C. L. Sypher, secretary. D. W. Griffiths was re-elected racing secretary. John A. Campbell, 93, president for a number of years, was re-elected honorary president. The executive incurred a plan to hold an Old Home Week celebration in Fredericton during the summer. A committee was sent to the city council to support the movement. C. Hedley Forbes, new member of the board, was welcomed.

WARREN, Minn.—Officers for the 1930 fair of the Marshall County Agricultural Association have just been elected as follows: William Forsberg, president; William C. Miller, vice-president; J. A. Grindeland, secretary, and August A. Johnson, treasurer. Directors include R. B. Taralseth, E. Rosendahl, William Copp, A. O. Swanby, Clarence Schultz, A. B. Nelson, A. D. Collette, F. A. Green and Clayton Olson. The treasurer's report showed that the 1929 fair was operated at a loss of \$700, due to unfavorable weather conditions.

HUTCHINSON, Minn.—Everett Oleson was elected for his third term as president of the McLeod County Fair Association at the annual meeting here. Other

officers are C. A. Moore, vice-president; D. A. Adams, secretary, and H. R. Kurth, treasurer. The 1929 fair, with the exception of that of 1925, was the most successful one in the history of the association. Total receipts were in excess of \$8,500. Dates for next year's fair were set for September 12-15. Moore, Oleson, Adams and L. A. Ritter will represent the association at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs in Minneapolis the middle of January.

HARTFORD, Mich.—At the annual meeting of the Van Buren County Agricultural and Horticultural Society, held here, all officers and directors were re-elected except one director, R. D. McLean being chosen instead of F. R. Rauth. Officers follow: Edward Finley, president; Stephen A. Doyle, secretary (also superintendent of concessions); James Ingalls, treasurer. Directors, besides McLean, include Edward W. Ewald, Stephen A. Doyle, John T. Wilkinson, Donald P. Cochrane, Edward Finley, R. F. Brown, James Ingalls, Paul F. Richter, E. W. Hastings, E. A. Kirby and Clare Leach. Charles C. Cole is speed secretary. The dates for next year's Van Buren County Fair are September 30-October 4.

SYDNEY, N. S.—The 1929 fair at Sydney, N. S., has been disclosed as showing a profit of \$200, at the annual meeting of the Cape Breton Exhibition Commission, which holds the only fair on Cape Breton Island each year. The same committee which had charge of the 1929 Sydney fair has been placed in control for 1930. This committee is composed of Harold Moffatt, D. R. Nicholson, Robert Jackson and Webb Allen. Nicholson has been reappointed secretary-manager, a position he has held for many years.

The Cape Breton Exhibition Commission is now a subsidiary of the Farmers' Association of Cape Breton, this body having been placed in control by the provincial government.

Preparations for the 1930 fair have been started by the committee, although the dates have not yet been chosen. The dates are usually during the first week in October.

WESTERN FAIRS

(Continued from page 60)

The Billboard; H. H. Helman, Salinas, harness horses; Herman Struve, Watsonville, harness horses; E. Cornet, Salinas; Fred Morton, of Foster & Kleiser, bill-posters; John Clymer, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce; Doc Zetser, of Zetser's Greater Shows, Sacramento; B. Heathfield, of C. W. Parker Rides; Wm. Kindel, of Kindel & Graham, concession novelties; C. H. Blanchard, show printer; Joe Luckenback and Dr. Credo, San Francisco Concert Band; J. P. Davis, Salinas; Sam Corenson, show promoter, and J. J. Davis, concession novelties.

Dates were set as follows: Imperial County Fair, Imperial, February 28-March 2; Bells of Solana, Fairfield, May 24-June 1; California Sweet Pea Shows, Salinas, June 10 and 11; San Leandro Cherry Festival, San Leandro, June 2-7; Salinas Rodeo, Salinas, July 10-20; Hillmar Community Fair, Hillmar, August 6 and 7; Ventura County Fair, Ventura, August 5-10; Santa Barbara County Fair, Santa Maria, August 12-16; San Joaquin County Fair, Stockton, August 18-24; California State Fair, Sacramento, August 30-September 7; Glenn County Fair, Orland, September 9-14; Tulare County Fair, Tulare, September 9-13; Los Angeles County Fair, Pomona, September 13-21; Southern California Fair, Riverside, September 23-28; Fresno District Fair, Fresno, September 23-28; Kern County Fair, Bakersfield, October 1-5; Orange County Fair, Santa Ana, September 30-October 5; San Diego County Fair, San Diego, October 7-11; Arizona State Fair, Phoenix, November 10-15; Pacific Slope Dairy Shows, Oakland, Calif., November 8-15.

A few dates were not set, but will be announced later.

THE THREE WORCESTERS, famous acrobatic act on the stairs, called from New York December 28 on the U. S. Columbus for Bremen, Germany. They will play Europe for the year of 1930, returning to the States in 1931 with a new sensational novelty. The act has been in this country 18 months and during that time played vaudeville dates for Keith and Loew and fair dates for Barnes-Carruthers.

Rinks ~ Skaters

Communications to 25 Opera
Place, Cincinnati.

THE ARENA, in St. John, N. B., used for ice skating and hockey during the winter and roller skating, fairs, etc., during the summer, was burned to the ground in a mysterious fire December 17. The arena was built in 1922. It was of wood on a steel frame and was 210 feet long and 75 feet wide. Fred Finley, manager of the arena, reported the loss at \$68,000, partly covered by insurance. Nothing has yet been done toward replacing the building. The destruction of the arena leaves St. John without an indoor rink this winter. Outdoor rinks are again available at Lily Lake and South End baseball field, the latter being the only rink actually in the city. The Victoria Rink, an indoor arena used for ice skating in the winter and roller skating in the summer for many years, was demolished two years ago to make a site for a beverage factory.

FRANK S. SCOTT, of Amherst, N. S., has acquired the Amherst Arena, Amherst, which is used for ice skating and hockey during the winter and roller skating, concerts, fairs, rallies, etc., during the summer season. The arena was built several years ago by George Blanche and A. H. Lamy and has been owned by Lamy for about three years. Scott has made some improvements in the building and will serve as manager of the arena. This is his first experience in rink management and he plans to develop use of the rink in all seasons of the year.

TEXAS is to have a State-wide ice-hockey circuit if plans of San Antonio enthusiasts materialize. Four leagues have been formed in San Antonio, two of them made up of stars from the North spending the winter there. Games are played at the San Antonio ice palace weekly. The State circuit, if formed, will take in, besides San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, Houston, Austin and Waco.

A MUNICIPAL RINK to be used for roller skating in the summer and ice skating in the winter is to be built on the site of the first precinct police station house at Troy, N. Y. It will be under the supervision of the Troy Recreation Commission, of which Joseph Hormats is chairman. Work is expected to be started shortly after March 1, when the police will vacate the building, which is to be razed. Hormats said the ground will be graded and a concrete flooring, covering an area of about 100 square feet, will be constructed. This will be equipped with adequate draining facilities so that it can be flooded in the winter.

A COMMITTEE consisting of J. E. Browne, H. L. Jacobson and J. G. Naseth has been appointed to handle preparations in connection with an ice-skating rink at Milbank, S. D. The high-school athletic field has been chosen as the site.

SKATE and grow young. That's the way G. Frank Householder of Kansas City, Mo., feels about it. Householder, who is nearing his 70th birthday, has started skating nightly at the Pla-Mor Rink in Kansas City for recreation. "Two years ago," he said the other day after circling the rink, "I spent an entire evening making one round. Now here I am pushing some of the youngsters out of the lead."

HARRY F. JONES, formerly of Janesville, Wis., who recently leased the Arcadia ballroom of the Antlers Hotel, Milwaukee, opened it December 7 as a roller-skating rink. The reception room is spacious and beautifully furnished. The electrical effects are complete in every detail. The center fixture is a mammoth prism crystal light. There are complete dimming effects with colors of red, white and blue. A deep balcony surrounds three sides. "Bob" Tamm's Band, seated in a large plaster shell, furnishes the music. A varied program has been arranged. A 24-hour endurance race will be held later this winter. A professional basketball team is being assembled and will play every Wednesday. Attractions will be played from time to time. A modern skate room has been erected and is under the manage-

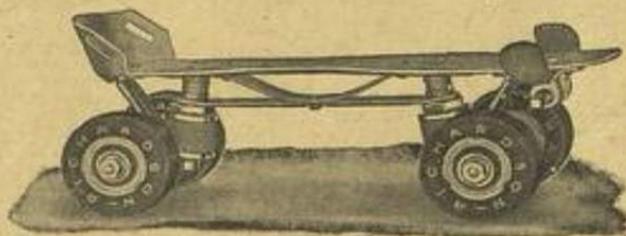
Why Shouldn't There Be? More RICHARDSON'S in Rink Service than Any Other Kind

Established in 1884, the Richardson Ball Bearing Skate Company introduced the first ball bearing skate.

Richardson has always been the leader, never the follower. From time to time, not only in this country but also abroad, certain features of the Richardson Skate have been imitated—but never equalled.

Richardson has always used the facilities of its factory for making its own product exclusively, "The first best skate—the best skate today."

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Richardson skates are not for "bargain hunters" or "inside price seekers". The price is the same to all Rink Operators. Experienced Rink Operators prefer Richardson's because they are properly designed, built only of the best quality of materials and therefore wear longer, satisfy rink patrons better and cost less for year-after-year upkeep.

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ment of George E. Caspari. A complete new stock equipment of Chicago roller skates has been supplied. The floor is very fast, the maple boards being mitered. On Mondays the ballroom will be used for other attractions.

SOUTH QUINCY, ILL. is to have an ice skating rink. Whether it will be in South Park under the sponsorship of the Boulevard and Park Association or at 16th and Jefferson streets under the direction of the South Side Commercial Club remains to be seen. For some time members of the South Side Commercial Club have contended that the Boulevard and Park Association should furnish an ice rink for the South Side comparable to the one furnished for the North Side at Reservoir Park. This, it is said, the association will do if a suitable plan can be worked out on association grounds, but not on private property. Should the association decide that sufficient space can not be found near the South Park spring, the South Side Commercial Club will then proceed to prepare an ice rink at 16th and Jefferson streets.

C. V. PARK, proprietor of Nu Ken Gardens, New Kensington, Pa., while at-

tending the National Association of Amusement Parks convention at Chicago during the week of December 9, was a guest at both Madison Gardens and White City rinks. After the close of an evening session at the latter place Managers Freddie Martin and Park engaged in a fanning bee which ended at the Hotel Stevens in the wee hours of the morning. Since both have had long and varied experiences in the skating business and employ many novel and original methods, it may be assumed that skating was the topic and that its many phases were discussed.

DURING the recent Chicago Bears-Frankford Yellowjackets pro-football game at Wrigley's Baseball Park in Chicago diversion was furnished between halves by Jimmy Terry, daredevil, who roller skated from the top of the stands to the center field scoreboard on a rope.

THE BOBBINS Trio, mixed roller-skating trio, has left the Loew fold and opened for RKO, represented by the Thomas Fitzpatrick office.

THE SECOND annual Paly Sanders Hippodrome Circus opened recently with

nine acts, among them being listed the Rose Kress Trio of roller skaters. The show is splitting between RKO and independent time.

THE GODDINO Siamese Twins prove their robustness to the audience by making their entrance on roller skates in their vaudeville act during the second number of the orchestra.

THE THRILLERS, sensational roller-skating act headed by Al Claritt, is reported near the end of their engagements to Union Theaters in Australia. The boys have a very good record in the land of the kangaroos, playing several return sessions.

THE THREE MEDFORDS, acrobatic act, do some clever roller skating on hands instead of feet in their turn.

WASHINGTON GARDENS RINK, Green Bay, Wis., opened for the winter season week of December 15 just as Green Bay roller skaters were beginning to give up hope of enjoying the sport, as the spacious Columbus Community Club, the skaters' former delight, is this winter housing RKO vaude shows. This is the first opportunity offered local skaters since Bay Beach Rink closed its summer season in October.

ROLLER skating at the armory, Gillett, Wis., ceased recently, and while the management is now sanding the floor it has not yet decided to resume after New Year's, so so far the season has been far from successful.

CLEM WIRTZ, of Green Bay, Wis., dance hall and rink promoter, recently came to an agreement with the Oconto (Wis.) Armory management to put on

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roller skating thrice weekly at the new armory hall. Oconto skaters have been without their favorite sport an entire year, as the old armory burned to the ground two years ago and skating was not allowed in the new one last year. Manager Wirtz promoted roller skating at Bay Beach, Green Bay, last summer and also at the Columbus Club, Green Bay, last winter. Meade McNulty, of Oconto, is Wirtz's assistant.

A 25-MILE team professional race will take place at Ridgewood Grove Roller Skating Rink, Ridgewood, N. Y., Monday, January 6, at 10 p.m. Six teams are to appear in the contest. Among those booked are Roland Cioni and Joe West, and Arthur Ryder and Murray Gorman. Amos Bell also will select a good partner, and three other teams will be filled in. According to the advance sale of tickets, the event promises to be a big financial success. J. Wesley Hamer, proprietor of the Grove, with this contest is launching a campaign to put roller racing on a par with other famous sports. There is a 4,500-seat arrangement in his rink arena ready to house the spectators for the 25-mile race and other coming skating events. Hereafter all big pro. racing events in the Grove, and the same applies to hockey roller, will be handled on a ticket-selling basis a few weeks in advance.

STEVE DONNEGAN, Ernie Meier and Oliver Walters easily won a "three-man, five-mile team race at the Dreamland Park Roller Rink, Newark, N. J., Saturday evening, December 21. Only three teams competed. Second place was won by "Red" Wingwald, "Checkie" Litowchack and Jimmy Priff, a trio of promising youngsters. Three of the foremost skaters, caught a little off form, trailed in third. They were Joe West, Amos Bell and Murray Gorman. The race was marked with speed aplenty. Members of all teams received spills and were wild in the reliefs, with the result that the trio skated in big gaps apart from each other throughout. But they more than made up for it by displaying a brand of spectacular sprints at all times. A packed house of roller fans roared approval.



MALCOLM CAREY, prominent in roller special events, has answered the defi of Benny Lee of England. Young Carey has repeatedly beaten the best men in this country and at the recent meet held at the Chicago Stadium broke several world's records, also won the one-mile championship. Carey's defi is bonafide and he is willing to meet Lee either in this country or Europe.

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Roland Cioni, world's professional champion, who was to judge the contest, failed to arrive in time. Victor J. Brown, Eastern roller-race promoter and general manager of Dreamland Park Rink, has slated Gorman, West and Bell to appear in some important races on a steady schedule after New Year's, on Saturdays.

FROM GOOD AUTHORITY comes word that some errors appeared in the article giving the results of the six-day-one-hour-a-night race, staged at Van Cortlandt Rink, New York City, December 2 to 7, and published in our issue of December 21. The article was accepted and published in good faith. Our latest informant says the following is the official report of the results:

Fulfilling expectations, the team of Steve Donnegan and Ernie Meier flashed home in front of the field in the six-day roller-skating race. Donnegan and Meier were four laps in front of the next nearest team, and also had more points than any of their rivals, with 115 markers, more than half of them scored in the final hour. Billy Yale and Malcolm Cary, early favorites, were in second place, four laps behind, with 89 points. Then came "Red" Hoover and Bill Jameson, 7 laps to the rear, with 41 markers, while fourth prize went to Eddie Krahn and Murray Gorman, who has 23 points, and were also 7 laps behind. Amos Bell and Joe West were fifth. Carey and Yale won honors in the first sprint, gaining 25 points for their effort, followed over the line by West and Bell, with Donnegan and Meier third, and Krahn and Gorman fourth. The time was 2:52 flat, the fastest mile of the entire week. In the second sprint, Donnegan and Meier came to the fore, leading West and Bell over the line, with Cary and Yale third, and Hoover and Jameson fourth. The time was 2:55 2-5. Donnegan and Meier also gained the last sprint, with West and Bell once more second, Hoover and Jameson third, and Cary and Yale last, in 2:56 1-5.

EXPOSITION

(Continued from page 62)

ment industries are led to establish themselves in and around the city.

Eighth: An exposition held in the fall, in a Northern climate, by the creation of sales and inquiries, stimulates the industries to such an extent that the usual winter decline in trade is largely, if not entirely, overcome.

Ninth: In creating an exposition plant those responsible are creating a very valuable civic asset. The buildings may be used for numerous useful and profitable purposes; for instance, conventions and other minor exhibitions; they may also become a recreational center for the city and in other ways, directly and indirectly, justify the expenditure necessary in their construction and maintenance.

In conclusion I might state that it is my belief that an exposition should not be enlarged beyond the ability of the city and the surrounding country to support it. Neither should it lag behind the city's development; the city and the exposition should grow together. I am sure that if cities in which annual expositions are held could be made to

realize the importance of the indirect values of these expositions they would be willing to liberally support them. Whereas, I am sorry to say, that on account of the ignorance on these points of the city authorities of certain cities in which expositions are annually held these expositions, thru lack of finances and equipment, are not able to function as successfully as they should, to the great loss of the city. It has been said that "some people are extravagant in their economy; they spend too much in the end because they spent too little in the beginning."

This in truth of those city authorities who, under the guise of economy, cut down their support to the local exposition, which, if properly managed, will yield a greater return for the city's investment than any other undertaking to which the city may vote its financial assistance.

Assistance

I have not commented upon the assistance afforded annual expositions by State, provincial or federal governments; it is sufficient perhaps to say that it is one of the recognized functions of these governments to encourage and assist in the development of agricultural and manufacturing industries, the sciences and arts, and every other branch of human endeavor which is put forth for the betterment and uplifting of the people. As expositions have been found by governments to present the best opportunities for them to carry out this function (one government official told me a few days ago that his government had taken part in 123 expositions already this year), it goes without saying that governments should liberally support these expositions. As a matter of fact, a large number of annual expositions owe their origin to the efforts of the State or provincial governments and are maintained and sometimes manned and operated by these governments as official government expositions.

These expositions, in common with other annual expositions, have the same functions and yield to the cities or towns in which they are held the same direct and indirect values as those already enumerated, and for that reason should receive not only the support of the governments, but the city's co-operation and financial support as well.

N. Y. Abandons World's Fair

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The proposal to hold a world's fair in this city in 1932 in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington has been abandoned.

A committee of the Merchants' Association, of which Police Commissioner Grover A. Whalen was chairman, studied the situation. Historians and traditionalists exhorted, but hotel men, theater owners and department store and newspaper representatives remained adamant. The following statement was issued:

"It is the belief of this committee that

the day of the world's fair has passed because of modern developments, such as the motion picture, the radio and the automobile. The habits of the people have changed as to travel. The cultural advantages, which formerly signaled the success of great expositions, are now within comparatively easy access of everyone."

West Virginia Fairs To Meet January 16-17

WHEELING, W. Va., Dec. 28.—The annual meeting of the West Virginia Association of Fairs will be held at the Ruffner Hotel, Charleston, W. Va., January 16 and 17, according to announcement made by Mrs. Bert H. Swartz, secretary of the association.

Mrs. Swartz states that a very interesting program is now being prepared and that all fair officials, showmen, horsemen and others interested in fair matters are welcome to attend the convention.

Ottawa, Kan., Fair Undecided

OTTAWA, Kan., Dec. 28.—The Franklin County Agricultural Society held its annual meeting here recently, elected officers, but did not make final decision as to whether to continue the fair next year. Final action was deferred until today.

G. L. Hettick was elected president; H. E. Gillette, vice-president; P. O. McGberg, treasurer, and Edmund Lister, secretary.

MORRIS BROTHERS, radio artists and singing cowboy clowns, closed a successful season of fairs and other events at the Midwinter Valley Fair and Rodeo, Harlingen, Tex. Among these dates were Oklahoma City, Marietta, and Tishomingo, Okla.; Iowa Park, Victoria, Yorktown, Hondo, Mission, Mercedes, Harlingen and Hebbroville, Tex. The Morris Brothers are now at their home in Gainesville, Tex., and will be there for the winter, breaking in a new act with one of their mules for next season. This act, they say, will use three people and the little mule Maud. During their engagement in the valley of Texas last season they obtained another little mule called Slack, which will be broken for rodeos this winter. They declare they have already contracted for 17 weeks in South Texas for next season, also the Southwestern American Live-Stock Show, Oklahoma City, which takes place in March. They invite cowboys and other troupers passing thru Gainesville to pay them a visit.

Chicago Office Callers

MADAME BEDINI, of circus and vaudeville fame.

GEO. B. FLINT, of the Chicago Music Corporation.

HARRY LA VARN, veteran of the vaudeville theater.

REXOLA BROS., vaudeville act, on their way to Muncie, Ind.

H. A. LEHRTER, of the white tops.

TOM BARRON, tall clown.

CHESTER PELKE, superintendent of concessions, Sells-Photo Circus.

PATSY O'DAY, acrobatic dancer.

CHARLES CLARK, of the Clarkolians, circus act.

DENNIE CURTIS, back home and working on his ring barn.

BILLY LORETTE, clown cop, jolly as ever.

KEYO NAMBA, Japanese acrobat.

Parks, Piers and Beaches

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Riverview Park at Akron To Pass Out of Existence

Big stretch of land, including acreage and buildings of old resort, presented to the city by the traction and light company as site for an outstanding play center

AKRON, O., Dec. 28.—The passing from existence of Riverview Park, one of the oldest and best-known amusement parks in the Akron district, will result from the presenting of the Northern Ohio Traction & Light Company to the city of Akron for park purposes, 145 acres of land, included in which is the acreage and buildings of the amusement park. While no official announcement has been made by executives of the city park commission, it is expected many of the amusement features at the park will be retained by the city for recreational purposes.

The grounds are to be beautified and considerable money spent in making the old park and surrounding grounds an outstanding play center for Akron. In recent years much agitation has grown out of the attempt of the owners of the park to keep the dance pavilion open Sundays.

Predict a Banner Year for Rides

NORTH TONAWANDA, N. Y., Dec. 28.—Contrary to the usual procedure of operating their plant to capacity commencing in January, C. V. Starkweather, secretary of Spillman Engineering Corporation, this city, informed *The Billboard* that they began operating on a full-time basis December 1. "This change in policy," said Starkweather, "was necessitated by the large volume of business already booked for spring delivery. Before the recent meetings in Chicago, several orders had been booked for the Spillman Lindy-Loop rides, and now that the Chicago meetings are over," this well-known ride authority emphasized, "a great many additional orders have been booked. Although the business of the Spillman Engineering Corporation exceeded the \$500,000 mark in 1929, many more contracts are actually closed and on record than one year ago. Using this as a barometer, the Spillman officials predict that manufacturers of all kinds of amusement rides, devices or incidental equipment will enjoy a banner year for 1930."

The above information is reassuring regarding the outlook for the coming season.

Among some of the well-known purchasers of Spillman devices who have recently placed orders are George W. Seebert, Coney Island, Cincinnati; N. S. Alexander, Woodside Park, Philadelphia; Rotherham & Shayeb, Revere Beach, Mass.; Orville Craft, San Diego, Calif.; Clark & Howard, of S. W. Brundage Shows; C. Guy Dodson, of Dodson's World's Fair Shows; B. W. Earles, who purchased three Lindy-Loop rides, one for White City, Chicago, and one each for Foley & Burk Shows and Abner Kline Shows, and Messrs. Saullo, who purchased Lindy-Loop ride for Olympic Park, Irvington, N. J.

Park men are interested in the Lindy-Loop ride because it gives them an opportunity to convert their old Caterpillar rides into this brand-new thriller. Last season there were 31 Lindy-Loop rides in actual operation.

Missouri Park Incorporates

FRANKFORD, Mo., Dec. 28.—Mineral Springs Park here has been incorporated under the laws of Missouri with a capital of \$50,000. L. P. Tucker and J. M. Twigg are the incorporators.

100 Bathhouses Destroyed By Fire at East Norwalk

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 28.—Fire of undetermined origin this week swept the bathhouses at Galf Pasture Municipal Beach in East Norwalk, Conn., destroying about 100 of the 200. The damage is believed to be about \$8,000. A thick fog hampered the work of the firemen, who were forced to cut away several of the adjoining houses to prevent complete destruction of the long row.

This was the fourth mysterious fire to occur there within a month. The others were discovered in the nick of time with but slight damage done.

Marathon Dance Big Success

CANTON, O., Dec. 28.—Dick Edwards, of the Marathon Amusement Company, which is promoting the marathon dance at Meyers Lake Park in Moonlight Ballroom, and which marathon has passed the world's record, is now in Columbus arranging for a similar promotion.

The marathon being staged in Canton is the most successful yet held by the local company in which the Sinclairs, operators of Meyers Lake Park here, are interested.

Harry C. Baker Busy

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—The offices of Harry C. Baker, Inc., are busy and look forward to the 1930 season with a great deal of confidence. Baker and his staff, among other projects, are laying out a complete amusement park for Chesapeake Beach, located between Baltimore and Washington. The entire resort is being revamped. New swimming pool, dance hall, rides and concession stands will be installed for the regular opening.

DONNA, Tex.—The Val Verde swimming pool, the unfinished hotel and surrounding grounds here have been sold to J. M. Viell, of Clinton, Ind., a chain restaurant owner. Viell is preparing plans for completion of the hotel and extensive improvements to the amusement center started by the Hansen Development Company.

Million-Dollar Budget For Biltmore Shores

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Part of the new million-dollar program for improvements the coming year at Biltmore Shores has been announced by Joseph Frankel, head of the Fox-Frankel development enterprise at Massapequa, L. I. Part and parcel of the boardwalk project is the plan for the erection of a bathing pavilion which will accommodate several thousand bathers. This will be in readiness by next summer. Construction of the first section of 1,000 feet of boardwalk will be started shortly.

It is understood the boardwalk property will be restricted to high-class concessions, including restaurants, smart shops, amusement places and other miscellaneous features, and will be 30 feet wide.

Meltzer Has New Item

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Al Meltzer will have the scales at Riverview Park next season as usual. Al announces that he is working on a new item for the concession trade which he claims is a winner.

Auto Parking Methods

Dudley H. Scott, chief engineer of the Humphrey Company, which conducts Euclid Beach Park at Cleveland, gave a short address on *Auto Parking Methods* at the recent convention of the National Association of Amusement Parks in Chicago. "It is a very doubtful question," said Scott, "whether the experience we have had in parking automobiles at Euclid Beach will be of much benefit in solving any other parking problem."

"Because we had a lot of land and were imbued with the idea that we wanted customers, we have always had free gate and free parking—even before autos first began to run.

"We have nearly 200 acres available for parking cars. Our plan gives every auto a space so the owner can get into his car and drive away at any time unassisted.

"We are particular to have cars parked in regular order and always to our order, for which purpose we employ a special parking force. It costs an average of about \$50 a day to attend to parking. We have taken care of as many as 15,000 cars in a day.

"Hoping to find some way to make parking pay rather than having it a big expense, we have tried to find some way out, but the question always arises, don't we get just as much money out of it on the basis of good will? We hope so, but don't know."

"Expert parking people that we have had to look the matter over agree with us that a parking charge would probably stop many from coming who would otherwise spend money in the park.

"No scheme could be set up to collect—if autos came in such great numbers as now—without congesting traffic much more than now, and is now a real problem on the big boulevard that goes by our park.

"The great majority of our auto patrons make us no trouble at all—just go as directed. Occasionally, however, a person will see open space on the way to the activities after having parked his car—usually someone who does not frequent the park—and kick because he did not get farther in. Then our boys have to explain that some have left of their own volition, but filling the open spaces must be done systematically. Anyway, we have to be the judges of parking.

"As near as we can learn, no other park has as much all-day and evening parking as we do, due somewhat, perhaps, to the fact that we make no charge at gate or for parking space.

"At night we light our parking grounds with the Cahill floodlight projectors, which works out very well.

"We probably park more cars than any one else anywhere."

Prominent Men Back New Park

Playland at Houston, Tex., to open April 19—Jake Schwartz general manager

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 28.—Playland Park, Houston's newest amusement resort, will be ready to open April 19. It is located in the south end of the city on a beautifully wooded 15-acre tract of land on the banks of Brays Bayou, a most desirable location and easily accessible from all points of the city as well as direct route from various surrounding towns, so situated that when driving in the direction 20 blocks away the various high riding devices can be seen.

The syndicate formed for the building of this amusement park consists of several of Houston's most prominent and successful business men, whose interests in many of the city's enterprises are extensive. They saw the need of a first-class park, properly located and conducted upon methods different from those heretofore used, and their names heading the list of the syndicate practically give assurance of the success of the enterprise.

The grounds will be beautifully landscaped. Among the features will be a coaster, large swimming pool, concession buildings with covered colonnade 20 feet wide and a kiddies' playground. There will be merchants' display booths with 300 feet of plate-glass front, miniature golf course, tennis courts, music tower, electric fountain, monkey island and space set aside for other rides and amusements on concession basis. A substation of a local broadcasting company will be installed in the park, and additional grounds are being negotiated on which to erect and operate an athletic field for baseball and football, with entrance only thru the park.

Temporary offices have been opened at 633 Bankers' Mortgage Building. The well-known amusement man, Jake Schwartz, has been appointed general manager and is also superintending construction of the new park.

Much Progress Made by NAAP Museum Committee

The Museum Committee of the National Association of Amusement Parks, at the recent convention in Chicago, reported that excellent progress had been made by the Museum during the last year. The full report follows:

The Board of Regents, University State of New York, granted an educational charter to the American Museum of Public Recreation April 15, 1929. Permanent organization was effected August 14, and trustees and officers were elected for the ensuing year, as follows: D. S. Humphrey, president; Fred W. Pearce, vice-president; R. S. Uzzell, secretary; William F. Mangels, treasurer and director of museum. Board of trustees: D. S. Humphrey, Fred W. Pearce, R. S. Uzzell; Philip I. Nash, M. D.; George V. McLaughlin, Sam W. Gumperts, George P. Smith, Jr.; Edward F. Tilyou and William F. Mangels.

On October 20 the first invitations for membership were mailed, together with a printed condensed report of progress. Responses were received from all parts of the country.

The board of trustees created five classes of membership, as follows: Active members, \$2 per year; contributing members, \$10 per year; sustaining mem-

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For Parks and All Amusement Places.

Runs itself. Automatic nickel collector and scoring device. Your receipts clear profit. You can take in \$15 to \$50 per day with 2 to 12 Whirl-O-Ball Games in any ordinary room. Each 4200 feet. Moderate investment required. Write for catalog.

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MODEL 7-28, MODEL 9-34.
7 Cars, 24 Pass. 3 Cars, 24 Pass.

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PORTABLE AND STATIONARY.
One Size Only. 14 Seats, 28 Pass.

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MERRY-GO-ROUND

Bargain wanted. Suitable for small Park. Must be real machine. **JAMES SHEARS, 630 West Tenth St., Oklahoma City, Okla.**

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World's Famous Amusement Ride, has stood the test of time. Always gets the money. Built exclusively by

W. F. MANGELS CO., Coney Island, New York

bers, \$100 per year. These funds are applied to maintenance and accessions.

Two additional classes are: Founders, \$1,000, life members; donors, \$10,000 or over, perpetuity. These funds are applied to Endowment Fund.

Accessions to the Museum during the last year number over 500 items of more or less historic value. In addition the model shop has produced a number of excellent models built to scale, of old-time recreational devices, and several fine models of great value have been pledged to the Museum.

The public press has shown great interest; pages of free publicity have been printed.

The Museum Library has made a modest beginning and all friends are asked to contribute suitable books and prints pertaining to recreation.

Plans are now laid to prepare a service to the membership that should prove of value. There will be collected in the Museum Library catalogs and literature of manufacturers of supplies and amusement devices throughout the country. These will be tabulated and placed on file for ready reference. Patent records of recreational devices will be classified in a manner to best serve the members' purpose. Records of old and new devices will be kept on file. All this information will be free to the members of the NAAP and the Museum. In other words, it will be a specialized bureau of information to members.

It is the aim of this Museum not only to show ancient history of public recreation, but also to show contemporary history, right up to date. Deeds you have done today may be a fit subject for the Museum tomorrow.

The committee urges all members to make a diligent search for historical exhibits for the Museum. All articles received are carefully tabulated and credited to the donor. A printed booklet showing the progress of the Museum may be had, free of charge, from this committee, consisting of R. S. Uzzell, George F. Smith, Jr., and W. F. Mangels, chairman.

A SWIMMING POOL, 75 by 230 feet, is to be constructed in Washington Park on the boundary line between Jersey City and Union City, N. J.

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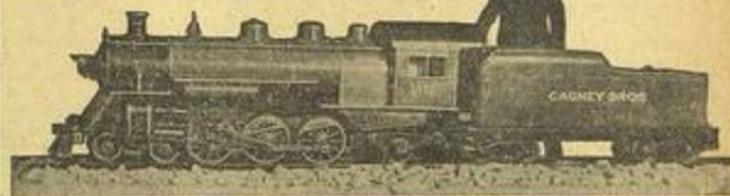
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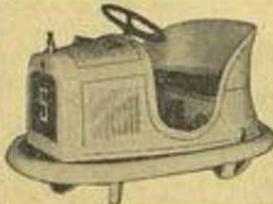
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Whoopee Track—Has It An Application to Parks?

Address delivered by Elwood Salisbury, general manager of the John A. Miller Company, Detroit, at the convention of the National Association of Amusement Parks in Chicago.

Since the announcement of this topic in the program I have received a number of requests from members of the association to touch upon the structural features of the Whoopee ride and the customary method of operating the tracks throughout the country in addition to discussing the applicability of the idea to amusement parks.

The Whoopee ride came prominently into view in the amusement park belt during this last season. It is an automobile roadway, built up of wood, having an undulating track of the hill-and-dale style with dips in summits in regular order. Patrons pay an admission fee to drive their own cars over this track. In its introductory form the Whoopee ride has been located on important automobile thoroughfares with entrances opening directly on streets. The appeal of the track is directly to the passing motorist. Most of the operating companies maintained a man, sometimes more, at the entrance to direct cars in to the cashier force, and they were then passed on to the ramp entering the structure proper for the ride around the track. The track itself is so laid out that at the finish of the ride the driver may exit to the street or return to the starting place for a retide.

Structural Features

The Whoopee tracks constructed during the last season ranged from 600 feet in length upwards. The majority of them were laid out skirting the boundaries of the lot they occupied. This rolling roadway has summits of 10 feet and is uniformly 80 feet in the dips from hill to hill. The timbers used for supports are mainly four by eights, stringers built up two by sixes, flooring two by twos or two by twos, wheel-guard rails are two by fours. The inside width of tracks is 11 feet, overall width 12 feet and width at base 14 feet. The corners are safely banked, inside radius of 30 feet. It costs about \$15 per lineal foot to build this structure.

The operating organization of the Whoopee track comprised bally men at the street, one or more cashiers on foot, some used tickets, others cash, and passed the cars to the starter at the bottom of the ramp entering the track. The usual charge was 10 cents per passenger. From two to three men, equipped with megaphones, are ordinarily used during the peak business on the ride to supervise the conduct of the drivers in their progress about the track. In rush hours cars are spaced 25 or 30 feet apart. When a track is first opened the lineup of cars sometimes is two or three blocks in length, and operators have to contend with drivers tempted to speed up and try passing one another. All in all the track supervisors have their hands full. When business is brisk, collisions are frequent, smashed bumpers and broken headlights common. Indeed the large number of accidents, including a number of fatalities which are reported to have occurred on these rides throughout the country are likely to have an adverse effect on the future development of this form of amusement.

Quality of Liability

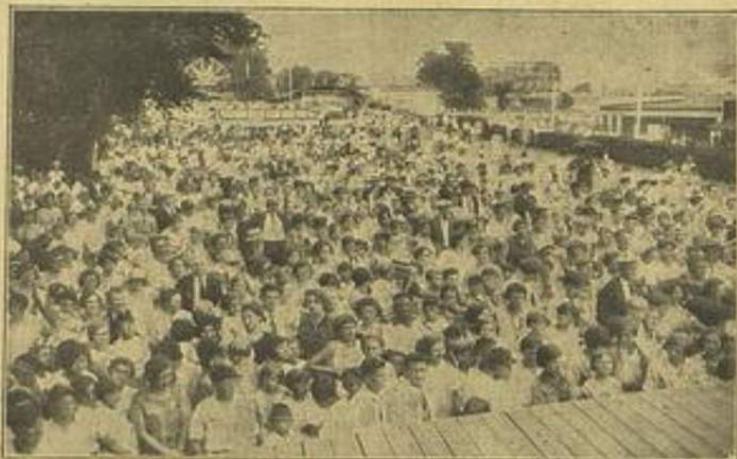
In a number of places the building of Whoopee tracks in specific locations has been forbidden by authorities. In some instances following accidents officials have interposed and arbitrarily established rules in an effort to promote safe operation. I am advised that officials in a city near Chicago would not permit cars on a Whoopee ride to be dispatched closer than one minute apart. This after an accident had occurred on the structure.

Naturally the matter of liability insurance has been a source of worry to the Whoopee track operator. At the present time a minimum premium of \$1,000 and up is charged for \$5,000-\$10,000 limits. At the present time it is too early for the insurance companies to have their figures available for the accident experience on this class or risk. The insurance companies figure this type of risk to be a great deal more hazardous than amusement park coasters principally for

the reason that on the Whoopee track the patrons operate their own cars, whereas in coasters the patrons have no control over operation of the car. At the present time individual policies cover damages to a car injured while being driven on the Whoopee track. Insofar as this writer has been able to learn, no exclusion has been made by any company, altho the matter is being given study by the automobile insurance companies.

In the northern section of the amusement park belt it was figured the Whoopee track would operate far into the winter season, but in the main most of them closed in the fall. There have been reports of earnings running into large figures on various of these roads in larger cities, particularly California installations. However as near as we can arrive at definite figures, California Whoopee tracks enjoying good patronage averaged from \$200 to \$300 per day, week days, and \$1,000 to \$1,200 Sundays. And in the case of the Whoopee tracks in California, where they bloomed ahead of the mid-continent, we have the word of a very competent park operator that business began falling off rapidly on these tracks after two months of operation. We are informed that all of the

ture-railway installation which an operator named McFall has been building down there for a number of years. Mr. McFall built around 1,500 feet of undulating track for his miniature road. The summits are something like six feet and about 40 feet between them in the dips. He originally drew the trains over these rolling hills with a Ford engine, but in later models we understand he is using the Chevrolet. This ride has been very popular in the Southwest. The Californian copied the Texas tracks built of wood instead of earth. The applicability of the idea to parks is therefore focused down to individually driven cars. Lack of space, disregarding all other considerations, bars the automobile Whoopee tracks from the majority of parks, and aside from a few parks that have expansive auto-parking spaces, it would not be a practicable unit in the amusement group. Whoopee-track promoters look more upon the highway with its thousands of automobile drivers as the better site for their device. In building this track structure down for parks, it would be necessary to shorten the rolls. The same ratio of length to height should be maintained to keep within a certain degree of safety. Almost any speed at all seems to be dangerous on the ordinary Whoopee track; therefore, to compress the thing to smaller dimensions, one would use less rolls or shorter rolls with less length. It would be possible to crowd a lot of rolls in a limited area by using 180-degree turns and running the track parallel with itself instead of merely following the outside of a field, the present style of laying out.



—Photo, Drew B. Peters Studios.

HENRY GUENTHER DAY is a big event at Olympic Park, Irvington, N. J., of which Guenther is president and general manager. Here is shown only part of the huge crowd that attended the park on that day last summer. They are watching the free entertainment, which is one of the features of the day. The children had free run of the park and stormed the rides and amusement houses to capacity. It was estimated more than 10,000 kiddies were on hand.

California tracks are closed and being torn out. An extensive operator of tracks in Chicago and Detroit territory informed the writer that after a ride had been in operation a couple of weeks the novelty would begin to wear off, and it would be necessary to stimulate patronage by giving two rides about the track and more as time progressed. In his opinion it was a one-season business.

Application to Parks

The hill-and-dale track is no innovation in the amusement park business, but the use of a standard automobile upon such a track is of course considerable of a novelty. The old Ocean Wave was a Merry-Go-Round of this type. The Tilt-A-Whirl and Tumble Bug have Whoopee tracks. Coasters with their gradually diminishing summits and corresponding valleys are Whoopee tracks. The Steeplechase embodies this feature in its structural outlines. The automobile coaster built and operated some years ago by Neville in Coney Island, with standard-sized captive automobiles, was a Whoopee track. Presumably the present automobile Whoopee track is quite directly traceable to the amusement park. It made its appearance in Texas a couple or three seasons back in the form of built-up undulating dirt tracks. In the flat country this was a popular diversion for the automobile driver. It has repeatedly been asserted that the dirt-rolling roadway in Texas was copied from a certain type of mini-

By staggering the bumps with the tracks parallel a more novel effect would be secured.

It is perfectly obvious that a small vehicle should be used on the bodied-down amusement park structure. With characteristic foresight, device engineers have already done this. As a matter of fact there were in advance of the Whoopee-track builder. Such a track was devised at Playland, Rye Beach. It is a miniature boulevard, a rolling roadway of summits and dips, and 15 red bug cars are very successfully operated over it. There is a similar layout at Jantzen Park, Portland, Ore. and the same idea has been carried out at Long Beach, Calif. I cite only a few instances. It is quite important in laying out a track for the present small automobile that hills be not too steep nor curves too severe for the car. Most of these vehicles were designed to be driven around flat circular tracks, and it would be necessary to have track plans checked, so as not to go too far of the car's performance by having too steep a grade to climb. In a word to close, the Whoopee track is applicable to the amusement park—that's the place where the Whoopee builder got the idea.

LOS ANGELES.—The Zoo in the southwestern corner of Griffith Park, located on the edge of the city, narrowly escaped damage December 20 when a brush fire swept over the dry hillsides of the beautiful park.

Co-Operation Urged In "Blue Law" Fight

Following is the full report of the 1929 Legislative Committee of the National Association of Amusement Parks made at the recent convention in Chicago. The committee consisted of Leonard B. Schloss, chairman; A. R. Hodges and C. G. Miller:

"Your committee, in personnel the same as during the last several years, in rendering its report for the current year will treat with its activities only in a general way. It is felt that the entire membership is aware of what transpired regarding its work thru articles published in the association Bulletin and the various trade publications, and to embody in this report a full resume of its activities would only take up valuable time. Therefore, in order to be brief, your committee reports that during the last session of the Congress—the 70th—which adjourned on March 4, 1929—no consideration was given to the most important measure affecting our industry. This measure was known as the Sunday Closing Bill, introduced on the first day of the session of the House of Representatives by William Chester Lankford (D), of Georgia. It provided prohibition of all amusements in the District of Columbia on Sunday.

"A few of our members have been known to express themselves as not being interested in such legislation, for the reason that it only applies to the District of Columbia. To those members, your committee wishes to reiterate its statements made in previous reports, not as a matter of defense, but as a fact that cannot be denied, that should such legislation be enacted affecting the District of Columbia, it would be but the entering wedge for similar enactments throughout the country. Therein lies the danger.

"There are many reasons why no action was taken on the Lankford Bill during the 70th Congress, but the fact that no action was taken is sufficient evidence that the many interests affected were quite active. Your new Legislative Committee must continue to co-operate with others in preventing enactment of the reintroduction of Mr. Lankford's pet measure at the present session, for it is known that he proposes to make the attempt thru the 71st Session of the Congress to foist his 'Blue Law' upon the residents of your national capital.

"It is a foregone conclusion that every attempt will be made to secure a favorable report from the Sub-Committee of the Judiciary of the House District Committee, to which it will be referred after receipt by the House District Committee, and, after that, no stone left unturned for having favorable consideration given the report by the full House District Committee, and thence passed along to the floor of the House.

"Our association, as well as all others interested, must therefore make a determined effort to prevent its passage. Every member of NAAP can and should render its Legislative Committee every assistance possible in the efforts to be made to combat the opposing forces, large in numbers and mighty in financial strength. It can be done by individual members writing to the Representative in Congress elected from their district to oppose the Lankford measure, or any others of similar character that may be introduced, and by soliciting your local Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade, Merchants' Associations, American Legion posts and civic organizations

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of every local character to do likewise. This method of opposition will largely offset the pressure brought to bear upon members of Congress by the powerful Lord's Day Alliance and its cohorts who continually flood the mails with petitions to them praying for enactment of a 'Blue Sunday' in the national capital. During the last session, thousands upon thousands of such petitions were received and presented to the House and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, but very few were presented that bore any evidence of having been submitted thru any efforts made by our members in having organizations in their locality petition against enactment.

"Your committee by correspondence, personal contact and advice to members applying for aid in combating their local Sunday closing problems undoubtedly rendered a real association service.

"It is recommended that the new Legislative Committee to be appointed at this convention be ever on the alert to the utmost degree, for, if it is not, Sunday closing is bound to come. It was said that the country did not desire prohibition; that a prohibition law could not be enacted. Yet, it was. That it is not being enforced to the letter is another matter. But let a Sunday closing measure be passed, a rich and powerful element is ready to see that it will be rigidly enforced.

"Concluding, your committee desires to express to the few of those members who aided it in its work a deep appreciation for the assistance rendered during the last year and also to Secretary Hodge for his very helpful co-operation and influence."

Billy Reardon's New Job

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Billy Reardon, who has been managing the Bluebeard Palace in Olympic Park, Irvington, N. J., for the last two seasons, as well as making the free-act announcements, will operate and manage the de luxe fun house that Harry C. Baker will install in Crescent Park, Riverside, R. I., this season.

Reardon is well known in outdoor show circles. For the last seven weeks he has been clowning in the toy department of Fahne & Company's store, Newark, with Major Criqui, the diminutive jester, who has been connected with Olympic Park for many years.

Zoo Notes

WASHINGTON.—Congress is expected to provide generously, as usual, in the next year for the National Zoological Park here, which is proving one of the stellar attractions for visitors to the national capital. Figures for 1929 indicate that around 2,500,000 people visited the zoo. Plans are on the way for great improvements at the zoo during the next year that provision for the proper handling of the numerous animals which continue to reach the park from abroad may be had.

ACCORDING to a dispatch from London, Joan Proctor, a young woman, has been placed in charge of the reptile house at the London Zoological Gardens. The building housing the reptiles, it is said, was designed by her in 1927. It is equipped thruout with modern electric apparatus and contains thousands of species from all parts of the world. A model hospital, equipped with a surgery nursery and laboratory, is also included.

Swimming Pool Notes

MIAMI, Fla.—Max Kimerer, midget-show manager, well known in the outdoor amusement world, is back at the Roman Pools again this winter to arrange and manage the aquatic shows. Members of Kimerer's troupe of midgets have been in Miami Beach as tourists. Their appearance at the Roman Pools a few seasons ago created quite a sensation, altho they were not billed as performers. Several of the little people are fine swimmers.

MIAMI, Fla.—Herman Hunt has returned to Florida for another winter as swimming instructor and director of water events at the Hollywood pool. Last summer Hunt was manager of the Capital Park pool, of Hartford, Conn., one of the largest pools in the world. Anne Benoit, long-distance swimmer, will make her headquarters at the pool, Hunt, her manager, said. Hunt will coach several promising swimmers this winter. Most notable of these are Barbara Beckwith and Samuel Shields, both of Coral Gables. Another promising star is Katherine Rawls, of Hollywood, who expects

to enter the national swimming meet next summer.

A SWIMMING pool and bathhouse will soon be completed at Simpson Park, Chillicothe, Mo.

A CAMPAIGN is under way for a city swimming pool at Mauston, Wis.

ONE OF THE MOST MODERN pools on the Atlantic Coast is to be built on the ocean front at Old Orchard Beach, Biddeford, Me. J. G. Morrissette, of Lawrence, Mass., is the architect. There will be 1,000 dressing lockers, hot salt water showers and observation tower.

HOLTON, Kan., is figuring on a swimming pool.

Coin-Machine Men To Have Two Conventions

CHICAGO, Dec. 27.—There will be two conventions of coin-machine men in Chicago early in the new year. The first will be the National Vending Machine Operators' Association of America, meeting at the Great Northern Hotel January 27, 28 and 29, while the Coin Machine Operators' Association of America will meet at the Hotel Sherman February 24 to 27, inclusive.

At a recent meeting of operators and

manufacturers the proposition of holding but one convention was discussed and it was agreed to take up the matter again in February when committees of the two associations meet. It is probable that at that time arrangements will be made whereby but one convention will be held hereafter.

At the meeting of manufacturers and operators held at the Palmer House the National Vending Machine Operators' Association was represented by H. B. Gibson, Geo. Grafstraf and C. H. Robinson. The Coin Machine Operators' Association had as representatives Ralph Young, P. E. Turner and Wm. Gent. Manufacturers' representatives in attendance were W. A. Trasch, of the A. B. T. Mfg. Co.; Lee S. Jones, of J. P. Seeburg; Wm. Rabkin, International Autoscope Reel Co.; Mr. Valentine, Capohart Phonograph Co.; D. T. Fitzgibbons, Modern Mfg. Co.; W. G. Gray, American Sales Co.; C. D. Fairchild, Empire Novelty Co.; J. H. Keeney, Keeney & Son; A. E. Gebert, Advance Machine Co.; W. J. Ryan and Mr. Cochran, O. J. Jennings & Co.; P. O. Smith, Exhibit Supply Co.; Mr. Baker, Pace Mfg. Co.; Mr. Maloney, Midwest Novelty Co.; Mr. Austin, Specialty Mfg. Co.; Ernest H. Punke, Public Scale Co.; Mr. Chikewar, Hercules Novelty Co.; F. A. Bringsell, Veeder Root, Inc.; D. Gottlieb, D. Gottlieb & Co.; Mr. Lang, Baird Lock Co., and Messrs. Linnehan and Weldt, Lion Mfg. Co.

arrived in Warren, O. for the winter hibernation after a bully vacation spent at Hot Springs, Ark.

J. C. TROUT and the missus are in the "city of hospitality", Waynesboro, Va., where the "sun shines on both sides of the street".

MAX GRUBER put on the gala feed bag at his Philadelphia home.

TIP O'NEIL spent the day at New York Hippodrome, talking about Tom Veasey.

W. J. HANLEY, in New York, received an invitation to have Christmas dinner in Los Angeles.

HARRY FITZGERALD had a wov of a time in Newark, N. J., with Nell and Joe Austin at the Palace of Wonders Show.

DOC OYLER and his wife celebrated Christmas at their beautiful home opposite Harrisburg, Camp Hill, Pa., where they discussed plans for the 101 Ranch Annex for 1930.

HONBY FAMILY was in Dallas, Tex. FRANK A. COOK, legal adjuster of Ringling-Barnum Circus, was in New York, consulting time tables for a long trek.

GYPSEY DAVIDSON, theatrical and circus nurse, was at the Sisco Hospital, Springdale, Ark., over the holidays.

M. B. (DUKE) GOLDIN, grand old man of the carnivals, had a merry Christmas at London, O., where the missus prepared a special menu for him.

MME. M. C. STEFANIK, free act, caught strolling in Times Square.

CAPT. JACK VALEY and his better half basked in the sunshine at Caguas, P. R.

IRISH HORAN doing his daily dozen at 44th Street Hotel, Manhattan.

KAMDA BEN, with his colored chauffeur, driving a ritzie auto thru the main drag of Miami.

OTTO GRIBBLING enjoying married bliss in Cleveland until the circus season opens.

HERBERT D. SMYSER took his daily stroll thru the York (Pa.) fairgrounds.

HENRY WINEBERG worked overtime, counting the Christmas receipts at Strand Theater, Staunton, Va.

SI KITCHIE and wife made their appearance at Wiggins, Miss.

BENNY L. BURSE at Jackson, Mich., where he is preparing to increase the h. r. with an important announcement.

MARY RAGAN and Lester Roberts returned from Detroit to stage a holiday party in L.I. Old New York.

SAMMY LAWRENCE helped to supply the whoopee for the Rubin & Cherry showmen wintering at Exchange Hotel, Montgomery, Ala.

LOUIE G. KING, promoter, at Danville, Va.

W. B. EMERSON at Stewartstown, Pa. EIMER BROWN visited the old folks in Kentucky.

JOE BASILE had a special combination spaghetti-turkey dinner at his home in Newark, N. J.

FRED H. PONTY, owner-manager of Woodcliff Pleasure Park, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., opened his winter villa at Palm Beach with a wonderful blowout.

J. J. (EMERGENCY) KELLY, head of the 43d street carnival men, spent his first Christmas in 35 years without drinking anything stronger than coffee.

BILLY REARDON made the wife and kiddie happy in Newark when he played the role of Santa Claus.

JACK BLOOM, the Rudy Vallee of Palisades Park, making merry in the Roarin' 40s.

PROF. C. E. and Mme. Hudspeth in Philadelphia.

HARRY (DOC) SLOAN and the Princess in Detroit, going bigger and better.

ARTHUR E. CAMPFIELD caught talking tents in the Rialto.

RALPH LOCKETT in Ettrick, Va., eating home-made fruit cake and plum pudding.

JACK D. WRIGHT, Jr., shed a glorious day with the missus at 153 Milford avenue, Newark, N. J.

C. GILMORE TAIT had a busy day at his Emerald street home in Philadelphia, talking about candy.

MME. BEDINI and Sir Victor had their Christmas in Aurora, Ill., the town made famous by C. W. Finney.

JOE SHORT spent Christmas with his sister, after working the holidays at Wasmaker's store, preparatory to leaving for Detroit.

JACK FENTON basking in the sun-ships at Miami.

JACK LYLES was at Tarboro, N. C. BRYANT and Billie Woods in Miami. VICTOR LEE and his wife south-bound. JAMES T. CLYDE at the Lambs Club, New York. HAPPY WELLS going like a house afire in Paris.

Out in the Open

By W. D. VAN VOLKENBERG
(Communications to 1360 Broadway, New York)

CHARLES MARTIN, the man with the iron pipes, when quizzed by Elmer Brown in the lobby of Stevens Hotel, Chicago, why he was treading the straight and narrow path, replied: "I have taken the veil."

Looking for Indians

KATHERINE FORD, assisting with the publicity of 101 Ranch Show during New York Coliseum engagement, was to meet the Indians at Times Square subway station. She waited what she considered a sufficient length of time for their arrival and then went to a nearby policeman. "I beg your pardon," she said in addressing the officer, "but have you seen any Indians around here?" The wily copper, suspecting the young lady was trying to play a joke on him, wittily replied: "I haven't seen any Indians running wild around here, but I know where you can find some marines." "I'm not looking for marines," was Katherine's curt rejoinder. "I'm looking for 84 Indians," she indignantly answered. "Lady," said the staid officer, "I know the stuff they sell around Broadway is bad but I didn't think it was that bad." Just then, by a streak of good luck, the 84 Indians appeared, and Miss Ford went away with them triumphantly, while the officer rubbed his eyes in wonderment.

MERLE EVANS, who for 22 years has been band leader for circuses, last week directed the orchestra at New York Hippodrome during the Christmas circus. And how!

Veteran Circus Man Injured

GEORGES P. LA CLAIRE, popularly known outdoor showman, while recovering from an operation in Bellevue Hospital, New York, ran across George (Red) Corrin, who was formerly connected with Tom Lynch's department on Ringling-Barnum Circus, who was undergoing treatment in the same hospital for fractured bones in his legs. The accident happened in a peculiar way. "Red" was on his way to a news stand to purchase a copy of the Christmas edition of *The Billboard*, but instead of getting *Old Billy* boy he got a ride in the ambulance to Bellevue, as he fell and injured his legs seriously. He is 64 years of age and is sadly alone in Ward Ground M, where he would like to hear from his friends. Mrs. La Claire, after learning how "Red" sustained his injuries, procured a copy of the Christmas issue of *The Billboard* and suffice to say the veteran circus man was more than glad to get it, considering the misfortune that beset him.

MRS. WILLIAM GLICK'S attractive personality was noticed on Broadway during the holidays.

HOWARD, the lobster boy, who is now happily married, closes at the Harlem Museum January 5 and joins Johnny J. Jones Exposition at De Land, Fla., on the 10th. Shadow Harry and Karoy, iron-tongued man, are likewise joining.

Extremities Getting Itchy?

GEORGE L. DOBYNS, former impresario of George L. Doby's Shows, was recently reported in the market to purchase a well-known carnival show, but he writes: "That was a joke! It's just barely possible some one read my thoughts, never expressed," he infoes, "and that my feet are itching to get into the business again. Not that I will ever again own a show, but I have a hankering to pilot one."

P. PERCY MORENCY denies that he is organizing a union for carnival secretaries.

Gave Swell Supper

FRANK MILJANIS PANCHO, late of Downie Bros.' Circus, while playing the opera house in New Brunswick, N. J., tendered a swell supper to a number of showmen who are sojourning in New Brunswick over the holidays. The big feed was held at the Chanticleer Restaurant and the menu consisted of everything from soup to nuts. Miljanis availed himself of the occasion to announce that he has resolved to annex a life partner—the lucky girl is Mary Ryan, professional, and the wedding will probably take place on St. Patrick's Day in New York. Among the guests were C. W. Williams, Thomas Ryne, Eddie Belew, Roy Oyeen, Jimmy Dugan and Harvey Parker.

Where Showmen

Spent Christmas

GEORGE W. TRAVEL, of Traver's Chautauqua, kept busy motoring between New York and Florida.

MAX GRUBER, of Gruber's Oddities of the Jungle, breezed back on Broadway to announce that he is booked for the summer at parks and fairs.

COL. JOHN BERGER, the promoter, is reported in Montreal, working on a big one.

LARRY BOYD and the missus had a wonderful Christmas in their Toronto apartment.

JACK JOYCE has been commuting between Times Square and Newark, where he is playing vaudeville dates (with permission of Johnny Agee).

IRISH JACK LYNCH was touched for his bankroll and overcoat in Jacksonville, Fla.

GENE AND MARY ENOS had a joyous Christmas at Bloomington, Ill.

FRANK B. (DUTCH) HILDEBRAND

Elks' Kiddie Circus Very Interesting Affair

The Kiddies Circus, given by the Elks at Elks' Club, Cincinnati, the day before Christmas, was a greatly enjoyed affair, not alone for the hundreds of children who witnessed the performance and received gifts, but also the directors and sponsors of the affair. Baskets of provisions for the poor were delivered.

The performance was replete with excellent offerings, including comedy. Among the acts, the Marlon LaCour and Pep Golden studios furnished talent. Helen Hill, dances; Billy Hamilton, songs; Adele Golden, dances; Gertrude Bryant, Irish melodies; Earl Meyers, juvenile dancer; Al Nuttle, the Musical Clown (a complete one-man show in itself); Charles Camm, ventriloquist and Punch and Judy; Indian Joe Davis, a clever Indian entertainer, in talks and rope, etc.; manipulations; Earl Huffman, in song hits, and Virginia Lee Busam, in dramatic readings.

Better Homes Show

FLINT, Mich., Dec. 28.—After considerable debating between the Flint Real Estate Board and supply and lumbermen, they came to the conclusion that it would be best for all concerned to co-operate with Peter J. Shea, of Detroit, who is promoting the Builders and Better Homes Show at the new Auditorium here March 3-9.

At first the business men of Flint had in mind staging the show themselves and not having an outsider promote it. After careful study they came to the conclusion that in order to put the building exposition over on a large scale, it would be necessary to have a practical man like Mr. Shea direct the show, whose experience in this and other amusement enterprises cover many years.

Everything pertaining to the home will be displayed in the big auditorium, and from all indications the exposition will be the first great show of this nature ever held in Flint. Expense will not be spared in giving a real show and one that will make a good impression on the general public.

Indoor Circus Success

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 27.—The Indoor Circus, under the auspices of five lodges A. O. U. W., of Little Rock and North Little Rock, was a success, and the performance was one of exceptional merit. Both city newspapers "covered the event" as one of the best sets of circus and vaudeville acts ever held in this city.

There were concessions of exceptional beauty, each one decorated in different colors. The production was staged by the Gear Circus Exposition, with the following well-known acts: Hal Crider and seven-year-old girl; the Le Moind Trio, the Liletta, August Kenerva, Levine and May. A local orchestra of the A. O. U. W. lodges furnished the music. Jack Lucas and J. P. McCabe assisted in putting over the event and handled the advertising banners.

Frank R. Smith in Charge

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—Frank Roder Smith has been designated as executive in charge of the International Trade Exhibition, after Governor Huey P. Long placed contributions by various State departments to assist the exhibition. Among the immediate plans for the exhibition, Smith announced, is the establishment in the building of a permanent State fair. Exhibits will be gathered to demonstrate the resources of every parish in Louisiana, with a view to the possibility of developing the State's trade on a larger scale.

St. Claire Master Ceremonies

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 27.—Ernie Jules St. Claire will act as master of ceremonies at the Elks' "Chinatown" Frolic at the Coliseum December 30 to January 4. St. Claire was brought here directly from New York by George B. Milam, supervisor of the "Frolic."

Stock Show at Llano

LLANO, Tex., Dec. 27.—Extensive plans are materializing for the second annual Spring Stock Show, sponsored by the Llano Chamber of Commerce, scheduled for early in March. Prizes will be offered for exhibits of registered cattle, sheep, goats and swine.

Special Events

TRADE SHOWS, CELEBRATIONS, BENEFITS, ETC.

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

Nashville Auto Show

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 27.—At a meeting of the Nashville Automobile Trades Association Monday, it was decided that the Nashville Automobile Show will be held at the Hippodrome January 20-25. The show is being planned on a larger scale than heretofore. The directing of the exhibition will be in the hands of J. H. McHale, of the McHale Production Corporation, Chicago.

Auto Show Attracts Dealers

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 27.—Thirty-one dealers and automobile distributors have purchased space in the Jefferson County Armory to exhibit the 1930 models of 29 makes of motor cars at Louisville's 22d annual Automobile Show, January 19-25.

J. Garland Lea, secretary of the Louisville Automobile Dealers' Association, said that several new makes of cars, now being tested, might be exhibited without names plates or any marks of identification.

Honolulu Expo. Suggested

HONOLULU, Dec. 26.—In commemoration of the bicentennial and centennial of the birthdays of Kamehameha the Great and King Kalakaua, an international exposition has been suggested by A. P. Taylor, librarian of the archives for the Territory of Hawaii, in 1936. Kamehameha I, who was born in 1736, has been referred to as the "Napoleon of the Pacific." Kalakaua was born in 1836 and ruled from 1874 to 1891 and was known as the "Merry Monarch"; also he was popular both at home and abroad.

Plans Moving Forward For K. of C. Circus

Extensive plans are moving forward in connection with the forthcoming Knights of Columbus Indoor Circus in Cincinnati at Music Hall February 20-22. As previously stated in this publication, the affair will be presented under the auspices of Cincinnati Council No. 375.

Affiliated with the event, there will be several contests, which are already under way and give promise of qualifying into very interesting and remunerative parts of the affair. Ben H. Voorheis, who has had years of experience in his special line of endeavor, recently arrived in the Queen City to take charge of the Better Babies activities. Dan Greiner, another experienced worker in special promotions, arrived in Cincinnati recently and has started a popularity contest.

Poultry and Pet Show

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 28.—Plans for the poultry and pet show of the Mutual Poultry Association give promise of the affair being the most elaborate of its kind ever staged here. It will be held at Duquesne Gardens January 27 to February 1. Ten judges, four from Ohio, one from Indiana and five of Pennsylvania, have been secured for the event.

Mid-Winter Festival

ALBERT LEA, Minn., Dec. 27.—The annual Mid-Winter Festival will be held here February 4.

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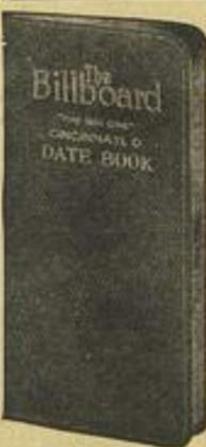
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6,600 Advance Notices

of Conventions, Banquets, Fairs, Expositions, etc., to be held in 1930 are given in our December and January issues, 5,700 in our Big December issue, and 600 additional in our January issue. Advice of other events will follow from month to month as fast as their dates are decided on. In each case, the name and address of the man to get in touch with for bookings is given. Send in your subscription this month—and we will GIVE YOU THE BIG DECEMBER ISSUE FREE. Only \$15 per year. Leaflet BA-1 gives full information.

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Harlem Museum Has Good Holiday Business

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The Wall street slump has not had any noticeable effect on the business at Harlem Museum, located in the heart of the Harlem theatrical district, 125th street and 3rd avenue. If present attendance is taken as a criterion, Manager Rubenstein reports business ahead of the same time last year. The attractive front of the Museum is an eye-catcher, especially at night, and the arcade contains a niftily arranged shooting gallery, which draws the customers on.

On the front is Cyclone Jack Brady, whose basso-profundo voice can be heard a block away. He is assisted by D. Wise, who knows how to turn a good tip. Zula and Kike, pinheads, are used on the bally to good advantage.

The current attractions include Zenda, the lady beautiful, with the radio mind, who is rounding out her second triumphal month at this temple of amusement. She is assisted by Frank Sterling and F. T. Hill. Zenda, who is in a class by herself in this line, utilizes special stage setting, with Oriental draperies and effects, with battery of flood and spotlights that make an impressive stage picture. The reception room is a busy place, attesting to the popularity of Zenda. Other worth-while attractions are Habu, noted iron-tongue marvel, who lifts 110 pounds with his muscular tongue. Jack Conway, tattooing artist, is just as popular as ever. Rico's one-man jazz band keeps the Museum surcharged with melody, and he is ably assisted by Li'l Tommy, singing and dancing comic. Great Keller, the key-hole specialist, wows the patrons. Howard, lobster boy, is popular with Harlemites. Gus Kantanuff, who is a contender for the middle-weight championship as a wrestler, meets all comers, and has rounded out his sixth successful week. Victor-Victoria is a special added attraction.

Eddie Ackerson is a lecturer par excellence, and keeps the program moving continuously with plenty of enthusiasm. Charles L. Rubenstein and Otis L. Smith, owners and managers, look forward to a good winter season. Mabel J. Smith is secretary-treasurer. The bill is changed twice monthly.

Concessionaires include Harry Jap's shooting gallery, Prof. Gus' lung-testing device; Ralph, expert checker player; Max's hot-lunch emporium, Eddie Bernard's Japanese ball game, assisted by Li'l Red.

Concessionaires include Harry Jap's shooting gallery, Prof. Gus' lung-testing device; Ralph, expert checker player; Max's hot-lunch emporium, Eddie Bernard's Japanese ball game, assisted by Li'l Red.

Minn. Poultry Show

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 27.—The annual State Poultry Show, under the auspices of the Minnesota State Poultry Association, will be held at the Municipal Auditorium beginning January 6. The show will last three days. More than 3,000 exhibits of prize-winning chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese, pigeons and rabbits will be entered.

Joint Winter Carnival

ROSEVILLE, Calif., Dec. 27.—Plans are being made by the Women's Improvement Club and the American Legion for a three-day joint Winter Carnival, to be held late in February.

The carnival will be an indoor affair and will be held in the Women's Clubhouse. A street parade will open the event.

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REVIEWS

(Continued from page 15)

Richard Bennett, whose display of versatility is a source of never-ending surprise, plays here the part of a suave crook known in police files as English Eddie. He plays it as one would expect him to, but frequently he smears on the acting so thick that one is left to wonder whether Devenport is not really a non-de plume of the guy who once got slapped.

A *Box of Cigars* is the best "name" sketch we have caught in a season sadly lacking in tolerable ones. It is conceivable that it would still remain as a rather appealing piece without the Bennett influence. It is staged in the office of the chief of detectives in police headquarters. A big job is unsolved, that is, the coppers know who did it, but for the life of them they can't pin the tell-tale evidence on English Eddie. Prior to Bennett's entrance, a good part of the plot is unfolded. A lady crook is propositioned by the chief, and told that if she makes English Eddie come across she will thereby earn her own freedom. One of the chief's men runs in and out with threads of the story on his lips. English Eddie finally appears, and turns out the tables on the carefully laid plans of the chief and his lady confederate. The chief attempts to pin Eddie down to confessing a cigar butt found on the scene of the great pearl robbery was left there by him. But Eddie is too wise for that bait. He succeeds in ridding his person of the necklace, dropping it into a cigar box, and walking nonchalantly out of the puzzled chief's office with the box under his arm.

As chief of detectives, Morris gives the best performance in the support. Angela Bennett satisfies, but this cannot be said for John Burkell, who plays the part of the dick. Maybe the limitations of his part have something to do with that. Bennett was called out for three curtain bows. Spotted in the seventh inning here. E. E. S.

McManus and Hickey

Reviewed at Loew's Orpheum, New York. Style—Comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Sixteen minutes.

Walter (Boob) McManus, doing the boozum companion, and Eddie Hickey, playing a comedy-flavored straight. This new combo of old hands at the game has an act that defies precise classification. It is subtitled as *Speakeasy* and takes in every brand of staple comedy from a conventional opening to a whirlwind of horseplay business at the finish. McManus, in his crimsoned schmozzle, and Hickey, rigged out as a small-time undertaker, start the wheel turning with monotonous ditties. McManus remains on alone for some poetizing business, as old in genre as vaudeville. But he made them howl with this, as well as an ensuing bit, wherein he takes the parts of a kid and a drunk, literally jumping from one role to another. So silly that it's funny, and not mildly so.

Both are on again for a laugh-packed cross-fire session. Hickey interrogates McManus on his factory job, and Boob evades direct answers for about five minutes. Their finale is a conglomeration of low comedy issuing from Hickey's imaginative visit to a speakeasy, with Boob along as an unwilling companion. Laughs derive mostly from the business of Hickey acting goofy and Boob taking note of it, but finally becoming even goofier himself. Both do a great piece of emoting burlesque.

They cleaned up here in the feature spot of a four-act bill. The act needs a little fixing, but not more than taking out a few bits that do not click as well as the accompanying stuff. Not one of those acts with new-fangled material ideas. Plenty of old 'uns here, but all strong enough to warrant their retention thru the years. The Loew office should grab them up pronto. E. E. S.

Six Blue Streaks

Reviewed at Keith's 81st Street. Style—Acrobatic. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Four minutes.

Male troupe of human-pyramid-building lads who, oddly enough, appear more like a sextet of red flashes in their carmine velvet costumes and display a cyclonic routine of acrobatics, balancing and almost phenomenal speed and agility. Their ensemble feats and solos vary markedly from the conventional acrobatic and tumbling offerings. They crowd into less than five minutes a rare outburst of difficult stunts seldom tried by most troupes, and do each with lightning rapidity. Full-stage setting of

plain-color drapes, and costuming appears to be Czechoslovakian.

First part of the routine is devoted principally to pyramid building, with a one-man understander and the regular conical-shape variety. This work is seldom seen outside of fairs and gymnasiums, but as done in rapid motion by this sextet makes good vaude, entertainment. Fast session of floor work, each member doing flips, twists, handstands and somersaults, individually and collectively, got big returns. They strive to outdo athletic precedent by performing tricks which the ordinary acrobat dares not do. Where one would do a front one-hand handstand, these boys do the same thing backward, and so on down the tumbling catalog. Finish with kaleidoscopic ensemble gyrations. Good opener for any house. C. G. B.

Miller and Doyle

Reviewed at Loew's Victoria. Style—Harmony singing. Setting—In one. Time—Ten minutes.

Here is a neat-sailing harmony team. Both males possess good voices, one a high clear tenor and the other a pleasing baritone. In formal dress the pair leave out all stalling and comedy-by-play and get down to work from the very start. So much the better for their success.

They open with a breezy rendition of *At the End of the Road*. Particularly is the tenor's delivery adept in this number. They next offer *The Pagan Love Song*, in which their manner of stiffly swaying from side to side makes for an effective piece of business. Following this comes their Rigoletto duet. Letting the heavy vocalists fall on the burden of two not rigidly trained voices proved somewhat of a severe strain for the lads. While they were able to get by passably with the number the substitution of a less trying one would be to their advantage.

They encored with *Painting the Clouds With Sunshine* and to a good reception. S. M. S.

Cal Dean and Girls

Reviewed at Keith's Franklin, Bronx. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Seventeen minutes.

Several seasons ago Cal Dean was heading a flash with a fem. quintet in his support. Spotted as one of the try-outs at Professional Preview night here, he is seen doing a smaller act which is similar in many ways to the one of old. In this comedy, singing and dancing affair, three girls give him assist. The way the act has been produced and cast it appears to have been put out for anything but real dates. It smacks strongly of being amateurish. Material is weak and small-time. Dean is but a passable comedian, and he takes on a hard job in trying to squeeze laughs out of the lines.

Girls are strong on looks, but only average in their assignments of chatter, song and dance. The gabfest is built around Dean's invasion of a room occupied by three girls. Tho the girls at first let loose harsh words at him, they let him remain anyway. Winds up with one of the girls inviting him as her escort to a dance. For solos the dark-haired girl does ivory tickling and warbling of *Everyday Aisy From You*. The auburn-haired lass sings and taps to *He's So Unusual*. They got a small hand, trying it on the 10-act show. S. H.

Milton Douglas

In *BEING BOTHERED*

Featuring the Stanley Twins, Sidney Walker, Lillian Kelly, Rose Kenny and Howard Johnson's Orchestra

Reviewed at Keith's Jefferson. Style—Musical singing and dancing revue. Setting—In one, two and full stage (special). Time—Thirty-two minutes.

Patterned somewhat after the band flash which he headed last season, Milton Douglas's revue, *Being Bothered*, shows a decided improvement, and spotted fifth on a seven-act bill here, his offering show-stopped twice in an interesting routine of wisecracks, singing and dancing specialties and music. Cast comprises 13 people. Sidney Walker plays the role of gagging plant in one of the boxes and dispenses cross-fire chatter from there and on stage with Douglas; the Stanley Twins, shapely pair of identical belles, introduce some close harmony and steps; Lillian Kelly, announced as Milton's sister, warbles in baby talk and also dances, and Rose Kenny tap dances a la Ann Pennington.

Howard Johnson's Orchestra is the musical background.

Routine is divided into two parts. In the first Douglas puts over a nifty line of wisecracks and cross-fire chatter, with the assistance of Sidney Walker in the box, and introduces the Kelly gal in a boop-a-doop version of *Ain't Mabeharin*. With *Collegiate Reel* and a breakaway dance, Douglas steps into the m. c. role and introduces the band and his specialty people. The Stanley Twins do two dances, a high-kick routine and a contortion precision, prefacing one with a close harmony warble of *When You're Counting the Stars Alone*. Rose Kenny also steps out in two tap routines, one a buck and wing, the other an impression of Bill Robinson. Miss Kelly also does *If I Were You I'd Fall in Love With Me*, working with Douglas. Interspersed chatter and hokum thruout. Good bet for any house. C. G. B.

Frank Dobson and Company

—In—
THE LOVE DOCTOR

With Marion Sayers and the Four Winter Garden Girls

Reviewed at Loew's State. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—In three (special). Time—Sixteen minutes.

For the last several seasons Frank Dobson has been starred in an offering similar to this in theme, but with a different cast. The playlet, if it can be called such, is a Herman Timberg adaptation of John B. Hymer's one-act play *Petticoats* and was originally launched in vaudeville with an unbilled juvenile lead under the billing of *The Love Cabin*. Dobson has jazzed up the old version, giving it a modern collegiate touch and setting, and he assumes the role of heart-breaking campus doctor ministering to the love palpitations of an attractive group of campus coeds in their dormitory. The cast has also been revised since its last viewing and now includes Marion Sayers, as the aggressive campus belle, and a group of singing and dancing maids known as the Four Winter Garden Girls. Setting is typical of girls' dormitory, with festooned pennants hung promiscuously.

The plot of the piece is familiar. The girls fall for a handsome doctor, and one wagers she will force him to propose within 10 minutes, but in a palama episode the tables are turned and the insouciant lass is forced into a compromise marriage by the resourceful doctor. Main appeal lies in corking dialog and situations, which went over big here as handled by Dobson and his company. Finish with an incongruous but pleasing routine of individual specialties. Okay for the better class families. C. G. B.

Sylvia Clark

Reviewed at the Palace. Style—Comedy, singing and musical. Setting—In one (special). Time—Eighteen minutes.

This act tends to pull Sylvia Clark away from the single category. The arrangement is different from that which holds on vaudeville dates, when the assisting combo of Bobbie Kuhn and Ray Allan let out their steam in an earlier spot. The three-act idea looks like a good one, altho it will have to get lots of work before shaping up to its full possibilities. The single unsatisfactory angle of the new vehicle is its tendency to exclude by time requirements the character bits that have made Miss Clark a big vaudeville "name".

Miss Clark opens with an engaging special with the recurring line, "Those wonderful days of yore". Lyrics are not extra forte, but the comic asides, gesticulations and delivery of this talent-packed buffoon can make any number click. She has demonstrated that often enough. Her next number is a corker from every angle. It is properly titled *What Happened in Chapter 18* and contains material that is well worth the spotting attention of Miss Clark. A Spanish number of dubious merit precedes the entrance of Kuhn and Allan as a pair of stringbean kids. Allan occupies the swinging seat of a baby upright. They clown around and when not so engaged grind out fair melodic phrases. Miss Clark joins them in their comic set-to. The whole round of business concerned with the apron work of the trio is sequenced by the reiterated string of special verses, with the message of "We're just grown-up kids, that's all". Miss Clark's clowning at the finish reveals her at her best. The number itself could be worked up stronger, however. A showstop here in the fourth spot. E. E. S.

Joe E. Howard

Reviewed at Keith's 81st Street. Style—Singing. Setting—In one. Time—Twelve minutes.

Joe E. Howard, famous for his writing of such tried and true pre-war ballads as *Honeymoon*; *Good-By, My Lady Love*, and others of such lifting disposition, is now playing up more his merits as a dramatic dharler rather than in exploiting his reputation as a composer. With this view in mind and so that his warbling numbers will receive undue concentration and consideration from the audience, he has discarded the singing "plant" assists—Alma Olcott, a sweet lyric caroler, and the amusing Chinese lad—a pair who proved indispensable to the act for the last few seasons.

Howard opens with a medley of his own songs, accompanying himself at the piano, offering a few strains of each, just enough to catch the audience's response, if there is to be any. Usually there is on the more familiar tunes, such as *Honeymoon* and *The Good Old Summer Time*. Quickly Howard gets down to the things he seems more anxious to do nowadays, that of dramatic warbling. He couldn't have picked two more fortunate numbers for this sort of work than *Old Man River* and *Marching Home to You*. Interpretation of former number was ably given, tho slightly overly dramatic. *Marching Home to You* was rendered in an effective and spirited manner.

Howard's attempt to serve an even dish of the old numbers together with new renditions should prove very palatable to the average audience. S. M. S.

Major Mite

Assisted by Reid Taylor

Reviewed at Keith's Franklin, Bronx. Style—Midget novelty. Setting—In two. Time—Fifteen minutes.

As a vaude attraction Major Mite, "World's Smallest Man", proves himself a big favorite. Just as much as he always has been with the visitors to the side show of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus. It is a natural reaction for any audience to endear itself to this little fellow. He is just a cute bundle of humanity. Major is only 26 inches tall and built in proportion. His shrill baby voice is so appealing that it keeps one right on edge trying to get every word. The act is given over to Major answering questions thrown at him by his capable assist, Reid Taylor.

Taylor comes on first and spouts a line about Major Mite. The little fellow then swaggers on, bedecked in evening clothes. After a few preliminary laugh pullers, such as Major's clown handshake with the pit leader, Taylor questions Major about himself. The latter, in his own cute way, reveals that he is American-born, a native of Salem, Ore.; is 21 years old, 26 inches tall, weighs 20 pounds and has four brothers, all six feet tall. Tho many of Major's lines were indistinct, the capable Taylor helped out by repeating them. Taylor tickles the ivories and also song-talks. They use a walloping finisher. Both take a swig out of a pocket flask and take on a drunk role. Major does it to perfection. Every number met with loud applause and at the bowfoll they cornered a big reception. S. H.

Busby and Rice

Reviewed at Loew's Delancey. Style—Comedy and singing. Setting—In one (special). Time—Twelve minutes.

Here is a good comedy team who, while they take too long getting started, end up on a high plane of entertainment. Busby is a corking black-face comic, taking the part of the superstitious caddy for Rice. The latter is an excitable golfer. The burnt-cork lad is given some swell clowning moments. His mugging, mannerisms and various by-plays all denote a good talent. Besides, his is no mean voice when it comes to warbling. For good measure the versatile Busby throws in some clever eccentric hooding.

Skit concerns the hysteria possessed by Rice when he comes to the green on which his former caddy died while he (Rice) was performing a trick golf shot. Busby is asked to get in the same position as the deceased caddy, and here, with Busby lying prostrate on the ground and Rice preparing to swing a club at the ball, teed on Busby's nose, the fun becomes quite hilarious.

Should go good on this time. S. M. S.

Carnivals

Conducted by CHAS. C. BLUE (FOLTZ)—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

H.A.S. Club Sponsors Pleasing Excitement

Week of festivity starts with Christmas Tree Party and ends New Year's Eve

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 27.—The fourth annual Exhibitors' Convention of the Heart of America Showman's Club opened Christmas Day. The festivities were started with the club's annual Christmas tree party, held in the spacious lobby of the Coates House, which was filled to capacity.

The tree party was attended by show-folks in every branch of the entertainment world. They came by plane, train and automobile. The distribution of gifts to the children was followed by the dance in the exhibit hall.

Jake Brizendine came from Claremore, Okla., where he is connected with the Montgomery Ward Company. Alonzo Carr, who is in the city from San Antonio, Tex., will remain here practically all winter, taking treatments for his illness. The Loomises came from California to participate in the activities surrounding the convention. C. E. Jones, of the Summer Players, is in the city, coming from Beatrice, Neb. George Elser, of the Jones Manufacturing Company, Joplin, Mo., was seen setting up an exhibit of their miniature train. M. F. Ryan and E. P. James, Dallas representatives of the Southern Doll & Dress Company, as well as Jack Dillon, their local representative, were also busily engaged, flashing their booth in the Exhibit Hall. Lou Heminway, of the J. George Loe's Shows, came from Laredo, Tex. Heminway nearly "broke his arm" shaking hands with his numerous friends here. Bob Sweeney, who is building an Outlaw show for Frank Graham, to be booked with the Louis Isler Shows, took a few weeks off to visit with his friends. Harry and Charlie Stevens, and George Ross, closed their Christmas store in (See H. A. S. CLUB on page 77)

"Duke" Golden Joins Bruce Greater Shows

That widely known and well-liked general agent of London, O., M. B. (Duke) Golden, had several offers from big carnival organizations for the season of 1930, but turned all down in favor of a smaller outfit—the Bruce Greater Shows. He will not only pilot but aid in the management of the show. Golden made this announcement on a visit to The Billboard's Cincinnati offices last Saturday. His wife has not been in the best of health of late, and by this affiliation he will have more time to spend with her.

Golden was accompanied on his trip to Cincinnati by his wife, who did some shopping before they returned to their home in London Sunday.

Greenburg Contracts Agents

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 27.—Jack Greenburg, manager of the Greenburg Amusement Co., advises that he has engaged Harry L. Gordon as his shows' general agent for the coming season. Gordon was formerly with the Levitt, Brown & Huggins Shows, the Bernardi Exposition Shows and, last season, with the Pacific States-Kline Shows, and recently returned southward from Idaho and Utah. Karl (Whitey) Johnson, last season with Craft's Shows, has been signed as special agent.



CLIFF LILES, who was elected president for 1930 of the Heart of America Showman's Club, at the club's election in Kansas City, December 28.

Schofield's Birthday Party

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Ed (Blackey) Schofield, who left last week for Hot Springs, Ark., where her husband is ill at the Virginia Hotel, writes that Schofield was tendered a birthday party December 22 when he was 48 years of age. He was bedfast while many of his friends enjoyed themselves in his room at the hotel. Mrs. Schofield was hostess at the party. Among those present were Sam Roth, Fred Swisher, Lester Stone-man, Albert Stein, "Whitey" Payne, Chester Henderson, C. E. Wooly, A. E. Ross, Charles Fisher, D. R. Talleyman, R. E. Walker and A. E. Montgomery.

Peter L. Drew in New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Accompanied by William Dunnville, Peter L. Drew, owner and manager of Drew's World Standard Shows, passed thru the city recently by auto en route to Washington, D. C., where they were going to look over some riding devices. They visited K. F. Ketchum in Paterson. Drew is busy formulating his plans for next season, when the show will be enlarged. He will attend the various State fair meetings of New England.

John Metz at Venice

VENICE, Calif.—After a successful season at Riverview Park, Chicago, and eight weeks with the Morris & Castle Shows, John Metz now has his shows at Ocean Park and Venice. His Serpentina attraction has been doing a nice business on the Pier at Ocean Park.

An Erroneous Report

Writing from Houston, Tex., Tex Forrester states that the store show featuring Ralph, the Elephant Boy, is at Houston instead of Dallas, as was recently reported to The Billboard, and that it is he and not Tex Foster who has the show.

W. H. Meyer Visits East

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—W. H. Meyer, for six years manager of the Levitt-Brown-Huggins Shows and recently appointed assistant manager of the Conklin & Garrett Shows, is visiting his home here, the first time in 15 years. He expects to leave after New Year's for the West Coast. Mrs. Meyer accompanied her husband east.

Phil O'Neil Holidays Home

NASHUA, N. H.—Philip O'Neil, one of the most prominent concessionaires of the United States, is spending the holidays here with relatives and friends. Last season he had intermittently from 10 to 18 concessions with the Greater Sheesley Shows and had concession interests at various fairs in the South. His brother, Herbert O'Neil, who the last two years took a special course in law and acted as Philip's secretary nearly all of last season, is also here, having returned to his studies a few months ago.

John H. Marks Launching Own Shows

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 28.—John H. Marks, for the last three years part owner of the W. T. Stone Shows, announced here this week that he had purchased show property formerly held by W. T. Stone in the show which bears his name, and that he will devote his time and attention in the future to his own show, titled the Great American Shows. Marks purchased all the physical property and railroad equipment of his former affiliation and announced that several rides and new show property would be purchased. The outfit will consist of about 12 shows, seven rides and a free attraction.

Herbert Tisdale, for the last several years connected with the Bruce Greater Shows, has been engaged as a member of the staff and will start on his duties after the holidays. "Whitey" Hewitt, who was the electrician of the Stone Shows last season, has been engaged as superintendent of construction and will start work at the Petersburg, Va., winter quarters with a small crew of men at once.

Marks left this week for the North, where he will look over the territory to be played by the Great American Shows the coming season.

Seek Relatives of Showman Killed by Automobile Truck

The Billboard received a communication last week, informing that Myron (or Mike) C. Johnson had been killed while trying to board a truck on a highway out of Mansfield, La., and that his relatives were being sought. Information from anyone knowing of Johnson's kinsfolk should be addressed to county sheriff, Mansfield, La., at which place the remains were being held with the hope of locating someone to claim them or give instructions as to their disposal.

Johnson at one time was with the Walter Harris Shows, later with the Brown Amusement Company in the employ of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Everett.

Blake With Francis Shows

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Capt. Kenneth Blake, of Skyrocket & Co., has joined the John Francis Shows. He is booked for five weeks, beginning Monday, December 30. His girl high diver, Viola M. Moss, who is spending the winter in Chicago, advises The Billboard that she is in training for Wm. Wrigley's Toronto swim next summer.

Heth Gets Muncie Fair

MUNCIE, Ind., Dec. 28.—It has been announced here that contract for the furnishing of the midway attractions at the 1930 Muncie Fair, August 5-8, had been awarded to the L. J. Heth Shows. The contract was consummated by the fair's secretary-manager, F. J. Claypool, during the recent fair and showmen's meetings in Chicago.

West Coast Showmen Provide Merry Event

Christmas tree function of the P. C. S. A. replete with the yuletide spirit

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Dec. 28.—Christmas Day in the clubrooms. The spirit of Christmas is the spirit of giving love and affection and good will toward all men. Therefore, showmen, active or retired, young or otherwise, with their families and friends, were entertained by the Pacific Coast Showmen's Association December 25. The spirit of brotherly love is general when showfolks assemble, and particularly on Christmas. Many showmen who had reversed during the past year and made their way to this city, some practically strangers, were all received with a glad handshake, seated at the various tables and served as only showmen know how.

Nothing too good for the troupers and their friends, everything from "soup to nuts", and they were entertained with attention "befitting a king". Members of the association scoured the city and spread the word that festivities would start at 11 a.m.

The clubrooms were decorated for the (See SHOWMEN on page 77)

R. A. S. Heads in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 28.—Carl J. Sedlmayr and Curtis and Elmer Velare, of the Royal American Shows, arrived in the city early this week to participate in the festivities surrounding the H. A. S. C. convention and parties. They will remain here until a few days after New Year, then proceed to their winter-quarters city, South Jacksonville, Fla., to prepare their organization for opening at the Florida State Fair at Jacksonville in February.

This probably will be the first time for a large organized amusement company to open its regular season in the spring at a recognized State fair, the recent changing of the Florida State Fair dates from November to February affording this opportunity.

Mrs. Boucher Has Fire Loss

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—Word was received at the San Francisco office of The Billboard that Mrs. Boucher, owner of the Boucher-French Shows, who was seriously injured in an automobile accident at Newman, Calif., had suffered a further misfortune. All of her rides and equipment stored at Newman were recently destroyed by fire.

Wheel Shipped to Brazil

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—W. J. Hanley, representing Joel Goldberg's Coney Island Shows in this country, recently booked and shipped an 21 Wheel to the show which is playing Brazil, South America. The wheel is owned by Forbes Elmer Mason and has been leased to James E. Fisher, who accompanied the same, and they will open with the show at the Bahia Exposition, Brazil, January 12, for an extended engagement.

Mrs. Lew Dufour Ill

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Lew Dufour has been confined to her room at the Hotel Sherman this week, suffering from a severe cold. She is now slowly improving but still is unable to be about. Lew Dufour himself has had a slight cold, but not sufficiently severe to lay him up.

Frank Forrest Museum In Seattle for the Winter

SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 26.—The Frank Forrest Museum is in its 11th week of operation here this season, with very good business, and will remain here the remainder of the winter. This is the third season for the museum in Seattle. There is a very entertaining list of acts, etc. Among these are Professor Lovely, magic; Dolly, the doll lady; King Tiny Mite, midget; Odaliska, Persian entertainer; Electro, human dynamo; Mazie, torture girl; Millie Bendo, India rubber girl; "Diabolo", devil snake, and Francis-Frances, in the added-attraction section. Professor Little is the pianist; Leo Tunney, the lecturer; Joe Thompson and Charlie Manos, tickets; Mrs. Marie Forrest, treasurer, and Frank Forrest is the proprietor.

Heyn Home for Holidays

Henry Heyn, well-known riding device operator, recently returned to his winter-quarters town, East St. Louis, Ill., from the West Coast. In a communication to the carnival editor Heyn stated that he had motored about 2,000 miles thru the snow country since November 20 and had become snowbound only four miles from home. However, while many other motorists were planning how to overcome the obstacle he backed up 20 miles and detoured 100 miles around the "bound" belt into St. Louis. He further states that while at Paribault, Minn., visiting his father, who is one of the few surviving members of posses which pursued the Northfield bank robbery 53 years ago, he heard stories of those who said they had witnessed the event of 1876. Heyn intends to drive back to the West Coast with a party and about March 1 return to East St. Louis to get his Tilt-a-Whirl, Glider and Ell Wheel ready and attend to other details for the opening in April of the H. L. Attractions.

Border Veterans' Association

Anthony G. Derso, Oconomowoc, Wis., a court commissioner of Waukesha County, informs *The Billboard* by letter that there was recently organized the Mexican Border Veterans' Association, for membership in which those who served in the army, navy, marine corps and national guard on Mexican border duty January 1, 1916, to April 6, 1917, are eligible. Attorney Derso sends this information to this publication in show business thus served during the specified time. The following are the temporary officers: Past commander-in-chief, Maurice G. Closson, Independence, Mo.; commander-in-chief, Anthony G. Derso, Oconomowoc, Wis.; senior vice-commander, Dr. T. M. MacLachlan, Blismarck, N. D.; junior vice-commander, A. B. Welsh, Mandan, N. D.; executive committee, N. E. Blain, Brandywine Summit, Pa.; W. H. Brown, Cambridge, Ill.; Charles A. Elders, Kansas City, Mo.; Michael D. Baumer, Lexington, Ky., and Arthur C. Farrell, Brooklyn, N. Y. All persons who served in the U. S. Army, Navy or National Guard at any time from January 1, 1916, to April 6, 1917, are eligible for membership.

Fred Clare Coming to States

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—A cable to *The Billboard* from Auckland, New Zealand, indicates that Fred Clare, of Clare & Greenhalgh Shows, one of Australia's principal outdoor shows, is en route to the United States. After a successful season in Australia the Clare & Greenhalgh Shows are touring New Zealand, where good business prevails. Clare is coming here for the purpose of contracting attractions for a new tour of Australia and New Zealand. He is expected to arrive in Los Angeles early in January and after a brief sojourn there will come to this city.

Barie Sells Whale Show

Word from Laguna Beach, Calif., to *The Billboard* was that Bill Barie, who last season successfully piloted the Roscoe whale show, had sold his interest in the 50-ton monster of the deep and is now busily engaged in furnishing these mammals to other showmen. Further advice was that Barie's own whale show, Barnacle Bill, will play prominent fairs in the States and Canada.

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Notes From Hot Springs

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Dec. 28.—A Christmas tree celebration was held at the Garrison Hotel by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smith in honor of their 12-year-old son, James. Among the troupers in attendance were A. L. Mason, L. M. (Doc) Lewis, Nick Hayes, William Conrad and Hi Tom Long. Hi Tom acted as Santa Claus and distributed the presents. (Someone remarked that he "looked the part"—his retort was, "Well, I don't feel it.")
 Dock L. M. Lewis has gone to Dallas, Tex., on business connected with his many concessions, but is expected to return around New Year's Day.
 A. L. Mason, well-known cookhouse and soft-drink-stand operator, holds the exclusive for his line at the National Live-Stock Show to be held at Fort Worth, Tex., in March. He is making his annual visit to Hot Springs at present.
 Several attaches of the Gold Medal Shows, now wintering at Little Rock, were visitors at the Hot Springs of Arkansas during Christmas week.
 A. A. Russell's "Penitentiary Portrayal", last season with the Morris & Castle Shows, is now playing at Beaumont, Tex., under the auspices of the American Legion, with Port Arthur, Tex., and Shreveport, La., to follow; then into Hot Springs under strong auspices, where it has been booked by Hi Tom Long.

Newsnotes From Atlanta

ATLANTA, Dec. 27.—Christmas is now history and to say that it left a wake of "headaches" for a number of show boys here would be putting it mildly, as the month was a failure for show business. Weather, ranging from extreme warmth to extreme cold, with rain, sleet and snow thrown in, was on the menu.
 Joe Geller, after a month in one of the best locations on Five Points, closed his store show and avers that his books showed red plenty on the left side of the ledger. However, he says that had he been on the ground floor things would have been different, as another show of a like nature opened and got the cream. Undaunted with his losses at that location, he says he will spring another in a different location after the first of the year. He still has his rides on location, and on Christmas Day many folks took advantage of the "winter carnival". The week following will find that unit in storage here and will open about the first of March, but immediately after season is under way around Cincinnati he will again place the rides in storage and operate his regular show in new territory.
 Jimmy Guzy declares that the month

just closing was a remarkable lesson to him. Says he never thought a novelty store like the one he opened (and the location) could do such bad business. However, the last two days redeemed themselves. Jimmy had a fountain pen demonstration on the inside, with "Count" Kennard pitching gyroscopes on the outside, which went over big. Count says he will start pitching in Louisville, Ky., his old stamping ground. Guzy will depart for Florida points after he has shipped everything to quarters. Says he will be with one of the big ones for 1930.
 Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Miller and Hank Spellman and wife are tucked away for the winter here and Spellman has acquired a garage and repair shop—says that business has not been bad. Mrs. Joe Geller has returned from Cincinnati, where she went on a business trip.
 John (Kid) Nappie, many years a friend to showfolks on the familiar five-point corner, will move his world-news stand to 14 Walton street. Nappie has the distinction of never seeing showfolk go hungry. The building on that corner will be torn down.
 B. J. Larow, with his family, is seen almost daily promenading on Peachtree street. He was last season with the Barnett Bros.' Circus.

J. W. Conklin Contracts Big Freak Animal Show

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27.—Among prominent showmen here, attending the various holiday functions of the Pacific Coast Showmen's Association and consummating business transactions in connection with their respective amusement organizations, is J. W. Conklin, president of the Conklin & Garrett Shows.
 Among Conklin's business transactions was the contracting of the W. B. Evans Freak Animal Show, owned and operated by Harry Meyers. This attraction has a frontage of 217 feet, with triple-decked banners depicting the interior presentations. It is doubtless one of the most elaborate and greatest revenue-drawing offerings in the outdoor field of entertainments. Meyers, who for a number of years has had a cookhouse with the Levitt, Brown & Huggins Shows, has also been contracted by Conklin to operate the eating emporium with the Conklin & Garrett Shows the coming season.

Bill Holland in New York

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—William (Bill) Holland, special agent of the D. D. Murphy Shows, is spending the holidays among his many friends in the metropolis.

Notes From Louisville

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 28.—There has been quite a gathering of outdoor shows and showfolks here this winter. At present there are four storeroom shows on Jefferson street, besides the Gaiety and Ophemus theaters. There are Cash Miller's Circus Side Show; the Bryden Museum, with Ike and Mike, midgats; Billy White Cloud, with his medicine show, and another trouper with a penny arcade (name not known to the writer). All seem to be doing nicely. Both store shows are operating concessions. Jack Morgan is on the door of the med. show. Others to be seen about are "Whitey" Irving, "Candy" Sabbath, O. A. Baker, Charles Robinson and Jimmy Bunch. Stanford Baker recently left for Detroit for the holidays. Mr. Livermore passed thru the city, headed for Miami, where the writer will go after the holidays. Mr. Baker has booked all of his concessions on the Michigan Greater for the ninth season. **OSCAR WARNER.**

Collins and Walker Enter Into Partnership

Carleton Collins, well-known show publicist, and E. H. Walker, veteran contractor and biller, have formed a partnership and, with Mrs. Collins, will be found on one of the smaller carnivals next season with a new line (and a new brand) of carnival exploitation. *The Billboard* is informed.
 Collins, last season with West's World's Wonder Shows and the Melville-Relas Shows, is working on *The U. S. Daily* in Washington, D. C., and doing some correspondence for small Kentucky dailies this winter. Walker, since closing his season with the Shivan-Drew Circus, is back on the Southern Railroad for the winter months.

Elmer Gilmore in Hospital

Elmer Gilmore writes from General Hospital, 1100 North Madison street, Los Angeles, that he is still "on his back" in that institution, but has hopes of getting out and to work by February 1. He further states that he lost quite an amount of salary last season, also some equipment, including a monkey loop-the-loop and a high-dive ladder, and that he would appreciate small contributions from friends—"just a dime if no more," and will register the names and return the amounts when he is able.

Edna Zimmer From Hospital

Writing from Postoria, O., L. E. Zimmer informs *The Billboard* that Edna Zimmer, dancer, who was taken seriously ill while with the Wade Shows, and was confined in the Hart (Mich.) Hospital for three months, has been removed to the home of her sister, 120 West Crocker street, Postoria, where she will be confined indoors the remainder of the winter. She would appreciate letters of cheer from her friends of the show world.

COMPLETE MUMMY SHOW FOR SALE

King Molluska, two-headed giant; Mae, or Deeth Bird; Paganus, prehistoric woman; Frog Boy, Devil Boy, Ape Woman and Babu; Dinosaur Twins, prehistoric man and woman, and other Mummies. Strong cases for all. One Center New Dealer, two Bill Barners, three Bill Barners, Driver malle, and lots of other Fascinating Center Banner "Cases of Mystery". Everything new this year. A big bargain for cash. Write **LOUIS HEMINWAY, Coles House, Kansas City, Mo.**

T. L. SNODGRASS SHOWS
 OPENING EARLY IN MARCH.
 WANT Shows and Concessions. Positively no sell or count-up stores tolerated. WANT Help for Hides, Cook House and Concessions. Address Broken Bow, Okla., where winter quarters are now held.

BARGAINS FOR SALE CHEAP

Newly repaired and maintained Three-Row Standard Model Carry-Up-All, ready for immediate shipment. San Francisco delivery. New this machine sold for \$9,000. Three-Row Standard used Carry-Up-All, stored in Canada, complete with engine and musical instrument. Used, built on wagon. Three-Row Carry-Up-All, repaired and repainted last season. New this machine sold for \$9,500. Also used small Two-Row and used Jerry Wheeler, at Leavenworth, Okla., at a surprisingly low price, either cash or time basis. Write for price and details of machine you desire. Also have equipment for 15-car show for sale. **C. W. PARKER AMUSEMENT CO., Leavenworth, Kan.**

FOR SALE — CHAIROPLANE

Get quick. Pried to sell and won't last long at the price. **C. M. HAMM, 54 Elm St., Bangor, Me.**

CANADA
LARGEST and only Exclusive Wholesale
Concession Supply House for the Carnival
Operator.
BERK BROTHERS, Ltd.
77 Wellington St., W., Toronto, Canada
Send for Latest Catalogue.

WE WAGER
You will be surprised at the startling originality and quantity of these Armadillo Novelties made from the unique shell of the Armadillo.
They get attention and draw many delighted "Ahs".
Always in demand, with rapid turnover. Armadillo Lamps, Baskets, Wall Pictures, Clocks, etc. Let us show you that we are right. Write for our Catalogue.
THE APELT ARMADILLO FARM,
COMFORT, TEXAS

California Gold Souvenir RINGS
Just the thing for Souvenir and Concession operators. Have mounted in rings, as illustrated.
Samples, 50c. Full Gross Lots at \$2.75 per Dozen. Full Gross Lots at \$1.85 per Dozen. Loose Souvenir Cuffs, Balmes. Per Dozen, \$1.15; per 100, \$8.50.
NOT THE CHEAPEST, BUT THE BEST.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOGUE OF Carnival and Concession Goods—just off the press. New Goods, New Prices.
KINDEL & GRAHAM
The House of Novelties,
182-184 Mission Street, SAN FRANCISCO.

PAINT SPRAYERS
All Sizes and Types.
The Mac Lead Company
Station B, CINCINNATI, O.

Monkey Family for Ball Racks
1930 Catalogue of New Ball Throwing Equipment. Tennis, Woods, Golf, Cuts, Monkeys, ready to mail.
Improved Six-Cat Rack.

TAYLOR'S GAME SHOP
Columbia City, Ind.

BUDDHA PAPERS
Outfits and Costumes. Heretofore unusual. Send for full info.
S. BOWER, Bower Bldg.,
430-2 W. 18th St., New York
See our ad in M. P. Section.

CANDY FLOSS MACHINES
All Electric, \$125; Hand, \$150; D w 1 Electric, \$200.
Catalog Free.
NAT'L FLOSS MACH. CO., 665-A 2d Av., New York.

GUM 1 a pack
SPEARMINT GUM Full size. So much—also other flavors. Flashy boxes. All Streetmen. Concession and Premium Men use our dandy brands. Double your money. Deposit required. Order today.
HELMET GUM SHOPS, Cincinnati, Ohio.

HOROSCOPES
FUTURE PHOTOS
Magic Wand and Buddha Papers. Send for Samples.
JOS. LEDOUX,
149 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOR SALE
One Ride Range, \$100.00; Four Place American Phonograph, \$15.00. **YELLOW NOVELTY CO.,** 8 Yates St. Schenectady, N. Y.
Advertise in The Billboard—you'll be satisfied with Results.

Midway Confab
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

ALL HAIL the "Youngster"!
GOO-BY OL' '29; WELCOME 1930!!
OL' SANTA plays but one date a year. And it sure is a "red" one!

CURRENT THOUGHTS
1--Spring: Where will you open?
2--Summer: Where will you still-date?
3--Autumn: Where will you close?
4--Winter: Where will you hibernate?

A MANAGER included in his form letter to fair men: "Why have the same carnival each year?" What about his return dates?

T. M. CORBETT is herewith credited with the following quotation: "It's not 'which way the wind blows', but the way you set your sails!"

WORD from Muncie, Ind., was that Desplaner Bros., of Chicago, had been awarded novelty privileges at this year's fair at Muncie.

AMONG CONCESSIONS THAT withstand all knocks is the grab stand—hamburger has been on the pan (griddle) many years.

In Detroit, Roth working concessions (probably package confections) at one of theaters, according to word from Ed Hughson.

THE FOLEY & BURK SHOWS' holiday greeting card this season is a nifty affair, in 14 languages—including Japanese and Chinese. Also there are a couple of systems of shorthand.

SPEEDY MERRILL, autodromist, and Art Spencer (ditto) have completed a miniature automobile, at Cedar Point, O., for use on Merrill's autodrome next season, which for them opens about June 1. Spencer will drive the auto.

MRS. A. McNULTY, Punch and Judy worker, and son, John, recently arrived in Chicago to spend the holidays with relatives. For the remainder of the winter they will work picture houses in the Central States.

MR. AND MRS. BINGO Randolph, Jack E. Ryan, Ray Ayers, Slim Troyer and Arthur Beecham, all formerly of the J. J. Page Shows, have been spending the holidays in Baton Rouge, La., where they have a five-room apartment, Mrs.



THE BALLYHOO ASSEMBLE, last season of the "Broadway Revue" (subtitled "Arabian Nights") with the Greater Sheesley Shows owned and managed (except the physical equipment) by Hamda Ben, and again booked for the coming season with the Sheesley Shows. From left to right: Mary Hanks, Clementine Coffee, Mr. French (ticket box), Hamda Ben, Mrs. Hamda Ben, Mat Craven (talker), Mrs. Mat (Helen) Craven, Mr. Leo (ticket box), Bee Kehoe, Billie Fields.

J. L. (TEX) CHAMBERS and wife, Edna, are located in Dallas, Tex., where they will remain until about February 2 before again taking to the road.

SOME FELLOWS down Texas way have contributed squibs about a "sponge act". The Confab editor should be enlightened—explanatory details.

"A TROUPER" and like "monikers" isn't sufficient signature to get a submitted squib in print—with any recognized publication!

REPORT HAS IT that "Blacky" Pate, electrician with the World of Pleasure Shows, recently passed thru North Little Rock, en route to San Antonio.

TED WALTON and Fred Flechrupp say they fell down the steps. Well, we have also heard the one about running into a door.

LEE FALKNER, last season electrician with the Bernard Greater Shows, has been spending the holidays with his sister at Durand, Mich.

SHADES OF LONG AGO: Kearney P. Speedy saying from the top of his dive ladder, "Steady now, Allen" (his property man below).

MR. AND MRS. ROTH are wintering

START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT!
Get YOUR FREE Sample Copy of
BIG ELI NEWS
FOR JANUARY.
Printed especially for Riding Device Owners and Operators. Snappier and better than ever and chock full of Real News from Riding Device Men throughout the Country.
DON'T MISS IT!
Send a Postal for YOUR Free Sample Copy Today.
ELI BRIDGE COMPANY,
Publishers,
Opp. Wab. Station, Jacksonville, ILLINOIS

ALLAN HERSCHELL CARROUSELS
FOR
CARNIVALS PARKS
Unbreakable Aluminum Horse Legs. Standard Equipment on All Our Machines. Diameters: 32-ft. Little Beauty, 36-ft. Ideal, 40-ft., 45-ft. and 50-ft. Park Carrousel.
ALLAN HERSCHELL CO., Inc.
NORTH TONAWANDA, N. Y.

The NEW KIDDIE AIRPLANE SWING
Suitable for Parks and Carnivals.
Seating capacity, 15 children. Weight, about 2,000 pounds. This ride has just been completed and during our demonstration proved very popular with the children. Description and prices upon request.
SMITH & SMITH, Springfield, Erie Co., N. Y.

TALCO - Every thing for COOK HOUSES
STRONG BOY STOVES - BURNERS - HAMBURGER TRUNKS - GRIDDLES
4 in. \$4.25, 5 in. \$5.50
Pressure Tanks, 2 gallon, \$1.50; 5 gallon, \$2.50; 10 gallon, \$4.50
Hot Pump, \$2.00
Cooking Ladders, \$1.00
Sawing wire, 5 cents foot.
Strong Boy Stove—Pressure Gasoline: 2 Burner, \$12.50; 3 Burner, \$15.00; 4 Burner, \$17.50.
Griddles, Heavy Galvanized Steel 4 feet 6 inch, \$12.00; 24 x 18, \$8.00; 30 x 18, \$9.50; 36 x 18, \$11.00
Concession Men everywhere depend on Talco Quality and Service. Order from this ad. Send one-fourth deposit. Write for illustrated catalog on anything you want.
TALBOT MFG. CO., Dept. M-8, St. Louis, Mo.

WANTED FREAKS AND NOVELTY ACTS
AT ALL TIMES.
HUBERT'S MUSEUM
228 W. 42d Street, NEW YORK CITY.

WANTED WANTED O. J. BACH SHOWS, Inc.
Will Open the Last of April in Syracuse, N. Y.
WANTED—Flat Ride, Feature Show, Motorbromes and a few Concessions. Ball Game sold. Gift Stores and Merchandise Wheels not carried. Address O. J. BACH, P. O. Box 293, Oremsted, Fla.

Corey Greater Shows
WANTED FOR 1930
Shows, Rides and Concessions of all kinds. Address E. B. COREY, Phillipsburg, N. J.

WANTED, BARGAIN
In good used Callipers, in good condition. No junk wanted. Experienced Drivers wanted. **WAYNE CARTER, Mason, Ill.**

cuffed and shackled stunts in the Southeast, booking independent, headquarters at Miami.

JIMMIE KITZNER is this winter back at the Swan Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., as clerk and assistant manager, on a percentage and salary basis. Jimmie recently left his home in Pennsylvania to take over the position.

CURLY NORMAN informed that after his three years as electrician with Miller Bros.' Shows, he and Dolly will be with the Michigan Greater Shows the coming season, with which he will handle the "juice" department.

HARRY ROEBUCK, who the last couple of seasons has been in a park at Jersey City, is spending the winter with his wife, Ada, in Cincinnati. Mrs. Roebuck has remained out of show business for several years.

A PROMOTION

Two.
Men:
Who.
When:
Dated.
Stalled—
Feted—
"Called"
Declared.
"Such".
Prepared.
Much.
Started.
Posed;
Parted.
Closed!

NOT GETTING ENOUGH travel in summer, the fast-stepping special representative of the Melville-Hetas Shows, Mrs. J. D. Wright, Jr., is spending her winter in the same manner. From Charlotte, N. C., to Detroit, Mich., by the way of New York and Cincinnati.

QUITE A NUMBER of troupers for various periods of time at Jacksonville, Fla. Among them have been Gene Nardreau, Tom and Anabelle Martin, Bill Holt, Morris Miller, Billy and Tessie Harrington. "Dad" Casey, Jimmy Hoy, Jack Moran and Jack Lynch.

JIMMIE MOONEY, erstwhile show trainmaster, and wife, are all comfy located at their Golden Camp, near Augusta, Ga.; probably not again to take the road, according to a message from Benny Smith, who is still hibernating at Augusta for the winter.

ISN'T IT GRAND, the good-fellowship spirit among showfolks cemented by the functioning of the various showmen's clubs and associations? And the nationwide co-operation and reverence displayed for the parent association, the Showmen's League of America?

ACCORDING to press report from San Antonio, Tex., Everett Bayer, 58 years of age, suffered the loss of his wooden right leg, and narrowly escaped severe burning or death in a fire that destroyed a tent in which he was sleeping, the day before Christmas.

JOE V. PALMER, formerly of the Boyd & Sullivan Shows, informs from Pittsburgh, Pa., that he has opened a "showmen's clubroom" at 136 Sixth street, and is also using it as an office for the Joe V. Palmer Shows, which are scheduled to open in that city March 15.

MR. AND MRS. A. B. CUNDIFF and Mr. and Mrs. Dick Howard have leased an apartment in Miami for the winter. Cundiff recently closed with the Wise Shows, and likewise Howard with Bodnar Bros.' Shows. They inform that their winter diversions will include a great deal of fishing and other water sports.

EARL AND PEGGY KETRING are again, this winter, enjoying the balmy climate of 'way down in Florida. For Christmas week they were at West Palm Beach. The last eight or nine seasons Ketring has done his miraculous trick riding and operated the motordrome with the Greater Sheeley Shows.

BOB HALLOCK, of the Eastern Circus Exposition Company, informs that he cannot understand how promoters during the last nine years had overlooked Wellington, Kan., for a doings. A prosperous little city, with a big city auditorium—an ideal place for the indoor circus, seabe.

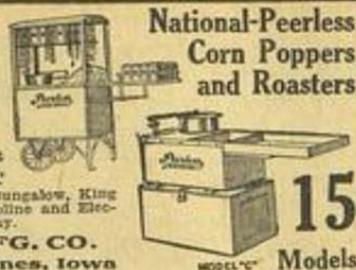
A LIST of senders of Christmas and

They Make the BIG MONEY EVERYWHERE

Before you buy any Corn Popper or Peanut Roaster, investigate the National-Peerless Line, Biggest Money-Makers for Shows and Concessions Men for over 12 years. We make the Bungalow, King of them all, and 14 other models. Gas, Gasoline and Electric. Trade-Ins and Easy Terms. Write today.

NATIONAL SALES & MFG. CO.
605 Keo Way, Des Moines, Iowa

FREE—32 Pg. Color Catalog—WRITE TODAY!



GREAT AMERICAN SHOWS

(John H. Marks, Sole Owner)

NOW BOOKING SEASON 1930

SHOWS—Will furnish complete new outfits for any new and novel Shows.
CONCESSIONS—All Concessions open.

FOR SALE—Two 60-ft. Flat Cars, one Stateroom Car, will pass M. C. B. inspection. One Tangley Calliope mounted on truck, first-class condition. Whip in good condition. Will make terms to reliable showmen. Would like to hear from all my old friends.

Address **JOHN H. MARKS, Box 770, Richmond, Virginia.**

New Year greeting cards to *The Billboard* appears in this issue. The addresses of many are not at hand, therefore (in order to not "miss" anyone) this scribe prays to herewith acknowledge those he received with many, many thanks, and may good fortune be yours thruout the new year!

HOW MANY TIMES have showmen, when chided about a rolling stone gathering no moss, "gotten back" at the chiders with "Yeh, how 'bout a moving snowball?" That's a good one, but "an old one," eh? All right, suppose a wise chider "comes back" with "But don't forget, Fellow, that in the spring the 'snow' melts away!"

BUNNY McQUIRE informed from Los Angeles that after successfully playing her Bunny Venus attraction at special events in New Mexico and Arizona, her first trip West, she was in the California city looking over new costumes and props, and enjoying the climate and companionship of showfolks of that section.

W. T. STONE AND JOHN H. MARKS, having severed their business partnership affiliations, will, the coming season, each operate his own amusement organization. Both have duly made their announcements to this effect in the advertising columns of this publication—Stone in last issue and Marks in this week's edition.

THANKS FOR THIS: "The editor of the Midway Confab and Carnival pages is due congratulation on his insistence to have all straightforward facts from contributors to the news columns of *The Billboard*. Exaggerations and untruths are greatly misleading. Shoot straight, fellow showfolks, or don't shoot at all!" This comes from one of the best known of showmen.

JAMES (CAPT.) O'BRIEN raised himself from the snowbanks at Saginaw, Mich. (eight feet deep, some places banked and drifted to 10 feet), and informed that he had enjoyed a Christmas with his brother, William, and family. The day before Christmas, Captain aided his local brother Edks in arranging bushel baskets of provisions to be dealt out to the needy.

ART AND JEAN GARDNER, trainmaster and palmistry concessionist, respectively, have been idling away the winter in Miami, with fishing, beach bathing and visiting friends. "Pat", the "dog of dogs", is also accorded his daily pastime of "fighting the breakers". They are very much "at home" at the Keystone Tourist Camp on Northeast Second avenue.

MILO ANTHONY advised Midway Confab that he and his wife had closed their store show in Galveston, Tex., to a satisfactory business, and intended moving it to Waco for two weeks. The lineup of attractions: Miss Hill's Illusions, Singale, fire eater and steel-skinned marvel; Velma Norris, sword box; Fred Waters,

strong-man act; Prof. Victor, tattooed man; Mr. and Mrs. Bell's Hawaiian singers. Doc Lewis is on the front.

L. (CRAZY RAY) CHOISSER, the veteran calliope player, last season with Robbins Bros.' Circus, tells of meeting many old friends of the lots while in Kansas City recently. They included Doc Allman, Hannas Howk, brother of George; Dan MacGugin, Walter Stanley and others. Ray states that altho he has been of late pounding the keys in circus parades, when carnivals return to steam calliope there he again will be.

THERE IS a side-show entertainer who has but one leg and both arms off above the elbows—walks with a crutch. A good samaritan auto driver passed him (walking) last summer about half his way to the fairgrounds—about two miles, and when asked if he wished to ride, the man replied: "No. I'm getting along all right, and (rather gruffly) I don't need any sympathy!" That was self-pride—or was it sensitiveness?

H. I. BUSH, intimately known to "old heads" of the caravans as "Sheeney" Bush, veteran talker, has been working on the front of Fred Bowers' Freak Animal Show, formerly with Morris & Castle Shows. He is also managing a Southern tour of Dolly, the Doll Lady, who had a successful engagement in Matamoros, Mex. Incidentally, Bush recently met, in Matamoros, Mex., another oldtimer, Harry H. Tipps, who had a nifty curio shop business in that city.

THE "SHEIK" SHOWMAN walked into a small-town drug store and remarked to the venerable clerk, whom he thought a "back number": "Make it snappy, Old Man. I want something good to make my hairs 'set'!"

Druggist: "How many have you?"
Sheik: "Whatcha doin', tryin' tu kid somebody? Hurry up!"
Druggist: "No, but what's your hurry? Why not wait until next Easter?"
Sheik: "Why wait 'til Easter?"
Druggist: "To get 'rabbit eggs'!"
(Not so "slow", eh?—of course, rabbits are often referred to as "hares").

JIMMIE HELMAN advises from Baltimore that he and his associates have the arcade and illusion combined into a museum, at 724 East Baltimore street, and have been doing a nice business. Will remain for the winter, and play under canvas (motorized) next season at celebrations and fairs. Lingerman, ventriloquist, was there; also Dr. Peck, musical saw; Prince Milo, half man, and other attractions. Seal is a recent visitor. Jimmie's son, Van Helman, is attending school in Baltimore.

MIKE AND IKE, the midgets, were heavily featured in a three-column cut in *The Herald-Post*, Louisville, Ky., of recent date, the photo taken of the midgets and 144 kiddies who attended the regular Saturday open meeting of the Sectatory Hawkins Club—after which meeting each one was given a large stick of candy by a local concern.

1930 Model

BABY BELL FRONT VENDER



No. 18-A—Nickel Play, \$75.00

No. 19-A—Quarter Play, \$80.00

MADE ONLY BY
WATLING MFG. COMPANY
700 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
Phone, Baymarket 8778

ZAIDENS MECHANICAL DOLLS



A SURE-FIRE SELLER

11 Different Numbers with Life-Like Movements.

Overland Products Corp.,

413-419 Kent Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

BODY MOVEMENTS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS—THEY KEEP TIME WITH YOUR RADIO—OPERATED BY MECHANICAL CLOCK MOVEMENT.

Complete Line on Display,
KINDEL & GRAHAM, 783 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.
FAIR TRADING CO., 68 W. 21st St., New York City.
SINGER BROS., 538 Broadway, New York City.
M. L. KAHN & CO., 599 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.
CATALOG AND PRICES SENT ON REQUEST.

BEANO or CORN GAME

The Best on the Market.

35 Player Outfit, \$5.00

70 Player Outfit, \$10.00

ALUMINUM CENTER WHEELS

25 inches in diameter, numbered on both sides, any combinations.

SPECIAL PRICE, \$20.00

SHOOTING GALLERIES

Send for Catalog

Also send for our new Catalogue No. 129, full of new Games, Dolls, Blankets, Lamps, Aluminum Ware, Bathrobes, Candy, Pillow Top, Ballcoons, Paper Hats, Pavots, Cones, Artificial Flowers, Novelties, etc.

SLACK MFG. CO.

124-126 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

Happy and Prosperous New Year To All!

MASON'S IMPERIAL SHOWS

New booking for season of 1930. Shows, Rides and Concessions. For information write to **RALPH MASON, Sec'y., 1496 Whole Plains Rd., New York, N. Y.**

PACIFIC COAST SHOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EIGHTH ANNUAL BANQUET AND BALL

GOLD ROOM, ALEXANDRIA HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 14TH, 1930

The Demand for Reservations Has Far Exceeded Expectations

WILL YOU BE THERE?

Address All Communications WILL WRIGHT, Chairman, 816 New Orpheum Bldg.,

Los Angeles

This scribe is wondering if Gerald Fitzgerald, the Coney Island Big Freak Museum's (in Louisville) press representative, had something to do with the display?

THERE IS a birth recorded in the proper columns this issue that attracts special interest, from the fact that the wooing and marriage of the parents, Ray and Jule Balzer, were romantic. Ray was a concessionaire with the Dodson Shows almost six years ago, and Jule (then Jule Stark, of Stark Sisters) was with the Ringling-Barnum Circus. The shows played day-and-date, and Ray saw her acting—later, introduction; still later, and later, correspondence; finally, marriage! They are wintering at Chisholm, Minn. Last season with the D. D. Murphy Shows.

REGARDING "CHRISTMAS" greetings "to be published" in the news columns: Many showfolks not understanding the newspaper or magazine business (which, of course, is not their vocation) each holiday time send requests of this nature. Some have registered "kicks" because they were not published. For the information of all who do not understand the matter, it might be well to state that "greetings" to friends, etc., do not belong in the news columns, but are supposed to be advertising data. (Did you ever read them in the news columns of any newspaper or magazine? For instance, "So-and-So" wishes "So-and-So" a Merry Christmas, etc.) Greetings to each other may be exchanged by mail, if not as paid advertising. It is entirely a personal matter. There might (at the discretion of whatever paper is involved) be exceptions made in cases of persons widely known as being in dire financial straits, because of sickness or injury. The writer hopes the reader will absorb the intent of the foregoing in the spirit it is intended to convey—merely information.

DOC CROSBY (deceased) in his heyday was one of the most accomplished front-door talkers—he was also versed in show-moving transactions. When the big spectacular Almee attraction sprang into nation-wide notice, Crosby talked on it, and ever afterward it was his mainstay "pet" offering. After being away from it for years and after he had descended the opposite side of the "ladder of life" to almost the first rung, Doc unexpectedly appeared in Pensacola, Fla. (1904), where the Morris & Berger Shows were playing and Almee was the feature pay attraction—at 50 cents admission and literally packing 'em at each performance. (Just on the front: Bombay, the Indian entertainer; Marie Center, doing serpentine; a seven-piece white band, and Almee's four-piece Italian orchestra, besides four ticket boxes and five grinders and talkers). Each holiday, a mass of the elite of the midway visitors—calling for "class" on the show front. Ralph Pearson, making special openings. Crosby, overcomes with emotion and despite his personal appearance, rushed across the walk-over, several times, pushing Pearson aside, and started his familiar "Ladies and Gentlemen," etc. Not wishing to hurt the old fellow's feelings, Ralph and others tried to figure some way to keep Doc away while there was opportunity for really big business. Spending change did not suffice, nor various other entreaties. Finally Pearson called him aside and explained that no one so far had been able to contract a baggage car north (which was precisely the situation), and asked him to go to the railroad offices and not return until he had arranged a movement for the Almee show to Cin-

WANTED FOR Australia and New Zealand Tour CLARE & GREENHALGH SHOWS

—WANT—

Two Midgets, must be small. Lady Silodrome Rider, also Seal Act. Giant Aasen, Chubby Lemons, wire. Can use any good Single Attraction not repulsive. Must sail from San Francisco not later than January 31. Wire or write FRED CLARE, Continental Hotel, Los Angeles, until January 8; then Continental Hotel, San Francisco.

Cincinnati, figuring that would keep him away for at least three or four hours. Try to imagine the surprise of all "in the know" when, not over an hour later, Crosby returned with the announcement (and papers) that he had arranged a baggage-car movement for the show (it was contracted at Biloxi, Miss.) to Cincinnati, at a very small "party rate", for 25 people!

AUSTRALIAN CARNIVAL NOTES

SYDNEY, Nov. 30.—Things are rather quiet at present for the outdoor showman, both in Australia and New Zealand. In the latter country there are still some dates to be played, while over this way things will be slack until the commencement of the new year.

Jack Watson, with the Clare & Greenhalgh No. 2 Silodrome, with Silodrome Rider Keith Innes, is now en-route for Tasmania for a few dates.

Colin W. Hynd, recently arrived from England, is in charge of several automatic machine novelties at the Coopee Pier and Carnival. Recently he was connected with the Waverly Fair, Edinburgh, Scotland, prior to which he played most of the principal fairs in the United States.

Marjorie VanCamp, Jolly Ray, Elsie Baker and Alec Marks are all doing nicely with the Clare & Greenhalgh Show, now playing New Zealand.

Cyclone Curtis, silodrome rider, has been engaged for stunt riding at the new Canterbury (Sydney) Velodrome.

Paul Pedrini, he of the well-known baboon act, left for New Zealand recently to take up bookings for this attraction.

Alabama Amusement Co.

ROCHELLE, Ga., Dec. 26.—The Alabama Amusement Company is this week located in this city, one block from the business district, which has been crowded each day and night with shoppers. The eight-piece band of the Minstrel Show gives a daily concert at noon, which draws a great number of the shoppers to the midway. De Soto, Ga., last week was satisfactory as to business, regardless of two very cold evenings. Manager Schulenberg left last week for

St. Paul to spend the holidays with homefolks. He is expected to return the latter part of January. L. H. Baxter joined at De Soto and was immediately added to the staff, assuming management of the show. The entire personnel is pleased with his amiable personality and ability.

General Agent Jack Oliver returned to the show here, having booked several towns in the central portion of South Georgia's tobacco belt.

At this writing the lineup consists of 3 rides, 5 shows and 21 concessions. The Minstrel Show and Hawaiian Show are getting top money, closely followed by the 5-in-1, with the Illusion Show and Athletic Show doing fairly well. The concession operators are Isadore Reiser, 2; Harry Rose, 1; Gabe Reid, 2; Tex Holly, 2; Charlie Barry, 2; Joe Duncan, 5; Harry Reiser, 2; Edie Tarrell, 3; Otis A. Mitchell, 1, and Bob Lee has the cookhouse. Lee purchased six wild turkeys for the Christmas feast. Among the concession agents are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilson, Cowboy Mullins, Jess Huggins, G. Mahaley, Clyde Collins, Shorty Wilson, Johnny Carrigan, Albert Lee and a few others whose names the writer has not learned.

The show will remain out all winter in South Georgia and the spring opening is scheduled for a spot in Tennessee in March.
H. J. MACKLIN.

Russell's Penitentiary Portrayal

BEAUMONT, Tex., Dec. 26.—At the conclusion of last season with the Morris & Castle Shows at Galveston, Tex., Russell's Penitentiary Portrayal opened in the heart of the business district of that city for a two weeks' engagement, sponsored by Rabbi Dr. Cohen, a member of the Texas Prison Board, and with the use of broadcasting station KPLX, announcements were made daily. Following Galveston the show moved to Beaumont, Tex., where it opened opposite the Jefferson Theater under the auspices of the American Legion, Beaumont Post No. 23, and packed houses have been the rule, with every indication that the same business will continue for the remainder of the four weeks' engagement.

Rock City Shows

ROME, Ga.—With the advent of the holidays at hand the Rock City Shows' quarters are deserted, as nearly all the daily visitors have left to spend the holidays elsewhere. Minor, electrician, is in charge of quarters and says he is getting along fine with the animals in his care—bears, cats, fox, hamadryas, monkeys and dogs. Incidentally Owner Turner purchased another fine bear at the close of the season. Minor and George Conaster have apartments side by side at quarters. Conaster intended to take his minstrel show out for the winter, now says that he will play it at a few houses after the holidays. The orchestra has been engaged to play a series of dances at Miller's dance hall during the holidays. Joe and Garrison Turner, along with "Pappy" Conway, started for Florida points this week and aver they will not return, until they visit all the "big" fishing camps presided over by showfolks.

Gertrude Turner's son, Charlie, is spending his Christmas vacation here, after which they will motor to Miami for a pleasure trip ere he returns to school at Wheeling, W. Va.

L. McAbee, the general agent, is the possessor of a new car (left his old one along the road in Alabama) and has started his trip north in the interest of the show. Norman Brown, secretary the latter part of the season, has left and says he will be with one of the big ones in 1930—very capable man, entitled to something worthy of his capabilities.

The writer and wife are at present in Atlanta, and what a host of showfolks there are to be found here—two store shows, two penny arcades, a truck exhibition and a big novelty store conducted by Jimmy Guzney—many boys have hustled balloons and fireworks, also scarf sets.

J. T. Hutchen and wife and daughter have left. His plans for a store show in Rome didn't materialize, and it is problematic whether a show of this sort would thrive in Rome. A shooting gallery and ball game has changed locations twice in as many weeks there, so it's not so good. Many of the boys who remained in Rome have started to work, and with the frigid weather prevailing Ray Shoemaker's truck has been working overtime. Ray will again have one show and two concessions with the show next season.
R. E. SAVAGE.

Melville-Reiss Shows

All is quiet about the winter quarters of the Melville-Reiss Shows, at Charlotte, N. C., with the arrival of the holidays.

After a conference with Melville both J. D. Wright, Jr. and J. F. Murphy have left to spend the Christmas season at their respective homes. Mrs. Melville and her niece, Bernice Melville, are spending a few weeks in the "sunshine of Miami", as is Nate Miller. Mr. and Mrs. P. O. Burd are enjoying their turkey at Mrs. Burd's home in Wilson, N. C. The writer and Melville have been holding down the home fort and expect to continue.

A real Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings, was arranged at winter quarters by J. L. Edwards for the few boys there. Word from Miami is that a lot of showfolks are wintering there, including Charlie Miles, Mike Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Woods, L. O. Harvey and Mrs. Harvey. Bandmaster Frank Meeker is safe at the Owl Ranch in Washington, Ga., and is spending his days teaching the junior member to wield the baton in style befitting a Meeker.

W. L. WALTON.

Showmen's League Notes

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The Showmen's League of America is grateful for the receipt of greetings from all parts of the globe.

Charlie Hall and his committee are busy preparing for the big New Year's party, December 31. A good time is predicted for all who attend. Harry McKay says to come early and stay late. Harry Coddington says that at 12 o'clock he will place a bushel of apples in the middle of the floor and every one can help himself. Don't be backward, for there will be a surprise in one of the apples and it will be a case of "finders are keepers".

President W. O. Brown spent Christmas with his parents in McMinnville, Tenn. He did not get back for the meeting and First Vice-President Sam J. Levy was in the chair.

The degree team functioned and Richard Espeland was initiated into the league. Dick took it very good naturedly and when called upon to express himself, stated that the only thing he could say was that it was not nearly as tough as he thought it would be.

Wm. M. Breese and Samuel G. Hopkins were elected to membership.

The total to date in the 1930 membership drive is 20, and Bill Kaplan urges every one to keep busy, so that the league can have the biggest year it has ever had.

There are three brothers on the sick list: Col. F. J. Owens has been confined to his home with typhoid pneumonia and at last reports was feeling a trifle better. Baba Delgarian and Chas. Nash are at the American Hospital and reports say both are slightly improved. All hope that the next report will read that all are out and around. Just received a report that Brother Felix Welch is on the sick list. Felix is at his home.

From the reports of sickness among the members it looks as tho Dr. Max Thorek will have a very busy season.

The names of Sam Menchin, Ed Mathias and Ben Samuels were added to the New Year's party committee, so Charlie Hall and Harry McKay will have plenty of good assistance. Brother Ernie Young told that Brother Col. John Berger would have a talk for the evening, but Colonel declined and said he would hold his plans until a later date. The only hitch in the program was when Brother Joe Rogers, thru the chair, asked Brother Berger to explain the meaning of maatadonic.

Brother Sam J. Levy promises a report on the February party at the next meeting.

The Board of Governors has taken action that all funerals in the future will be held from the Hursen parlors.

The report of the banquet and ball committee for 1930 is progress.

Brother Harry and Mrs. McKay leave the first of the year to join the Johnny J. Jones Exposition for the 1930 season.

Recent visitors at the club were Col. John S. Berger, Ernie Young, Lou Dufour, Frank J. Sheeh, Lou Mathison, Louis Berger, Ed A. Hock, Joe Rogers, Harry Russell, Louis Fishman, Dick Espeland, Larry Ascot, Lou Nichols, Pete Rogers, Felix Charneski, Chas. McCurren, Richard Smellens, Whaley Lebrter, Walter F. Driver, Chas. G. Driver, Harry McKay and many, many others.

The league's counsel, Brother Morris I. Kaplan, is walking around with a broad smile, and the boys are calling him "daddy". The reason of all this, a baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Morris I. Kaplan just in time to be a very acceptable Christmas gift.

J. J. Coley Shows

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Coley, managers of the J. J. Coley Shows; Cowboy Elliot, Mr. and Mrs. Brian and "Dutch" Miller, who were playing a storeroom in Water Valley, Miss., returned to winter quarters in time for the excellent Christmas feast that was prepared by L. L. Ledbetter and Carlton Hudson. Christmas evening all were invited to Mr. and Mrs. Coley's apartment, where there was an enjoyable time spent in card playing and dancing, with refreshments. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Brian.

Among those remaining in quarters are L. L. Ledbetter, in charge of quarters; W. J. Phillips, the "popcorn king"; Robert Vaughn, who expects to leave soon for Los Angeles to visit his father,

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Wants for Season 1930

OPENING IN PHOENIX, ARIZ., WEEK FEBRUARY 3 TO 5; THEN TUCSON, ARIZ., DOWNTOWN LOCATION, UNDER STRONG AUSPICES, WEEK FEBRUARY 10 TO 15.

WANT Foreman for new Tilt-a-Whirl, Help on Ferris Wheel, also Merry-Go-Round. WANT American Palmist, Long-Range Shooting Gallery, Popcorn, Hoop-La, Pitch-Till-You-Win, Ball Games (No X), Penny Arcade, or any other Stock Concessions. WANT Hawaiian Troupe of no less than five people. Must be good musicians and dancers. Will furnish complete outfit for same. CAN-PLACE Shows that don't conflict. WANT Second Agent who can and will put out paper. Must be sober and reliable and know all details handling gilly show. Early opening and a long season, forty to forty-five weeks. Agitators and disorganizers save your clamps. This show will play Pairs in Idaho, Utah, Montana and Wyoming. Big Fourth of July Celebration already contracted. Address all wires and mail to J. GREENBURG, 1339 South First Avenue, Phoenix, Ariz.

A. F. Crouse United Shows, Inc.

WE ARE READY TO BOOK ATTRACTIONS FOR THE COMING SEASON.

WANTED—Good, clean Cook House, American people. WANTED—All kinds of legitimate Bill Games. No two-war joints. The following Concessions we have booked (all others are open): Popcorn, Ernie Digger, Cigarette Shooting Gallery, Ball Games, Corn Game. WANTED—A real Feature Attraction for our big Circus Side Show. Young Bull Montana, write. Address A. F. CROUSE, 17 Tremont Ave., Binghamton, N. Y.

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Any Shows of merit, Law or Outlaw, Athletic, Pres-in-Own, Ten-in-One, high-class Musical Comedy and Hawaiian Show that can cater to women and children. Showcases, Monkey Speedway, Circus, Monkey Association, Fun or Platform Shows. Will furnish Top and Wagon for same. Good proposition for Minstrel Show with own outfit. WILL BOOK Kiddie Rides, Penny Arcade, Concessions all open. No graft. WILL BOOK OR BUY Frozen Custard Machine. This is a 10-car railroad Wagon Show. General Delivery, Elizabeth City, N. C.

Wanted—World Bros.' Shows—1930

OPENING IN APRIL IN PENNSYLVANIA. TEN DONA-FIRE CELEBRATIONS AND SIX FAIRS ALREADY CONTRACTED.

WANTED—RIDES THAT DO NOT CONFLICT, one or two more Shows. Concessions of all kinds. Will sell Cook House, Ringo and Palmistry exclusive. Good proposition to reliable people. All address WORLD AMUSEMENT CO., Box 192, MIFFLIN, PA.

NATIONAL EXPOSITION SHOWS

ONE OF THE BEST AND CLEANEST GILLY SHOWS ON THE ROAD. OPEN APRIL 26, 1930. WANT Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Tilt-a-Whirl, Chairplane, Whip and Kiddie Rides. WANT good, clean Shows, with or without outfits. WANT Concessions of all kind. Must be legitimate. Positively no graft. Good proposition to Cook House. Must be good and clean. WANT to hear from Mr. Daigrove, Wm. Mader, Mat Mrs. Harold Decker, Adeline, Akron, Ohio. Telephone, Lincoln 4115-W. J. A. ANTHONY, 517 Uppon Street, Akron, O. Telephone, Lincoln 4115-W.

whom he has not seen in 10 years; Carlton Hudson, who returned from Kansas City, Mo., shortly before Christmas, and "Red" Davis.

Kaus United Shows

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.—Manager Kaus has a crew of men active in winter quarters and work is progressing rapidly. He has finished repairing and painting the Merry-Go-Round, which is now ready for the road.

W. C. Kaus, general agent of the show, has returned home and reports that he had a successful trip booking fairs. Trezise Kaus is spending a few weeks in Richmond, Va. Madeline Byer, who has been attending school in Baltimore, Md., has arrived to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Byer. T. E. KAUS.

C. W. Nail Shows

SHREVEPORT, La., Dec. 28.—Work in the winter quarters of the C. W. Nail Shows will begin shortly after January 1. Mr. Nail is planning on making all new fronts for his shows and has contracted with an artist to repaint all banners. He will also have a new ride for the opening.

During last season the Nail Shows had eight picnics and seven fairs in Louisiana and Texas. At present the manager is at home with Mrs. Nail's parents at Selma, La., where he expected to remain until after Christmas. George Hall is in Monroe. Mrs. Nail is convalescing after a trip to the hospital.

The staff personnel of the show will remain practically the same: C. W. Nail, owner and manager; Mrs. Nail, general agent, and R. M. Arnold, secretary. L. M. BROWN.

H. A. S. CLUB

(Continued from page 72)

Lincoln, Neb., and hurried to this city. They reported a very nice holiday season. The Exhibit Hall represents a miniature midway, with a calliope at the entrance, by the National Calliope Company, with a display of large and small instruments, with W. J. (Doc) Allman extending the glad hand. Next is the Exhibit Supply Company, displaying arcade equipment, represented by W. E. Griffith. The long hall leading to the east wing of the Exhibit Hall is filled with displays of papers of The Leader Press, of Oklahoma City, Okla., with W. T. Braucht representing, and one will

find anything, from handouts to 24-sheet stands. Then the elaborate display of the Wisconsin Doll & Dress Company, with Gene J. Berns, the local representative, in charge. The Majestic Radio exhibit is in charge of Frank North. The Southern Doll & Dress Company has W. G. Ryan, president of the company, in charge, with his two able assistants, E. P. James and Jack Dillon, the local representatives. Then, successively, comes the Tangley Calliope exhibit, the Little Bear Specialties Company, the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company, the Brainard Fountain, Ralph Rhoades Fireworks display; the Baker-Lockwood Company, displaying everything in canvas, and in charge of that distinguished man, Frank Capp; the Spillman Engineering Corporation, with C. V. Starkweather, secretary of the company, functioning; the Selmer Manufacturing Company, with R. M. Fulweller displaying the miniature Tilt-a-Whirl, and J. D. Mashburn, displaying workmen's uniforms.

Today is being held the Tacky Dance of the Ladies Auxiliary, with costumes of almost every description, representing "rubes", freaks, etc., and many "anything you wish to call it".

In all, this is indeed proving a "big week" here for showfolks. Along with the various festivities, the interesting atmosphere of the occasion is enhanced by the club election campaign—just one big excitement—which will not end until sometime New Year's evening.

SHOWMEN

(Continued from page 72)

occasion, each table covered with flowers, with music and entertainment during the feast, and everything was so arranged that it was a perfect day.

President Seber, President-Elect J. W. Conklin, and all officers were present, acting as hosts to the hundreds who sacrificed other engagements just to be with those whom they have spent the greater part of their lives with. Dick Parks and the misus arrived at noon. Their presence, no matter where, gives an air of distinction. Possessed of rare personality, they know how to streak the clouds with silver linings. They came with an array of talent, lending their support to make it a merry Christmas for all. Mr. and Mrs. "Judge" Karnes, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Barlow, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Barth, Mr. and Mrs. Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mrs. J. W. Conklin, Bert Earles, Jehn Kuntz, Charles Gubberman, Mickey Hogan, Terry Sherman and many others were busily engaged in pro-

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viding entertainment, acting as individual reception committees. Glenn Hood, popular radio entertainer, accompanied himself with guitar, and put over numbers befitting the occasion. Terry Sherman, song writer and musician, at the piano, played and sang numbers of the long ago; also his own compositions, which gave him first place in the hearts of all. Lee Barth, known for his versatility the world over in all branches of the legitimate stage, will long be remembered for his untiring efforts.

Christmas may come only once a year, but the spirit of good fellowship is an outstanding feature of all showfests. Combine that with anything good that may enter your mind, and you have the slogan of the P. C. S. A.

The regular Monday meeting brought forth many important discussions relative to the banquet and ball, January 14, in the Gold Room of the Alexandria Hotel. Brother Will Wright, chairman, assured all that this event will give food for conversation in all quarters where showmen assemble. Many surprises are in store for all. Prominent stars of the cinema and legitimate have assured their presence and prominent personalities that guide the "Sunshine State" (and city) have reservations.

Sunday, January 5, has been set aside as a day for all showmen to pay respects to their departed brothers. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. at the Showmen's Plot. Brother John S. Lyon, chaplain, will deliver the eulogy. The foundation of the association rests on the Showmen's Burial Plot, and no greater than can be done by man than to show respect to those dear brothers who have been called to the great beyond.

All committees reported favorably, and more applications for membership were presented. Many showmen are joining the ranks for the regard they entertain for the great relief work performed by the association, which helps the living, cares for the dead and performs all duties that are essential to the preservation of all forms of business. Therefore, if you are not enrolled now, send in for any information, which will be provided you most freely. When in this vicinity, drop in and make yourself "at home"—no matter when, or what time, between "12 and 12".

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Will Find Good Buys Listed Here

Gross. \$2.00
Basketball Sowers
Self-Threading Needles, 10 in Paper, 2.50
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SPECIAL—O-Deam Perfumes, Wash, Soap, Labeled, 2.50

Fair Prices. Square Treatment. Prompt Service. Shampoos or currency for samples. Prices P. O. B. New York. Deposits required on C. O. D. orders. Ask for complete list.

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Nickel-plated. Holds all makes of Safety Razors.

1 Gross Radio Shoppers
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1 Gross Razor Strip Dressing
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One Gross Combinations Outlets, all for \$14.95. Sample Outfit, 35c. 25% deposit on all C. O. D.

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AUTOMATIC 400% GAS LIGHTER Profit

JOSEY OUT! Lights gas instantly without spark or flame. Burns like wildfire wherever gas is used.

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Rush name and address (free sample).
One Gross, \$34 Profit
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FREE SPECIAL
10 Dozen CROWNITE CIGAR LIGHTERS of Highest Polished Nickel with Birthstone Setting. Retail \$1.50 Each.
With Each Cash Order of One Gross of Gas Lighters.

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\$9.50 Gross
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\$10 Apollo Ring \$2.86 for

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Pipes for Pitchmen

Conducted by GASOLINE BILL BAKER
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

IRVIN GLICK advises that he is back in his old racket, working the inksticks in and around Wilmington, Del.

DOC WHITE EAGLE has been confined to his bed at Piqua, O., for the last three weeks. Doc Steward, who visited him recently, reports that the chief is improving. Shoot him a line.

DUSTY RHODES POSTCARDS that he had a big week on the sheet at Cocoa, Fla., in the middle of December, making Fort Pierce immediately after. He was headed for the Winter Haven Orange Show.

THAT VETERAN PITCHMAN, Charlie Gameliser (Out-Price Charlie), is now operating a store at 132 New Main street, Yonkers, N. Y. He has a big jewelry and novelty layout and has taken a lease until May 1.

JACK DORSEY, med. worker, is presenting Zetta in a mind-reading act, which is going over big in Baltimore. Doc Miller informs. Zetta's work recently drew a half-column writeup in The Baltimore Post.

GEORGE HARMOUNT (of George and Leona Aliferetta Harmount), is seriously ill in a hospital at Springfield, O. Friends can address George in care of the Babetta Medicine Company, Box 143, Union City, Ind., and the mail will be delivered promptly.

A GOODLY GATHERING there is of road folks at the Hotel Manhattan, Dayton, O., these winter days. Among those seen in the lobby last week were Doc A. T. Layton, R. Smith, F. W. Butterfield and son, Ira Cady, Earl Kelly, Slim Seitz, Tom Peters, Dr. Shortfeather and Brady Davidson.

JIMMIE (KID) CLARK, working in and around Newark, N. J., with rad, reports there is still a large bunch of the boys in action in that territory. "Met Murray at the market in Elizabeth," he says; "also Brennan and a few women working oil. Willie Flood and Harold Woods were here for a time, but have blown."

MONEY IS THE MOST THING there ain't in South Carolina, W. R. (Sugar-foot) Davis, with med. pipes from Greenville, that State, adding: "We are swapping our Big Chief remedies for chickens, potatoes, walnuts, butter and cotton seed. The farmers are late getting their cotton out, but we are all set to get the b. r. if the old Big Chief remedies hold out."

PLENTY OF SNOW IN DIXIE. Budd (Narcissus) Jackson, who went to Jacksonville to get away from it, reports. Says Budd: "Yee sir, you can come south and eat your snowballs this winter. The sheet experts are doing it. I have played Santa Claus to several. Business may be fine somewhere else. Leon Broady, did you get the stock? Thanks, old top. I'll remember you kindness. Regards to all square shooters."

JOHN J. LOONEY PIPING from Portland, Me.: "Streets here covered with snow and ice. The city won't clean them, which makes it impossible to work. No buses running on account of the blocked highways. Few shoppers coming in. I am waiting for The Billboard in the news store and as soon as it comes in I am going to grab a rattler for New Bedford, Mass., before I get

snowbound. I am working the hula dancing dolls which I assemble myself and am doing well this season."

CONDITION of Mrs. R. H. (Widow) Rollins, who is a patient at Erlanger Hospital, Chattanooga, Tenn., is reported by Mrs. Jessie A. Walker as very serious. Mrs. Walker further reports that just before the widow suffered the attack of pneumonia, which now threatens her life, she was robbed of personal effects and all the money she possessed. Friends in Pichdom and the outdoor show world can address the letters to her at Erlanger Hospital. Mrs. Walker's address is "care T. O. Slaughter, druggist, Waynesboro, Miss."

COOPER AND DICK, working paper in the far Southern country, were in Calhoun City, Miss., last week. "We are at peace with all the world," the boys shoot. "Hope all the boys can gather around the festive board at this season and enjoy the fruits of their work. We are driving in the old-time way, buggy route, and have two wonderful weeks in the river bottoms. We are headed for the Louisiana fish and cane markets. Spending Christmas in Meridian, where the water is hard on the kidneys. Hope it will be softer further south. Hope none of the boys is dry."

SAM WILSON'S ANOTHER to join the legions of sheetwriters invading Will Rogers' State for the opening of the year. Sam pipes that he has just blown into Clinton, Okla., from Lubbock, Tex. Already he has met the gangup of papermen and mentions Rex and Serrod Powell, H. C. Deborde, E. L. Yeala, Col. E. L. Monogue and wife and P. H. Slip-sager and wife. "These boys all look prosperous," Sam reports, "and they must have gotten plenty of Christmas money. I got a little myself. I will stay in Oklahoma until February, then will head north."

"TO RUN A STORE in New York you don't have to fix with anyone," Charles (Doc) Miller pipes, "but good locations are hard to get, and rentals are high. A real Chinaman is working herbs at P. Poulas' store on Broadway. Bill Evans, the Quaker doctor, is back in town, working inhalers. Sidney Davis, the featured comic with the Blackhawk med. show, is 74 years old and can still do the real stuff. Blackhawk has the only store show in New York using a runway. Report has it that several new stores will open after January 1. Radio auction is the latest here. There is one on Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn."

JIMMIE LELAND, of Burdick Simms' Entertainers, pipes under date of December 17 from Clyde, O.: "We are laying off this week. Open in halls December 21. Biz has been very good with us. Just closed two weeks in a small town nearby. Lady Burdick engaged a new team, and they got in late. The lady member of the team does a red-hot dance, which was too warm for the natives. We gave away a live baby—a baby pig—dressed in infant's clothes, and it created a sensation when Burdick walked out and handed the winner the little one. We thought the roof would be lifted. Lady Burdick says the next team that joins will have to wear more clothes."

MACK HOGE INFOES from Ashland, Ky.: "Here we are again. P. C. Cruey, the Mexican-diamond wiz, is in town with whitenstones galore. He seems to be

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THE BEST
B.B.22—All Shell Shell New Spectacles, all numbers. Per Doz., \$2.15; Gr. \$23.50

Here Is A Big MONEY MAKER

"Goldtone" SPECTACLE
B.B.24—"Goldtone" Shell Rim Spectacles, with gold-plated Bridge and soft Cable Bow, all Focus Numbers. Large Round Lenses.
DOZEN, \$4.50; GROSS, \$51.00.
Catalog Mailed Free. Write at Once.
NEW ERA OPTICAL CO., 21 North Wabash, CHICAGO.

Buy Direct From Importers at Wholesale Prices

No. 22P—2-1/2 in. Necklace, Sample, 10c; Doz., \$1.50.
Send \$1 for 5 assorted samples. We also import 25 different kinds and colors of Pearls. Write for prices.

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\$12.00 Gross **\$12.00 Gross**

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getting all the money. Sam (Senator) Jones is here working sox. Billie Stein and wife were here recently. M. E. Neal is now in Huntington with Harry Turner and nothing but paper money. P. E. Gentry has the Vanity Fair and is putting over the big book and circus stuff. Seems to be getting his. Jimmie Foley is in Huntington, also Eddie Jackson. All the boys seem to have the winter beaten. Myself, I am not doing anything more profitable than playing the New Orleans track with my last-summer's b. r. My permanent address is the Y. M. C. A. here."

CONY ISLAND NOTES, as recorded by Doc Miller: With thousands of people on the Boardwalk, Sunday, December 15, was a lucky day for the workers. There were big tips and big passouts. No readers are issued here, and the rentals are high. Madam Ray, a pretty little miss, had a big tip throughout the day. She puts over a very interesting talk. It gets her the money. She handles hair tonic and soap. Bob Brandt was telling a big tip about the wonders of his inhaler. Snapp Wyatt, artist for pitch stores, found plenty of business. He got many orders. Jack David, the Rudy Vallee of pitchers, ran out of stock. He was passing out inhalers. Joyce Maxwell Reynolds, regarded by many as America's foremost female worker, held a big tip spellbound with her spiel on hair tonic and soap. She has taken another year on the Boardwalk. Dr. Reynolds is still working mineral salts. All told, it was a perfect day for everybody in the running.

BILLY (TRAMP) KING finds biz on the blink in Paris, O., where he has been improving the health of the population. When they have no money, "Dr. Nojam" doesn't let them suffer. Says he: "Business was really good until that cold spell blew up. Then came the mazzuma famine. I finally told the natives that the med. was free, but they must bring some coal to get it. The following day I disposed of three tons of coal. There are four brothers here whose lines of business dovetail nicely. One is a doctor, another a preacher, a third an undertaker, and the fourth a gravedigger. When the Grim Reaper comes to town he makes business for all of them. I heard about it, and the other night I told my tip the gag. None of the natives has got it yet, but I have hopes. I have plenty of time to give to my other line, so I think I'll make monotonies for the phototalkers and compose scheme songs for the squawkydrama. Meanwhile I'm still getting 50 cents for the Ohio oil, once-ounce bottles."

PRINCE ED KAILI, brother of Robert K. Kaili, widely known in the med. show world as a performer on the Hawaiian steel guitar, was among the callers at the Pipes desk last week. The house of Kaili was in royal favor when King David Kalikau and his queen, Liliuokalani, reigned over the Hawaiian Islands, but it was scattered to the winds when David's kingdom was taken under the protecting wing of Uncle Sam. Oldtimers will recall King David as the merry monarch who was wont to play poker with the roof of the house when Yankee tourists visited the royal palace in Honolulu. Robert K. Kaili was just a kid when he floated over to America and threw in with the med.-show fraternity. Today Bob's a king of the med. showmen on his own account. His brother, Prince Ed, is a student at Harvard University, where he is taking the course in materia medica, therapeutics and pharmacy. Prince Ed says he will set up as a practitioner in the United States when he gets his sheepskin. There're several dollars more mazzuma in America than there is likely to be in Hawaii—for a little while to come, at least. Prince Ed

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GOLD MOUNTED BILLFOLDS
Made of SPECIAL ASSORTED COWHIDE.
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Attractive and lifelike in appearance. One of the biggest selling novelties we ever made. Send for samples today.
LION OR TIGER MAT, Size 11x21 in. (Sample, Postpaid, 5c) \$ 4.25 Dozen
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BRADFORD & CO., Inc.
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Beautiful Attractive Gold and Silver Wrappers
\$4.00 Gross, F. O. B. Chicago.
Send \$2.50 and we will send you a Gross C. O. D.
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Make Photo Postal Cards, genuine Black and White and Platens. Easy to learn and operate. No darkroom. Finish on the spot—no waiting.
Compare Dardark Cameras with any Camera offered for sale. The wonderful pictures made with a Dardark have won admiration of hundreds of satisfied customers.
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These are only a few of the praises we receive daily.
Full line of supplies for all makes of One-Minute Cameras. New improved Waterproof Mounts in gold, silver, black and various colors.
Samples and prices will be sent on request.
Write us for Illustrated Catalog and Price List. It's free.
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is on his Christmas vacation and came to Cincy to visit with a third brother of the House of Kaili, who is an instructor in chemistry at St. Xavier's College. He inquired about the peregrinating Robert K., whom he has not seen nor heard from in a long time. By a coincidence, about an hour after the departure of Prince Ed, the following pipe from Bob, dated at Peoria, Ill., was received: "Aloha uia! Also Merry Christmas! I have engaged the Great Jack Richards to handle my act in concert. Will give a series of lectures and concerts thru this section for a couple of months. Can't think of much that is interesting to write. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Prince Bob Wallele, please communicate with me. The other night I was playing here at the radio station, when a lady called in and asked what was the wavelength of the station. Thinking of something else at the time, I replied, 'Oh, about 30 feet.' Tell Wallele for me 'Pehoa usamaue.'"

SETTLEMENT of a large estate is being held up while search is made for Sollie Frenchman, pitchman, according to Jesse Isaac Melooone, health-book man, who writes from Little Rock, Ark. saying: "Is there no one in this big world who knows the whereabouts of Sollie Frenchman? He is the brother of Ben, Gustave, Caroline and Hannah. Sollie used to make pitches and was on the road selling brooch photo buttons. The writer of this pipe was asked by Ben Frenchman, who is an old man, to assist him in locating Sollie. There is a large estate to be distributed, but nothing can be done until Sollie is found. He is a Jewish boy, born in New York. His father's name was Elias Frenchman, and his mother's name was Mary. Both are dead. The estate comes from the mother's side of the family in Poland. Will some kind pitchman or performer notify Jesse Isaac Melooone, now located in Little Rock, Box 161, Route 3, and get a reward that is offered? I am still on the road with the missus and my two kiddies selling health books. Biz is bad. The natives down South have no gelt. Readers are hard to get. At the same time the talking pictures are going over big, playing to standing room in many towns. There

are lots of widowers looking for widows with mazzuma in that Southern country. Oh! oh! What will become of all the old-time pitchmen who once were the real garukas? I feel like giving up the health books and opening a matrimonial bureau."

A BIG GET-TOGETHER of sheetwriters was held at the Hotel Trumbull, Hartford, Conn., December 10. Ed (Hokum) Rice reports on the affair: "Dinner was served in the main dining hall after the boys had been formally welcomed by Michael Fay, who spent many of his years on the leaf, but now manages this hotel. The oratorical program included many talks on subjects of interest to the trade. New ideas for better circulation were sprung by the speakers. New England Jack Murray, premier paperman, delivered an address on best methods of winning subscriptions without resorting to gift inducements. Harry Stewart, better known in the profession as Scotty, told at great length of the possibilities of the European field, especially Scotland, where he has been working as the representative of a group of American publications. The boys at the banquet board presented Al Goldberg with a solid gold Waltham wrist watch in recognition of the many favors shown them during times of business depression. Among those present were Freddy Nefsey, Henry Ginsberg, James B. Flynn, Walter Welch, Ed Williams, Charlie (Big Jess) Young, Pete Foinnier, Bucky Miller, Joe (Pelix) Finn, Lawrence Cleary, Ed Healy, Darby Hicks, Jimmy Daley and others. Looks like a new papermen's organization is under way. A suggestion for forming one for the elimination of cheap subscription agencies was considered at some length. These agencies, it was argued tend to tear down the honest efforts of the boys to protect the publishers and themselves."

AL STOFEL IS BLOWING about it in Cyclone, Tex. Under date of December 16, he advises that a new actress has joined the U-Ta-Ka Medicine Show. She was signed thru the Stork agency, and came as a Christmas gift. She can't be leading woman because her mother, Mrs. Al Stofel, has that place in the company, but Al thinks she'll make a



Greetings!

Happy New Year

In extending you the compliments of the season, it is appropriate at this time to thank our many friends and readers of "The Billboard" for the splendid business they have given us in 1929.

We have tried, and believe succeeded in a full measure of satisfying everyone.

If we at any time have not pleased you, it has been the fault of the head and not of the heart.

In 1930 we are going to do bigger and better things. Keep in touch with us, and we assure you it will be to our mutual best interest and advantage.

Thanking you again for the many courtesies you have extended us, we are

Very truly yours,
ALTER & COMPANY

NEW AUTO-MATIC RADIO GAS LIGHTER

LIGHTS GAS LIKE MAGIC
No Flint—No Friction

Make \$28.50 a Day
A big 250-watt, 900-line 400% clear profit & gross easily won in a day brings \$28.50 and sends you \$1.80. You make \$28.50 clear profit. Send \$7.50 for gross, or \$1.00 for sample dozen, with amazing new sure-fire self-selling plan.

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AGENTS' Chance to Earn \$6.00 a Day

Show in your neighborhood this fine quality GUARANTEED HOLOGRAPH for Men, Women and Children. Prices lower than stores. 124 styles and shades. Pure Wash Japanese Silk, silk and Lisle, Chiffon, Sport and Wool. Full-Fashioned Hosiery. Guaranteed to wear 7 months or new hosiery free.

Big Profits Right From the Start. Mills of Minn., made \$120 in 499 w/eek. Mrs. Gleason, of Ok., made \$12 in one day. You can equal these records by following my simple, easy instructions. Extra business. Credit given. No experience necessary. Cash furnished. Send no money. Rush name and address, giving size of home. **L. E. WILKIN, Gen. Mgr., WILKIN'S HOLOGRAPH CO., Dept. 214, Greenfield, O.**

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Service. Answered. Dial. Same in 15-Jewel, \$4.95. Same in 17-Jewel, \$5.95. Order today, as there is but a limited quantity. Deposit required on all orders. Circular on Rebuilt Elgin and Waltham Watches on Request.

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COSTS \$2.50 PROFIT \$27.50

That's what you make by transferring deadbeat money—into cash. Every motorist wants his car re-upholstered. A pair of chairs \$1.50 and you do a good work as you can do for \$1.50. No skill is required; no experience. Spare or old time. Customers, full instructions, etc., free. Write for Free samples—or send \$2.50 for each set.

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Send for Price List.
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Agents and Demonstrators, send 50c for four complete samples, one for No. 3 Thread, one for No. 4 Thread, and 2 Hog Needles, **VOU WILL LIKE THEM.** These are the needles you will all be selling in the near future. Wholesale prices and complete catalog of stamped goods in colors, tinted shades, to work. **NEW WEALE ART NEEDLE,** 1522-21 N. Wells St., Chicago, Ill.

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Work a deal that's a repeater. A quality package that's a big dollar's worth. A Cash Deal makes fast sales. This Deal is here to stay. Live up with us for 1930.

1 OZ. NARCISSUS PERFUME.
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COUPONS, \$1.95 per 1,000. Prepaid Sample. Tax. All orders 50% deposit, balance C. O. D.

UNIVERSAL LABORATORIES
DALLAS, TEXAS

likely understudy in a few years. They named her for the parents. The name's Alveda, a combination and contraction of Allen and Veda. Al writes: "Dr. G. W. Stofel and family loaded up the new car and headed for the laboratory in Nashville to spend the Christmas holidays at home. He paid the whole troupe three weeks in advance, and we closed until that time. Everyone will spend Christmas on the lot except Pinky Bennett, who went home to his mother in San Antonio, Tex."

ANTHONY PIETRO reports that after closing with the Krause Greater Shows at Mullins, S. C., he was called to Dothan, Ala., to see his sister, Genia Pietro, who was at Dothan Hospital for an operation of a serious nature. While there he met his brother, Frank, whom he had not seen for four years. "Saw several papermen in Quincy, Fla.," he says, "and they were getting a little money. I am working with J. G. Rose until after the Christmas season. Then I am off to Miami, Fla., for a vacation."

ZIP HIBLER, POET-PITCHMAN, greets the New Year with a song: "I'm awful glad I still am here to wrestle all I'm worth. I wouldn't miss the fun I've had for all the dough on earth. I see the yawping salesman who will stand around and chin, and tell you all the dough he's made and every place he's been. And then the jealous merchant who will put you on the pan, and drive you to a frazzle or impede you all he can. Again the city daddies who would run you out of town by taxing you excessively so as to keep you down. Another yet, the man with dough, who snubs you when he can. He'd crack his face if he would smile upon his fellow man. Comes next the pious faker with his tracts and balderdash, who'll fix you right for heaven if you'll give him all your cash. The silly talk and chatter of the janes who know it all. You'll find her excess baggage if for her you chance to fall. And last, the undertaker who will put you in a box and charge you good and plenty if he knows you've got the rocks."

THE LOW DOWN on Portsmouth, O., from Tom Kennedy: "The reader in this town is \$3 a day. The article you sell must have the o. k. of the Retail Merchants' Association. No reader required for ex-service men. Conditions in this section not so good. Factories are working only part time. I have a good spot here which I will hold down until after Christmas. I severed connection with S. A. Swanson in Knoxville two weeks ago. He wants to go to California. He says, the worst way, so I expect he'll make the trip in his flivver. I hope the boys in Dixie get a nice b. r. for Christmas. Perhaps they will—if there's a Santa Claus. This time three years ago there were about 10 pitchmen stopping at the Harvey House in Baltimore. Mrs. Murphy hung up her stockings, and somebody put a watermelon in it. Syl La Velle ate so much he was sick for several days. Uncle Harvey and Johnny Force brought him some oranges. Then they sat on the bed and ate them."

FROM NEW YORK J. B. Flynn pipes: "I would appreciate it if you would correct a rumor that is being circulated and which several papermen have called to my attention. It was not John W. Compton who put the rap on me to the sheet (club management), but I understand from the club management that it was a woman who called them up on the phone representing herself as an official of The American Golfer, which is handled by Compton. I lost the paper thru the story of this anonymous person. That pipe of Charlie Lindner's was interesting. He is likely to put on a cowboy costume and do a Will Rogers. Some entertainer. Can sing, throw the rope and do other things besides writing sheet. I notice Glen Olsen, another Western paperman, is forging to the front as a publisher's right arm. It wasn't necessary for Glen to ask for an alibi, as we know he is a squareshooter. The boys around New York are all happy and prosperous. Best wishes to all friends."

JOHNNY McLANE, postcarding with a pen so fine it took a magnifying glass to decipher, relates: "Things are not so bad here in Chicago for me, but this billboard that started five days before the gang rang is hard on some of the trips-and-kelater boys. However, while we were indoors, it kept the pipes going, and all seemed to remember the big-dough days when a pitchman was a fellow who could talk convincingly, entertain, demonstrate and get the ma-

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SALEBOARD OPERATORS—Pull Line Premium Goods and Boards.
We carry Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware, Novelties, Notions, etc. Special required on all C. O. D. orders. Large Catalogue free. Wholesale only.
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Manufacturers of Wire for Wire-Workers for Over 50 Years. Send for Price Lists.

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Wholesale. Send for Our Assortment of FANCY VALENTINES.

zuma. What is he today? Dr. Kellefte, he of corndope fame, is all set for Christmas, having connected with a big chain store. Good luck, Doc. Mother Helen has nearly all the med. men working her many stores. Every one is in the money. Quite a number of window workers are doing their stuff so chilled, moneyless crowds. Bents are high, as usual. Many workers with sure-fire goods can't get more than the nut. Will leave the Windy City after the New Year for my old stamping grounds, San Antonio, Tex. Jack Young, Red Delph, Charlie Kane and other old friends, I'll be glad to see you again. Would like to read pipes from some of my med-opry friends. Why don't you shoot once in a while?"

"NO DOUBT the boys would like a report from this Southwest territory." Ben Fried shoots from Fort Worth, Tex., where he found J. Rottman passing out sparklers in ring, stud and pin forms. "Rottman is located in the heart of the business section," he says, "and is working with two attractive sales girls. The cops are kept busy keeping the sidewalks clear for traffic. All of the John Laws are wearing Rottman's diamonds. Rottman tells me he would be disappointed with less than two grand for the two weeks ahead of Christmas. His store is sure getting the breaks. It is on Main street. I am located on Houston street with my line of leather goods. Was fortunate enough to find a store with Sanger's Department Store on one side and J. C. Penny's on the other. I have five helpers and have been doing wonderful biz. Before coming here we tried to locate in Houston, Tex., but got in too late. Some of the boys had beat us to the good spots. Houston is being well taken care of by the boys with all sorts of useful merchandise and educational matter. Shipman is there with humanitones; Libby, with the famous combo glasscutter; Powers, with Inketicks; Mitchell, with Mexican loc. Others are trying to get locations. Business conditions here seem not so bad as elsewhere reported. Will be here for about 30 days more."

AGENTS! SELLS LIKE WILDFIRE
New Improved Window Washer eliminates all stains and dirt wherever there is glass to be cleaned. Restricted territory to pitchmen. Approved by Good Housekeeping Institute. Write today.
CARTER PRODUCTS CORP.
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PAINT SIGNS and SHOW CARDS
We quickly teach you by mail, or at school, to write signs, show cards, lettering, etc. Earn \$100 to \$200 weekly.
DETROIT SCHOOL OF LETTERING
312 Stinson Ave., Tel. 1209 DETROIT, MICH.

Send \$1 for 4 Assorted Samples.
Dozen, \$1.65 No. 12 Men's or Ladies'
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GERMAN SILVER KEY CHECKS
YOU can save your own time with our Key Check outfit. Good for \$5 a day stamping names on pocket key chains. Copy etc. Sample check with your name and address, 20c.
FEARLE DIE WORKS, Dept. D, Winchester, N. B.

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IN PLACE OF PUNCH BOARDS
THE PULL-RAK CO. INC.
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SEND FOR DATA

AGENTS 500% PROFIT
Genuine Gold Leaf Letters
Guaranteed to never tarnish. Anyone can put them on store and office windows, door-ways, signs, letters, cards, etc. Full color key; smallest size \$28.75. B. L. Red made \$28.00 in two months. Write today for full sample and liberal offer to general agents.
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MAKE BIG MONEY
JUST GET LIGHTS GAS INSTANTLY WITHOUT SHAKING OR FLAME—SELLS LIKE WILDFIRE
WEATHERS FOR 10 CENTS—DETAILS FOR 25c
MYSTERY GAS LIGHTER
RUSH 9c for GROSS—NEW FOR 10c.
NEW METHOD MFG. CO., Deak St., Bradford, Pa.

FAST SELLERS FOR PITCHMEN
Folding Paper Tricks, Gross.....\$1.50
Key Rings and Dime Tricks, Gross.....\$1.50
Tiddies (Jumping Frog), Gross.....\$1.50
Nelay Letters (Buttons), Gross.....\$1.50
Send 25c for 4 Samples and Big List of Other Goods.

Big Profits!
Own your own business, stamping Key Checks, Fob's, Name Plates, Samples, with name and address, 25 cents.
HART MFG. CO.
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By Crystal Ball.
Mysticatory Booklet, Selling fast. Sample \$5. Write for wholesale prices. **FITTLE CO., New Bedford, Mass.**

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Lightning Hand Soap and other articles. 190c to 25c profit. Repeat orders. **LIGHTNING PRODUCTS CO., 610 W. Kinzie St., Chicago, Ill.**

EX-SERVICE MEN—QUICK MONEY
Selling oldest, best established Veterans Magazine Largest sales. Write today. Many other goods. **VETERANS SERVICE MAGAZINE, 122 West 84, New York.**

tonight you have the same group of folks transported from Iowa and the Dakotas. They pour out of the theaters muttering 'rotten'. They have been infected by the sting of disappointment and due to the press and swift moving life of the metropolis their thoughts are distracted by other matters. But back there it was different. The medicine show was an affair anticipated and dwelt upon for a long time after its passing. These troupers were versatile and could present as many as 15 different dramas in a week."

DOC FRANKLYN STREET wires from Hot Springs, Ark., under date of December 28: "Happy New Year! Left Biloxi, Miss., Christmas. Will be here balance of winter. All friends write here. Latch-string is out for all."

C. B. ALLEN, widely known in pitchdom and the outdoor show world, is critically ill in Boston. John Barlow informs. Allen is near death's door, Barlow says, and requests interested friends of the dying man to communicate with him (John Barlow, 18 Bowdoin street, Boston, Mass.) at once.

SAYS ZIP HIBLER, the peregrinating corned-beef purveyor and poet, at Houston, Tex.: "This Queen Anne front and Mary Ann back business has been so noticeable in my travels that naturally Tom Kennedy's crack about hospitality and justice appealed to me. I am more than ever convinced that the old fellow was right when he said he was from Missouri and must be shown. When a supposed faker must stick his hands in his pockets and back away from a so-called respectable citizen there is reason to believe that life isn't what it should be. I have been trying for years to figure out how they do it. I must confess it is beyond my comprehension. A clipping enclosed with his pipe, taken from *The Houston Press*, explains Zip's moralizing. It tells of the new order for regulating street salesmen and reads in part as follows: "The gloom which descended upon vendors of holiday trinkets upon the streets when permits were refused them by City Secretary Turner has lifted. A hawkers' bazaar, something of a municipal novelty, was marked off by Turner on the Louisiana street side of city auditorium and was in readiness for opening Tuesday. The city secretary had declined to have congestion increased during the holiday season by issuing permits for peddlers to sell their wares on the streets. But he did want to make some provision for them and also give the public the opportunity to get the inexpensive trinkets which they sell. So he hit upon the idea of designating a particular area in which they might operate. Sixty of the street merchants can be accommodated on Louisiana street, each in a space on the curb six feet square. A 12-foot open space remains between the bazaar and the auditorium for pedestrians. Autoists can drive up to the curb and make purchases, as the space will be kept clear of parking."

about, but got a little all along the route. I will work no more until after New Year's. Then I will head east for the early spring around my old home town, Lynchburg, Va., and the dark tobacco country. I work all that's all. No partners for me. I work my own show and change acts as I like. I do five acts alone. Yes, I have my old reliable sidekick, Rusty Bill, with me—my old rattle-snake. He always gets me a tip. I don't have to pay him salary, but Bill has one bad habit. He doesn't like Negroes and raises a rumpus when one comes too close. By the way, I found out on my last trip why so many roadfolk like to winter in Hot Springs, Ark. I saw a restaurant there where the price cards displayed show the following: 'Coffee and two rolls, five cents; beef stew, five cents; pie, five cents'. Would like to see pipes from Dr. Bennett, Whitman, Allen, Les Williams and Roberson. The Christmas issue of *The Billboard* was a knock-out."

HERE'S FRANK HASKELL in again after a long silence. "I'm here for a short time in Calhoun, Miss." he pipes from that town. "It's 'way down in the mud and hollows, so I'm making slow progress collecting the shekels for F. & M. Met lots of the oldtimers lately. They seem to have all come south. Thought I would slip over here and be by myself. Behold! Up drives two oldtimers, Dave Cooper and George Dick. No, not in a new car, but a rubber-tired buggy drawn by two big black horses. Believe me, they looked like they had been in the swamps where cars have never been. They were a bit muddy, but they had a b. r. big enough to choke both horses. It made me pine for the old, old days to look them over. Why, boys, it has been years since I saw the like. Yes, they were working paper and they had a gray mule following the horses. I spent one fine night with them. Hope to meet them again. I am leaving for the hills of Alabama. I think I will sell or trade the car, for the roads are more than a little muddy. I get a big laugh every day at some Johnny-comes-lately stuck in about four feet deep. Let's hear from more of the boys who are in the South, those who are not stuck in the mud. May each and every one of them work and strive to make life happier for all of us. Don't knock, boys. Smile and boost."

H. J. LONSDALE, corresponding secretary of No. 1 Lodge, N. P. S. P. A., shoots from Los Angeles: "Glad to inform you that No. 1 Lodge had a most successful meeting in our rooms at 427 South Main street. There were 132 members, old and new, present. New officers were elected as follows: C. W. Downing, president; Sid Iverson, vice-president; John Roxford, second vice-president; George Silvers, financial secretary; H. J. Lonsdale, corresponding secretary; Jack



This is an actual photograph showing UMBY open for use. When closed it folds flat the size of a newspaper.

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BROADWAY HAWKERS ARE CLEANING UP!

50 Latest Popular Hits, on Good Paper, 11x21. Only \$25 per 50-cds Each. Sell for a dime. Inches. Clear, readable type. Send money with order. SPECIAL RATES ON QUANTITIES.

CHARLES MARTIN, 449 East 149th Street, New York City

Alpert, treasurer, and T. H. Johanns, sergeant at arms. Among the notables present were the following: Holloway, Leo Haas, Charles Orr, Viola McNeal, Mrs. Downing, T. C. Cook, Chief Messer, Fred Haback, Morris Golanter, Bob Myers, Charles Blum, Doc Sidway Murch, Sid Iverson, Bobby Hayes, F. L. Rasmucel and others. A vote of thanks was given to the retiring officers. The boys are looking forward to a winter of gabfests and pipe shooting with great enthusiasm. The clubrooms have been newly decorated. New furniture has been installed. Conditions here now are none too good for working. Invitation is extended to all good pitchers who come to town to make application for membership in the original National Pitchmen's and Salesmen's Protective Association and get the many advantages of the association and the clubrooms. But the rules for admission are becoming more rigid and applicants must expect to comply with them."

DOC GEORGE M. REED, who has almost recovered from injuries he suffered when he was knocked down by an automobile in Columbus, O., pipes: "As I sit here this a.m. reading old *Billyboy* I am wondering just what the demonstrators and pitchmen will do. It appears promoters and fair secretaries and city officials care nothing for their word. It seems they can break their word after getting our money and we have no comeback. For instance, take Jack Curran's pipe about the deal at Detroit, Mich. Now if Jack had sprung some other joint than the one he had contracted for they would have closed him up quickly. But they can take his hard-earned money and he can whistle. Right here I want to say that Jack Curran is a squareshooter, a clean worker and a gentleman. Two years ago at New Castle, Pa., I paid \$15 for a spot to work on and the weather was very bad—cold and rainy on Wednesday up until noon Thursday. At about 2 p.m. Thursday I hailed a tip of possibly 300 people and was just about ready to make my pass-out when the president of the fair board drove his big car right up in my tip and parked within 10 feet of me. I walked over to him and said: 'Brother, you are not going to park here, are you? I paid \$15 for this spot to work on.' He says: 'I don't care what you paid for it. I am president of this fair board.' Well, he broke up my tip, all right, and I got but \$5 and could not get another tip. When I kicked I was told to get off the fairgrounds, if it did not suit me I was not the only one who got a raw deal. Jim Reid had his crowd broken up by the fair people leading cattle and horses thru his crowd. In a Pennsylvania city a cop asked to see my reader and when he got it he tore it up and made me close up, altho I had paid my \$3 to work. No, they did not return my money. I could do nothing.

But if I had sold some man a bottle of med. and not have given it to him they would have put me in jail. Such is life. I am out of the game temporarily at present, due to my recent accident. It seems I was hurt worse than they thought I was at first. It has knocked me out of all my Christmas business and the big chain stores here are fast putting the perfume workers out of business. One here who has 30 stores has cut the 95-cent deal to 60-70-80 cents, yet the local merchants say the demonstrators and the pitchmen take all the money out of a town. Boys, wake up, send your \$1 in to Cincinnati and get a card, and after you get it don't try to cut one another's throats, but try to work together, and if you see a spot some other one has paid \$2 for don't offer \$5 for it. That has been pulled off here on the city markets several times in the last few months. Now, boys, pull together, stick together and see if we cannot make the game better and show the public that we are ladies and gents. Here is a happy New Year to all the boys and girls who are squareshooters. We have just moved in our new \$5,000 home at 935 Camden avenue and will be glad to see any of our old friends who may chance to be in Columbus. What is the matter, Bill Sacks and Mattie? Why don't you about a pipe occasionally."

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Smith, Mrs. Merritt Marie Wallon, Dorothy Watson, Mrs. Tex Yonden, Mrs. Berdie

Gentlemen's List

Allen, Jas. A. Baker, Will Barnes, Floyd Harrison, Jean Bird, Geo. A. Birt, Larry "Big" Bly, Brainer, H. J. Brune, A. & Canfill, George Clark, Archie Calabank, Louis Coleman, John Cook, George Coy, Frank Culp, Arthur Decastan, Vera Durpell, Hank Earle, B. W. Feilker, Joe. H. Fry, Ben E. Fuller, Sps. Fulton, Jim Garrison, Earl Chase, Max Gordon, J. M. Gorman, Jack & Gross, J. P. Haary, Lawrence Harris, Billy Harris, John Aloysius Hartman, H. H. Hoffman, Arthur Hornbrook, Geo. R. Howard, Burton T. Hughes, Pam & Han Woodard, H. H.

make up for the bathos. With baby-faced Baron doing a neat Charley King, he and Miss Brice do a number from one of her shows and finish with a brace of bits from The Broadway Melody. The Baron boy could have gone on until the end of the week. This act should get plenty of time. Not too expensive, and an easily adaptable item for any family-time bill.

Dave Apollon, who has played more returns around here than any artiste in his class, just about slew them in an always varying version of his Apollonian Revue. Apollon is a natural as a comedian, a master of showmanship, and favored with a versatility that is never pushed forward too far to destroy its own appeal. The latter fault is noticeable in other jacks-of-all-trades. The eight Filipino provide their usually pleasing string background and fit in nicely with many of Dave's nifties. Danz Goodell, eccentric dancer, and Mile. Neva, acrobatic specialist, stopped the show in their respective specialties. Miss Goodell also does a very appealing number with Apollon. They had to beg off after tearing down the house.

ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

Keith's Fordham, N. Y.

(Reviewed Wednesday Evening, Dec. 25)

Big gate here for Christmas night, with the house using its holiday policy of continuous show and no reserved seats. Heavy Loew opposish from Paradise and Grand does not seem to cut in on the business here. A good four-act show, with Dave Apollon as the main event. The pit band, headed by Sam Freed, Jr., does a yuletide overture that is an act in itself.

Mons. and Mme. Alf W. Loyal, choice act for a holiday program, took care of the hello spot in their dog novelty. The many dogs are well trained, and well paced by their masters in interesting and amusing bits. Unbilled girl does nicely in opening number. Sent off to a loud hand.

Elizabeth Brice, aided by Arthur Green and Samuel Baron, knocked off a show-stop in the deucer. The youthful Baron, played a large part in getting it. Miss Brice does personality warbling, hearkening back to her days with Charles King, and Baron assumes the role of King. Green shows up as a capable clown as well as a neat pianist.

Any Family, Harry Delf's domestic comedy sketch, dishes out plenty of laughs on a subject known to everyone. Story is about a poor family, with an ambitious mother overplaying her interest in daughter's chances for marriage. Cast is capable, and comprises Grant Irwin, Emily Lee, Allen Towns, Grace Moore and William Gargan. Gathered heavy applause.

Dave Apollon, with his 11-people revue, stayed on for 36 minutes in the closer, and could have stayed longer. The palm-pushers swallowed everything, hook-line-and-stinker, laughing loudly and applauding consistently and deafening. Apollon is great as an m. c., and his Russ accent goes well with his merry quipping. He is a corking musician, too. The Filipino octet shape up as a splendid string outfit, and one of them has beautiful pipes. Danz Goodell stopped the proceedings with her brilliant eccentric stepping, and Mile. Neva fared well in her acrobatics. SIDNEY HARRIS.

NEW PLAYS

(Continued from page 7)

first episode. They are billeted in a castle in Northern France as the guest of the affable La Comtesse De Villette. From one thing and another that cause casualties in the air service six of the men go. An outside loop that the Spad could not make caused one; a dive after a machine-gun nest another; breaking formation to chase a Boche ship another; a shelling in view of the audience another; and finally, an attempt to halt the activities of the German baron who rules the air in the sector by bombing his air-drome, the captain, and, lastly, the boy lover of the Comtesse to the same unfinished task.

These subplots, or what are obviously meant to be subplots, are weak and quickly discarded by the dramatist when the Comtesse, with her flowing gowns, makes an entrance. After each individual death there is always a narrative of the affair by the man closest to the one who went to his death. These include the employment of bad theater and tend to make the piece a bit too talky. Huston, fresh from Harvard and who

has never tasted life, is sent as a replacement to Squadron 7 doing patrol duty over the Western front. One by one the characters in play go the way of many airmen during the war. A rebellion against army red tape and the lack of equipment in the air services starts, but never quite comes off. Huston goes nearly loco from the dead men returning to him in his dreams. His captain advises as an antidote women and liquor, and lots of it. But the Comtesse, whose love for the young boy is apparent, or sympathy (as the captain terms it), invites him to her room. A headquarters officer visits the billet with orders for the bombing of the air-drome. The captain sentimentally consents to allow Huston to remain the night with the Comtesse. Of course, he does not return, and after a night of love the young officer starts out to bomb the Baron's air-drome and halt his activities so the big push can get under way.

Off-stage effects are employed that seem to be a little wrong in parts. The same sounds are heard for a plane flying from a distance toward the landing field as one on the field warming up. There is a difference easily discernible between a ship in the air far away and one close by running with motor throttled down.

Altho Tom Douglas appears to be featured, the outstanding performance of the piece is contributed by Robert Strange as Captain Otis. His interpretation of a captain who has suffered thru six months of constant casualties lend the part a repression that excels, and when it lets go it is perfect.

Douglas is too uncertain at times. His part requires him to use to the best of advantage his bashful timing and pace to reading lines, but there are times when he overdoes this gift. He is especially guilty of this in his reckoning scene with the Comtesse. Suzanne Caybue, in the role of restrained French noblewoman, is dignity itself. Millard F. Mitchell again appears in this play in a part peculiarly fitted to him, and he carries it off with honors. Preston Foster, the cynical fighter who invites death at every turn, gives the finest of the shorter performances, altho he is given to being too earnest in his efforts to be hardboiled at times.

Lionel Atwill has done much with the production. His work is apparent, but the play as a play is too obvious at all times to permit the employment of suspense that, given a different play with the same material, a director might have accomplished. The complete lack of suspense is the one great fault of the play. Atwill obviously has tried to inject it, but without much success.

The one setting is an exceptionally decorative design that is executed with minute care. Seven, had Collins given more attention to expert craftsmanship than to a false impression that he was creating a play of that vague, fictional, realistic class, might have been a great piece of work. As it is it is simply a rather amusing entertainment.

CHARLES MORAN.

CHANIN'S 46TH STREET

Beginning Wednesday Evening, December 25, 1929

TOP SPEED

A musical comedy with book, lyrics and music by Gay Bolton, Bert Kalmar and Harry Ruby. Book directed by John Harwood. Dances directed by John Boyle and Leroy Prinz. Settings designed by Raymond E. Sovey and executed by Bergman Studios. Costumes designed and executed by Kivietta. Presented by Bolton, Kalmar & Ruby, Ltd.

- Tad Jordan, of Jordan's Hot Water Bottles... Lester Allen Gerry Brooks... Paul Frawley Molly, a Guest at the Lodge... Elaine Blaire Pete Schoonmaker, Sheriff and Game Warden... Len Hascall Virginia Rollins... Irene Delroy Babs Green, a Young Millionaire... Ginger Rogers Charles... Ken Williams Shirley, a Flapper... Shirley Richards Mr. Rollins, Virginia's Father... Theodore Babcock Vincent Colgate, in Love With Virginia... Sam Critcherson Spencer Colgate, Vincent's Uncle... John T. Dwyer Waiter at the Yacht Club... George Del Drigo Souvenir Storekeeper... William Hale SHOWGIRLS - Frances Thress, Hilda Knight, Lorraine Power and Ray Aggar. SPECIAL DANCING GIRLS - Marie Kove, Martha Catrol, Nedia Wayne, Mildred Franks, Paula Sands, Olga Fox, Beth Meredith and Charlotte Sinton. DANCING GIRLS - Belle Blake, Elmor Walent, Mildred House, Dodo Wyatt, Helen Raugh, Peggy Driscoll, Irene Carroll, Adele

Dickson, Louise Francis, Valerie Deloro, Carolyn James, Flo Allen, Enea Early, Mildred Rye, Dixie Lester, Norine Eogen and Kay Reilly.

MALE CHORUS - Kendall Northrop, Daniel Wyler, Jerry Kirkland, Arthur May, Fred Furnan, Willis Lawrence, George del Drigo and Hermes Pan.

EIGHT TOP SPEED BOYS - Hal Morron, Ken Williams, Irving Lesser, Tom Barrett, Alan Debylin, Gene Johnson, John Quinn and George King. ACT I - Scene 1: The Terrace of Onawanda Lodge. After Dinner. Scene 2: A Bench Near the Lodge at Dawn. Scene 3: The Main Lounge, Onawanda Lodge. ACT II - Scene 1: The Border Line Yacht Club. Scene 2: In the Woods. Scene 3: A Bedroom in Onawanda Lodge. Scene 4: The Regatta Ball.

Bolton, Kalmar and Ruby, formerly content with supplying the material for musical comedies, have turned their talents to an additional task. They are producers, and this Top Speed backed by moving picture money is their first effort. There is little originality in Top Speed, all the principals are old standard musical entertainers, the book is weak and the music far from a sensation. But with all this Top Speed is a winner. It has pace, it is youthful, full of verve and sure-fire material that makes for good musical entertainment. Top Speed is decidedly good entertainment, but the success or near success it may attain is questionable, for while there has been a scarcity of musical shows on Broadway this season those that have arrived have been good.

A silly book the libretto might be called. It is old stuff and time has dulled its appeal. It concerns the adventures of two Wall street clerks posing as millionaires at a fashionable lodge in the Thousand Islands. Elmer Peters and Gerry Brooks find themselves at the lodge rather suddenly and then very suddenly in love with Babs Green and Virginia Rollins, respectively. It goes on and on until Gerry Brooks guides Miss Rollins' father's speed boat to first place in the sweepstakes of an international boat race to finally win the daughter, the coveted prize of the whole show.

Musically Top Speed includes two numbers that might catch on to aid the show. The none of this material is outstanding either in tunes or lyrics. Rather ordinary as a matter of fact.

John Boyle and Le Roy Prinz have made the best contribution to the production. Their dance arrangements with difficult routines and acrobatic numbers are the best now to be seen. In addition to doing all these unbelievable and trick stunts, the chorus includes a gathering of hoofers that make Harland Dixon and other principal dancers in the cast work for their rewards. In fact, Dixon, with his nervous, scare-crow dance, and Lester Allen's comical soft-shoe number, with its sops and falls, are the only two dancers that compete with the chorus. Irene Delroy is far from adequate in her role. Her dance was strained, her voice less than usually, and her dramatic efforts too flippant. Ginger Rogers, in her first appearance in a Broadway production, proved to be a personable young lady with some ability, altho she forces herself too frequently and attempts things her talents do not include. One of these is singing in the manner she tries to impersonate in this production. Miss Rogers would do far better, and will undoubtedly do far better, if she is more herself in her future engagements and tries less to be impressive.

Allen lets go all his old gags and stunts. He appears to advantage with Miss Rogers and Paul Frawley working with him. Frawley, as nearly perfect as any musical comedy leading man, gives his usual performance, and this stands out high above the other members of the cast.

The settings employed are for the most part well done, altho these too are standard musical comedy settings.

The costuming is another outstanding feature of the show. While not lavish the show is most certainly well dressed, altho there is no outstanding bit of costuming or unusual effects employed.

Top Speed might be termed a standard musical comedy, but it is not. It is slightly above this, and because of the names and two tunes that will be considerably heard here and there, it may provide amusement for the remainder of the season. CHARLES MORAN.

Can YOU Imagine Such VALUES? Piccadilly DOUBLE EDGE SAFETY RAZOR BLADES MADE OF FINEST SWEDISH STEEL GILLETTE-TYPE BLADES Special for new trade. First quality. Packed in paraffine paper and 10 blades in attractive box (1,000 total). Per 100 \$1.00 SPECIAL - While They Last - Blades, Gillette Type, Packed as Above. Unbranded, packed in Envelopes and 25 Blades in 10, 4,000 Blades, 100 \$8.00 VALLEY AUTO STROP SHAVING Cream (25c Better). Factory Price, \$24.00 12.00 Gross. Our Special Price, Gross PALMOLIVE After Shave Lotion (25c Better). Factory Price, \$12.00 Gross, 11.50 heard Special, Gross. 18.00 PERFUME (\$1.00 Value), Large 4-oz. Bottle, in Attractive Cloth, 1000 Duplay Box. A Spencer Product. Factory Price, \$15.00 Gross. Our Price, Gross. 18.00 WRITE FOR FREE CATALOG OF PERFUME, RAZOR BLADES, NEEDLES, NEEDLE BOOKS, NOTIONS, GIFT PREMIUMS, SALESBOARDS, ETC. OUR PRICES WILL AMAZE YOU. DEPOSIT ON ALL ORDERS. MILLS SALES CO. 901 Broadway, New York CALENDARS "FAMOUS AMERICANS" and "GOD BLESS OUR HOME" CALENDAR Both beautifully colored (11x14) and big sellers at 25c. Price, \$5.65 per 100, Delivered. Cash with order. 5 cents each. FREE with purchase, "Just for Fun Package," 1,500 Laughs. Each Calendar with War Veterans's Appeal. KOEHLER, 150 Park Row, N. Y.

For Sale, 3-Car Carnival Including 3 Baggage Cars, 5 Riding Devices, 8 Shows, with good Canvas and Panel Fronts. All in good condition. Part time to responsible party. Wire or write BOX K, C. 49, care Billboard, 42 Chambers Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

Petersburg Brevities

By RALPH G. LOCKETT

PETERSBURG, Va.—Kerrow Bros.' Circus is comfortably established in its winter quarters near here, secured for it by that wide-awake organization, the Circus Fans' Association, of which Harry D. Baugh and Chas. F. Lauterbach are the prominent members hereabouts.

Petersburg is well represented in the outdoor show world, with the following organizations spending the winter months here: Bernardi Greater Shows, W. T. Stone Shows, Brison Bros.' Circus and Kerrow Bros.' Circus.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. (Bill) Sterling have arrived here and are well situated in the Tourist Hotel, where they indicate they will spend the winter. Bill closed the season with the Cetlin & Wilson Shows, but when quizzed as to his plans he was noncommittal.

William Glick was here for a short stay a few days ago, but departed for parts unknown.

Manager Sam Dock, of the Brison Bros.' Circus, is building new cages and putting his acts thru their paces. He reports a fair season.

Joe Marks, the popular concessionaire, stopped here for a few days en route to Miami, Fla. Those Southern fairs were not so good, according to Joe.

Circus Fans Chas. F. Lauterbach and H. D. Baugh have been busy with preparing to wish seasonal greetings to their friends in the show world. A card received from them shows a unique Christmas card made up with a verse of the "lot" and the CFA emblem.

To the many interested showfolks who want to know how much there is to a rumor that John H. Marks would withdraw from the W. T. Stone Shows, which is spending the winter here, no official announcement has been made regarding the property in winter quarters here. However, Marks stated he would not be connected with the Stone Shows in any capacity the coming season and, further, that he was interested in a project to build an elaborate club and inn on the Richmond and Petersburg Pike, near Dutch Gap, and would devote his time and interest to this. It is also understood he is interested in a beach project near Richmond.

Al Huband, for the past three years superintendent of the Stone Shows, announces he will shortly accept a position as manager of a theater in Richmond, and to his friends he insists his swan song has been sung to the outdoor show business.

Frank A. Cook to Europe

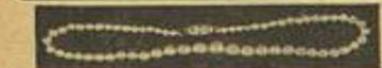
NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Frank A. Cook, legal adjuster of Ringling-Barnum Circus, sailed last week for Europe to look the field over for circus novelties; also to arrange to bring back some acts under contract for the Big Show and the other circus units under the Ringling control. Cook will visit Bertram Mills Olympia Circus in London, then will tour the Continent, including Paris, Berlin and the other principal cities. He expects to return the forepart of February.

Ed P. Rahm Changes Plans

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—It is reported in carnival circles here that Edward P. Rahm has withdrawn as general representative of West's World's Wonder Shows.

George H. Tompkins, Notice

Wire your brother, Ralph D. Tompkins, either in care of the Rex Theater or the Phoenix Hotel, Corry, Pa., as your father is dead. Readers knowing of Geo. H. Tompkins' whereabouts are asked to bring this to his attention.



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JOHNNY J. JONES, Gen. Mgr.,
Winter Quarters, De Land, Fla.

Carnival Men at the Cadillac **New York Office Callers**

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Among the carnival fraternity at the Cadillac Hotel Christmas week were William (Bill) Holland, of D. D. Murphy Shows; William C. Fleming, who has been making side trips to Baltimore, Washington and Albany in connection with the special interests he is promoting in his own behalf; R. F. McLendon, who is representing the Bruce Greater Shows.

Jackel's Curb Show Circus

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—An unique curb-show entertainment was put on by John C. Jackel at the New York Curb Market December 21, with the following acts: J. E. Pool, of Josh and Tildy, who acted the role of Santa Claus; Paul Azella, in Punch and Judy; Floyd Hynes' clown band, consisting of 10 joesys, with Willie Goldat featured; the Cycling Duffys, comedy bicyclists; Van and Rome, comedy grotesques; Fred Estelle, marionets; Willie Smith, the one-man vaudeville act; Albert Sherwin, diminutive policeman.

Sea Elephant Dies

SARASOTA, Fla., Dec. 28.—Goliath, monster sea elephant of the Big Show, died recently, and has been replaced by another one, which has been held in reserve here.

WILLIAM (BILL) HOLLAND, special agent, D. D. Murphy Shows.
PETER L. DREW, of Drew's World Standard Shows.
LUISITA LEERS and father, of Ringling-Barnum Circus, en route to Europe.
HERB WILLIAMS, vaudevillian.
EDWARD RAHM, carnival general agent.
WILLIAM DUNNVILLE, ride operator with Drew's World Standard Shows.
MRS. PALLENBERG, of Pallenberg's bears, and daughter, Dibirma.
WILLIAM JUDKINS HEWITT, of Ben Williams Outdoor Amusements.
RAJAH BROTHERS, Carl and Hart, mentalists.
R. F. McLENDON, of Bruce Greater Shows.
GEORGE COLE, sheetwriter, better known as Kokomo Slim.
CONEY ISLAND CHARLIE SMITH, talker.
I. T. KUHL, promoting Jersey Coast amusement resort.
PUNCH DOWDNEY, outdoor showman.
PARISIAN FOUR, circus act.
DAVE PINEMAN, concessionaire with Sheesley Shows.
BILLY BEARDON, outdoor showman.
DONALD MacGREGOR, newspaper and publicity man, manager of Washington office of Copper and Brass Research Association.
TEX COOPER, the two-gun deputy sheriff in Whoopee.

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While these sports endure, our Games will endure.

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Golf—Missouri, Minnesota, West Virginia, Washington, Colorado, Kansas, Arkansas, Wyoming, Idaho, Dakota, Texas.
Derby—Wisconsin, Indiana, Western Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Florida, and all States west of the Mississippi.
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Shorty Whittman
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Mr. and Mrs. John Nelson Wisner
J. E. Willson
Wright, Magician
Sallie Hughes Walker
Walthworth County Agri. Society
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Mr. and Mrs. E. Y. Wren
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John T. Wortham Shows
Beverly White
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Mr. and Mrs. Will L. White

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Princess Yvonne
Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Yount and Family
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Mr. and Mrs. A. Zolo
Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Zelleno
Jack Zanone
Madame Zetta
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Zorda

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H. J. Society Circus
Charles Peyton
Prosser and Diamond
Ponca Medicine Co.
Dorsey Powers
Doc Paul
Alice and Lewis Payne
Mrs. Zola G. Pavey
W. H. Pavey
Ed Pethick
V. T. Peralta
J. L. Palmer
Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Potter
Phil and Lane
Hal Pratt
John C. Pollie
J. J. Page Exposition Shows
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Pitrot
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. H. Pounds
and Family
Pacific Coast Showmen's Association.

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Alla Ragueh
Bruce Rinaldo
Ernest & Hallie Richter
G. Kempton Read
Don Hall Rose Trio
Rainbow Ramblers Orchestra
Harry Richards
Paul & Mildred Reno
Will Rockwell
C. Lewis Ridenour
Bonnie Rose
Nedra and Lester Robde
C. B. Balston
Earl J. Redden
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. (Bill) Rice
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William Bartlett Reynolds
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Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus
Mr. and Mrs. Mill Robbins
John Robinson Circus
Nat and Georgia Rodgers
Hugh Grant Rowell
Mrs. R. H. Rollins
Jerry Russell
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Ryder
Dr. & Mrs. George M. Reed
W. S. Ruffing
Lester A. Roberts
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Raymond W. Rowan
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The Rolledrome
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Red Horse Ranch
Royal American Shows
Rubin & Cherry Shows

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Prosser and Diamond
Ponca Medicine Co.
Dorsey Powers
Doc Paul
Alice and Lewis Payne
Mrs. Zola G. Pavey
W. H. Pavey
Ed Pethick
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J. L. Palmer
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Phil and Lane
Hal Pratt
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J. J. Page Exposition Shows
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and Family
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Bert Bernstein
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Dominic F. Bowers
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Lulu Fewerstein
Evelyn Fields
Nat & Gaby Fields
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Fields
William A. Fields
Minnie Fitzgerald
Gus Flaig
Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Fleming
Tom Foley
Peggy Francis
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Elizabeth Friedman
Leon A. Friedman
Frank Fuller
Peg Fulmer
Abe Furman
Felovis
Jack Fenton
C. W. Finney
Harry Fitzgerald
Fleming Family
Willard (Doc) Foster
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Lillian Gormila
Alex Gerber
Tom Gerety
H. Germain
George Givet
David Parker Godwin
Peggy Goldberg
Florence Goodman
Gay Gordons
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Amita Goldie
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Hope Hampton
W. C. Handy
W. J. Hanley
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George Heather
Horace Heldt
Sidney Heller
Robert Henderson Players
Mr. & Mrs. James Herson
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Mr. & Mrs. Wm. J. Hilliar
B. Horowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Jules Howard
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Wally Hunt
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Maud & Ina Hayward
Chas. C. Hale
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Ben Hamid
Rose Herlin
Will H. Hill
Honey Family
Irish Horan
Prof. & Mme. Hudspeth
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I. J. Irving & Flopper Freshies
Bert Ibberson
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Jules Jacobs & Family
Susan Jayne
Jesse Jedel
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Jerome
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Johns & Mabley
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Alice, Sonny, Mother & Dad
LaMont
Sam Lawrence
Doris Lee
Jules Levy
Jack Linder
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Ralph G. Lockett
Jack Lyles
Lafayette Hotel, Philadelphia
Jack Lelpziger
Hank Linet
Jyes La Rue
Jean Lee
Billy & Virginia Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Lee
Charles LeMaire
John C. Lemoine
Ruth LeRoy
Walter Leslie
Bubuse & Dave Levene
Freddie & Rosella Lightner
Little Carnegie Playhouse
Everett Lielan
Eddie Lloyd
Ruth Love
B. F. Lowe
Max Lowenstein
Isabelle Lubow
Mae Sparky Lubow
Jack Lydic
Thomas Lyle
Jack Lyon
M
Beatie Mack
Happy Freddy Mack
Jess Mack
Kitty Madison
Philip Maher (Columbia Broad-
-casting Co.)
Maidie & Ray
G. W. Marque Mair
Frank Marllahan
Shirley Mallette
Rheba Malvey
Sarah Mandell
Marie Daly Maxwell
Seymour R. Mayer
Frances McHugh
Jack McInerney
Melbourne & Chopman
Ed (Sensational) Meredith
Harry Mervis
Lou B. Metzger
Walter Eldredge Meyer Co.
F. & Ortega Miscanhus
Mac Millen
Irving Mills
Mr. & Mrs. Jack (Sadat Ben-
-nett) Mills
Steve & Dot Mills
Minsky Brothers
Mitchell Studios
Babe Montana
Frankie Red Moore
Mr. & Mrs. John Morano
Johnny Morley
Morris & Castle Shows
Mulroy, McNeese & Ridge
George Murry
Margaret Murphy
Mutual Burlesque Association
William D. Mack
Margaret & LeRoy
Charley Martin
Melville-Reiss Shows
Charles (Doc) Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Frank C. Miller
May Montana
Fred C. Murray
Priscilla Morey
Joe and Nellie Mercedes
H. R. Mulvey
N
Tony Nasci
Mr. & Mrs. Rutgers Neilson
Rutgers Neilson III
Bob & Olive Nelson
M. Nelson
New Jersey Central
Benjamin W. Newman
Buddy Nichols
Bruce Noble
Genevieve Norris
Jean Norwood
Cleo Nugent
O
Edward Hayden O'Connor
O'Connor Sisters
Dell O'Dell
Helen Olcott
G. R. O'Neill
Frank O'Rourke
E. M. Orowitz
Four Ortons
Ruth Osborne
O'Brien Bros. Productions

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Mr. & Mrs. Jerry O'Reilly
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Samuel John Park
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Passer & Lewis
Paulo, Paqueta & Chikita
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Law Petel
Charles Peyton
Karl P. Phillips
Phil R. Phillips
Wm. S. Phillips
George & Arthur Piantadoc
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Dorothy Plummer
Erving Plummer
Plummer-Thompson Office
Mario Pranno
Benson Pratt
Buddy Pugh
Will A. Pyne
Sus & Tom Phillips
Fred H. Pouty
Jim & Ervel Powers
R
Rajah Rabold
Dave Rafael
Halsey Raines
Ken Randall
Sid Rankin
Louis Raymond
Roy & Dot Read
John J. Regan
Daisy & Fred Reib
Sam & Nadine Reider
Harry H. Richards
Lou Richman
Lou Richman
Clro & Rosary Rimac
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Flo & Gertrude Rockwood
Will Roehm
Sid Rogers
Rogers & Tremont
Robetta Bros.
B. S. & L. B. Rosenstadt
Rosita & Ramon
Freddie Ross
Julius Roth
Royal American Shows
Helena Rubenstein
Harry Rudder
Pauline Russell
Billy Reardon
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Ritchy
Lester Roberts
Mary Ragan
Mlle. Milo Rosette
Joe Rowan
Doc Rowell
Rubin & Cherry Shows, Inc.
Robles and Hamilton
Rosen and Jacoby
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Condie St. Clair
Mike Sachs
A. Sackin
Marlene Salazar
Arthur Schald
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Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Schmansels
Hortense Schorr
Sugar Schrad
Paul Scott
Morrie Seamon
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Shafto
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Shaw
Chicago Office
A
E. B. Allen
Tex and Mary Lou Austin
Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Arey
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Anderson
Frank Alringer
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Anderson
B
Harry Baugh
Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Blockl
E. G. Bylander
Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Belden
Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Barnes
Victor and Madame Bedini
Roy Barrett
Becker Kowalsick Co.
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur T. Brainerd
Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Buckingham
Barnett Bros.
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Mr. and Mrs. J. Bogner
Mr. and Mrs. Val Banville
Capt. Kenneth Blake and Viola
Moss
Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Brown
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By Gosh
D. M. Berry
C
Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Country
Lucile Carewe

Kate Shea
Winfield Sheehan
Harry Sherman
Olive Sibley
Jack Singer
Monica & Ann Skelley
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Sloan
Mabel Sloan
Irene Smith
Sophie Smith
W. H. Smith
Ida May Sparrow
Edith Natalie Stark
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Steger
Maxine Y., Charles B., Lorraine
G. & Mrs. Ed. Stone
Bob Sylvester
Anna J. Schwartz
Joe Short
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T. J. Singleton
Herb Smyser
Mr. & Mrs. G. R. Spencer
Mme. M. C. Stefanik
Spillman Engineering Corp.
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A. Stanford
Charles & Ernest Stern
T
Ina Thomas
S. Iden Thompson
Harold E. Tillotson
Tod & LaValle
C. G. Tracy
Tracy Sisters
K. K. Triangle
Mr. & Mrs. Harry E. Tudor
Two Blossoms
C. Gilmore Tait
Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Trout
Triangle Music Corp.
U
Duncan Underhill
Teddy Underwood
Harry & Frances Usber
V
Fannie Vedder
Nita Vernille
Paul E. Vernon & Co.
Jane Vitall
Marie Vernon
Capt. Jack & Mrs. Valley
W
Peg Waddell
Kenneth Waite
Mildred, Ralph & Jack Wald
F. C. (Red) Watson
WBAL Station (Baltimore)
Joe Weil
George D. Wiest
Billy Wilson
Fred & Bebe Wilson
Harry Witt
Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Woekener
Norman & Clarice Worth
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Wright
Ross Wyse Family
Mr. & Mrs. Will L. White
The Widens
Henry Wineberg
Wirth & Hamid, Inc.
Inez Wood
Bryan & Billie Woods
Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Wright, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Walker
Weston & Lyons
Paul Whiteman
Y
Helen Yorke
Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Young
Princess Yvonne
Mr. & Mrs. L. C. Zelleno
Adolph Zukor

DEATHS in the PROFESSION

ALBERTS—Reginald A. 31. projectionist at the Olympia Theater, Chicago, died last week in that city.

BAKER—John G. 56, deputy city comptroller of Albany, N. Y., after an illness of several months, died at his home in Albany December 27. He was formerly a member of the vaudeville dance team of Baker and Fitzgerald. He was a Past Exalted Ruler of the Albany, Lodge of Elks No. 49 and first lieutenant of the First Battalion, 10th Infantry. He is survived by a daughter and a brother.

BLOOM—Lou, vaude. headliner, who claimed to have originated years ago the tramp specialty, died recently in New York. The body was shipped to his home at Reading, Pa., for burial.

BOLTE—Henry L. 58, of Springfield, Ill., died December 23 in that city. He was a prominent figure in politics in Springfield and was also a charter member of the I. A. T. S. E. local of that city.

BRICE—Henry C., pioneer theater man, died at his home in Oklahoma City last week. He was at one time manager of the Strand Theater, that city. The funeral was held in Oklahoma City.

BROOKS—James W. 79, formerly of Derby, Conn.; manufacturer of musical instruments and developer of the tonal quality of vocal instruments, died in New Haven, Conn., last week.

BROPHY—G. Harry, president of Local 253, IATSE, died of pneumonia at Strong Memorial Hospital December 9.

CAVANAUGH—John J. 27, died in St. John, N. B., recently following an operation for mastoids, it being the fourth operation he had undergone during the last three years. He had been employed at several St. John film exchanges as shipping clerk, demonstration operator and booker, including the Maritime Film Exchange. At the time of his death he was selling talking and sound picture equipment for a Toronto firm. He was a member of Holder's Orchestra for several years, playing traps. He was also active in the little theater movement. He is survived by his parents and one brother, all living in St. John.

GUSTIN—A. H. 63, died at his home in Gary, Ind., December 14 following a week's illness of pneumonia. He had been with the old Hamilton-New York Circus in 1878 and later with the John O'Brien, Adam Forepaugh and John Doris circuses. His widow and four children survive.

DUGGAN—Jack, 54, father of Mabel Dugan, Detroit booking agent, died in Los Angeles December 15. Burial was in Toronto.

ELKINS—Jockey, 27, rodeo promoter and well-known cattleman, of Idaho, Okla., died suddenly in that city last week.

FLEMING—Maybury, dramatic critic and noted newspaper woman, died in New Brighton, S. I., December 28.

FRALICK—Frank A. 77, who had been employed as carpenter at Keith's Theater, Syracuse, N. Y., from the time that theater opened until his retirement a year ago, died recently at St. Joseph Hospital, that city. Interment was made in Assumption Cemetery, Syracuse.

GAY—Della Bell, well known to many showfolk and mother of Harry S. Gay, actor-manager of the Gay Stock Company, died December 25 at her home in Syracuse, N. Y. She is survived by another son and daughter. Funeral services were held December 27 and interment was in Tully Cemetery, Syracuse.

GUARD—Vers, a member of the Princess Stock Company and well known in repertoire circles, died suddenly at Leachville, Ark., December 24.

HABA HABA—Clown, who has appeared at Coney Island the last 20 years, is reported to have died at Bellevue Hospital, New York, recently. He had been appearing with Pepito, Spanish clown, in vaudeville. It is understood that he has a brother in New Orleans. His remains were interred in Potter's Field.

HAGGERTY—Whitney, 38, showman, of Louisville, Ky., died in Jacksonville, Fla., December 23 of injuries sustained when an unidentified Negro assailed him.

HAMILTON—Mrs. J. C., mother of E. R. (Pete) Hamilton, pianist in repertoire, died at her home in Shenandoah, Ia., December 28.

HANNOUK—Jimmy, of Syracuse, N. Y., died in New York December 10 in his room of the building where he resided on 11th street. He was overcome by gas. The remains were interred at Syracuse. Last summer Hannouk was assistant lecturer for Dr. Karr at the Strand Museum, Coney Island, N. Y.

HEALY—Mrs. Nellie, wife of John Healy, late featured comedian of Al G. Field's Minstrels, died December 25 in Philadelphia.

HENDRICKS—John P. (Dutch), died December 12 in the El Paso Hospital, El Paso, Tex., after a lingering illness of several years. Death was attributed to a complication of diseases. Hendricks was in the carnival business for a number of years, operating concessions on various shows.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARTIN K. HINES
Who passed away January 2, 1929, at Denver, Colo.
ALBENA HINES.

JOHNSON—Myron C. (Mike), 23, died December 14 in Mansfield, La., of injuries sustained when he was struck by a truck December 12. He had been connected with the Walter Harris Shows and more lately with Brown's Amusement Company. His home was in New York State.

KEARNEY—John, formerly connected with the Lawrence Trumbull Players and the Wallace R. Cutter Company, died in Oakland, Calif., December 18 following an illness of several months. Funeral services were held December 20 in Oakland and interment was in St. Mary's Cemetery, that city.

LAW—D. C. 47, color-effect and talking picture expert, was killed in an airplane crash at Indianapolis December 22. He was associated with the technical staff of Warner Brothers, Inc.

LEAMAN—Harry, 74, was instantly killed when struck by an automobile on the highway at Dentville, S. C., recently. For many years he was a jockey and was well known by many showfolk.

LEFFINGWELL—John D. 74, former New York newspaper man and at various times theatrical press agent for the Charles Frohman interests, Klaw & Erlanger, Henry W. Savage and others, died of pneumonia at his home in Ventnor, N. J., December 19. He was on the staffs of The Sun and World and had been a foreign correspondent for The New York Herald under James Gordon Bennett. The stars he handled include Billie Burke, Ethel Barrymore, John Drew, Otis Skinner and William Collier. He is survived by widow, Mrs. Grace K. Leffingwell. Funeral services were held December 30 in Atlantic City, with Masonic services in New York December 31 at the Masonic Temple. Burial was in Clinton, Conn.

LOTHROP—Elizabeth, 78, died December 17 of complications at her home in Brookline, Mass. Interment was in the Arlington Cemetery. She was the widow of Dr. George Lothrop, owner and manager of the Howard and other old-time theaters in Boston, and popular with the players in those houses for many years due to her philanthropy.

MCCINNITY—Dan, manager of Bob Fitzsimmons, one-time heavyweight champion of the world, and also manager at one time of the Park Street Theater, Chicago, died at a hotel in Chicago Christmas Day. He was brother of

"Iron Man" Joe McGinnity, one of baseball's great figures, and was well known to the sporting world. His widow survives.

NIEMEYER—Charles H., 69, veteran theatrical and amusement park manager, and one of the first men to enter the moving picture industry, died November 29, following a paralytic stroke. At the time of his death he had been a patient at the John Sealy Hospital, Galveston, Tex. He had managed the Mascot Theater, Galveston and was connected with the Chutes Park, Chicago, for several years. He had also been connected as a theater manager with the Pantages Circuit. He is survived by one son, Joe Niemeyer, dancer; two brothers and one sister. He was a member of the Elks and Masonic lodges and also of the King Oscar Order. Burial was made in the family plot in Lake View Cemetery, Galveston, Tex., December 4, with Masonic rites.

PATTON—E. Cook, 60, magician, died at Hubbard Mineral Springs, Ore., December 29, of heart disease. His widow survives.

PIDGEOON—Mrs. Charlotte Everett, 82, mother of Edward E. Pidgtoon, director of publicity and advertising of the Fox Theaters Corporation, died December 24 at Fort Lee, N. J. She was the widow of the late James Murdoch Pidgtoon and a former Brooklyn resident. Funeral services were privately conducted December 26 and interment was in Fairview (N. J.) Cemetery.

PUGH—Roy, stage manager at the Orpheum Theater, Tulsa, Okla., was killed in an explosion in Hot Springs, Ark., last week. Pugh was well known in the labor movement in Oklahoma, having held the office of first vice-president of the Oklahoma State Federation of Labor for a long time and attended many of the international conventions of the I. A. Pugh was also a member of the Stage Employees and Projectionists' Union and was president of Local 354 for many years.

ROBINSON—Mrs. Emma, mother of H. Charles Robinson, dramatic stock actor, died at her home in Syracuse, N. Y., December 20.

SANDBERG—Eric, known as a former employee of carnival companies, died in Panama City, Fla., December 28, and was buried in that city.

SEIDERWITZ—Mrs. Marie Frances Desales Bussey Duffy, former actress on the vaudeville, legitimate stage and in the films, died December 27 at her home in Baltimore, Md. She was the daughter of the late former State attorney for Baltimore county. Her first husband was William Duffy, of Rochester, N. Y. In 1919 she married Edwin Seiderwitz. She is survived by her mother, husband and two children.

SHARP—Mother of Maxie, died December 22 in Pittsburgh, Pa. Maxie Sharp is associated with the outdoor amusement world.

STAPLES—Alonzo, ex-president of the Frederickton Exhibition, Frederickton, N. B., and a member of the directorate of that fair association for more than 20 years, died of paralysis recently at Frederickton. He resigned from the fair board two weeks prior to his death. As president of the Frederickton Exhibition he introduced harness racing, which was the chief attraction of the fair since the war, and was responsible for the opening of the race track on the grounds. He was a charter member of the Knights of Pythias of Frederickton and was one of

three members to be awarded jewels for long service. Had Staples lived until July he and his wife would have celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage. The widow, two sons, one daughter and two brothers survive.

STEWART—Elizabeth, 23, employed as cashier at the Saenger Theater, Little Rock, Ark., was killed when an automobile skidded onto the pavement and struck her. Her parents and several sisters and brothers survive.

TOMPKINS—Charles W., 72, father of Ralph D. Tompkins and George H. Tompkins, died December 1 at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He was an old-time circus performer.

TRIPLETT—Vic, old-time showman, died December 26 in Crowley, La., of influenza. He had been associated with H. W. Campbell's United Shows for 14 years and had many friends in the outdoor show world. Burial was made in Crowley.

VIOLETTE—Ida, wife of M. B. Violette, died of paralysis at Bentley, Miss., December 18. Besides her husband, she is survived by a daughter and two sons. She and her husband were well known in show business.

WARING—Monroe C., a brother of Fred and Tommy Waring, owners of the noted orchestra, Waring's Pennsylvanians, was fatally injured December 20 when his automobile was struck by a train near Rome, Pa. He died shortly after at a hospital in Rome.

WRIGHT—Susan A., 97, aunt of Harold Bell Wright, author of several widely known books, including *Kerans* and other outdoor tales which have proved highly popular on the screen, died in Cornwall, N. Y., December 27. She is survived by several relatives.

WYNARD—Charles, 83, oldest cameraman in America, died of heart disease recently at Bellevue Hospital, New York.

MARRIAGES

EVANS-RENEE—Helene Renee and Chuck Evans, known professionally as Chuck Scott, were married Christmas Day at the Little Church Around the Corner (Church of the Transfiguration), New York. Evans, who retired from the stage last week, was of the standard set of Scott Brothers and Vernon. Miss Renee is one of the Renee Sisters, well known in vaudeville and clubs. They will live in New York.

FRANCIS-JARMAN—Lieut. Francis Francis and Sunny Jarman, American actress, were married in London December 23.

HAWKS-LOVE—Bessie Love, motion picture actress, and William Hawks, stock broker, of Beverly Hills, Calif., were married in Hollywood December 27.

HUGHES-BISHOP—Clifford H. Hughes, nonprofessional, and Mrs. Dorothy Bishop was married in Las Cruces, N. M., December 12. Bishop had the Hawaiian Show with the Nelson Bros. Shows last season. They will make their home in Waco, Tex.

KVALE—RANSBOTTOM—Alford J. Kvale, orchestra leader, and Ether Ransbottom were married recently.

MATTHEWS-AVVIS—John E. Matthews, magician and Detroit stage and radio entertainer, was married recently to Frances Mavis, Detroit, nonprofessional.

MORGAN-ANDERSON—Dickson Morgan, director of the Oberfelder-Ketcham Players, Kansas City, and Zora Hunt Anderson were married in Kansas City December 22.

PRINZ-RAYNE—Eddie Prinz, dance director, and Keitha Rayne, of Ft. Worth, Tex., musical comedy dancer, were married in New York December 25. Their first marriage was annulled, this being their second.

SHERWOOD-WYSTRACH—Ed Sherwood, juvenile man and light comedian, and Carolyn Wystrach, nonprofessional, were married May 2 in Butte, Mont. It has just been learned. Sherwood has retired from the road and has made his home in Cody, Wyo.

SMITH-GOULDING—Ruth Margaret Goulding, formerly with Max Golden's *Buzzin' Around* Company, as well as various other tabloid and burlesque attractions, and Loren L. Smith, nonprofessional, were married Saturday night, December 21, in Columbus, O., the home of both parties. The newlyweds are making their home at 828 South Richardson avenue, that city.

SMITH-FRENCH—Floyd F. Smith, former manager of the Tivoli Theater, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Frankie French were married in North Chattanooga November 30. Smith is now manager of the Meba Theater in Dallas, Tex.

WALKER-CULLER—Bobby (Boob) Walker and Thelma E. Culler were mar-

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ried December 19 at the Central Theater, Danville, Ill. The ceremony was performed on the stage in the presence of the audience. Both are well known in tabloid circles. The newtyweds will make their home in Danville.

COMING MARRIAGES

Mary Hartigan, member of the staff of Station KSTP, of St. Paul, is engaged to marry Irvin A. Maher, of Kenosha, Wis. Hettie McCree and Raymond C. Keen-berg, of Toledo, O., have announced their engagement. Miss McCree is known in the profession.

Betty Jane Southgate, stock and legitimate actress, will be married shortly to Clarence Farmer, in Ft. Thomas, Ky., her home.

Louella Parsons, motion picture writer for a newspaper syndicate, will wed Dr. Harry Watson Martin, of Los Angeles, it became known when the pair filed notice of intent to marry recently. Both are well known in the film colony.

BIRTHS

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Morris I. Kaplan, of Chicago, Christmas Day, a daughter. Kaplan is a prominent member of the Showmen's League and counsel for the organization.

A baby boy, 7 1/4 pounds, was recently born to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Balzer, at Chisholm, Minn. Last season the parents were with the D. D. Murphy Shows. Mrs. Balzer was formerly Julie Stark, of the Stark Sisters, circus artists.

A girl, Lucy Louise, was born October 11 last to Mr. and Mrs. Laurence H. Buck, at Columbus, O. The parents are associated with the amusement business.

A girl was born December 18 at Atlanta, Ga., to Mr. and Mrs. Bartley Cahill. The baby was named Patricia Janet. Cahill has been with the Jimmie Evison Company the last five years, and Mrs. Cahill was known as Janet Kelly, of the team of Kelly and Saunders, before her marriage.

A 7-pound girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Forrest L. Markie, at Wichita, Kan., December 14. The baby was named Anita Mal. The parents are known by many showfolk.

A girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stuart at Reid Hospital, Richmond, Va., last week. Stuart is a member of the Stuart and Ferguson dancing team, appearing with the Melody Lane Players at the Murray Theater, Richmond. Mrs. Stuart was formerly a member of the chorus of the Melody Lane Players.

A girl, Helen Ann Martin, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Chester M. Martin, at Jewish Hospital, Cincinnati, last week. The father is manager of the Orpheum Theater, Cincinnati.

DIVORCES

The marriage of Joseph Schaffer, of Stamford, Conn., and Estelle Nack Schaffer, a showgirl, which occurred June 10, 1924, was dissolved in the Superior Court, Bridgeport, Conn., last week when the husband was granted a divorce.

Mrs. Alice Krepps, wife of Clement D. Krepps, former manager for Gilda Gray, noted dancer, was granted a divorce in Clayton, Mo., recently.

Notes From Norfolk

By CLAUDE R. ELLIS

NORFOLK, Va.—After extensive business trips, Frank West, of West's World's Wonder Shows, and Capt. John M. Sheesley, of the Greater Sheesley Shows, are overseeing affairs at their shows' winter quarters in the old army base. Lumber, paint, spraying machines and power machinery are foremost topics. Both managers are reticent regarding their 1930 routes. Matthew J. Riley and Edward P. Rahn, general agents of the Sheesley Shows and West Shows, respectively, are in the field and known to be doing much fast stepping these days. Crews of workmen are being maintained in both quarters.

The Dee Lang Amusement Company has been launched in St. Louis, to play lots in the environs of the metropolis and in Missouri and Illinois next season, writes Dee Lang, who had his caterpillar ride for several seasons on the Sheesley Shows, and also on the Johnny J. Jones Shows for a time, during which Lang made one Cuban tour. The embryo showman expects to start with three rides, he states; one will be the "flyer" of Harry Moore, who left the Sheesley Shows last month, and has been joined in St. Louis by his wife, Susanne, and son, Billy. Mrs. Moore's mother, Mrs. Jeanne Williams, has recovered from a major surgical oper-

ation and will remain in Norfolk for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Martin closed their "opy" in Georgia and shipped to Sheesley headquarters. They are at home in Jacksonville, Fla. Ben Korte and L. J. (Sunny) Brooks motored back with the arcade and other equipment. Ben expects to visit Hagland & Korte, showing in Louisiana, and may go on to the Coast for a sojourn with his sister, Mrs. Minnie Pounds, and her husband, Charles H., in Montrose, Calif.

Leo Alberts returned from Toronto and left, after a short visit, for High Point, N. C., where he will have concessions at indoor doings. C. H. (Bucky) Yeager will take some of the Phil O'Neil stores to a series of indoor engagements, sponsored by L. B. Lichty, starting next month in Clinton, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Gibbons remembered showfolks with holiday greetings from Youngstown, O., where Billy, formerly trainmaster of the Sheesley Shows and other carnivals, gave up the road to become connected with a theater so that the kiddies could have school advantages.

Ward (Dad) Dunbar, mall and Billboard agent of the Sheesley Shows, is spending his first winter in Norfolk, having deserted his old stamping grounds in Elkhart, Ind., where, he opines, it was much easier to crash the theater gates.

Mr. and Mrs. John T. Hutchens, of the Sheesley Junglesland Show, visited quarters from Laurinburg, N. C., where they are visiting. John says he will add some large wild animals to his menagerie.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fay, concessionaires, are again wintering in Norfolk, having chosen the same apartment building where they have spent the off months for the last six years.

W. L. (Irish) Cassidy is at home in Toledo, O., after having been a concessionaire at a trio of indoor events which he writes, did not click up to expectations.

Sam Jones has been granted a much-coveted reader by Norfolk powers that be, and his auction emporium is now one of the busiest stores on Church street.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Taylor and daughter visited here, coming from Chicago, after which they motored to York, Pa., where he will rest his "pipes" pending the coming side-show season.

"Tippy" Gray is vibrating between Virginia Beach, where he has been guest at numerous house parties, and Norfolk, from where he will depart soon for the annual Florida visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bergen, of the Bergen side show, are spending the holidays in Bridgeton, N. J., prior to their customary Miami sojourn.

Rubin & Cherry Shows

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 26.—Both of the units of the Rubin & Cherry Shows are quietly hibernating in winter quarters on the local fairgrounds. So far there are no signs of activity, but with the coming of the new year work will begin on a big scale, and with Eroll (Baldy) Potter in charge and August (Dutch) Christ as an able assistant, everything will be in readiness for the scheduled openings early in April.

A reunion of the Gruberg family was staged during the Christmas holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Gruberg returned from the Chicago meetings, and Edith Hill Gruberg, who has been attending the Young Ladies' School at Northampton, Mass., is home for the holidays, and has as her guests, Eve Lieber, of Philadelphia, Pa., and One Silber, of Newark, N. J. Monday night Miss Gruberg entertained at a dance at the Standard Country Club here, with more than 80 guests in attendance.

William Jennings O'Brien, general agent, is here conferring with President Gruberg regarding next year's bookings for both units. He has again signed as general business representative, his third consecutive season with the shows. J. C. McCaffery, general manager, and Eddie Brown, manager of the Model Shows, are at Hot Springs, Ark., resting up after an arduous campaign. Walter A. White, business manager of the Model Shows, is at home in Quincy, Ill. Frank D. Shean, special agent of the "Big Show," is ahead of the "Silver King" movie dog attraction, handling the press and advance arrangements. Jim Eaker, of Wild West fame, is wintering on the fairgrounds, as is Jack Reinhart, who had the Wild West on the Model Shows. More than 50 head of horses, steers and buffalo are grazing on the grounds. Frank S. Reed, secretary, is in charge of the corporation offices, located in the Exchange Hotel, and is comfortably hibernating with Mrs. Reed in an uptown

apartment for the lay-off months. Arthur Atherton, secretary and treasurer of the Model Shows, is wintering here and attending to the duties of that attraction. Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Wilson are spending the winter with Cliff's mother, Mrs. Thomas Fleming, at Denver, Colo. William Jennings O'Brien recently closed contracts for the Exchange Club's "doings" at Augusta, Ga., for 1930. Donald Kingsburg and Harold (Salior) Gardner, with Cliff Wilson for several seasons, are spending the winter in Montgomery. Sammy Lawrence, ace concessionaire, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Gruberg during the Christmas holidays. Much regret was felt in the local caravan colony because of the death of Frank (Whitey) Haggerty, killed at Dothan, Ala., recently. He was formerly the taxi driver with the shows and at the time of his death was advance agent for Richard F. Scott's touring unit. Burial was in Jacksonville, Fla.

Joe Conoly, master designer, and Jack Schaffer, an illusion king, are wintering here, pending the opening of the season. Fred Delvey, grand oldtimer, for 26 years general superintendent of the Mighty Haag Shows and with the Melville-Reiss Shows for several seasons, spent some of the holidays here and departed for Jacksonville and De Land, Fla. Max H. Kimerer and wife are at Roman Pools, Miami Beach, Fla., where Max is sports director and the missus is a featured performer in the water circus at that popular resort. Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Mahoney are sojourning at Tampa. Mrs. Margaret Welch is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Eroll Potter on Rubin Gruberg's palatial private-car during the lay-off season. "Fritz" Brown has departed for Jacksonville after a season with the Model Shows. Eddie Lippman is spending the winter in the old home town, Walter D. Nealand and his associate, Howard (Doc) Hartwick, are managing the Dixie, a neighborhood theater equipped with sound, and will take over the management of the Mecca Theater, in the Oak Park district, January 1, with other theaters in this vicinity pending. Captain Dan Riley, who has been spending the holidays in Des Moines, will return about the first of the year to break a new mixed animal group. Joe Marks has been in charge of the animals during the Captain's absence. Roberta and Ann Sherwood, of A Night in Spain on the Model Shows, are wintering in Miami, as is Alpine, famous fat lady with E. V. McGarry.

WALTER D. NEALAND.

Ringling Show To Open At Chi. Coliseum Mar. 29

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The date for the opening of one of the Ringling shows at the Coliseum is definitely announced for March 29. The engagement is for two weeks. Then the show moves into the Stadium. Officials will not state definitely what title is to be used for the Coliseum show.

It now appears certain, the direct confirmation still is lacking, that Zack Terrell and Fred Warrell will be with the Ringling organization this year despite rumors to the contrary. Terrell as manager of Sells-Floto and Warrell's position still problematical.

Benson's Financial Trouble

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Benson of Chicago, Inc., orchestra booking firm that underwent reorganization a few months ago, is experiencing financial difficulties and the Chicago Federation of Musicians has taken a hand in attempting to straighten out salary difficulties of some of its members. Benson was one of several Rialto firms that had their money in a bank which recently closed its doors.

RACKETEERS

(Continued from page 3)
entrance he was held up and robbed of \$200. Herman Timberg and Bill Robinson, on the Palace bill last week, both were solicited, but refused to buy. Robinson told the solicitor he was willing to take two tickets for \$50, but when it was suggested he meet two men at a certain place to obtain the tickets he balked, and told the solicitor he would have to come to the Palace dressing rooms. That closed the incident. Several members of the Show Boat cast, including Charles Winninger, are said to have bought tickets, some paying as

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much as \$100. Several theater managers in the Loop, while admitting that the racket had been tried on players in their houses, refused to name those who were approached, and tried in every way to hush the matter up, fearing the consequences of publicity.

A number of stars appearing at Loop theaters last summer were the victims of racketeers, who on one pretext or another extorted money from them. Wallace Ford, Frank McIntyre, May West and Wm. Gaxton were among the victims at that time. May West was reported to have paid \$3,000 to placate the racketeers.

The police have no clues as to those who have been working the racket during the holidays, and because of the tendency of the performers and theater men to hush the matter up, and give out no information, there is little chance of apprehending any of the culprits.

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Brown's Am. Co. Junction City, Ark., 30-
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Delmar Quality, Powhatan, La., 30-Jan. 4.
Gray, Royal, Donna, Tex., 30-Jan. 4.
Miller Bros., Expo., Many, La., 30-Jan. 4.
Shugart, Doc, Moody, Tex., 6-11.
Southern, Bartow, Ga., 30-Jan. 4.

Additional Routes

(Received too late for classification)

Big 4 Comedy Co., Melbourne, Ark., 30-Jan. 4.
Billy's Comedians, Elk City, Kan., 30-Jan. 4.
Bishop's Show, Thomas, W. Va., 30-Jan. 4.
Chasotes Comedians, Delhi, La., 30-Jan. 4.
Clarke's Cherokee Comedy Co., Fulton, Mich.,
30-Jan. 4.
Duncan, Phil, Players, Winfield, La., 30-
Jan. 4.
Gold Seal Players, Belmont, Ia., 30-Jan. 4.
Gormans-Ford Co., Ephrata, Pa., 30-Jan. 4.
Marine-Pirestone Co., Magicians, Longdale,
Okla., 30-Jan. 4.
Marine, Ethel, (Low) London, Can., 3-4.
Nash, Players, Gloverport, Ky., 30-Jan. 4.
Ray's Show, Barnesboro, Pa., 30-Jan. 4.
Reno, Great, & Co., Hall, Ill., 30-Jan. 11.
Stewart Players, Spring Grove, Minn., 30-
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Both rides in first-class condition. Two Delco
Electric Plants, 5 1/2 K. W. each; one Tangley Cal-
lison, mounted on Chevrolet truck. This equipment
can be seen in Atlanta. Sell all or separate. If you
haven't the cash, please save your stamps. JOE
GALLER, Box 1007, Atlanta, Ga.

ATTENTION CONCESSIONAIRES!

- Dancing Girl Perfume, 4-Oz. Dozen \$3.50
- 4 1/2-oz. Vials, with Caps, Gross \$3.75
- 4-Oz. Fancy Box Face Powder, Dozen 75c
- 1 1/2-oz. Vial Perfumes, assorted odors, labeled, Gross \$2.50
- Large Size Sachet, wrapped in crepe paper, Per Gross \$2.15
- Big 6-Oz. Bottle Genuine Eau de Cologne, Per Dozen \$2.50
- 2-Oz. Opal Jar (Cold or Vanishing Cream), Per Dozen \$1.00

Write today for Catalog and Literature. 25% deposit required on all orders.

NATIONAL SOAP & PERFUME CO., Dept. 69.
1169 Chatham Court, CHICAGO, ILL.

ANOTHER SURPRISE OFFER IN Knife Board Deals

2,000 DOZEN "UNIVERSAL" KNIVES. You know the quality. Put up with other special Pocket Knives in attractive boards. NOTHING LIKE IT EVER OFFERED BEFORE. SO ACT RIGHT QUICK. THEY ARE GOING MIGHTY FAST.



- No. 501B—KNIFE DEAL. 14 Knives, "Universal" and others, assorted for variety. 1 and 2 blades, mighty good value, on 500-Hole Board. Per Deal \$4.35
- No. 625B — KNIFE DEAL. "Universal" Pocket Knives and others, assorted, very special numbers of FINE SHEAR STEEL for MECHANICS included. 1 and 2 blades, assorted sizes. 14 Knives on 500-Hole Board. Per Deal. \$5.50
- No. 627B—KNIFE DEAL. Pearl and "Universal" Pocket Knives, assorted, 1, 2 and 3 blades, including the best quality made of 27-Test cutlery steel, the choicest styles. 14 Knives on 500-Hole Board. Per Deal.....\$7.70

Send for Our New Catalogue.
ROHDE-SPENCER CO.
WHOLESALE HOUSE
223 W. Madison CHICAGO

NEW JOKES
Just Out
200% PROFIT

We have just put on the market 12 lively Jokes that are selling like wildfire. We manufacture hundreds of new Magic Tricks and Jokes not obtainable elsewhere. Big 48-Page Wholesale Price List and 20 Samples of Fast Sellers, only \$1.00, Postpaid. You save by buying direct from the **EAGLE MAGIC FACTORY, Minneapolis, Minn.**

THE BIG HITS OF THE SEASON

- LOS ANGELES SILVER BABY BLIMPS \$4.95 Gross
- LARGE WORKERS FOR SAME 4.00 Dozen
- No. 286 GIANT PADDLE OR TARGET RAINBOW BALLOONS 4.50 Gross
- LARGE RAINBOW PILOT WORKERS 4.50 Dozen
- RAINBOW SLIM JIMS 3.00 Gross
- RAINBOW SLIM JIM WORKERS 2.00 Dozen
- WHISTLING FLYING BIRDS 3.75 Gross
- DANCING KRINKLE CLOWNS AND FLAPPERS 4.50 Gross

25% deposit with all orders, balance C. O. D.
MILTON D. MYER CO., 424 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.

HAPPY WILL
A brand-new Rubber Novelty with Producing Tongue, Ears and Tail.
Dozen, \$.80
Gross, \$9.00

Just received a new 1-piece Embroidered Scarf, with a 3-in. Lace Fringe. Entirely new and going over very big.
No. 525—Per Dozen \$7.50
Sample Scarf, Prepaid, \$1.00.
No. 526—4-Piece Scarf \$6.00
Sets. Per Dozen 25% with orders.
M. K. BRODY,
1122 S. Halsted St., Chicago, Ill.

Imported Glass Bar-vel Set, with 6 Glasses.
Each \$1.25

St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28. — Harry Smith, general agent of the Royal American Shows, passed thru St. Louis Monday en route to his home in Hannibal, Mo. Mrs. Catherine Oliver, of the Oliver Amusement Company, departed last week for Springfield, Ill. to spend the holiday week as the guest of Mrs. Mabel Barlow and Mrs. Dorothy Shoettker. Steve Connors, of the Bill Rice Productions Company, of Chicago, returned to his home in Chicago December 21 after signing up several organizations in this vicinity for campaigns under the banner of the Rice organization.

Robert (Bob) Mansfield, manager of the musical comedy show on the D. D. Murphy Shows the last two seasons, returned to St. Louis this week after spending three weeks in New York City visiting with friends. Mansfield expects to be with the Murphy outfit again next season.

L. S. Hogan, general agent of the C. A. Wortham's World's Best Shows, departed for Chicago Tuesday, while B. S. Oerety, part owner of the show, left for Danville, Ill., the same day to spend the holidays there with his relatives.

Elmer Velare, of the Royal American Shows, passed thru St. Louis this week en route to Kansas City, where he expects to stay for the banquet of the H. A. Showman's Club.

Charles Wasmuff, general agent of the Rice & Dorman Shows, and Ben Austin, of the Barnes Anical Circus, passed thru St. Louis en route from points north to San Antonio, Tex., both to spend the holidays with their families.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Brown, spent two days in the city while en route to Hot Springs, Ark., where they expect to sojourn for several weeks. Others who departed for the same point last week were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Day and Mr. and Mrs. Denny Fugh, of C. A. Wortham's World's Best Shows.

E. E. (Spot) Cooper, general agent of Oliver Amusement Company No. 1, informs from New Orleans that he is doing well there in a storeroom show, where Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Hartz are associated with him.

Elmer Brown, special agent D. D. Murphy Shows, who has been sojourning here for the last few weeks, departed Tuesday for Danville, Ill. to confer with several people concerning a business undertaking.

World Bros.' Shows

MIFFLIN, Pa.—E. W. World has been making rapid strides with rounding equipment of World Bros.' Shows into shape for the coming season, which will start in Eastern Pennsylvania in April. World is well known in these parts, having in previous years furnished riding devices for various independent celebrations. He has established a business office here, with W. E. LaBalle, who will be manager of the show, and A. J. Chapman, secretary, in charge.

World is now in the East looking over some new equipment which he is purchasing for the show and at the same time arranging the route. Claire Deal has booked two concessions and his platform show with the organization, and "Shorty" Carpenter and wife will have three concessions.

From all indications World Bros.' Shows will be one of the neatest three-car gilly shows in the Eastern section of the country, as practically all the equipment will be new. A. J. CHAPMAN.



TELLS FORTUNES

VENDS BALL GUM

CAILLE JUNIOR BELL

MAKES GOOD EVERYWHERE

3 MACHINES IN 1 || MINIATURE BELL FORTUNE TELLER BALL GUM VENDER

Special Proposition to Operators and Distributors
FULL DETAILS ON REQUEST

THE CAILLE BROTHERS CO.
6215 Second Boulevard, Detroit, Mich.

DAHLIAS THE GENUINE \$22.50 per 1000

Real flashy assorted colors. Selling bigger than ever this season. Our agents cleaning up everywhere.

GEORGINE FLOWERS

The genuine big size No. 82 so popular with all the flower men. Beautiful assortment of colors. Wonderful companion seller with the Dahlia. \$25.00 per 1000

FRESH STOCK OF LAUREL ALWAYS ON HAND, 50 Pounds for \$1.50
25% deposit required on C. O. D. orders. WRITE FOR BIG CATALOG.

OSCAR LEISTNER, Inc.

Importers and Manufacturers for 29 Years.
323 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.



\$50 JACK POTS \$50

Money Back Guarantee

If you have not taken advantage of our specially priced 5c and 10c JACK POTS, with the very latest Mills attachment, you are unaware of the excellent quality we have to offer at this special price of \$50. A 30-day free trial will convince you. We sell for cash only. If machines are not satisfactory we refund your money. Order one today. You cannot lose. We have 1500 Machines of every description. Send for literature.

REX NOVELTY CO., 3208 Southport Ave., Chicago

ATTENTION! PENMEN AND SALEBOARD OPERATORS!



- No. BC117—JUMBO SIZE, BLACK and WHITE PEARL (Epsel) PENS, NONBREAKABLE, with a 14-K SOLID GOLD Pen Point. \$8.50
- No. BC118—FENCILS to Match Above \$3.00
- PEN AND PENCIL SET, put up in SATIN and VELVET Lined Steel Display Box. \$14.50

FREE FOR THE ASKING—Our "RED BOOK THAT BRINGS PROFITS TO YOU," for Concession, Salesboard and Premium Trade.

KURZON COMPANY, 335 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

HALL & MILLER SHOWS

—WANT—

FOR SPRING OPENING, SEASON 1930, TUCSON, ARIZ., WEEK FEBRUARY 3, AUSPICES WOODMEN OF THE WORLD; NOGALES, ARIZ., TO FOLLOW.

WANT Two-Abroad Swing and Tilt-a-Whirl that can gilly, Ride 1000 for 200 Wheel, South & Smith Mix-Up, Miniature Railroad, Talker and Riders for 50000000. This show routed through Northwest and return. Concession wanting a long season, let us hear from you. Major Fox, Joe Teala, wife or wife. Bill Barnhart, I wrote you. Answer.

HALL & MILLER SHOWS, Tucson, Ariz.

SKATING DOLL DEAL



Consists of 600-Blade Board and two (2) Alpine Skating Dolls. Taken in 65% Payments out 2 Dolls and \$6.00 in Trade.

PRICE PER DEAL

\$5.11

25% deposit on C. O. D. shipments required.

FAIR TRADING CO., Inc.,
40 W. 21st St.,
New York City

FAST SELLING ITEMS AT LOW PRICES!

11c
Per 10 Blades.

American Eagle Blades

EACH BLADE GUARANTEED

AMERICAN EAGLE BLADE

11c
Per 10 Blades.

American Eagle Blades

BILL—American Eagle Blades are Double Edged and Fit any Gillette Razor. Packed 10 Blades to the Package, 25 Packages in a Display Carton. Price in 5-Carton Lots or More, \$2.25 per Carton. Less than 5-Carton Lots, \$2.50 per Carton.

B5417—Clock Lighter Deal. Consists of two Clock Lighters and one Strap Watch, Mounted on a 1,300-Blade 5c Board. Taken in \$15.00 and pays out \$15.00 worth of Cigarettes.

SAMPLE \$11.00

Whoopie Tops
Assorted Colors
B2170
\$6.75
Gross

B5411—600-Blade Combination Bargain Board. Consists of two Zumbo Pen and Pencil Set, one Strap Watch and one Lighter. Players may be 10c and 25c, as they choose. Taken in 200.00 and pays out in trade \$23.50.

Sample—\$8.75—Aft.

BARGAIN BOARDS and - - VARIOUS OTHER CUT-OUT BOARDS

CHAS. F. BREWER & SONS
The Largest Board & Card House in the World
6320-32 Harvard Avenue
Englewood Station Chicago, U.S.A.

JACK POT
MILLS 1930 MODEL

MILLS LATEST JACK POT
5c, 10c, 25c and 50c Play.

MILLS LATEST MODEL BULL'S-EYE GLASS OPERATORS BELLS
1c to 5c, 10c and 25c Play.

PITTSBURGH MFG. & SALES CO.
Offices: 52, 53 and 54, 326 Fourth Avenue, PITTSBURGH, PA.

PAK-SAVER
REALLY SAVES CIGARETTES.

NO SPRING
Nothing to get out of order.
CLEAN UP ON THIS HOT ITEM NOW!

PRICES

\$1 Doz. \$9 Gr.

25% deposit, bal. C. O. D.
Ben-Sun Products Co.,
147 W. 23d St., NEW YORK.

\$24.00 Per Gross Without Bands

GENTS' JUMBO FOUNTAIN PENS
Fitted with 14-Kt. Stamped Gold Plated Pen Points, with and without Bands. Assorted Colors—Red, Yellow, Green, Blue, etc.

\$27.00 Per Gross With Bands

GELLMAN BROS. 119 No. 4th St. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

"VEST POCKET" BASKET BALL

"MODEL D"

3 Shots for 1c. Can be operated with or without Prizes. Each perfect shot scores 5 points on a visible register. Easy to understand and easy to play. Small in size and light in weight. Strong steel construction. Fool-proof mechanism. Secure lock. Attractively painted in red and black. Legal everywhere.

SEND MONEY ORDER AT ONCE FOR **SAMPLE, \$17.50**
Large Quantity Discounts.

WRITE OR WIRE
EMPIRE NOVELTY COMPANY
501 E. Jefferson St., Dept. BB, Syracuse, N. Y.

GILLETTE RAZORS
\$8.00 per 100—\$1.20 per Doz.
Silver Plated. Without Blade.

JUPITER BLADES.
9c a Pkg.
\$9.50 per 1,000 Blades.
\$1.15 per 100 Blades.

Fit all Gillette Razors. Stamped on both sides of Blade, 5 or 10 to attractive Pkg. Made of best Swedish steel.

AMERICAN EAGLE BLADES, 11c a Pkg., \$11.50 per 1,000 Blades, \$1.32 per 100. Try 10 a Pkg., 20 Pkgs. to a Box. Fit all Gillette Razors.

AMERICAN EAGLE BLADES, 2 in Pkg., 25 or 50 Dimey Card. Per Card, \$1.15.

MARATHON BLADES for Gillette Razors, 3 and 10 to Pkg., \$21.50 per 1,000 Blades, \$2.50 per 100 Blades.

FEWEL BLADES for Gem and Ever Ready Razors, 2 Blades in Pkg., 25 Pkgs. on a Card. Per Card, \$1.20; 10-Card Lots or More, \$1.10 per Card.

ARMY & NAVY NEEDLE BOOKS, \$2.25 Gross, in 5-Gross Lots; Single Gross, \$2.50.

Send 25c in stamps for each Sample. Send 25% deposit with order. Write for Bargain Catalog.

SPIEGEL COMMERCIAL CORP.
225 Canal Street, New York City

SALESBOARD OPERATORS

Our Line Will Continue to Prove Profitable for You.

Immediately after the Holidays, we suggest that you feature

VALENTINE, EASTER AND MOTHER DAY ITEMS.

We have attractive Valentine Candy Salesboard Assortments, packed one to a Shipping Container, at very moderate prices.

Full information supplied on request.

IRELAND CANDY MANUFACTURING CO.,
DEPT. F,
MAIN AND VINE STS. ST. LOUIS, MO.
WEST COAST FACTORY: 222 West Washington Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

Here's A New Special!

No. 615—6 1/2-line, 6-jewel, rectangular. Fine movement, with nice chromium case in latest design. In Dozen Lots, Each, \$3.20; in Lots of 24, Each, \$2.80; in Lots of 50, Each, \$2.50.

Same style, in 4-jewel lever movement. In Dozen Lots, Each \$3.45; in Lots of 24, Each, \$3.15; in Lots of 50, Each, \$2.85.

25% deposit, balance C. O. D. Send for complete catalogue. All samples, 25c extra.

FRANK POLLAK
214 Chrystie St., New York, N. Y.

NEW JUN-O MINTS

Direct from Manufacturer. Small or large quantities. Write for prices.

THE LIBERTY MINT CO., 1809 John Street, Cincinnati, O.

With a real taste and flavor that helps develop repeat business.

PEARL NECKLACES

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KIND.

By the dozen or thousand. We import these Beads in very large quantities and our prices are right. Also lead in Bead Box prices. Write for Price List. All Spangler Merchandise sold under money-back guarantee.

SPANGLER, Inc., 160 N. Wells Street, Chicago

--- CLOSE OUTS ---

12 BROOKERS.....	\$1.25 Each	26 LARGE FLOOR STICKS.....	\$2.50 Each
18 BELLISH DISHES.....	.75 Each	8 BEARS-ONLY STICKS.....	2.50 Each
18 KITCHEN SETS.....	.75 Each	11 MAHOOGANY STICKS.....	2.00 Each
18 FITTED SUITCASES.....	1.75 Each	18 JE. GOLD LAMP STICKS.....	1.50 Each
180 NEEDLE SETS.....	.60 Each	200 TRIPLANES (Mary Co.).....	3.00 Dzn.
12 MILITARY SETS.....	.35 Each	6 LAWYER WOOL QUILTS.....	6.50 Dzn.
2 31-Pv. DINNER SETS.....	2.50 Each	2000 BRACON MAGNETS.....	6.50 Dzn.

CARNIVAL & BAZAAR SUPPLY CO., 3 E. 17th St., N. Y. C.

HARLICH'S 1930 SALESBOARD CATALOG NOW READY!

MORE THAN 100 BRAND-NEW TRADE BOARDS, CUT-OUT BOARDS, CANDY BOARDS, CIGARETTE BOARDS, CIGAR BOARDS, PUSH CARDS, BABY MIDGETS, REGULAR MIDGETS, AND THE NEW BLUE LINE, THE WORLD'S SMALLEST BOARDS. Catalogue mailed free.

HARLICH MFG. CO., 1401-1417 W. Jackson Blvd., CHICAGO, ILL.

YOUR NAME AND AD PRINTED ON THE BALLOONS

Extra Heavy Selected Reed Balloons, 35c Gross.

35% with order, balance C. O. D.

YALE RUBBER CO., 15 E. 17th St., N. Y. City.

Mint Venders AND Jack Pot Machines

New and Used. All Kinds and Makes. Write for Catalog and Prices.

SICKING MANUFACTURING CO.
1922 Freeman Avenue, CINCINNATI, O.

THE BIG MONEY GETTER

At the Automobile Shows. Toy Automobile made of an Air Ball & 10 Balloons which when inflated is 24 in. long and 6 in. wide. Contains wheels, axles, spare tire, hood and seat.

PRICE, \$1.50 per Gross.

Workers for same large Balloons, \$1.00 per Dozen. Large Parts, 25c per Set.

25% deposit with order.

NATIONAL TOY AIRCRAFT CO., 125 3rd Avenue, New York City.

FIFTY VENDING MACHINES
Jack Pot and Mint Vender, 5c and 25c. Prices are right. INTERNATIONAL SALES, Atlanta, Ga.

NOTICE

SLOT MACHINE OPERATORS

We have a new 5c machine that will make you work money than your 30c Venders. Legals made everywhere. Do not in your territory. Write for circular. **EXHIBIT SUPPLY CO., 402 West Lake St., Chicago, Ill.**



DEPENDABLE MACHINES

LOWEST PRICES—REAL VALUES
QUICK SERVICE
 We Buy, Sell and Exchange All Makes of Worth-While Coin-Operated Machines.
 Terms: Cash With Order, or One-Third Deposit With Order; Balance C. O. D.
 SEND FOR OUR LATEST PRICE LIST

THE VENDING MACHINE CO., 209 Franklin St., Fayetteville, N. C.



NEW—SILK FRINGE HIGH GRADE PILLOWS

\$6.00 New Style DOZ.
 Sent \$6.25 for Sample Doz. Prepaid.
Western Art Leather Co.,
 P. O. Box 484, Tabor Grand Bldg., DENVER, COLORADO.
 For quick action wire money with order. Ship same day order received. 25% deposit, bal. C. O. D.
FREE CATALOG.



1930 MODELS

JACK POT BELLS and MINT VENDERS COLORED DIAL MACHINES
 ALSO FINEST SELECTION RESULT MACHINES, ALL MARKS AND TYPES.
 LATEST CATALOG FREE.
 Biggest Trade-In Allowance on Your Old Machine.
BANNER SPECIALTY CO.
 1530-32 FARRISH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SALESBOARD OPERATORS—JOBBER—SALESMEN!

Have you received your copy of our 7 color catalog illustrating over 74 new salesboards—all sizes—all styles—all prices? Complete line from 100 to 10,000 holes—plain and fancy fronts. Buy direct from the factory and save from 30 to 75%. Write today!

THE FIELD PAPER PRODUCTS CO., Peoria, Ill.
Manufacturers of the Largest Board Line in the World!



JACK POTS NEW BELLS VENDERS PURITANS

AUTOMATIC PAY-OUT DOMINO

WRITE FOR LATEST CATALOG
Keystone Novelty & Mfg. Co.
 EASTERN SERVICE & SUPPLY STATION,
 26th and Huntingdon Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

CALIFORNIA GOLD COINS

MOUNTED ON RINGS

All sizes, 50c each, in quantities not less than 12. Send 75c for sample catalogue and price list.

J. G. GREEN CO., 49 FOURTH ST., San Francisco, Calif. *The Each Sold Gold Coin.*



MILLS—JACK POT BELLS—JENNINGS

JACK POT ATTACHMENTS PUT ON MILLS AND JENNINGS
24-HOUR SERVICE
 ALSO ALL OTHER TYPE MACHINES. Write for Catalog and Prices.
SLOAN NOVELTY & MFG. CO.
 1250 N. 10th St., Dept. B, Philadelphia, Pa.

YO-YO TOPS SURE WE HAVE 'EM

B1—WOOD YO-YO TOPS, Ass't. Colors, \$4.50
 Three Dozen in Box, Gross.
 B2—WOOD YO-YO TOPS, Ass't. Colors, Better Finished Strings with Brass Ring, 1 Dozen in Box, Dozen, 15c; Gross, \$8.50
 Dozen in Box, Dozen, 15c; Gross, \$8.50

TOYS FOR HOLIDAY SELLING

B4—DANCING DOLLS, Honeycomb Tissue, Coat, Crown and Flipper, Ass't. Characters and Colors, 2 Doz. of a Kind in Box, Gross, \$3.75
 B5—YANG DANCERS, Per 100, \$3.00; \$28.50 per 1,000
 B7—RUNNING MICE (Best Quality), Per Gross, \$3.75
 B8—AEROPLANES, Colored, with Sticks, Gr. \$8.50
 B9—HURST GYROSCOPE TOPS, Gross \$16.00
 25% DEPOSIT REQUIRED ON C. O. D. SHIPMENTS
 We carry complete stocks for Streetmen, Carnival People, Demonstrators, Pitchmen, Specialty Workers, Premium Users, etc.
LEVIN BROS., Est. 1886, TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

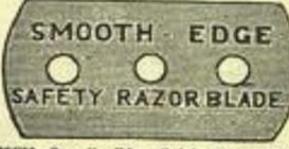
SALESBOARDS

A NEW SALESBOARD

Per Outfit Complete
21.50
 BPT20 — 1,500-Hole Board with 3 Men's Strip Watches, 1 Lady's Wrist Watch, 4 Fountain Pens, 2 Cigar Lighters and 2 Pocket Knives. Pays out 20.00 in trade.

THE LATEST IN SALESBOARDS

Per Outfit Complete **12.75**
 BPT25 — 600-Hole 5 Cut-Out Board, with 3 Jeweled Strip Watches, 2 Fountain Pens and 2 Pencils. Board in Addition Pays Out 23.50 in Trade.
 Write for Special Circular Showing Full Line of These Salesboards.



SMOOTH-EDGE SAFETY RAZOR BLADE

BSC00—Smooth Edge Safety Razor Blades, Made of Tempered Steel, Each in Oil Paper, 10 Blades in Package, 10 Packages in Carton. Per Carton (100 Blades)..... **1.35**



Genuine GILLETTE Safety Razors
 With Blades
PER DOZEN, 1.20

BSC125—Silver-Plated Handle and Nickel-Plated Guard, Complete with 1 Genuine Gillette Blade, Each in Box.

N. SHURE CO. ADAMS and WELLS STS. CHICAGO

The NEW PELLET BOARD

Improved—Grand Proof—Lightning Fast.
DOES NOT REQUIRE DEALER'S ATTENTION
 Contains 600 colored metal balls. Balls fall behind transparent window. After player is through, merchant checks board. Every merchant demands our FRAUD PROOF Pellet Board.
 "25 Winner" Pellet Takes in 25.00. Pays Out 17.50 in Trade.
 "Placitor" Pellet Takes in 15.00. Pays Out 12.50 in Trade.
5 NEW PELLET NUMBERS NOW READY
 Agents' and Jobbers' Prices: Trial Dozen, Assorted, \$12.00 F. O. B. Chicago.
 Sell to Dealers for \$2.50 Each, 27 Dozen, and clean up.
 Write for Quantity Prices and Catalog of our Push Cards, Fortune Boards, Sales Boards and Trade Boards.
MIDWEST NOVELTY MFG. CO., 308-314 W. Erie St., Chicago, Ill.
 Manufacturers of Perfect Sales Devices.



14 Assorted Styles and Sizes Cigar Lighters. Wonderful Value for the Money. On a Framed 8 1/2 x 11 in. Velvet Pad and a \$6.95 1000-Hole Se Salesboard, No. P991 1/2. Complete.....
 25% with order, balance C. O. D.

Catalog No. 37, Just Out.
 Send for Copy and Save Money
HECHT, COHEN & CO.,
 201-203-205 W. Madison St., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The Best SALESBOARDS

are made by
Gardner & Company
 2309 Archer Avenue :: Chicago, Illinois

BARGAINS IN SLIGHTLY USED MACHINES!

5 CATTLE & R. & M. BABY VENDERS, 1c, 5c, 10c, 15c Play, Each..... \$12.50
 5 A. R. T. TARGET SKILLS (5 Shots for 1c), Each..... 12.50
 15 EXHIBIT METAL PLAYBALLS, PIN TARGETS, 1c Play, Each..... 5.00
 25 VEST POCKET BASKET BALL, 1c Play, Each..... 10.00
 BALL GUM, 10,000 Balls..... \$11.00 | MINTS, Per 1,000..... 2.50
 BRAND NEW 5c "50 VALUE" CHECKS, Per 1,000..... 12.50
 25c CHECKS, Per 1,000..... 12.50
 Send 25% deposit with order. Satisfaction guaranteed.

D. ROBBINS & CO., 28 B. Dodworth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
 SEND FOR COMPLETE LIST OF NEW AND USED MACHINES

SALESBOARD JOBBERS AND OPERATORS

You cannot afford to be another minute without our beautiful new CATALOGS showing the largest BEST and LOWEST PRICED line of Ready-to-Run Salesboard Assortments, Signs, Salesboards, Push-Cards, and Pellet Boards. Full line of VENDING MACHINES, Watches, Jewelry and Latest Novelty Items. We make DROP-SHIPMENTS Direct to Your Customers. PROMPT and COURTEOUS SERVICE.

A. S. DOUGLIS & CO. 116 SO. WELLS ST. CHICAGO, ILL.

WHAT!!



No Covers?

Sometime in the very near future you'll be exclaiming this when you want a back cover on **THE BILLBOARD**.

And you won't be able to blame us because this announcement is here to tell you:

1. *That the Universal Theatres Concession Co. has bought 26 back covers on **THE BILLBOARD**, starting March 15—and this is why:*

UNIVERSAL THEATRES CONCESSION CO.
4701 Armitage Ave.
CHICAGO

October 17, 1929.

Billboard Publishing Co.,
32 W. Randolph Street,
Chicago, Ill.

Attention Mr. Walter Hildreth.

Gentlemen:

We are glad to take this opportunity of telling you what we think of advertising in *The Billboard*. We ought to be able to judge as we have very nearly monopolized your back cover for a number of years. We stayed there because it paid us to do so.

Sometimes our customers say to us "That back page costs you lots of money. Cut it out and give us bigger bellys." They don't realize that if we bring out a new package we can tell every show in the country about it for a few cents per show.

They don't know how many shows there are, and they don't realize it only costs us between two and three dollars per year to keep each of our many customers fully informed on our products.

Yes sir, it pays to advertise in *The Billboard*. It is one of the big factors that enables us to dominate our industry.

With kindest regards, we are

Yours very truly,

UNIVERSAL THEATRES CONCESSION CO.

BY: *W. H. Hill*
Vice President

EM:ED

2. *That a few back covers are immediately available.*

WRITE—WIRE—TELEPHONE for Rates, Closing Dates, Reservations.

THE BILLBOARD PUBLISHING CO.

25 Opera Place
Cincinnati

1560 Broadway
New York

32 W. Randolph St.
Chicago