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Va. Fairs In Session

13th annual meeting opens
with 100% representation
—many showfolk present

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 13.—The 13th annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Fairs at Hotel John Marshall got under way this forenoon with prospects of its being as a whole one of the most elaborately arranged and most constructive from a mutual interests point of view ever held by the association.

The predominating atmosphere of the speeches and discussions during the morning session was quite apparent to be general advancement and what is necessary to further the welfare of district and county fairs and the State fair especially in the way of prestige and community moral support of fairs, also State financial aid for these fairs, including an increased allowance for the State fair at Leesburg.

Promptly at 10:30 President H. B. Watkins, secretary of the Danville Fair, called this open session of the meeting to order. The large meeting room of the hotel had been almost completely filled with rows of chairs in crescent formation, with the official tables in the front center. The attendance included, in addition to Virginia fair men, representatives of fairs of neighboring States, carnival organizations, concessionaires, free-act booking agencies and independently booked free attractions. All the speeches were intensely interesting, and the pro and con of discussions were conducted and delivered in a "brother-talking-to-brother" manner. Col. Watkins officiated admirably as master of ceremonies. Secretary C. B. Ralston, of the Staunton Fair, called the roll of members, which disclosed that there were but two absentees, and the delegates were to arrive later in the day.

Mayor J. Fulmore Bright, of Richmond, delivered a wonderful "Welcome to Richmond" address, which was in like manner responded to by Vice-President T. B. McCaleb of the Covington Fair.

President Watkins next gave his annual report, details of which will be (See VIRGINIA FAIRS on page 92)

Fox Dividend To Be in Script

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The directors of the Fox Film Corporation have decided that the payment of the next dividend on January 15 will be in script instead of cash. It is understood that the reason for this decision is to conserve all of the company's cash to aid in the settlement of its \$91,000,000 of short-term obligations, which were announced early in December when J. L. Stuart and John E. Otterson were named as trustees to act with Fox in the settlement of his affairs.

The rules of the New York Stock Exchange on which Fox Class A is listed require that there must be an immediate report of any change in dividends. The exchange had received no notification of the change from cash to script Monday morning early.

The dividend of \$1 on the stock was declared December 5 and is payable January 15 to stockholders of record of December 31.

Los Angeles Police Want Padlock Power

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 13.—Los Angeles will be on the way to becoming a "blue Sunday" town if an ordinance proposed by the Police Commission is adopted by City Council.

The measure places all theaters under police control. It gives the commission power to padlock any amusement house giving performances or exhibitions which the commission may pronounce immoral or indecent.

Maine Assn. of Fairs Holds Its Best Meeting

LEWISTON, Me., Jan. 13.—The annual meeting of the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs, held here last Thursday and Friday, was declared by officials of the association as the best winter convention ever staged in Maine. Twenty fairs in the State were represented, and there were many fine speeches on the program. The meeting was held in the Androscoggin Building in Lewiston, with a banquet at the Y. M. C. A. Building in Auburn, at which more than 200 fair delegates, free-attractions people and others were present. Officers elected for 1930 consist of George H. Plummer,

Fox, Loew, Publix, RKO Swinging to Wide Films

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The wide screen seems to be the leading innovation for 1930. Following close on the heels of color the wide screen takes precedence of the new advancements for the coming year. Four circuits have already made installations of the wide screen in several theaters, with others coming. Fox, Loew, Publix and RKO have their systems so arranged that wide-screen films will be shown in them before many weeks have elapsed.

Fox is using the Grandeur screen, Paramount the Magnascope, Loew a new wide screen called Trans-tone and RKO the Spoor Bergen invention that was demonstrated some few months ago at the Race Photophone Gramercy Studios. RKO has built a wide-screen theater at the West Coast studios for the preview and proper cutting and editing of films,

Actresses' Salary Claims Disallowed; Producer Wins

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The claims of Janet McLeay and Marie Walker for two weeks' salary against William P. Tanner as the producer of *The Shadow* were disallowed by a board of the American Arbitration Association, according to a decision received today by the defendant.

The claims of the actresses were that they had been discharged after a seven-day rehearsal period. Tanner, who defended himself, entered evidence that the first rehearsal upon which the decision hinged was nothing more than a dinner party given for the prospective members of the cast by one of the persons connected with the production. He said several days then elapsed before rehearsals were called and that both Miss

Webber Sees End of "Canned Music" Evils

A. F. of M. president believes it is only matter of time
before public will demand real thing—labor leaders discussing subject at meeting in St. Petersburg this week

Stowhegan, president, succeeding Ralph A. Jewell; E. C. Patten, Topsham, first vice-president, succeeding W. O. Frothingham; Dr. E. E. Russell, Farmington, second vice-president, succeeding M. R. Hinckley; J. S. Butler, Lewiston, secretary, re-elected; W. Hill, Bangor, treasurer, re-elected.

It was decided to hold next year's meeting at Skowhegan. The meeting got under way at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, declared in session by the president. An address of welcome was made by Dr. R. N. Randall, president (See MAINE FAIRS on page 92)

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., Jan. 13.—"Canned music" and its harmful reaction on more than 8,000 of the country's 32,000 theater musicians will be one of the chief subjects to be discussed before the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, now holding a 10-day conference here.

Most of the routine matters have been disposed of since the council went into session last Wednesday, and it was decided to put off the more vital business, including the discussion of the ill effects of the sound films on the labor situation, until early this week. The executive council, comprised of President William Green, Secretary Frank Morrison, Treasurer Martin F. Ryan and eight vice-presidents, among them Joseph N. Webber, of New York, president of the American Federation of Musicians, also is slated to discuss world peace, child labor, injunctions and general unemployment problems.

Webber, at a preliminary discussion here last week, struck an optimistic note in regard to the musicians' unemployment situation when he stated that, to his mind, machine-made music has reached its saturation point and that the time is not far off when the general public will voice its opinion in the matter and demand that human music makers again be installed in the theater pits throughout the country.

"Altho machine-made music so far has made a great inroad on organized musicians throughout the country," Webber stated, "I believe it has about reached (See "CANNED MUSIC" on page 92)

New Bill To Protect Actor

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 13.—An effort is being made to exempt the actor from immediate arrest for appearing in the cast of an alleged immoral or indecent theatrical production. It is an amendment to the Wales Theater Padlock Law and has just been introduced in the Legislature by Assemblyman Langdon W. Post, of New York City, and who is a theatrical producer. The proposed amendment to the law seeks to place the actor in the same position as the author, director and manager of an alleged improper presentation after the courts have passed on the question and have decided whether or not the performance was actually a violation of the law.

It has frequently happened that plays at New York City theaters have been attacked as indecent and immoral and all members of the cast arrested, only to be released when the court decided that the presentation of the play was not a violation of the law.

Assemblyman Post's bill has the support of the Actors' Equity Association, the State Federation of Labor and many of the judges of the New York City courts.

It is safe to predict Assemblyman Post's bill will be passed this time. A similar measure introduced at the last Legislature was sidetracked.

The Legitimate Stage

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

Rigid Enforcement of Rules Planned by Managers' Group

Policing of ticket agencies and box offices may be given to Weber—Equity and Guild aid seen as club over heads of offending subscribers

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Altho one or two snags were encountered by the Managers' Bureau last week in the introduction of the new plan for eliminating the ticket scalping evil on Broadway attractions, the group is continuing rigidly with plans for the enforcement of the plan which is believed will minimize the gouging on hit show tickets. L. Lawrence Weber will likely be selected to organize the committee which will enforce the measure of eliminating the buy on shows and maintain a substantial portion of theater tickets for all attractions at the various box offices.

Managers who have subscribed to the plan and are interested in its success see in the agreement of Equity and the Dramatists' Guild, to lend their assistance, a club to hold over the heads of the offending managers who refuse to come into the organization. A. L. Erlanger and Charles Dillingham are still out of the group.

Broadway looks at the movement from the manner in which it has been promoted as an agreement which the managers cannot fall down on at this period. A militant policing of the agencies and box offices that will tolerate nothing but complete compliance with the rules is anticipated. Because the public has been let in on the manner in which they are being gouged it is thought that nothing will stop the success of the movement.

Considerable criticism has fallen around the head of Brock Pemberton, one of the prime movers, because this week he notified the brokers that tickets for the town's hit, *Strictly Dishonorable*, would be available today for the next eight weeks, which will carry the "buy" beyond March 1, the day upon which the agreement signed by Pemberton becomes effective. Pemberton said he had nothing to do with the distribution of tickets, which, he said, is handled by the Erlanger office.

It was suggested to Pemberton that he move his show to another house and face the possible suit for the breaking of the lease and thus have the prestige of a possible favorable court decision behind the plan. Nothing has developed from this.

The publicity on the agreement has been handled carefully daily to keep up interest in the movement, with statements each day from the central office.

The trustworthy agencies have formed a committee that will see that their end of the bargain is upheld, and Equity, according to Frank Gillmore, president, stands ready to do anything in its power to wipe out the scalping evil. As predicted in last week's issue of *The Billboard*, Equity took drastic action at the meeting of the council and agreed to go so far as to declare managers unfair and withdraw casts if necessary to bring the managers into line.

Meetings of the committee are being held daily at the Gilbert Miller offices here.

To Try Out Revivals

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The cycle of plays by Oscar Wilde and other noted European and American dramatists which the Shuberts have announced may be first tried out for a week's engagement at Chamberlain Brown's theater in Greenwich, Conn. Arrangements to this effect had been completed, but are now in abeyance.

Casino Going February 1

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Demolition of the Casino Theater at 39th street and Broadway will start before February 1, according to an announcement from Joseph O'Gara, real estate broker, who negotiated for the Bricken Construction Company the purchase from the Shuberts of the lease on the playhouse. On the site will rise a 30-story building devoted to the textile and dress industries.



DOROTHY LIBAIRE in "City Hall" is playing her first important role in a Broadway production. She has appeared in New York before in "The Ivory Door", "Wall Street" and "Solitaire". Her current assignment is the leading part in the Herbert Raulinson starring play at the Hudson Theater.

From Out Front

By CHARLES MORAN

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

NOT long ago a manager who had not enjoyed a hit for several years awakened during a first-night intermission to find himself owning a sensational play. The manager was one who shouted at the ticket scalpers every chance he got. Another producer, whose record in the theater is one of clean achievement, approached the lucky manager during the intermission and said that now with a hit on his hands he could well afford to practice what he had preached for so many years and deny the speculators all of his seats. The answer of the reformer was "why should I bother?"

This incident just serves to show what the adherents of the Miller-Pemberton-Hopkins plan will run into. They, of course, are preparing for such eventualities, but when a manager or theater proprietor is caught redhanded there must be no quarter. He must suffer or the theater will suffer, and if these men are sincere in their desires to eliminate the ticket evil, all offenders must go the same way. Out of the show business.

This, of course, will hurt many. The backing of shows by agencies must of necessity go. Thus it means the managers themselves must at last become honest with the public that supports the theater. If this is accomplished the legitimate stage can look forward to a substantial future. And is it so much to ask simply to request a man to become honest with himself and not cheat his right hand with his left? And if such comes to pass a militant managers' organization that will do many things for the theater can be expected. Not until.

The ticket evil is bad, and no one is to blame but the managers themselves. There are, however, other things wrong with the legitimate theater that the Managers' Bureau must overlook. There are duties that fall directly to the door of the manager and the theater proprietor and faults that cannot be passed to a theater treasurer, such as the selling of tickets on.

No manager can pass the buck on untidy theaters, and there are plenty of them in New York. Theaters with seats that are broken, without a rack for a man's hat, with little protruding nails to catch milady's dress on, theaters without any warmth or comfort.

With the average theatergoer a visit to a play is a gala occasion. The people who go regularly and disturb the early arrivals during the first act are not the backbone of theater support. The real theater interest are the people who go once or twice a month, or two or three times a year. There are legions of this type. They want entertainment. In the legitimate theater they walk into a cold barn without music, where the curtain laboriously rolls upward and the play commences. The first act is generally over before they are at all in sympathy with the play. But, of course, they have already spent their money. Such business practice is unsound. Good business is founded on the ability to resell a commodity. Amusement is a stable commodity. It must be sold.

Ask Judgment Against Shine

Equity takes unpaid claim of Elsa Shelley to Supreme Court—hearing Jan. 24

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Actors' Equity Association today will move in the Supreme Court here for a summary judgment against Dr. Louis Shine, as the producer of *The Courtessan*, for failing to pay the claim of Elsa Shelley awarded here several weeks ago by a board of the American Arbitration Association.

Emily Holt, attorney for the actress, will make the motion, which will be made returnable in the Supreme Court on January 24. Shine has already been placed on the defaulting managers list at Equity and is not permitted to produce any attractions with Equity casts until the claim of Miss Shelley is paid. The money involved in the claim is \$825.

The Courtessan is the one-character play by Irving Kaye Davis which was tried out last spring. Miss Shelley assumed the role at the tryout and was awarded a run-of-the-play contract, which was disputed in the original claim. Shine contended that the tryout constituted the run of the contract. An involved decision of the board returned the part to Dr. Shine, but awarded the monetary consideration to Miss Shelley for the time she lost from other possible employment.

It is reported that Shine has been considering the production of the play on Broadway, but has been held up for a woman to do the one part.

In the event this is his plan an immediate settlement of the claim must be made or the judgment taken unless Shine fights it in the Supreme Court. If he resorts to this measure the effect may not be determined. The courts have generally upheld the impartial arbitration board awards.

Shuberts Have Another

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Topaze, a play by Marcel Pagnol which was one of last season's successes in Paris, has been acquired for production by the Shuberts. Benn Levy will make the adaptation. *Merlus*, another play by Pagnol, is to be done here by Gilbert Miller.

New Connelly Play

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Marc Connelly has written a new play titled *The Green Pastures*, which Laurence Rivers, Inc., will present later in the season. Robert Edmond Jones has been engaged to do the sets.



Managers Warned by Equity Against Unlicensed Agents

M. P. A. told to enforce basic agreement clause—actors plan strict measures to bring non-permit holding agents into line—Supreme Court decision ends agents' case

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—With the prestige of a United States Supreme Court decision on their employment agency policy behind them Actors' Equity Association today made plans to enforce the resolution adopted more than a year ago by the members. The resolution prohibits members from doing business with agents other than those holding permits from the association. Today L. Lawrence Weber, secretary of the Managers' Protective Association, was informed by Frank Gillmore, president of Equity, that all members of his association must immediately take cognizance of a clause in the basic agreement between Equity and the Managers' Association that covers Equity's dealings with the agents.

The members of this managers' group subscribed to Equity's right to regulate the agents with whom their members do business and now are being called upon to enforce this section of the basic agreement. It will mean that all members of the M. P. A. must in the future refrain from doing business with agents and personal representatives who do not hold Equity permits.

The effect of this measure will have a far-reaching effect Gillmore feels toward bringing the many personal representatives who have failed to comply with the measure into the privileged list of Equity agents.

Last week the Supreme Court at Washington refused William Edelman a review of his case brought against Equity in the Federal District Court here.

In this refusal there is seen the final ditch of Equity agents' fight reached. It is believed that the agents will not attempt to find recourse from this decision with the State courts inasmuch as the right to regulate their members has been upheld by the highest court in the nation.

Equity's resolution went into effect on November 14, 1929. About 35 agents doing business in the legitimate and musical comedy fields in New York have obtained permits and our now being regulated by the rules Equity sets forth for the protection of its members.

Figures Show Des Moines Is Strong for Musicals

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 11.—According to conclusions reached after a perusal of box-office receipts of the five road shows that have appeared here this season, it is evident that the city rates musical comedies as its favorite form of entertainment.

The town's patronage is heaviest at a show with a widely known name regardless of the rest of the cast. Des Moines cares nothing for Shakespeare.

These deductions are based on box-office receipts, with the one-night average shown as follows:

No Rifs (musical comedy), \$8,908.50; *Connecticut Yankee* (musical comedy), \$5,315; *Strange Interlude* (drama), \$4,927; *Porgy* (drama), \$1,098; *Genevieve Hamper* (Shakespeare), \$720.

Actual gross on these shows was as follows:

Strange Interlude (three performances), \$14,783; *No Rifs* (one performance), \$8,908.50; *Genevieve Hamper* (four performances), \$2,830; *Connecticut Yankee* (one performance), \$5,315; *Porgy* (five performances), \$5,492.50.

Settle Shubert Claim

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The Emil Lime Trio, who had been engaged by the Shuberts to appear in *The Greenwich Village Follies* starting October 15 under a minimum basic contract, settled for one week's salary a two-week claim against the producers.

Dullzell Stops in Chicago

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Paul Dullzell, of Equity, stopped off in Chicago today on his way back to New York from the West Coast, where he was instrumental in adjusting the difficulties of Louis O. Macloon and wife with Equity.

New Head Tax Gimmick Used To Keep Show On

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—One of the lesser comedy attractions here is using an unusual procedure to keep the production on. The entire cast is in on commonwealth permitting the system to be employed. The one hitch in the racket is that the box office, in this instance, is selling tickets below cut-rate prices.

The producers are using the old head tax racket, but instead of having a ready list of free ticket holders the gimmick is that any one can get a pair of seats for \$1 by simply giving any name at the box office. The business is sold out. Name of attraction furnished on application.

Dawson-Forrest To Cast, Produce

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Eli Dawson, independent agent, has formed a partnership with Ernie Forrest, formerly of the vaudeville team of Forrest and Church. They opened new offices early this week in the Bond Building. The new firm will do general casting and some vaudeville producing. They have started to sign artists to represent them for pictures, presentations and indie vaudeville dates. Dawson was formerly located on the 14th floor of the building. Dolly Inez is still with him, handling writing of special material and songs.

"Miracle" Actors Storm Box Office for Salary

DALLAS, Jan. 12.—Three hundred *Miracle* actors stormed the box office after the closing engagement here last night, demanding their pay. Police were called to expel them from the theater.

The extras were notified that there was no money on hand to pay salaries. However, Equity members, musicians and stagehands were paid off. The show's properties were attached for indebtedness.

Canadian Tour Successful

TORONTO, Jan. 11.—The George Rodway English Panfomime Company which has made a trans-Canada tour under the management of Trans-Canada Theaters, Ltd., with headquarters in Toronto, is sailing January 20 for England after a very successful season. In spite of adverse reports from other sources the company did enormous business in Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, B. C.; Calgary and Edmonton. "Wee" Georgie Wood was the star and the bill was *Rumpy Dumpty* on the outgoing trip and *Mother Goose* for the return trip east. The tour lasted 18 weeks and there were 62 people carried in the cast. Les Thurlay was the company manager. Final performances are being played at Montreal. His Majesty's Theater, week of January 13.

Douglas Will Switch

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Milton Douglas, who recently played for RKO on Eastern dates at the head of an 18-people offering, will switch to Loew January 25. He is scheduled to open on an Eastern tour that week, splitting between the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, and the Plaza, Corona. Cast includes the Stanley Twins, Sidney Walker, Lillian Kelly, Rose Kenny and Howard Johnson's Orchestra. Bookings were effected thru Creators & Lenetska.



LESTER ALLEN, the undersized comedian whose career is marked with success after success, is now appearing as the fun interest in the Bolton, Kalamazoo and Ruby musical, "Top Speed" at Chanin's 46th Street Theater, New York. His work in the show is punctuated here and there by material from his well-known vaudeville act of Allen and Breen. Allen was last seen in New York in the Ziegfeld production, "The Three Musketeers".

Board Upholds Actor's Claim

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Robert Geddes' two-year contract with Guy Bolton was upheld this week by a board of the American Arbitration Association. Geddes was awarded \$2,800, the balance due him under a 15-week guarantee covering last season, and the agreement for 20 weeks' employment in the season ending October 1, 1930, held to be in effect.

Geddes was brought over from England by Bolton in 1928 to play in a contemplated musical. When the musical was not produced Bolton farmed out Geddes to Arthur Hammerstein for *Golden Dawn*. Geddes played some few weeks in that show and was then let out. When he demanded additional work from Bolton or salary under his contract, Bolton replied that Hammerstein had taken over the contract. Hammerstein denied he had done so.

Two Big Musicals for Hub

BOSTON, Jan. 11.—Two musical comedy premieres are scheduled for the Hub on January 20. At the Colonial Theater there will be the pre-Broadway showing of Florenz Ziegfeld's *Simple Simon*, with Ed Wynn, Bobbe Arnet, Harriet Hoctor, Alan Edward and Dorree Leslie; book by Ed Wynn and Guy Bolton, and music and lyrics by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart. To the Tremont Theater probably will come the new *International Review*, organized by Lew Leslie, producer of *Blackbirds*, for two weeks, with Gertrude Lawrence, Florence Moore, Argentinita Moss and Fontana, Dave Apollon and Jack Pearl.

Error Corrected

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Thru an error *The Billboard* last week stated that Mark Linder was the author of *Apartment 47*. He is not. The author is Ted MacLean, who, with Frederick Clayton, will produce the play.

The cast is as follows: Stuart Hutchison, Charles Penman, Walter Horton, Ben Laughlin, James G. Gary, John Pate, Jean May, Marie Pittman, Marianne Risdon, Anna Layng, Mary Ruth Palmer and Muriel Owens.

Gantvoort Hires Sturges

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Herman Gantvoort is planning another try with *The Silver Sneak*, which had a brief run in November. He has signed Preston Sturges, author of *Strictly Dishonorable*, one of the season's chief hits, to rewrite the book of the musical. In a few weeks Gantvoort will begin recasting the production.

Actress Asks 5 Weeks' Pay

Ruth Etting wants salary for postponed "9:15 Revue"—appeals to Equity

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Ruth Etting has filed a claim for five weeks' salary against Mrs. Ruth Selwyn, producer of the impending *9:15 Revue* now in rehearsal and scheduled for a Broadway opening in February.

Miss Etting, who left *Whooper*, the Florenz Ziegfeld production starring Eddie Cantor, to join the Selwyn show, claims her run-of-the-play contract became effective on December 2, but that the postponement of rehearsals delayed the opening of the show. Mrs. Selwyn says Miss Etting was notified and agreed to the postponement and knew that her salary would not commence until the show opened. Miss Etting denies this contention.

Miss Etting has taken her claim to Actors' Equity Association and formally filed a claim for back pay. There is also a report current that Miss Etting is dissatisfied with her assignment in the show and contends that verbal agreements made with Mrs. Selwyn are not being lived up to by the management. Her principal complaint is that she has too little to do in the production and that she was induced to leave the road tour of the Ziegfeld production because she was promised a special number with one of the masculine stars who will appear in the production.

The show has now been in rehearsal for three weeks and as yet Miss Etting has rehearsed only one song.

The *9:15 Revue* is Mrs. Selwyn's first venture into the managerial ranks and already she has had two conflicts with her cast. Dorothy McNulty, one of the first engaged in the cast, did not show up for rehearsals and now word has it that Mrs. Selwyn made an arrangement with Miss McNulty and released her from the contract.

Recently Mrs. Selwyn became a member of the Managers' Protective Association. Her show is set to open next week out of town and then play a week in Boston, and one performance in Philadelphia before coming to Broadway for the New York premiere.

Authors in Row Over Musical's Royalties

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A controversy over the sale of the talking picture rights to *Here's How*, involving on the one side Joseph Meyer, Roger Wolfe Kahn and Irving Caesar, who composed the music and lyrics for the Aaron & Freedley musical, and on the other Paul Gerard Smith and Fred Thompson, who wrote the book for the show, and Joseph P. Hackett, Jr., arbiter for the Dramatists' Guild in all play sales, is set for arbitration next week.

Meyer, Kahn and Caesar, who received no part of the proceeds from the talking picture sale, seek a pro-rata share from Smith and Thompson. Thompson has stated his willingness to accede to this request, if Smith does likewise. The latter has flatly refused to do so.

When the musical was being prepared for production Meyer, Kahn and Caesar assigned their rights to a share from a movie sale to Smith and Thompson. They maintain that this assignment referred only to the sale of silent picture rights. In support of their contention they cite the clause in their agreement with Smith and Thompson, which reserves to them all proceeds from the sale of sheet music and mechanical reproductions.

Art School's Performance

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The first performance of the season by the American Academy of Dramatic Arts will take place at the Belasco Theater next Friday afternoon. *Paris Bound*, by Phillip Barry, will be given, preceded by *It's an Ill Wind*, a one-act playlet by Marie Baumer.

Auto Show Perks Up Trade; Legit. Business Best in Year

Agents report biggest ticket call of season — lesser attractions do well — demand for hits excessive — only two out — new ones start fair

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The legitimate theater perked up plenty last week. From reliable sources comes the information that the past week was the best in the legit. field for more than a year. The reason is the automobile show now at the Grand Central Palace and the many individual automobile exhibits around town. Salesmen and buyers from all over the country have come to town this year in greater numbers than any year within the last decade and this influx has proven a stimulant to the legitimate field.

None but the weakest shows in town did bad business during the week and the few closings listed testify to the volumes of tickets the automobile crowd have applied for during the week. The speculators reaped the harvest on all musical shows, with even the weaker ones coming to the top with the consistent sell-out list.

A reliable ticket agent reports the greatest demand for tickets in a year. The biggest call was for the widely advertised hits, with *Jane Moon* and *Strictly Dishonorable* holding the upper hand among the dramatics, and *Scandals*, *Fifty Million Frenchmen*, *Sweet Adeline* and *Bitter Sweet* doing the best in the musical line.

Four new entries went up on the play bill of the street during the last week. None are strong, but all are doing fair business. *Children of Darkness*, starring Basil Sydney and Mary Ellis, got away to the best start of the new shows. The Glenn Hunter-June Walker production, *Waterloo Bridge*, is doing fair business at the Fulton, but *So Was Napoleon* looks like a buy for the cut-rate counters.

This section of the agency business did a land-office business with the lesser attractions during the week.

The impending week will see among others a new musical come to town which will bring this department up to 13 attractions. The new musical comedy is the oft threatened and much postponed *George Gershwin-Morris Riskind-George S. Kaufman-Ira Gershwin Strike Up the Band*, which Edgard Selwyn launches at last at the Times Square Theater.

May Robson Will Play Short Season in Hawaii

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 13.—May Robson, just back from a triumphant engagement in Henry Duffy's Seattle and Portland theaters, where she broke all records of the houses for gross receipts, passed thru San Francisco a few days ago on her way to Hollywood to look after her house there. She left it more than a year ago to come to San Francisco to play for Duffy for six weeks, and she hasn't been back since, for he has kept her busy at one or another of the theaters.

Miss Robson returns to San Francisco January 14 and will sail from here January 17 on President Lincoln for Honolulu, where she will act for several weeks, appearing in three of her plays, opening with *The Rejuvenation of Aunt Mary*. This will be followed by *Mother's Millions* and *Her Night Out*. Lillian Harmer accompanies her and will play her own roles in the several comedies. At the end of her Hawaiian engagement Miss Robson will come back to San Francisco and will again be under Henry Duffy's direction.

Weber Has Two Plays; Ernest Truex in First

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—L. Lawrence Weber is planning two additional productions for this season. He is now casting a play titled *Dress Parade*, in which Ernest Truex will be starred. The play is the work of Ernest Toller and Viva Tattersall and will be brought to Broadway in February.

Next week at Greenwich the Chamberlain Brown Stock Company will try out a murder melodrama for Weber. It is titled *Fingerprints* and is the work of Jack Gray and Hugh Ford.

Winter Garden for Legit. When Lease Expires

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Broadway proper is again to have a legitimate attraction after being given over to talking pictures for almost a year. Lew Leslie's *International Revue* will tenant the Shubert-owned Winter Garden shortly after February 13, when the two-year Warner Bros. lease on the playhouse expires, according to reliable reports.

It is said also that Leslie may take a two-year lease on the theater and present there the second edition of *Blackbirds* when the *International Revue* ends its expected long run. The Leslie revue, one hears, will be billed as having 7 (?) stars. Gertrude Lawrence heads the cast, which includes Jack Pearl, Florence Moore, Dave Apollon, Moss and Fontana, McCann Sisters, Rose Marie Deering and a list of European performers of prominence.

The Warners are reported to have paid \$1,000 a day for the Winter Garden rental and it is said the entire rent for the lease was made on *The Jazz Singer*, but since that Al Jolson picture they have not had a winner in the house.

Janney Plans Comeback With Behrman Musical

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Russell Janney, who got into difficulties with Equity over *White Eagle*, is making arrangements to square his accounts and produce another musical. Janney's venture will be, it is said, a rewritten version of *Lola in Love*, presented here several seasons ago.

It will have a book by S. N. Behrman, author of *Meteor*, now being presented by the Theater Guild. Irving Caesar, who prepared the original lyrics, is polishing up his lines. The music will again be by Harry Hirsch. John Loeffler, previously associated with Lewis E. Gensler, will be manager for Janney, according to reports. Janney is best known for his presentation of *The Vagabond King*.

Broadway Engagements

Winifred Lenshan, Katherine Alexander, Otto Kruger, Charles Townbridge, John T. Doyle, Miriam Sears, John Butler, Houston Richards, Eunice Howard, Buddy Emmett, Doris Sanger for *The Boundary Line* (Jones & Green).

Alberto Corallo for *International Revue* (Lew Leslie).

Cyril Scott, Andrew Lawlor, Jr.; Raymond Van Stickle, C. W. Van Voorhis, Elsie Keene, Walter Kinella, Edward Powell, William Lorenz for *Family Blues* (Tyler & Erlanger).

Henry Whittemore, Pearl Osgood for *Flying High* (George White).

Sylvia Sidney, Douglass Montgomery for *Her Delicate Condition* (Lew Cantor).

Bernard Jukes, Edward Clannell for *Sari* (Eugene Endrey).

Agnes Frayne for *Stimpe Simon* (Florenz Ziegfeld).

Barbara Hatch for *Ripples* (Charles Dillingham).

Catherine Calhoun Doucet, Betty Linley, Nicholas Joy, Alfred Helton, Freddie Stange, Warren McCollum for *Topaze* (Shuberts).

Broadway Cast Changes

Joseph Spree was not replaced in *Sons of Guns* at the Imperial Theater, as stated last week thru error.

Lover Changes to Death With Aid of Trick Paint

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A man portraying an unusual part makes a bald statement that the girl playing the scene with him cannot stand the sight of his true face. She risks the chance. The lights lower, a soft baby spot drops from the proscenium and the otherwise suave wooer's face instantly becomes a death mask.

The stunt is pulled in *Death Takes a Holiday*, the Lee Shubert production here starring Philip Merivale whose face undergoes the sudden change. Investigation reveals that Merivale's face has been painted with a luminous paint furnished by Alexander Strobl. Merivale's naturally high cheek bones accentuate the effect of the medium and give him a ghastly look that fits the unusual part.

Adlers Set To Open Cold On B'way Next Week

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Hyman Adler's first production of the season, *The Challenge of Youth*, a play of adolescent revolt by Ashley Miller, will open cold at the 49th Street Theater Monday, January 20.

A feature increasingly frequent in modern plays will be a whoopee scene in the second act embellished with song and dance. Three numbers have been composed for the show by Evelyn Adler and Lottie Salisbury, who participate in the play. Alma Merrick, an ingenue little known outside of stock, will play one of the leading roles. Others in the cast are Thomas V. Morrison, Harold De Bray, Frank Johnson, Ann Thomas, Walter Pearson, Lois Michels, Jerome Samuels and John Wynn.

M-G-M Offers \$100,000 For "New Moon" Rights

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Metro-Goldwyn has made Schwab & Mandel an offer of more than \$100,000 for the talking picture rights to *New Moon*, on condition that they be permitted to immediately make a sound version of the stage success, it is said. Schwab & Mandel, who have already sold the foreign rights, are holding out for a year-and-a-half guarantee against film release to protect these right holders.

In this move by the movie company is seen a realization that road companies of a play hurt the movie production from the standpoint of public patronage. In this willingness of movie companies to pay a huge sum for a success provided they are given an immediate release is also seen a factor which may tend to lessen road and foreign productions of Broadway nite.

Actors' Fund Program Arrangement Complete

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The annual Actors' Fund Benefit, which takes place at the New Amsterdam Theater next Friday afternoon, will have as a special feature the first appearance of Leslie Howard and Mary Nash in Shakespeare. They will present the famous wooing scene from *Richard Third*.

The program also includes Mme. Frances Alda, Beatrice Lillie, Gertrude Lawrence, Ruth Draper, Evelyn Laye, George Jessel, Queenie Smith, Bill Robinson, Fred Keating, Albert Carroll, Marton Kerby, John J. Niles, Donald Brian, Irene Franklin, Jerry Jarnigan, Austin Strong, the Three Sailors, Phil Spitalny's Hotel Pennsylvania Orchestra, ensembles from two musical comedies, and a minstrel show contributed by members of the N. Y. Athletic Club under the direction of Doc Kelton. Walter Hartwig organized and will direct the program.

Ulric Going West

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Unable to find a suitable new play, Lenore Ulric returned this week to the Coast to make a second talking picture for Fox. She appeared briefly this season in *The Sandy Hooker*, which Messmore Kendall withdrew after a tryout. It is not considered likely that she will be seen in another play until next season.

Tyler Casting Fiske Group

Star would head repertory company for road—seven plays under consideration

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—In about a month, George C. Tyler states, he will begin assembling a repertory company for Mrs. Fiske to tour the country, following the New York run of her new play, *Family Blues*, which opens in Newark January 27. The company will remain on the road the whole of next season.

Mrs. Fiske's repertory will probably include, besides her two new plays, *Ladies of the Jury* and *Family Blues*, her previous successes, *Erstwhile Susan*, *Mrs. Sumpstead-Leigh* and *Miss Nellie of New Orleans*, Tyler declares.

The length of her engagements in various cities throughout the country will depend on the patronage of the public. In large cities like Boston, Philadelphia and Chicago it is likely that a week will be given to each play in the repertoire, whereas in the less populous towns the entire repertoire would be given in a week or two weeks.

It is probable, Tyler says, that Mrs. Fiske will also try out several new plays while on tour, so that their appeal can be gauged. In this event, when she comes back to New York after the tour, a theater may be engaged for an entire season.

Her new play will, after a week in Newark, go to Baltimore for a like stay, then come here.

Golden-Jessel Plan Another Production

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—George Jessel will do another new play in association with John Golden. It is by Willard Robertson, who appeared in *Gentlemen of the Press*, and is tentatively titled *This Man's Town*.

Osgood Perkins will probably play the leading role. The other parts are yet to be cast. It is a single set play, the entire action taking place in a lunch wagon.

Allen To Produce Play

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Lester Allen, featured comedian in *Top Speed*, announces he will turn producer later in the season with a comedy of his own writing entitled, *Pint Sized*. Allen will not appear in the play himself.

Shuberts Loan Pearl

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Jack Pearl, who has joined Lew Leslie's *International Revue* by permission of the Shuberts, is scheduled to return to a Shubert musical in September unless new arrangements are made in the interim.

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Chicago To See Herbert Revivals

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The 1930 season here appears to lean heavily upon revivals. The latest to be announced is 10 weeks of Victor Herbert's music, including the revival of five of his most popular productions. They will be staged at the Majestic Theater and the schedule announced is as follows:

- February 9—*Mlle. Modiste*, with Fritz Scheff in the role she originated in 1905.
- February 23—*Naughty Marietta*, with Dee Maysen in the role composed by Herbert for Emma Trentini.
- March 9—*The Fortune Teller*, with Eleanor Painter in the role composed for Alice Neilson, who sang the operetta in 1909.
- March 23—*Babes in Toyland*, which was last seen in Chicago at the Grand Opera House in 1909.
- April 6—*Sweethearts*.

Chi. Dramatic League Announces Second Season

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—With the Dramatic League of Chicago going along swimmingly with its first season at the Princess, its sponsors this week announced plans for the second season. Six new plays are to be offered, it is stated. They will be selected from a list of plays now in possession of the League or under option. One of the six probably will be the Molnar piece that was tentatively scheduled for the present season and which was not given because of some technical trouble over the copyright.

The League states it hopes to make a revival of Ibsen's *Pillars of Society*, last seen here at the Grand Opera House in 1910. Other plays to be selected will be announced later.

Paul Moss Is Casting His First Production

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Paul Moss, who is interested with Edward Blatt in *Subway Express*, has acquired a new play by Rita Weiman entitled *Second Honey-moon*. It deals with the marital difficulties of a young couple.

Some of the parts have been tentatively cast, but no definite choice has yet been made for any of the roles. The play is set to go into rehearsal next week. Moss has taken offices at 1560 Broadway.

Chas. L. Wagner in Frisco Preparing for Season There

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—Charles L. Wagner, Broadway producer, is in town preparing for his contemplated series of drama productions at the New Columbia following its opening, now set for February.

"I hope to spend half the year producing in San Francisco and Los Angeles and the other six months in New York," said Wagner. "I still have Madge Kennedy under contract. She has been playing in vaudeville while waiting for our season out here."

Pyne Sisters in Crash

MONTREAL, Jan. 11.—The Pyne Sisters, Marie and Ruth, who in the past have appeared with Blossom Time, Rose-Marie, *Lucky Girl* and various Public presentations, were injured in an auto crash here this week en route to their hotel from the theater.

Ruth escaped with slight bruises, while Marie suffered a deep gash in her forehead and serious internal injuries. Marie is at the General Hospital here, where it is expected she will be confined for at least two months. Ruth will remain in Montreal until her sister is able to leave the hospital.

Musical Sold to Talkies

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—*Follow Thru* was purchased this week by Paramount from Schwab & Mandel with certain restrictions on when the talkie version may be released throughout the world. The agreement provides that the dialog production shall not be released in England till 1932, in Australia till 1931, and till September, 1930 for the rest of the world to protect existing contracts for stage presentations.

B'way To Have Season By Japanese Troupe

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—Tokujiro Teutsui and Company, a famous troupe of Ken-geki or sword players, will sail January 14 from Yokohama for a New York engagement to be followed by a transcontinental tour. Teutsui will bring a large company of actors and actresses and a native orchestra.

Michio Ito, Japanese dance director, has been engaged by the Japanese Theater Association to restage the six-hour Japanese program, keeping those parts of most interest to an American audience and bringing it within our conventional two and a half hours. It will be the first time that the East has seen authentic Japanese drama.

"Passion Play" for Chi.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—It was announced today that the Freiburg Players will be brought to Chicago next spring for 30 performances of the *Passion Play*, for the benefit of the General Foot Hospital. Performances will be given at the Stadium, commencing May 4. Dr. Frank Furch, chairman of the hospital board, has enlisted the aid of prominent civic workers and organizations in the undertaking.

"Illegal Practice" Continues

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—*Illegal Practice*, reported from New York last week as folding on January 4, continues to hold forth at the Playhouse, where it has been running for some weeks. A two-for-one ticket policy has been inaugurated.

"After Dark" to St. Louis

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—*After Dark*, which does a two-week engagement at the Davidson Theater, Milwaukee, tonight, will go to St. Louis. The piece had been booked for Columbus and Cincinnati, O., and other Eastern towns, but canceled these dates and decided to jump to the Mound City. The Shuberts are reported to have washed their hands of all connection with the company following its change of plans.

LEGIT. NOTES

ORAL LUCILLE RODGERS, in stage life Dora Lee, sailed for Europe January 6 as hostess of a party of sightseers. The party also will visit the Orient.

BEN STEIN, one hears, is planning to produce a play entitled *True to the Babes*.

DOT FIELDS and Jimmy McHugh, who were responsible for the music of *Blackbirds* and who recently completed the music for *Low Leslie's International Revue*, are to be lost to Broadway for some time to come. The pair have signed with Paramount to write tunes for the talkies.

MARGARET CHRISTIE, author's agent, has added to her organization Miss Ottilie Amend, who will be in charge of the play-reading department.

EVA LE GALLIENNE, founder of the Civic Repertory Theater, was honored last week for her successful work in the theater. At a testimonial birthday dinner by a citizens' committee at the Hotel Plaza on Saturday evening, January 11.

Miss Le Gallienne was presented with a bronze bust made by Nina Semudason, noted Icelandic sculptor.

SIDNEY ROSS has acquired a new play, by Paul Green, titled *Potter's Field*. Green is the author of *In Abraham's Bosom*. The play will be presented this season and will mark Ross' first venture as an independent producer.

SCHWAB & MANDEL'S operetta, *The New Moon*, is breaking all records for receipts in Philadelphia, which has hardly supported a road company since the season opened there. For the past three weeks of its engagement *The New Moon* grossed \$112,000.

THREE PLAYS by Lynn Riggs are more or less definitely set for late season presentation. Arthur Hopkins has his *Roadside*, the Theater Guild holds title to *Green Grow the Lilacs*, and Kenneth Macgowan and Joseph Verner Reed are in possession of *Samp's Like Wings*. Riggs has had only one Broadway presentation. A play called *Big Lake* was produced several seasons back with some success by the American Laboratory Theater.

THE THEATER GUILD will sponsor the New York engagement of the Japanese company of Tokujiro Teutsui and some 25 accompanying players in a repertoire of Ken-Geiki dramas.

GLENN HUNTER was selected by the Philadelphia Theatrical League as the actor best typifying the matinee idol of today.

CLARK SILVERNAIL, recently discharged from Post-Graduate Hospital after a siege of illness, will go to the Coast to direct talking pictures.

THE NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY

WALDORF

Beginning Thursday Evening, January 9, 1930
AT THE BOTTOM

A new version of the Maxim Gorki play by William L. Lawrence. Directed by Leo Bulgakov (thru courtesy of William A. Brady). Settings and costumes reproduced by Walter Walden from the original Moscow Art Theater production. Presented by Leo Bulgakov Theater Associates, Inc.

The Baron.....Carroll Ashburn
Kashny, a Pie Peddler.....Wesla Letina
Bubnov, a Locksmith.....Victor Killian
Andrei, a Coppersmith.....John Wesley
Nastya.....Barbara Bulgakova
Anna, His Wife.....Ella Lazareff
The Actor.....Richard Hale
The Actor.....E. J. Ballantine
Michael Kostiljev, Keeper of a Plophouse.....Ian Wolfe
Vaska.....Walter Abel
Natasia, Sister of Vasilisa.....Anne Seymour
Luka, a Peasant.....Edgar Stehli
Alroshka, a Cobbler.....Lewis Leverett
Vasilisa, Wife of Michael.....Mary Morris
Abramka, Her Uncle, a Policeman.....Louis John Latess

The Talar.....Art Ketai
The Grizzly.....Trevor Bardett
Several Nameless Lodgers, Tramps, etc.:
Clara Balog; John Fallon, Jr.; Evelyn Hill, Florence Jason, Daisy Johnson, Mona Smith, Robert Parsons, Katharine White, Decald Wilson, Lucille Forrest, Max Levitt, Boris Marchlew, Charles Manville, Nicolas Samin and Sasha Maroches
The Action Takes Place in a Large Provincial Town in Central Russia.
ACT I—A Plophouse. An Early Spring Morning. ACT II—The Same. Late Evening. ACT III—Courtyard of the Plophouse. A Few Weeks Later. ACT IV—The Plophouse. A Winter Evening Two Months Later.

This new art group has made a worthy start. This presentation of Gorki's *Lower Depths* has but one fault, and Leo Bulgakov or his company cannot be blamed for it. The Lawrence version is too inconsistent.

American slang is employed and the setting is entirely Moscow. It will be argued that the play has a universal appeal. It has. But to use colloquialisms of one nation and the garb and locale of another we believe is quite inconsistent. They should have used the

American version and American locale, or at least Americanlike costumes and makeup. The appeal of the play might not then have had felt a fruitless urge to come thru with its melancholy appeal that somehow misses because of the dialog. At *The Bottom* is Russian and should, to be a play of merit, be entirely Russian.

But with what they are working this group gives as fine a performance as anything of Gorki's or any other Russian dramatist that has been done here in years. Eva Le Gallienne's company is fast improving, but it will have to look to its honors with the Russian drama, for there is nothing but success ahead if their future productions are to be along the lines of this first effort.

The parts for the most are well cast, with but one complaint. Walter Abel does exceptionally well with his role, but at times becomes a trifle too enthusiastic. The same is the complaint against Carroll Ashburn, who in the first act gives the outstanding performance of the play. His restraint is commendable. John Wesley lends sympathetic dignity to his unusual role, and the characterizations contributed by Ian Wolfe and Mary Morris are memorable. In fact, most of the cast gave performances that are memorable. Edgar Stehli's work is excellent.

Bulgakov's direction is done with understanding and the precision that a disciple of the Moscow Art Theater might give to a production of Gorki.

The settings, which we are told are exact duplicates of those originally used by the Russian company at Moscow, are never to be forgotten for detail and color.

Yes, indeed, Leo Bulgakov and his associates have done a grand piece of work, and their future, if continued along these lines, is assured.

CHARLES MORAN.

MORE NEW PLAYS ON PAGE 46

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Broadway Openings

WEEK OF JANUARY 13

Nancy's Private Affair, a comedy by Myron C. Pagan, featuring Minna Gombel. Presented by Myron C. Pagan at the Vanderbilt Theater.

The Prince of Pilsen, a revival of the musical comedy by Frank Pixley, with music by Gustav Luders. Presented by the Jolson Theater Musical Comedy Company, with Al Shean and Vivian Hart, at Jolson's Theater.

Phantoms, a mystery play by A. E. Smit and L. Sand. Presented by Benmarx Productions, Inc., at Wallack's Theater.

Strike Up the Band, a musical comedy, with book by Morrie Ryskind, based on a libretto by George S. Kaufman. Music by George Gershwin, lyrics by Ira Gershwin. Starring Clark and McCullough. Presented by Edgar Selwyn at the Times Square Theater.

Everything's Jake, a comedy by Don Marquis. Presented by the New York Theater Assembly at the Assembly Theater.

CLOSINGS

Jenny closed Saturday, January 11, after 111 performances, as did *Babes in Toyland* (32).

London Cables

LONDON, Jan. 12.—Tellulah Bankhead will shortly revert from her successful vaude engagements to the legitimate stage, appearing under Daniel Mayer's management in Sarah Bernhardt's most famous role, *Camille*, in *The Lady of the Camellias*, a version specially adapted for her by Sir Nigel Playfair.

The revival of Reginald Berkeley's *French Leave* at the Vaudeville was given an enthusiastic sendoff last Tuesday, Charles Laughton giving a characteristically excellent performance in the leading part, with Madeline Carroll playing opposite.

Wilton Crawley has been forced to retire, owing to an injury to his knee which he suffered while making his English debut last Monday at the Paledium. He has been ordered by physicians to take a three weeks' rest.

The Irwin Twins opened last Monday at the Coliseum, their acrobatic dancing going great.

Arrivals in the past week included Fanny Ward and Haidée Wright. Sailings, Constance Collier.

Vaudeville

Conducted by ELIAS E. SUGARMAN—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

Vaudeville as Issue In Looming RKO War

Piazza, as administrative booking head, will have to fight it out with high-pressure film men who regard stage acts as poison—well equipped, but odds against him

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—War has been declared, and within the next several months there will be plenty of verbal bloodshed in the inner councils of RKO between those who have yet to declare themselves for vaudeville—as should have been done long ago—and their friendly opponents, the high-pressure boys in the organization who regard vaudeville not even with the tolerance of a necessary evil.

Not that there is any real dissension between certain factions in the revived major circuit, but like the friendly enemies in the play of that title who concurred in everything save their own brand of patriotism, they are at swords' ends only when it comes to a consideration of vaudeville, its retention, extension and position in relation to films.

In the trade it is admitted that RKO has made great advances since it came under the domination of the David Sarnoff group. Yet these advances have been made figuratively over the corpses of what were bright hopes for vaudeville. Up until the present time there has not been in the new organization a single individual with enough faith in vaudeville and the happy combination of aggressiveness harnessed to this, to battle for vaudeville policies against the men

(See RKO WAR on page 93)

Ricardo Cortez In New Sketch

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ricardo Cortez is slated for a vaude. flyer in the near future. He will arrive today from the Coast and immediately start rehearsals in a new two-people playlet, *Brothers*, by Edwin Burke. Burke is now in the filming West, engaged as a writer for the flickers.

Cortez will open for RKO shortly at one of the local houses.

Perry-Covan Double

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Perry and Covan, colored team, have discarded their four-act, and are now doing a double. They opened this week for RKO, under the direction of Nat Sobel.

Day-Night Service In RKO Pub. Dept.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—A special service will be inaugurated tomorrow by the RKO publicity department. It will be open on week days until 11 p.m., and on Sundays and holidays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The extra hours will take care of any emergency calls. For the night work an extra man is being taken on. Certain members of the department will alternate for the Sundays.

Ted Lewis To Rest Before Publix Tour

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ted Lewis finishes Eastern RKO dates this week, and leaves next week for a two-week sojourn to be divided between Montreal and Quebec. He is taking along Dave Vine, an old sidekick.

About the middle of next month Lewis will start on a Publix route with his band, and possibly Eleanor Brooks.

Doing Act by Lew Colwell

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Billy Cook and Ethel Roserere, warbling couple, returned to the RKO fold this first half in Paterson. They are using special material written by Lew Colwell.



HARRY LAUGHLIN and CLARA WEST, who are doing a new skit from the pen of Jimmy Conlin called "An Afternoon Out". They recently showed for RKO bookers.

Vauditorials

By ELIAS E. SUGARMAN

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

WE MUST frankly confess that we cannot understand the policy of RKO on one-act plays. And we arrive at this stage after keeping in close touch with developments for years; after placing our faith in intermittent announcements with the consistent message that everything will be done to further their booking; after taking inventory and noting finally that nothing concrete has yet been done in this direction.

RKO is not bound morally, legally or any other way to bring back the one-act play into its confines. This was never intimated, either in the trade or lay press, and RKO never allowed that this might be the case. Entirely on its own volition, the circuit, either in unquoted statements or employing Hiram S. Brown as the mouthpiece, has awakened false hopes in the breasts of those vitally interested in the field for sketches in vaudeville. Mrs. Fay Ehler's "The Undercurrent" got the best break of any "nameless" sketch on our record. In connection with press releases agent "The Undercurrent", RKO time and again come out flatly and credited Mrs. Ehler's excellent piece as the forerunner of a new era in vaudeville for the sketch. Several sketch bookings were made since, but these served in no way to convince the showmen individuals that a sketch revival was being undertaken.

Something is wrong, either with RKO's alleged sincerity or with its plans to bring back the sketch to its old place on vaudeville bills. Ben Piazza was a strong booster for sketches when he presided over the Middle West. Since he came to New York and assumed his important job in the home office, Piazza has also fallen under that mystic spell. Even from him one gets the verbal assurance that sketches are o. k., but so far neither Piazza nor his associates have done little else than agree with us that *The Undercurrent* is a great little act.

Rosalie Stewart is something of an expert on sketches, sketch authors and dramatic artists. When she gave up her own office to join RKO the sketch protagonists talked themselves into the idea that Miss Stewart might be the wedge which the circuit would employ to revive sketches. So far they are wrong. Miss Stewart's talents have been utilized instead to keep contacts alive between RKO and its electrical cousins, and to operate the circuit's promotion hours over the NBC network.

In John Pollock, now head of the Photograph and Press Bureau, RKO has a man who is thoroly versed in the sketch field. Pollock is as keen a student of sketches as George A. Godfrey is of big-time vaudeville. Formerly, Pollock was considered as the one-act play reader of the circuit. Whether he has retained that title or not doesn't matter. His knowledge of sketches, authors and dramatic values is being allowed to flourish unseen and unharnessed. It is possible that many of the new administrators of RKO are not even cognizant of Pollock's abilities. After all, if the movement to revive the sketch were sincere and really active, persons such as Rosalie Stewart and John Pollock would be right in on the ground floor, using their valuable talents and contracts for the good of the circuit.

Something should be done, either to go at the sketch proposition with something resembling energy and enterprise or come right out in the open and tell the world that the sketch revival idea is untimely. RKO will always need sketches for certain of the "names" borrowed from other fields. Why not have good ones?

Warner Still Draws Them

Altho classified as 'outside' office RKO agents continue selling to Golder outfit

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Harold Kemp's complete withdrawal from the RKO floor has done away with the possible ambiguity attending the conception by franchised agents of the Warner office as an "outside" source of act selling. This has not affected the activities of certain of the agents who still do business with Warner.

Ben Piazza has not issued any statements clearing up the situation. He has refrained from so doing, according to report, because he regards the procedure as entirely unnecessary. RKO agents are implied to be acquainted with the fact that the Warner office is on the "outside", and they are supposed to realize, of course, that under present conditions they cannot do vaudeville agenting outside of the sixth floor.

While Piazza will not take any general action on the Warner matter, according to present indications, he will be entitled at any time he sees fit to take disenfranchising action against any agent proven to be acting directly as a material source for Warner.

Lyte Act to Loew

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Rose and Ray Lyte, dance team who recently finished playing a string of Eastern RKO dates, will switch to Loew next week, splitting between the 46th Street and the Bedford, Brooklyn. Maximo's Eight Royal Korean Entertainers supply the musical background for the team. Other local dates are likely.

Bricktops Back in Vaude.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The 14 Bricktops, girl jazz band which recently played over the Publix Circuit, and several weeks ago opened in the Loew presentation houses, have been okayed for a tour of local vaudeville houses. They will open January 25 at the Metropolitan, Brooklyn. Bobbie Grice is featured.

Jenie Jacobs Carrying On

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The loss of her act-selling privilege on the RKO sixth floor will not cause Jenie Jacobs to alter or reorganize her activities. She will continue to represent artistes for productions, motion pictures and foreign engagements. The franchise which she held with RKO was of short duration, having been given her late last summer. Previous to that, she placed acts with the major circuit thru the now-defunct Pat Casey Agency, of which she was virtually the production department manager.

She has been established for a number of years in her own right as an artistes' representative. Her staff now includes Pauline Cooke, general manager; Billie Abbott and Henry Wiese, as associate agents and production heads, and Richard Pitman, in charge of the legit. department. Phil Bush, who was associated with Miss Jacobs in the RKO bookings, has made no definite plans to date, since the agency lost its franchise.

Fox Set To Take Over Loew Vaude. Bookings

One More Unit Cut

Loew sending 'Fan Fancies' on Southern time, following 'Dresden China'

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—*Dresden China*, the first presentation unit booked for the full running time of a stage show into Loew's vaudefilms, having proved its acceptability—in the opinion of Loew officials—another will be readied this week for the second stage of the experiment.

Fan Fancies, which came in yesterday after several weeks on the road in the de luxe houses in Washington, Baltimore and Pittsburgh, has been selected as the next subject and will get its baptism of fire January 22 in Yonkers. It will be trimmed down at this suburban stand to the budget limits of the average Loew vaudeville bill, and will be launched immediately on the so-called Southern Time, following *Dresden China* over the same route by six weeks. The latter unit, trimmed down to vaude, show salary limits, started in Richmond four weeks ago.

If Loew intends to use trimmed presentation units occasionally in its out-of-town vaudefilms the situation will not be alarming since acts have been deprived of dates in these houses intermittently by film specials. Should the idea be extended so as to convert every presentation unit into a show fit for the vaudefilms, Loew will cut down its vaudeville consuming power by about 10 weeks. The circuit is evidently undecided as to what course will be taken since at this time neither its vaudeville nor its presentation showmen are proving themselves to be valuable speakers on the subject. Vaudeville acts are employed in the presentation units, but only to a limited extent. Only certain turns are suited for spotting in units and a large number of Loew's agents do not handle attractions of this type. Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office, is said to be the only one carrying a little black book for Loew who has a great variety of attractions adaptable for booking interchangeably in both de luxe houses and vaudefilms.

Joe Wright on Own

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Joe Wright, with Walter Plimmer until he gave up his office last week to take a two-month vacation, has gone out on his own. He has opened an office in the Strand Theater Building and will dabble in vaude, clubs and productions. Wright says he intends to bring a play, *South Sea Love*, to Broadway soon.

P-T Activities

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Among the recent placements effected by the Plimmer-Thompson office were Doreen Keegan, with Serge Brody's *Tent Show Repels*; Linda Ann and Archie Foulk, in *Ship Ahoy*; Nanon Gardner, with Everett Sanderson and Company; Marion Rollins, with Paul Mohr and Company; Freeman Twins, with Paco Canino and Juanita, and Roberta Green, in the new Harry Rogers act headed by Gene Carey.

Shaws Invading Bronx; All on One Bill, Too

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Every act on the Loew's Fairmount, Bronx, bill the last half of this week will have a "Shaw" in it. In one form or another any way. The lineup reads: Lillian Shaw, Carl Shaw, Bobby (Uke) Henshaw and Morris and Shaw.

This comes under special innovations for Loew's January Festival. Believe it or not.



ALEX HYDE, who is doing the best act of his brilliant vaudeville career here and abroad. The act is billed as *Alex Hyde and His Modern Maidens*, and includes 14 girls who are capable musicians as well as dancers and singers. The big punch of the act is the ensemble rendering of Tschalkowski's "Overture of 1812". This is said to be the first time this difficult piece has been included in the repertoire of a girl band in vaudeville.

"Rio Rita" Will Cut 48 Acts in a Week

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—*Rio Rita*, the strongest special thus far put out by RKO Pictures, started Saturday on a two weeks' run at the Albee, Brooklyn, this being the only exception to the arrangement calling for a general release in all of the affiliated circuit's Greater New York houses for a full week, beginning January 25. The Albee is using three acts with the Bebe Daniels film, and this plan will be followed in the other vaudefilms. Later small acts might be booked in for those houses most hit by opposition. *Rio Rita* had been recognized for some time as a bugaboo for vaudeville attractions, and the RKO plan of exhibiting it bears out the substantial basis of vaudevillians' fears.

About 48 acts, it has been estimated, will be deprived of potential dates thru the week's booking of the film. It is admitted in RKO booking circles that a similar procedure will be followed in the release of other specials of equal drawing power.

Title Contest For Verne Tour

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Adela Verne, concert pianist who has been singled out for special attention as an RKO attraction, has completed arrangements with the circuit for an exploitation stunt to be used on her Western tour. It will start with her opening January 25 in St. Paul and wind up when she finishes in April.

Miss Verne has composed a march dedicated to Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh and his memorable New York-to-Paris flight, which is as yet untitled. It will be exploited that she is seeking a title, for which an award will be made of \$50 in gold.

Miss Verne and Milton Schwarzwald, general musical director of RKO, will be the judges.

Bierbauer Office Opening Jan. 15

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Charles A. Bierbauer, recently granted an RKO franchise, will move January 15 to the 10th floor of the Palace Theater Building. The suite is the one formerly tenanted by William Hennessey, John McKee and Louis Spielmann, who moved to the fifth floor of the building.

Bierbauer is temporarily making his quarters in the Edward S. Keller office.

Office has facilities to book both strings conveniently—financial tangle and Government investigation only obstacles—Loeb believes in constant vaudeville budgets

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Dormant for some months, the highly interesting question of the eventual booking disposition of the Loew houses under a Fox-fostered regime has again arisen, propelled into trade attention this time by the removal of Jack Loeb and his Fox booking staff from the Leavitt Building to the new Warner Building on Broadway. It is not regarded as a secret any longer in the Fox office that the greatly enlarged facilities in the new quarters are intended for the booking of a string of houses twice and even three times the size of the combined senior and junior divisions of the Fox Circuit.

McCaffrey Working Northwest Sector

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—William McCaffrey, RKO's chief scout, is now covering the Northwestern territory, and from latest advices will touch Chicago next week. He is combing the section for talent and material, being in constant touch with Ben Piazza, general business manager of the booking office.

Also linked to McCaffrey's duties is a close scrutiny of the intact shows booked from here for the Western Division by Charles J. Freeman. He is expected here about the middle of February, remaining in the East indefinitely thereafter.

Morton-Arbuckle Okayed

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—James C. Morton and Corinne Arbuckle, mixed comedy act, who showed for RKO recently, have been okayed for a string of Eastern dates. They will be launched shortly at one of the local houses.

The Tucker in Cafe

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Sophie Tucker will open tomorrow at the Floridian Cafe, Miami Beach, for a three-week engagement.



FAKING?

When your number ends with a high one...and you're getting so you have to fake it...remember that one great cigarette which doubles in throat-comfort...and singles in one with old-fashioned tobacco enjoyment.

IT'S MENTHOL-COOLED

SPUD CIGARETTES - 20 FOR 20¢
THE AXTON-FISHER TOBACCO CO., Inc., Louisville, Ky.

Unusual Tribute for Plunkett Next Month

Unofficially and without ballyhoo, divisional men will strive for record grosses as token of their appreciation of RKO official's year of achievement

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—A most unusual tribute will be paid Joseph Plunkett, RKO's vice-president and theater operator, all of next month. February 1 will mark several days past the first year of Plunkett's occupation of his post, and in order to show him that they fully appreciate all he has done and is doing to rehabilitate the circuit, executives all over the country, paced by the divisional managers, will observe the whole period as Plunkett Month. It will not be a public demonstration; in fact, it has been promised that not a line will be released on it to any paper. Neither will it be an official project.

While unofficial and veiled by the ban against publicity, Plunkett Month will be what is considered as the most spirited proposition yet attempted by the nation-wide circuit. The basic idea behind the observance of Plunkett Month will be to roll up such tremendous house grosses by dint of "overtime effort" that when Joe Plunkett gets ready to tear February off his calendar pad he will be fully appreciative of the fact that the best tribute has been paid him within the power of his subordinates and associates.

The idea of the Plunkett Month came up when a number of divisional managers got together here four weeks ago for the theater-operating convention. It was suggested that some tangible tribute be paid Plunkett, but the idea was at once rejected on the ground that Plunkett would not countenance anything in the form of a gift of intrinsic value. One of the divisional men, called by an individual high up in the ranks of the organization, later suggested that Plunkett would appreciate a month of record business best of all. This was readily agreed to by all present at the informal gathering. The word was passed to others in town at the time, and the bare outline of the plan was relayed to Frank Vincent and James Carrier, the Coast operators who were unable to attend the convention. All concurred in the feasibility of the plan. The consent of President Hiram S. Brown was obtained for the observance of Plunkett Month, and the machinery was immediately set in motion.

A later meeting, in the office of Mark A. Luescher, national publicity director of the circuit, resulted in the appointment of a committee to handle the details from here. The observance is primarily one to be handled by divisional and house men since it is from them that record grosses will be expected to emanate. The co-operation of the various departments supplying them with attractions is essential, hence the formation of the home-office committee, which is composed of Major L. E. Thompson, assistant theater operator; Ben Piazza,

(See PLUNKETT on page 92)

Roosevelt Precedent Broken by Mercedes

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt has long been known as unalterably opposed to having his name used in tieups with acts or films. He broke the precedent on New Year's Eve, however, when he consented to having Mercedes and Mlle. Stantone do their musical mind-reading act during the celebration at the Executive Mansion.

Mercedes, who was steered into the distinctive date thru the machinations of Lou Golding, RKO's wide-awake divisional boss over the Up-State string, performed before 200 guests. He not only had them wrapt in his work, but made the Governor's guests obey his request to the effect that they squat on the floor while he worked. The Governor joined in the calls for selections, and chose Sweet Rosie O'Grady for his number.

The following day the Governor sent a letter to Mercedes, expressing therein his keen appreciation of his work.

Piazza Visits Chi. Branch

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ben Piazza left here yesterday for a three-day visit to Chicago, his first since he came here from the Middle West several months ago to start in the newly created post of general business manager of the vaudeville booking office. The purpose of Piazza's flying visit to his old ballfield is to confer with Billy Diamond and others on new policies of the circuit and plans for the immediate future regarding the booking of a new type of vaudeville.

If personnel changes are effected at all as a result of Piazza's presence in Chicago they will be trifling and not of such a nature that they could not be done without his personal interference.

Hamid Bey's New Act

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Hamid Bey, the "burial-alive" fakir, plays his first date in a new act today for Harry Carlin at the Mipeola Theater, Mincola. The offering carries seven people, and includes dancing numbers by the girl ensemble. Joseph Ornato is the sponsor, and Franklyn Graham is handling Bey for independent dates.

New-Type Booking Men Will Be Inbred in RKO Shortly

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Pretty soon—but not too soon, certain of the boys hope, the RKO booking office will put on what Molly Picon calls the ritz. It will be as terrible a crime to say "ain'tcher" and "between you and I" as booking an Arabian tumbling act on the same bill with Cantor Rosenblatt. Yes, sir, the future booking personnel of the sixth floor will be composed, if not entirely, at least preponderantly of college men. The days of office boys rising to bookers and remaining as office boys but called bookers will soon be over. There might be a hitch or two because some of the boys might be given a chance to go to night school and learn how to spell proscenium, cadenza, aerial and other difficult, tonsil-taxing terms. But the change will come about if the present administration remains intact that long. After all, it has been done before.

Not directly to us, but to authentic sources it has been intimated in a very direct manner that RKO realizes its shortcomings in the respect that the old line of booking men are not equipped with the vision, background and other nice-sounding things that accompany an academic education. President Hiram S. Brown put a squad of college boys into the circuit's houses early in his show-business career, that is, less than a year ago, and this idea has reached the booking floor by a devious course. It is felt that with an intellectually higher type of booking men buying acts for RKO many of the old abuses which are just now being recognized as detrimental to the organization will be automatically wiped out. Higher-minded men who will regard booking as a career or as a stepping stone to something better in the show business, according to the protagonist of the scheme, will not stoop (as a class) to grafting and petty favoritism, nor will they as easily lend themselves to prejudices that hurt the



RAY (RED) COLEMAN, whose fast hoofing specialty is one of the features of Jack and Kay Spangler's flash, "The Lobbyists". The act has been routed solid over the Loew Time, and is being sponsored by Irving Tishman, of Tishman & O'Neil.

Hart Office Run By La Marr-Hoey

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Max Hart will not give up his local office, despite the loss of his act-selling privilege on the RKO booking floor early this month. Representing him in the East are Richard La Marr and Herbert Hoey, who are joint associates of the firm.

Hart has a large list of artists under personal contract, for whom he will continue to act as representative in productions and motion pictures. The local office, which has been in existence since 1919, will not be abandoned, tho the vaudeville department will be dropped. The RKO bookings, which since last April have been handled thru Eddie Resnick, were only a small part of the office activities. Resnick will shortly go over to Charles A. Bierbauer as an associate.

booking office and the quality of shows lined up by the outfit.

The booking office, without reflecting on the quality of men finally retained after the recent straining process, needs new blood. This fact is recognized and admitted by Ben Piazza. The old idea of taking in office boys barely out of school and allowing nature to take its course, gradually making them into booking men, is passe. Piazza looks toward the future for an opportunity to inbreed new types into the office species.

It has long ago been exploded as a workable theory that bookers are capable of judging the value of acts solely on their own opinions. One of the reasons that acts are no longer given private viewings, RKO's experience with the Palace auditions has taught it a few things about this method. It has also been demonstrated that bookers cannot judge acts by audience reaction alone. New York, where most of the showing acts are caught, has come to be regarded now as the worst place in the country to judge an act. Piazza was often recommended acts by Eastern bookers while in Chicago and discovered that what panicked them in the East frequently walked off in a panic in the West and Middle West.

Judging acts has therefore become something of a science, made up of ratings with such subheads as Booker's Opinion, Audience Reaction and Grade of Material. The new concept lends itself admirably to practical handling by high-grade men. In due time, with other factors constant, the new species of booking man will be a reality in the RKO office. But so far the boys who would rather have a nightmare than open a show without an acrobatic act need have nothing to worry about. Piazza's new-blood idea, so far as we know, excludes present company. What could be sweeter.

Thau Gives His Notice

Leaving Loew booking office after 2½ years—was Sidney's talent buyer

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Without any indication in advance that he intended to quit, Benny Thau handed in his notice yesterday to J. H. Lubin and asked that he be relieved of his job in the Loew booking office by January 24. Thau has been connected with Loew for two and a half years, and gave up a booking post in the old Orpheum outfit to join Lubin in the beginning as a general utility man. Of late, Thau has been handling the booking of the Loew presentation houses, arranging auditions and corraling acts from the Lubin supply for the de luxe production department headed by Louis K. Sidney. While Metro was making shorts, Thau signed up vaudeville talent for these from the same office.

Both Thau and Lubin have denied that Thau's decision to quit the organization was preceded by any unpleasantness between them. Thau has not had a real vacation for several years and he stated that he feels now that he would like to sojourn on the Coast for awhile. A Coast visit some time ago was abruptly terminated by illness. He will go west in about three weeks and remain there for the remainder of the winter. He is not concerned at present with business plans for the future, he said.

Thau's book will be taken over by Marvin Schenck, booking manager of the Loew vaudeville wing.

Change Hillbillies' Route

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Hillbillies, current for RKO in Youngstown, O., have had their route changed. They will be brought here the last half of this week for the 58th Street and the Hippodrome to follow. Their route will wind up the week of April 20 in Toronto.

Carlton Brothers Go RKO

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Carlton Brothers, hoofing quartet, have been booked by RKO thru Charles Morrison. They split last week between the 81st Street and Fordham, Bronx. The boys recently played for Fox at the Academy.

"Femme Follies" With Fox

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Harry Krivit's *Femme Follies* has landed a string of Fox dates. It started last week at Fox's Brooklyn and is following with Waterbury, Bridgeport, Washington and Atlanta. Jack Loeb will probably give it more dates.

Greens for Showing

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Roslyn and Gertrude Green, subbilled *Society's Pets*, will show for RKO the first half of next week at Proctor's 125th Street. They are under the direction of Rose & Manwaring.

Indies Chiseling Down Even on Street-Car Fare

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Clip this out and put it in your scrap book as a sample of indie vaudeville at the dawn of 1930.

A standard act needed a few break-in dates in order to take the rough edges off a new routine. They landed one in a Jersey dump from an indie office and consented to work for apples. As they might as well do if they wanted work from this office at all. But the payoff came when the booker, in accordance with his agreement to provide so-called salary and transportation, gave the team a handful of tokens in lieu of street-car fare. The booker chiseled down a few pennies by the transaction.

RKO Is Damming Flow of Colored Acts

Loew Boys Chastened

Report of shakeup made agents hustle—drop plan temporarily

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Loew booking office of its own choice has been denied the doubtful pleasure of following closely on the RKO outfit with a shakeup among its agents. The reaction of Loew's agents to well-founded stories in *The Billboard* of an impending cleanup among them by J. H. Lubin and Marvin Schenck has been so favorable that the twain have decided to withhold the flourishing of their disenfranchising whip indefinitely.

Lubin and Schenck were in earnest about trimming down the number of agents doing business with the office, and it had been planned to prelude the actual shakeup with a carpet talk to the assembled act salesmen. When the act-selling boys got wind of the plan, as Lubin and Schenck well intended they should, they immediately got busy on hustling up playable acts for the circuit. Considerable improvement was immediately noted by the office bosses.

Schenck told a *Billboard* representative several days ago that the shakeup idea has been completely dropped. But this does not signify that the plan will not be revived, possibly in the near future, without the elaborate warnings that have preceded the one that has just flopped.

This is one time certain Loew agents have profited by reading *The Billboard*.

Harry Clark Sued

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—William Epstein, of the Astor Theater, San Antonio, Tex., filed an attachment suit last week against Harry Clark, of Clark's Jazz Revels, which appeared at the Belmont Theater the first half of last week. Epstein asks damages in the amount of \$600, claiming Clark refused to play San Antonio.

Herman Gets Switched

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—George Herman, veteran dancing single, came in for date switching last week by RKO, but did not lose by it. He was slated for this first half at Proctor's 125th Street, but instead was sent up-State to split between Troy and Schenectady.

Browns Booked on Coast

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Tom Brown and his Six Brown Brothers will open for RKO January 16 at the Hillstreet, Los Angeles. This is the first date on which the sax outfit has booked for RKO in several months. They played here early last season at Loew's State.

Trio for Southern Tour

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Myers, Lubow and Rice will open January 23 at the National, Richmond, for a Loew Southern tour. The trio, who are starred in an elaborate nine-people flash, *Fads and Fancies*, are playing this week on a split between the Willard, Woodhaven, and the Oriental, Brooklyn. They will wind up on local dates next week at the Metropolitan, Brooklyn.

Hudiakoff's New Flash

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—*Flowers of Seville*, elaborate 10-people flash with Spanish atmosphere, designed and staged by Andrei Hudiakoff, is playing Eastern break-in dates. Nina De Silva is featured, and Matt Gibbons is the only man in the outfit. Chorus of eight Beaucaire Girls fill in with specialties and as background.

The company may open for RKO shortly at one of the local houses, booked thru Lee Stewart.

Professional Haven At Red Bank House

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—When Tony Hunting took over one of the vaudeville firms in Red Bank, N. J., two seasons ago, and rechristened it the Hunting Theater, he started something. We don't know exactly what it is that he started ourselves, but if anything happens, Tony has but himself to blame.

Whatever it is, it's worth a boxed story in this department. Our contention, after hearing Hunting's story, is that the bird who was lucky enough to retire from the business before they started to make them retire is now at the helm of a house that has more direct professional connections than any other of its kind in the country. Here's how the situation pans out.

Tony Hunting is of the erstwhile combo of Hunting and Frances; also of the Four Huntings. He has as his stage manager and electrician, respectively, Bill Mason and Jack Mason. The Masons are of the Four Masons. Hunting is married to the elder's daughter, who appears to be the only non-professional in the outfit. Jack's wife is Georgia Bower, formerly of the seven Brown Girls, and she is the pianist of the house orchestra. Another sister, Altona, is married to Harry (Zoop) Welsh. She, too, was of the Four Masons, the mother completing the quartet.

The strong professional influence is reflected in the management of the house. Performers are given pretty stationery for their private correspondence. There is a club, composed of house employees, and every five weeks, from the proceeds of weekly dues, a blowout is given, and those on the bill at the time are invited to join in the merrymaking.

Jack Mason is an occasional poet and humorist. He carries on a real-estate business on the side, and runs a dancing class every week, also on the side. A theatrical colony is being started at Little Silver, N. J., two miles from the house, and when this gets going there should be plenty of material for more odd comment. Stock vaudeville is not unlikely.

Al Silberman Takes in Hall

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Al Silberman, who had been without an associate since he regained his Loew franchise some weeks ago, has taken in Sid Hall to fill this berth. Hall, who formerly presented a band in vaudeville, is covering the independent offices for Silberman, giving the agent an opportunity to devote all his time to digging up material for the Loew office.

Among the acts recently signed by Silberman for Loew and independent representation are the Life Buoy and Delmar Girls, formerly with the *Princetonians*; Ted Schwab, former jockey, and His Prize Winners, a trio of dusky hoofers; Boyd and Bennett, and Dance *Furries*, an eight-people flash, sponsored by Bertardi.

MacDonald to Riverside

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Harry Mitchell, who recently took over the managerial reins of the Riverside, was replaced today by Harry MacDonald. MacDonald switches over from the Hippodrome, and his berth has been given to Al Reid, a former Stanley-Pabian man.

BERNICE AND PORAN write in to protest against a *Billboard* reviewer referring to the original football dance of the Four Carlton Brothers. The protesting team state that the dance is their original idea, that it is registered with the NVA, that they are still doing the dance, and, furthermore, intend to have the Carlton Brothers stopped. Without pausing to consider the merits of their case, we wish to inform them that the Four Carlton Brothers review carried to reference to their "original football dance". Maybe Bernice and Poran were thinking of two other papers.

New Negro turns may be banned indefinitely—acts now working not affected—reshaping policy on color mixing—nothing personal in handling general problem

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Because they have found themselves proportionately overloaded with colored acts, unofficial word has gone out from RKO bookers to agents and others doing business with the office that for the time being no more acts in this genre will be considered for dates. It was not intimated how long the ban against new colored acts will be in force, but every indication points to its retention for at least the remainder of this paluka of a season. Charles J. Freeman could not be reached, but Ben Piazza and George Godfrey made it plain that the colored-act ban, which is more of a vague policy than a definite ukase, will not affect acts now playing the time or already accepted into the category of pick-up acts.

Sherman Adds Four Houses

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Eddie Sherman, indie booker of Philly, who gets much of his material from here thru the Dave Rafael office, has acquired four houses since the middle of December. He announces that he is now in a position to give a standard act four and a-half consecutive weeks of dates.

The houses recently added by Sherman are the Girard Avenue, Philadelphia, six acts on a split week; Forum, Philadelphia, taken from the Amalgamated office, four acts on a last half; the Walt Whitman, Camden, a survival of the Fally Markus Agency, four acts on a last half, and the Colonial, Phoenixville, Pa., taken from Frank Wolf, three acts on Saturdays.

Sherman's older houses are the Hippodrome, Pottstown; State, Baltimore; Apollo, Gloucester, N. J.; New Century, Audubon, N. J., and the Riant, Conshohocken, Pa.

La Tour-Myers Act

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Babe La Tour has teamed with Ann Myers in a new comedy act. The pair opened on Eastern break-in dates the last half of last week at the Opera House, New Brunswick. Miss La Tour is the amply girted blond comedienne, who for several seasons has been copartnered with Jimmy Elliott in a comedy, singing and dancing act. They may show for the major circuits shortly at one of the local houses.

Morley Sisters Again

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Dorothy and Alice Morley have gone back to their original act and will open shortly on Eastern indie dates. Dorothy was teamed for several seasons with Al Anger.

Anger is doing a new act also, billed as Anger and Corday, and opened this first half at the Opera House, New Brunswick.

Booker Factors Unit

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Lawrence Leon, of the L. & M. Theater Enterprises, is taking a fling at producing—more or less. He has fashioned a unit to play his houses and it broke in last week in Quakertown. It is a 14-people affair, with Neil Kirk, Scotch single, as the m. c. Two acts also in it are Frankie Kramer's girl band and the revue headed by Tiny Belmont and Johnny Van.

Weber-Simon Acts

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Jerry Coe and Brothers were launched on RKO dates the first half of last week at the Chester, Bronx, booked out of the Weber & Simon Agency. This office also did the date angling for Nellie Jay and Her Peppy Pepsters, 12-people revue, which shoved off last week on a split between the Bushwick and Prospect, Brooklyn.

Ruth Gordon in Woolfe Playlet

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ruth Gordon will be starred in vaudeville shortly. She is scheduled to start rehearsals this week at the head of a three-people playlet by Edgar Allan Woolfe which has not yet been named.

The playlet will be staged by Eddie Sobol. It will show for RKO within several weeks, booked thru the Max Gordon office.

Also it was felt to be reasonably certain that RKO would come out in the open before the end of winter against mixing colors in acts, as brought out in a recent *Billboard* story, the attitude of the office in this respect has been altered so as to deal with the admitted problem in a more diplomatic manner. Instead of putting itself on record officially as being opposed to mixing colors—and thereby drawing the unwelcome support of anti-racial extremists—the major circuit is handling the matter along common-sense lines. Each booker is permitted to use his own discretion in doing business with mixed acts. What might evolve as a result of the circuit's feeling in the delicate matter will be an undisciplined coldness to acts mixing the white and Negro races in ensembles. Acts carrying large companies of whites and using a dusky hooper or two will not be affected, since this practice has been in vogue for many seasons, and has not yet drawn the fire of carping critics and their ilk.

The three booking heads are known to be opposed to mixing colors on general principle, and this factor above all will be the determining one in shaping the course of these attractions on or off the circuit. Since they feel this way, it becomes a certainty that official bans or the lack of them are inconsequential. The trio have the circuit bookings in the palms of their hands, and it is entirely up to them as to what acts they accept or reject.

Among the "mixed" acts lately booked and now playing the time are Ledova, Ida May Chadwick and Her Dixie Daisies, Guy and Pearl Magley, Raynor Lehr, and Dillon and Parker.

It was unfortunately broadcast recently by a trade paper (not *The Billboard*) that RKO intends to cut out colored acts entirely. This has no basis in fact, neither is such a contention supported by probabilities. The circuit has had several unpleasant experiences this season with colored "names", and is thinking seriously of severing contractual relations with these. But the matter is strictly personal, and does not reflect discredit on other colored turns. Since colored acts, tho in greater numbers than ever before, are still decidedly in the minority, any trouble arising from booking one or two of them makes them stand out, and gives the false impression that they are all troublesome. The fact to be considered is that whites give the RKO office (and other offices) more trouble weekly than the colored folk have caused in years. And this, too, is accounted for, conversely, by the natural preponderance of whites on the circuit's booking lists.

Among the colored acts that have played for RKO in recent months, and most of whom are still playing, are Baby, Bobby and Buster; Buck and Bubbles, Ada Brown, Eubie Blake and Company, Bill Robinson, Wilton Crowley, Dotson, Count Devere, Dixie Four, Peg Bates, Grace Smith and Bubbles, Jules Blodoc, Glenn and Jenkins, Harris and Radcliff, Rucker and Perrin, Moss and Frye, Ethel Waters, George McLennan, Four Pepper Shakers, Norman Thomas Quintet, Danny Small, Dave and Treddie, Cora Green, *Mentation Days*, Jazz-Lips Richardson, Kentucky Jubilee Singers, and Sunshine Sammy.

Grady Joins Fraser

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 11.—Bart Grady, former manager of B. F. Keith's and the Keith-Albee theaters, has joined C. Wesley Fraser's vaudeville booking agency here.

Savoy Partner Of Rosenblatt

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Paul Savoy, who gave up his important independent agency in Detroit some weeks ago to join Jule Delmar in the Club and Private Entertainment Bureau of the RKO office, has severed the connection, and is running a general agency in association with Leg Rosenblatt, son of Cantor Josef Rosenblatt, and personal representative for the noted cantor.

The Savoy-Rosenblatt team have opened offices in the Bond Building, and are incorporated as the Paulco Enterprises. They will jointly book clubs, private entertainments and theaters—also producing acts, as Savoy has been doing for some seasons. Cantor Rosenblatt's affairs will also be handled by the office as a unit. Savoy is now booking the Palais D'Or, which had been supplied with talent by Delmar for a time. He is also assured the exclusive booking privilege of the Palais Royale, which will be opened on Broadway by the same management February 5.

Houses as well as clubs are being lined up, and in several weeks the office expects to be in a position to announce acquisitions in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Detroit. While in Detroit Savoy acted as a personal representative for Alexander Pantages, and ran the Pantages Circuit's Chicago office up until the time of the circuit owner's difficulties in Los Angeles.

Kane Act Scout

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Jimmy Kane, formerly assistant to Harold Kemp, survives his boss in the RKO office. With Kemp's two houses transferred to Jack Hodgdon's column, Kane becomes an act scout temporarily. Later he may be given other duties more closely related to booking.

Saranac Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bray have left for a short stay at Watkins Glen, N. Y. Frank Garfield has returned to Saranac Lake under the care of the NVA and is residing at 7 Front street.

Vernon Laurance returned to Saranac after spending the holidays with his wife and family in New York. He is curing at the Davison Cottage, 64 Park avenue. Word has been received that Thomas Abbott will undergo an operation before returning to Saranac Lake.

Tommy White, after spending a few weeks with his parents in New York, returned to Saranac the picture of health and in time to join the quartet known as the Four Horsemen. White sings leads and blue numbers; Mike Bisceglia, baritone; John Foley, tenor, and Vernon Laurance, bass. They are in rehearsals now. All reside at the Davison Cottage, 64 Park avenue.

James Cannon returned after spending the holidays with his wife and mother. He reports he gained weight on his visit to New York.

Ethel Cloud is confined to her bed with a cold, but expects to be up in a few days.

Frank Smith, principal comic with Jack Reed's Record Breakers Company, arrived in Saranac Lake to spend the week with his wife (Allie Bagalle), who is a guest patient and under the care of the NVA. Smith is elated since his wife has shown such a wonderful improvement in the short time she has been curing in Saranac Lake.

Connie Reeves, an NVA guest patient of 42 River street, has left for a two weeks' visit to New York.

Pauline Aurdant, formerly under the care of the NVA and now curing and residing at 15 Amperand avenue, received a surprise visit from her uncle, Dr. George Davis Blvin, of Chicago.

A letter from Wynn Miller, who cured under the care of the NVA for a short time about a year ago, says he is doing splendidly at his home in Caldwell, N. J. In answer to a letter from Della Wallace, who is curing at Wichita, Kan., would advise writing to Henry Chesterfield, 229 West 46th street, New York, in care of the NVA Club.

Eddie Voss, of the lodge, has been confined to his bed with a cold, therefore had to cancel that much-desired trip to New York. However, Voss is expected to be up and in trim to pay that visit in a couple of weeks.

Murray Reported Joining Wisecrack Journalists

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ken Murray is reported negotiating with a newspaper syndicate for the writing of a daily dose of boxed wisecracks of the style originated several years ago by Will Rogers with The New York Times syndicate. Rogers set the pace and has since been followed by Eddie Cantor, who does a daily session for the Hearst papers, and Chic Sale, whose rusticisms are being used in The Evening World, and others.

Following his current engagement at the Palace, Murray will immediately leave for the Coast to make his first starring picture for RKO.

Daly-Murphy Open Office

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The independent agency started by John J. Daly and Mark Murphy, former RKO bookers, is located at 223 West 46th street. They are representing acts and talent for indie vaudeville, clubs, radio and talking pictures. Daly was with the Keith organization for 17 years, and Murphy terminated a 17-year connection when he resigned four weeks ago.

Daro and Costa Head Bigger Act

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Daro and Costa, dance team, who are heading an elaborate flash, finished last week for Loew after playing most of the local dates. They are slated to show for RKO shortly at one of the local houses, booked thru the Weber-Simon agency.

The act originally started as a five-people singing and dancing offering, but has since been increased in cast and revamped into a revue flash of 11 people by the addition of the Estrada Marimba Band of six pieces; Lyla Sampson, contortion dancer; Joseph Napolitano, singer, and an unbilled male tap dancer. They are sponsored by Irving Cooper.

Bennett-Rubens In Gordon Acts

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Belle Bennett, the flicker star, will arrive here this week to start rehearsals in a new three-people playlet, Youth, by Edgar Allan Woolfe. Eddie Sobel is to stage the offering, which will open for RKO showing dates shortly at one of the local houses, booked thru Max Gordon.

Alma Rubens, another cinema celeb, will also arrive this week. She will open for RKO in about three weeks at one of the local houses, doing a cycle of songs. She is also agented by Max Gordon.

Smilin' Mack in Albany

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Smilin' Mack has been engaged by Peter A. Glancy to act as publicity manager for the Odd Fellows Hall, Albany, one of the orchestra stands up-State. He writes that he would like to hear from friends in the profession and that they may address him at 237 Hudson avenue, Albany.

Sunshine-Tempest For Orpheum Dates

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Marion Sunshine and Florens Tempest, who have been working out of town for the major circuit, will take advantage of this week's layoff to motor here. They will probably arrive about Wednesday. Next week, they will go to Syracuse.

They have been booked for the Orpheum Time, starting February 8 in Winnipeg and winding up June 14 in Kansas City. Stuart (Sol) Lewis is their piano accompanist.

Egan's Redheads Due From Abroad

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Babe Egan and her Hollywood Redheads, 10-girl band, will arrive tomorrow on the Ile de France from a seven-month tour of Europe. The girls will return to the RKO fold the first half of next week at the Franklin, Bronx, agented by Frank Donnelly. Assisting Miss Egan are Edith Griffith, Juanita Klein, Jerry Mark, Billy Farley, Shirley Lee Thomas, Fern Spaulding, Estelle Dithy, Dorothy Sauter and Marie Conner.

Godfrey Has "Name" Array

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—After a trying period of readjustment George A. Godfrey's Eastern book has been revitalized to the extent that it is now carrying the strongest lineup of "name" attractions since the beginning of the season. A goodly number of film stars are included in the array of headliners, but these are generally acknowledged to be of the type that have proved their entertainment as well as their amusement value.

Playing in the Godfrey-supervised houses now and most of them set ahead at least for the next two weeks are the following big attractions: George K. Arthur, Esther Ralston, Ruth Gordon, Lita Grey Chaplin, Estelle Taylor, Rae Samuels, Weaver Brothers, Baclanova, Chester Conklin, Herb Williams, Corbett and O'Brien, Charles Ruggles, Sylvia Clark, Lulu McConnell, Ruth Royce, Ken Murray; Clayton, Jackson and Durante; Will Osborne, Billy House, Ted Lewis and Nan Halperin.

Rin-Tin-Tin for RKO

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Rin-Tin-Tin is another movie "name" to be booked for vaude. The w-k dog was obtained by RKO thru its Coast office for four weeks. He will open February 1 at the Palace, Cleveland, and full-week consecutively with the State-Lake, Chicago; Kansas City and St. Louis.

Emerson-Baldwin Dates

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Emerson and Baldwin, male comedy team, will go RKO January 25 at the Harris, McKeesport, Pa., and are slated to play a string of Eastern dates for the circuit, showing for the sixth-floor bookers at one of the local houses in about four weeks.

Monty-Carmo in East

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Harry Monty and Bussey Carmo, comedy team, who are playing their first dates this season in the East, opened for RKO this week, splitting between the Prospect and the Bushwick, Brooklyn. Other local dates are likely.

Bush Only Agent Not Yet Located

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Of the associates involved in the recent letout of RKO agents, Phil Bush is the only one who has not yet been assigned to another office or located in some other capacity on the sixth floor. Bush, after losing his individual franchise in the shakeup of last season, tied up with Jenie Jacobs as an associate. Jenie Jacobs is among the four "out" agents in the January 1 batch.

Kenneth Ryan, mentioned last week as a possible associate of Nat Sobel, has finally made this connection. Sobel has also taken in Harry Plamm, who thereby ended a five-year association with the Harry Weber outfit.

Albright's Vacation

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Oklahoma Bob Albright will leave February 1 for a vacation at Miami Beach, Florida. He will resume for RKO in March with a tour of the Interstate Circuit, booked thru Harry Romm.

Murray and Alan, male comedy pair, are slated to resume for RKO on local dates this week, also Romm-represented.

Reed Going to RKO

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ella Reed, blond warbling single, will swing over from Loew to RKO next week, when she splits between the Bushwick and Prospect, Brooklyn. She was booked thru Nick Agneta, of Rose & Manwaring.

Allisons to RKO

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Three Allison Sisters, acrobatic novelty, will go RKO this half at the Hamilton, agented by Harry Fitzgerald. They recently played some Fox dates with Jimmy Burchill and Blondes.

Poli Demurrer Overruled

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Jan. 11.—Judge Christopher L. Avery in the Superior Court, New Haven, overruled a demurrer this week filed by the attorneys for Sylvester Z. Poli, contending that the suit of the Hancock Company, of New York, for \$30,000,000 commissions in the sale of his theatrical holdings to William Fox for \$30,000,000 is without merit. The Hancock Company charges that Poli contracted with it to sell his chain of theaters in the New England States and Washington. The New York firm charges it obtained the Stanley Company of America and B. F. Keith as purchasers, but that the New Haven theatrical magnate instituted independent negotiations and sold the theaters to William Fox.

More Ralston Dates

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Esther Ralston, current for RKO in Newark, has been given 10 additional dates. This will start next week, when she splits between the 86th Street and Flushing.

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VAUDE. NOTES

MEYER GOLDEN, New York agent, is in Chicago on business.

HELENA LOWE, dancer, and Marie Billings, accordionist, after spending two years in Panama in night clubs, have sailed for Lima, Peru, to play at the famous Zoological, and will also play Chile, Bolivia and Buenos Aires, Argentina.

IDA MAY CHADWICK, who recently played for RKO on Eastern dates, will switch to Loew this last half at the Orpheum, New York. She is heading an elaborate 15-people singing-and-dancing flash, *Dixie Dainties*, which includes the Jubilee Singers and Dancers from Stouboot, Lyons & Lyons agented for the Loew booking.

New that the Riverside has fallen from grace and we have the Palace in New York and Chicago as the sole surviving representatives in the East and Middle West, respectively, of the glory that was once the big time, something should be done about it. Why don't the municipalities erect tablets before it is too late? In generations to come erstwhile big timers might stroll by with their great-grandchildren of a more advanced age and tell them things that seem too bold to be told here, but must nevertheless not be denied to posterity.

THE LATHROP BROTHERS, dancing and singing duo, were booked for this week into Loew's Midland, Kansas City, replacing the Three Bah-Rah Girls, who recently played the opposition RKO house there. The Lathrops may continue playing eastward on the Loew road show.

PAUL MOHR opened for Loew this first half at the Delancey, New York, heading a new six-people flash revue. Other dates are being lined up for the outfit thru Jack Mandell.

GUS MULCAHEY, harmonica and hoofing single, will resume for Loew this last half at the Gates, Brooklyn, booked thru the William Morris office.

GRACE SMITH AND BUDDIES, mixed singing and dancing quintet of colored steppers, who recently played for RKO, will open for Loew this last half at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. They were booked thru Harry Shea.

HARRY HAYDEN will open for Loew this last half at the Boulevard, Bronx. He is being starred in a new four-people domestic comedy skit, *Take My Advice*. Leila Bliss and Allen Kent are featured in the cast. The act is agented by Meyer North.

With the RKO Circuit, thru its Club and Private Entertainment Bureau, out after "high-class Chinese-American restaurants" as dates for talent, it is not inconceivable that an act playing the Automat might be working in opposition territory. And to think that we once laughed at "so-called acts playing Chinese joints".

BETTY AND JERRY BROWN, who recently finished a string of Eastern RKO dates, switched to Loew last week, splitting between the Fairmount and National, Bronx. Their comedy and singing offering is subtitled *The Slopers*.

WILLIE SOLAR will return to the Loew Circuit January 25, at the Midland, Kansas City, and play eastward. It is likely that a string of New York dates may follow, booked thru the William Morris office.

GRACELLA AND THEODORE, who recently finished the Loew Southern route with their elaborate dance flash, will open on Eastern Loew dates next week at the State, Newark. They are agented by Sam Baerwitz.

HEMSTREET'S Metropolitan Singers, female quartet, will return to the Loew fold this last half at the Oriental, Brooklyn, for the first Loew date in several seasons. Other dates are likely.

MOSS AND PRYE will switch to Loew next week, opening in Syracuse. Others on the same bill include Royle and Maye, and Jack Norworth and Company.

SERGEANT FRANKLIN will return to Loew next week, splitting between the Grand, Bronx, and the Gates, Brooklyn. He is doing his familiar shooting act, assisted by Ruby Royle. Other New York dates are likely.

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EDDE MILLER AND HENRIETTA will open for Loew next week at the State, New York, in the familiar singing and piano offering. The act was booked thru Lyons & Lyons.

OSCAR HERMAN and Jimmy O'Brien will resume for Loew this last half at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. They are still carrying their "peripatetic piano", and are booked thru Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office.

GUY LAUREN and Marie La Dare, musical and comedy duo, who recently finished a Loew road tour, will resume on Eastern dates for that circuit next week, splitting between the National and Fairmount, Bronx. Their act is subtitled *Playing Around With Mosee*.

The hold-up siren at the Palace, New York, went off accidentally last week while they were laying carpets in Manager Rogers' office. The deafening noise brought more people to its doors than have ever assembled there in its history. There's a parable in this incident. A little more noise for vaudeville will get surprising results. Why aren't some managers brave enough to try it?

HENRI GARDEN, operatic tenor, opened for Loew the first half of last week at the Bedford, Brooklyn, and has been penciled in for several Eastern dates. He is assisted at the piano by Paula Therrien.

ALEXANDRIA AND OLSEN, comedy offering of instrumental and hokum bits, have been okayed for a Loew tour, and will open next week, splitting between the 46th Street, Brooklyn, and the Fairmount, Bronx.

BILLY DE WOLF is heading a new six-people flash, *Tickling Technique*, and will show for Loew next week, splitting between the National, Bronx, and the Lincoln Square, New York. He features a girl troupe, dubbed "The Five Dance Charmers".

JOE FRISCO has been signed to the Loew Circuit, and opened this week at the State, New York, booked direct. Benny Davis was also signed recently, and opened on the same bill with Frisco.

FOUR PALS, male harmony quartet, will show for Loew next week, splitting between the Delancey, New York, and the National, Bronx. Other Eastern dates have been penciled in for them.

When Loew takes inventory of the results obtained from its January Festival, the boys who operate and book his houses should learn a few things about their chain that they were apparently ignorant of before. One of the circuit's greatest consumers of red ink—a family vaudeville in Brooklyn—has had them lined up five deep every night since the festival began. The house has been getting good shows for a change—and it hasn't been stingy with paper, lights, valances, heralds and all other appurtenances in letting the world know about it.

LOUISE ESTES, who formerly headed a six-people stinging and dancing act, Estes and Boys, has been engaged for specialties in Ziegfeld's Simple Simon, starring Ed Wynn and Bobby Arnt.

LEVAN AND BERNIE, male dancing team, will resume for Loew this last half at the Orpheum, New York, agented by Meyer North.

THE FOUR KARREYS, known as "The Spanish Rubber Bands", resumed for Loew this first half at the Oriental,

Brooklyn, in their contortionistic offering, booked thru Johnny Hyde, of the William Morris office.

Dare Apollon has been signed for the "International Revue", we hear. Which proves again that vaudeville must include among its shortcomings a sad lack of showmen. Why RKO, or any other circuit for that matter, could not have grabbed Apollon while the grabbing was good cannot be explained away by tightness of budgets and other varieties of boory. A good showman knows the real goods when he sees it—and he hitches his wagon to it. When the others see him seeing, what they interpret as super-human achievement is nothing more than plain horse sense properly applied.

BILLY MACK and George Wright, in a harmony singing and comedy offering, went RKO this first half at the Bushwick, Brooklyn. They are agented by Nick Agnetta, of the Rose & Manwaring office.

LORRAINE HOWARD and Florence Newton started on a string of RKO Western dates this week in St. Paul. They will conclude their tour the week of May 31, at the State-Lake, Chicago.

CARL FRANCIS, who recently headed Harry Sauber's five-people act, *The Life Guard*, opened his new comedy act for RKO this first half at the State, Jersey City, represented by Eddie Resnick.

TINY TOWN REVUE, midget flash, with Buster Shaver, has been given a long tour by RKO. It will open March 1 in Syracuse, and go right thru until the week of August 16, at the State-Lake, Chicago.

They tell us the public of today no longer likes vaudeville, yet every second talkie is packed tight with vaudeville gags of the kind that were discarded by real performers years ago, and even a larger percentage of the talkies—these things that are driving thousands of performers out of the business—swerve from their alleged plots every five or six minutes to give the featured people a chance to do a typical vaudeville fern. The secret of the whole business is that the public usually takes what it gets. The real power is in the hands of the house operators, and more than just a few of the picture-producing folk are also in the theater-operating business.

JACK COLBY and Patsy Murphy, hoofing team, shoved off for Warner Brothers this week at the Earle, Philadelphia.

LOMAS TROUPE will shove off for RKO on a string of Western dates, February 22, in St. Paul. They will finish the week of July 5 in Kansas City. Direction of Charles Morrison.

THE PETTLEYS, comedy acrobatic novelty, were launched on an RKO route last week in Omaha, and will wind up June 14 at the 105th Street, Cleveland.

BILLY ARLINGTON, doing a new act, *Kiddin' Thru*, with Eleanor Arlington, shoved off for RKO last week on a split between the Bushwick and Prospect, Brooklyn. He formerly did *Mistakes Will Happen*, with C. I. Taylor and Joseph Ward in support.

TELLER SISTERS (Tonnie and Evelyn) started on Eastern RKO dates the last half of last week at the Chester, Bronx. Their act was written and is being produced by Alex Gerber.

TOM HOWARD, former feature of *Rain or Shine*, will go vaude via RKO this last half at the Bushwick, Brooklyn. He (See VAUDEVILLE NOTES on page 93)

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NEW ACTS

Reviewed in New York

Hall and Pillard

Reviewed at Keith's Fordham, Bronx. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—In one. Time—Eleven minutes.

When anyone is greatly troubled by Old Man Gloom they just need go and see Eddie Hall and Jack Pillard. If these two laugh practitioners cannot rid them of that obsession then they are beyond all hope. They carried on galore here, keeping the palm pushers laughing consistently and working overtime at the bowdler. Hall is an outstanding nut comedian, and Pillard is only fair as the straight. Usually material plays a big part in obtaining laughs, but these fellows pass it up in favor of byplay so infested with bobe that it is thro in laugh provoking. Hall takes on the bulk of the work, with Pillard shooting across a stream of chatter hardly understandable.

They get going with singing a chorus of Blue Grass. Hall gets right into the comedy vein with corking mugging. He does a wide-eyed stare and dumb-pan expression at a girl in the audience, which he falls back on continuously during the routine. Another of his choice pieces is his comedy falls, getting up and saying, "It Gets a Guy Sore," which they use as their subbiling. A big tickler is the bit in which Pillard knocks off Hall's derby consecutively, with the latter always catching it in the air. They use for a finisher a schoolyard parody of *After the Laughter Came Tears*. Were next to closing here and are sure bets for real dates. S. H.

Chinese Whoopee Revue

With Peter Chang, Joe Wong, Rose Low, Hazel and Bill Wong, Harry and Kee Lowe and Bernice Ahi

Reviewed at Keith's 81st Street, New York. Style—Novelty flash revue. Setting—In two, three and full stage (specials). Time—Twenty-four minutes.

Cast of this talent-packed offering includes 16 slant-orbed Oriental belles and buddies, whose costumes and appearance mark them as originals from the Far West, but whose actions and the material they work with is decidedly of the Western Hemisphere. The outfit is by far one of the best of Chino-American type we have caught hereabouts in an age. The various members of the company are each clever specialty artists and work together in numerous groupings in a finished showmanly style. They were spotted at the close of a corking bill here and received a well-merited show stop.

Open with a ritualistic ensemble dance before a large Buddha, with the company dressed in picturesque Chinese costumes, for the only genuinely Oriental touch to the offering. Hazel Wong follows with a creditable imitation of Helen Kane doing *Singing in the Rain*. Mixed ensemble of lads and lassies in elaborate costumes got over nicely with the *Tell Me Pretty Maiden* theme from *Florodora* and stopped all proceedings till they obliged with an encore. Peter Chang baritone the Jewish classic, *Eh, Eh*, getting a big reception, and also plays capably on the violin and banjo. Joe Wong stands out as a clever mime in his impersonations of Cliff Edwards, Rudy Vallee and Eddie Cantor, Harry and Kee Lowe shine brilliantly as a dance team and adagio duo in several specialties. Rose Low got over satisfactorily leading the ensemble in tap dancing, and Bernice Ahi doing the same in a Hawaiian hula. They finished with a kaleidoscopic display of singing, dancing and solo specialties. This worth-while offering should get steady bookings for many seasons to come at good money. It tops any similar type revue by a wide margin, and surpasses most others unconditionally. C. G. B.

Harry Holman and Company

In SPECULATION
With Edith Manson and Hal Taggart
Reviewed at Loew's National, Bronx. Style—Farce sketch. Setting—Full stage (special). Time—Fifteen minutes.

Harry Holman appears to have an infinite capacity for putting over a new sketch every season, and in this, his latest, he upholds that reputation consistently. Almost invariably for the last five years Holman has played the role of a fussy and humorously surly office

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BOBBY MAY

"ALL ALONE"

"The Billboard"

The Palace, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, January 4)

BOBBY MAY, who is about the most personable juggler booked here in recent seasons, stopped the show cold with his unerring execution of extremely difficult bits with clubs and tennis balls. The boy's a hooper, acrobat and harmonica blower, too. Here is real novelty, offered with a brand of showmanship that should make May a big "name" in the not distant future.

Direction EDWARD S. KELLER

boss, surrounded by clerical assistants or members of his family, and he has not deviated from that in *Speculation*, which clicked solidly here. Spotted third here, the sketch registered equally if not a shade better than any other act on the bill. Edith Manson, as a warbling stenog., and Hal Taggart, as a likable but wastrel offspring, capably support the genial Holman. Setting is the office of a wholesale trader of used cars.

The plot, as usual, is secondary to Holman's clever comedy eccentricities. Mr. Killjoy, used-car merchant, has a son, Ted, addicted to two pet passions, gambling away his father's money and a love for the old man's secretary. Killjoy is about to be fleeced by a group of thieves of Wall street, but the plot is discovered by the boy and the stenog., and they resolve to force the issue from the old man on the question of money and marriage by saving him from ruin, but withholding the information till their desires are satisfied. Happy ending has the father consenting to their appeals for cash and connubial bliss. Holman's work is by far the most appealing. Miss Manson sings one number, *I'll Dream Sweet Dreams of You*, in a pleasing soprano, and Taggart essays the role of the son commendably. Suitable for the best houses. C. G. B.

Braille and Pallo

Reviewed at Loew's Delancey, New York. Style—Flash. Setting—In one and full stage (specials). Time—Twenty minutes.

Braille and Pallo continue to feature the several routines that they have been doing skillfully for several years. In fact, the opening scene and routine of their present act is one that has served them before. This is the French cabaret scene with the standard bearers executing an extremely acrobatic apache after various specialties by their supporting ensemble. This includes some nifty tap work by an agile hooper, Hal Baker, and the blues warbling of the attractively gowned sister team, Helen and May Murray. Their synopated warbling of *Dusky Stenodore*, patterned as it is after the now prevalent style of coon shouting, is very good. Anna Braille in this opening scene uncorks an admirable acrobatic number.

The Murray Sisters also warble *I Must Have That Man*, with the blond lass cutting loose with some jazz stepping. Baker takes a tap specialty, his work, while conventional in execution, being extremely fast paced.

The last scene represents an American Indian setting. Garbed as aborigines, the ensemble is neatly grouped around the stage when curtain rises. Lucile Claire and Hilda, who were merely atmosphere in the cabaret, offer an interesting musical session on harps. They also accompany Braille and Pallo in the latter's finely executed adagio number. This closed the act on a high plane of entertainment. A well-staged flash. S. M. S.

Cliff and Reis

Reviewed at Loew's Delancey, New York. Style—Dancing, comedy and musical. Setting—In one. Time—Fifteen minutes.

Here are two congenial lads who pack a load of versatility in their bag of stage tricks. But when you spell out their work let the accent fall on hooping, for this is their forte and on which they concentrate mainly. They open with a neatly warbled piece, *Sweetheart, if I Can't Have You*, which went over nicely. Then they indulge in various pedalistic bits, ranging from eccentric, acrobatic to tap stepping. The boys possess a repertoire of effective routines, and their work is fresh and polished. They keep up a running fire of amusing gags during their stepping sessions. The boys are neatly dressed in dark suits and have good stage appearances.

One of the lads does several dance impressions, his "hitting the bag" being the best. There is a brief session in which one strums a uke and "throats" it, with the other member doing a fast tap. The finale finds a very strained and falsetto rendition of *The Song of Songs*, which, while demonstrating the high-gear pipes of the singer, is musically ineffective. Good for intermediate audiences. S. M. S.

Walter Nilsson

Reviewed at Loew's Delancey, New York. Style—Bike comedy. Setting—In one. Time—Nine minutes.

Walter Nilsson offers a nifty eccentric bike act. Works under as loony a makeup as one can imagine, somewhat after the fashion of Joe Jackson. Nilsson indulges in freak bike riding, all the while keeping up a line of effective gab. He pedals a ndescript high bikes, unicycles, barrel tops, etc. His hysterical and half-ecstatic mutterings are very well timed. These are put over when it seems he is on the brink of falling off his vehicle into the orchestra pit, or when it looks like he is in some other precarious position.

He engages in neat clowning bits, such stage business doing much to get his acrobatic stunts across. He rides out the high bike and clowns seated upon its altitudinous perch, riding against the sides of the proscenium, where he lets fall some nonsensical expression upon the heads of the aghast mob.

He made an enjoyable session of the next-to-closing spot. S. M. S.

THRU AN ERROR, both in billing and stage cards, an serial act that should have been designated as *Four American Aces* and a Queen was reviewed under "New Acts" last week as *Four American Jacks* and a Queen. Incidentally, there is another act, with a similar routine, working in the East under the billing of *Four Jacks* and a Girlie. This act is reviewed in this issue.

Burns and Allen

Reviewed at the Palace, New York. Style—Comedy, singing and dancing. Setting—In one. Time—Seventeen minutes.

George N. Burns and Grace Allen have benefited materially by their recent invasion of London music halls. This is along general lines the same skit, *Lamb Chops*, by Al Boasberg, that they are doing, but it has been improved and revamped to such an extent that if Boasberg had nothing to do with the alterations they might as well leave his credit line off their billings entirely. Miss Allen's very original characterization of a dumb dora who is quite smart enough to confuse intelligence values into a hopeless mess is now worked up to a classic. Burns is a straight with an ingratiating personality. He works in with his apron mate with a self-assurance that makes one wonder how much Miss Allen's work would lose in appeal if she had to depend on another nos quite as proficient as Burns to help her.

The gag material is fresh and packed with class. Here is one comedy team that does not have to resort to double-entendre or coarseness in business for drawing laughs. They have perfect control over the interest values of their gagging, and demonstrate this lucidly by breaking up the clicking gab with passively delivered singing and dancing. The "lamb-chops" punch line is retained, but its importance as a source of laughs is markedly decreased. In the fourth spot here they ran up a high laugh score and remained on seven minutes after the first bows without the least strain on the audience's good humor. As long as vaudeville retains an appreciable number of class houses Burns and Allen should not find plenty of work at good money a difficult goal to achieve. E. E. S.

Bobby May

Reviewed at the Palace, New York. Style—Juggling, dancing and acrobatic. Setting—In one and two. Time—Twelve minutes.

Several months ago George Godfrey and his booking aids let it be known that they had uncovered a rare entertainment item in Bobby May, a juggler. "How could so much fuss be made over a mere juggler?" we wondered. And the answer was found in catching this lad in the deuce spot at the Palace. Bobby May deserves every ovation made over him, and he deserves far more than that. The secret of it is that May is even less a conventional juggler than Joe Jackson is a trick cyclist. True, May's forte is juggling. To be frank about it, we can state without hesitation that he is the

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most adroit juggler that has been booked into the Palace in quite a few seasons. But the best juggler in the world—technically—can be a consistent flop if he hasn't that sine qua non of audience appeal called, for want of a better label, showmanship.

May is a showman to his finger tips. Besides he has that unquestionable attribute of youth, and this combined with an uncanny versatility and juggling gifts creates a whole that is as pleasing to the senses in its own sphere as a home run in baseball or a touchdown in football. In one of his phases alone can May be classified that of a juggler. His other neat bits of entertaining are not widely different from 101 artists on the variety boards, yet he gives to these an intangible something that makes one vigorously applaud his efforts and pass lightly over the similar attempts of the less-appealing entertainers.

He opens with a peppy harmonica bit, dressed in eccentric collegiate garb. Following his lip-organ medley he does a brief bit of stepping. Going into the "two" set the personable lad starts juggling three clubs, and accompanies his excellent work by a running line of chatter. He finishes the first bit by limiting his catches and throws to one hand. Next takes on four clubs, and livens up this arrangement by clever maneuvers as far removed from conventional juggling as Bill Robinson from his imitators. Relieving the tension by a few clever bits with a plug hat and cigar. May next starts on rubber balls, first handling three with unerring skill, next six, and going into the perfunctory bows with a wov bit involving five balls and a hat. For his final effect May does a headstand on a special apparatus while bouncing three balls and floor juggling them from all angles with nary a miss. He stopped the show cold and repeated his excellent impression by juggling three clubs while stepping. The juggling was perfect, and the stepping was no less appealing.

With proper attention and circuit building up May might achieve the distinction of being the only consistent headline juggler act in the business.
E. E. S.

Boganny's Comedians
Reviewed at Keith's Hamilton, New York. Style—Acrobatic comedy. Setting—In one and three (special). Time—Twelve minutes.

When reviewed several seasons ago this outfit used the name of Boganny's Troupe, with a male octet offering acrobatics under the subbilling of Fun in a Bakeshop. Now there are seven in the cast. An important change in the new version is that they have given up the bake-shop idea in favor of the much-resorted-to collegiate presentation. The five normal-sized boys and two midgets do punchy acrobatics, mostly tumbling, and all the while engage in entertaining comedy. They work speedily amidst a continuous round of raucous shouting.

The act is launched nicely with off-stage singing of Collegiate, followed by a quartet leaping out from the wings to go into an ensemble dance. One of the midgets takes the stage alone to offer a comedy bit that cornered a load of laughs here. He is in a heavy-collegiate getup, and presents a funny sight when a powder flash is the signal for the rapid removal of his garments. The whole company is on for singing Mississippi Mud. They then snap right into into a snappy display of tumbling, with flips, flops, cartwheels and somersaults. A highly entertaining portion of the routine is the burlesque boxing bout put on by the two half pints. They opened the show here, giving it a fast and brilliant start. Met with a warm reception.
S. H.

The Trix Sisters
Reviewed at Keith's Hamilton, New York. Style—Harmony singing. Setting—In one. Time—Thirteen minutes.

Europe has been the happy hunting ground for Helen and Josephine Trix for quite some time. Their return to vaude here is getting them a heavy exploitation plug about their being the social vogue of London, Paris and Berlin. They easily live up to that. Class is written all over them from their refined appearance to their charming delivery. As harmony singers they are hard to beat. They are using a repertoire of choicely selected numbers, and for the major portion of the turn they furnish accompaniment at the grand. When reviewed each of their numbers met with loud response and they got a big recep-

tion at the bowwow. Helen formerly worked with her sister Mattie.

In the warbling of the comedy numbers they do very well. This is especially true of their handling of Please Don't Cut Out My Sauerkraut. The girls also do well with He Play the Guitar and Buck and All the Little Bucks. They have chosen beautiful ballads ideally suited to their voices. One of them, If, was written, according to announcement, by the piano girl, and the others are Golden Paradise and Sweeter Than Sweet. They were glove fit in the deuce here.
S. H.

Mitchell Brothers
Reviewed at Keith's Riverside, New York. Style—Musical and singing. Setting—In one. Time—Twelve minutes.

This pair of singing banjoists have played major-circuit dates in the East and elsewhere for the last six years, and their routine has been changed considerably since last caught by The Billboard in 1924. They are credited with having been among the first to introduce such ditties as Outside and A Little Kiss Each Morning long before those numbers became associated with the names of Rudy Vallee or Will Osborne in vaudeville or on the other waves. Both possess pleasing personalities, talk with pronounced Southern drawl, and make a good appearance. Work throat in full dress.

Open with an instrumental and harmony duo, The Same as I Did, to which is appended a medley of old-fashioned railroading ballads and an imitation on the banjo of a train. Follow with a harmony duo, I Lose My Nothing, from which they lead into a medley of Southern melodies. Next they feature a muted banjo duo of a brace of numbers in a medley, including If I Can't Have You, Outside, I Kiss Your Hand, Madame, and others, all of which were warmly received. One of the boys exchanges gags with the pit leader, and they finish with a medley of Piccolo Pete and At the End of the Road. Registered strong here and are okeh for the deuce spot of any better class house.
C. O. B.

Rhythm and Taps
With MURPHY BROTHERS
Assisted by Carroll Twins and Margie Kenney

Reviewed at Keith's Fordham, Bronx. Style—Dancing and singing. Setting—In three (special). Time—Fifteen minutes.

The two Murphy Brothers were working around on their own several seasons ago. Now they are piloting a five-people flash which seems to be leading in the right direction. It is a good song-dance affair, with plenty in its favor. The Murphys back up their strong pedalistics with charming delivery. They seem to put their heart and soul into the work. Personality and appearance is aplenty with them, too. The three girls are there on looks and ability. Routining has been done by a master of the art, for there is nary a lagging moment in the speedy presentation. Attractive setting and the large gorgeous wardrobe make for a dressy appearance.

Opening song special, as is mostly the case, is the only punchless part of the routine. The boys do the pipes work, bringing out the Carroll Twins for ensemble stepping. With the following duo and solo stepping of the Murphys the act has one punch after another. The boys beat out rhythmic taps of neat steps and keep perfect time. They shine brilliantly in the solos. One's forte is splits, while the other sticks to high kicks. The Carroll Twins are beauty and big assets to the turn. Most of their legwork is paired numbers, and they go best in acrobatics. They gathered big returns each time. Margie Kenney shows up nicely in her tapping and singing. They launched the show here, and their dance finale got them across to big returns.
S. H.

Henri Garden
Reviewed at Loew's Bedford, Brooklyn. Style—Singing. Setting—In one. Time—Five minutes.

Garden has the doubtful distinction of doing the shortest singing act in vaudeville. But he has other more substantial assets. This boy owns pipes that should find a comfortable niche in vaudeville, but that five-minute idea is not so forte for the family houses—and Garden most assuredly belongs in the better ones. There appeared to be no ground for cutting his act here, since he was caught on a weekday. Alho he ran up a deafening band that verged on a
(See NEW ACTS on page 92)

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VAUDEVILLE REVIEWS

New Palace, Chicago

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 11)

This week's bill has eight acts, six of which are song and dance, one right after another. In spite of this the program manages to be entertaining.

Lime Trio opened with their familiar acrobatic novelty, *The Galloway*, in which one of the trio is tossed about like a bag of potatoes, winning laughs and applause aplenty.

Brady and Wells, both possessed of pleasing personalities, warbled themselves into the good graces of the audience with a cycle of songs by Wells and Jack Frost.

Four Diamonds, Hughie, Tom, Harold and Evelyn, opened with a song, then went into a fast hoofing session that came close to being a show stopper. The two younger boys are veritable dancing demons. All three are skillful acrobats. The girl's dancing is inconsequential, but she dresses up the act considerably. Heavy applause that called for an encore.

Bud Harris and Badcliff, colored team, have changed their song routine somewhat and not for the better, but it and their comedy went over big. Their hoofing and that of Harris' younger brother won them a storm of applause that practically stopped the show.

Ben Bernie and his orchestra, radio favorites, registered strong with their playing of popular numbers. His attempts at comedy, however, were extremely bad and cheapened the act materially. Has an excellent tenor singer in Pat Kennedy. Alice Carter offered a bit of dancing of the sort every orchestra seems to regard as necessary and the drummer did some dancing that was supposed to be funny. The outfit as a whole made a fair impression.

Benny Field's colt was too thin an alibi for Blossom Seeley's failure to make a good showing. Neither Miss Seeley's singing nor her comedy possessed much entertainment value. The satire of *The Command To Love* came close to being a flop and her Lulu Belle number got only a curtain speech by Miss Seeley.

Jimmy Savo, dressed in his usual ridiculous style, clowning his way to a show stop. He has no peer in his particular style of comedy and the audience ate it up.

The Alexanders closed with a ball-juggling act that held most of the crowd, altho the show had already run overtime.

NAT S. GREEN.

Fox's Academy, N. Y.

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 11)

Packed house here, with an entertaining layout of five good acts and the talkie hit, *Gold-Diggers of Broadway*. This 14th Street crowd were sitting on their hands most of the time.

Aileen and Marjory, youthful femmes, snapped right into the opening frame with wallowing acrobatics. They keep on the go right along and offer many punchy tricks. The shorter of the duo is a wov of a floor worker and can clown, too, while her partner knows her stuff as well. Bagged a good hand.

Harm and Nee did not get the applause they deserved. These boys just stick by harmony singing. Their voices blend well and made more salable by the duo's youthfulness, enthusiasm and likable personality. They took on three pop numbers. Reception was only fair.

Chase and La Tour Company had the troy spot ringing out to laughs and applause in their old Paul Gerard Smith standby, *Around the Corner*. It's about a mixed quartet meeting on a street corner and discussing this thing called love. The standard bearers and their support enact their roles splendidly.

Irene Ricardo, the *Whoo, Peppercorn* gal, stepped on to a good-sized hand, and they were reluctant to see her leave. The crowd finally woke up. This delectable buffoon sailed thru her comedy songs in her own delightful way and dished out plenty to be laughed at. She got serious at the finish and did swell warbling of *Crying for the Carolines*. She gagged to give the pitmen some time to get on the stage for the next act.

Watermelon Blues "Idea", Fanchon & Marco product, held down the closing spot for 35 minutes in an effective and elaborately staged revue. It is smooth-

The Palace, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, January 11)

Last time the Schnozzle Boys were looked in here, we are told, they broke the house record; back after two months it looks like another S. R. O. week. They don't come with greater drawing power in New York. Out of town they might die, but we're not so sure of that either. More discretion might have been used in laying out this show. Using Fleeson and Shipman here, for one, was poor judgment. Not enough contrast in the rest of the layout to make them stand out as they should.

ENOS FRAZERE, clever trapezist, with a style of work not dissimilar but by no means a steal on Jack Lever, was a fair enough opener. Precedes his aerial stunting by an impressive entrance in which he is dressed almost as swanky as a circus steed. Took bows to an appreciable hand.

FOSTER, FAGAN AND COX, whom you couldn't miss wherever Ken Murray and the Charleston have played this season, have reached the stage where they are old familiars here. That's what happens when you tie up with a clever guy. Their harmonizing routine shows improvement, better results being achieved particularly with the comedy numbers. Pulled one of the best hands we have seen them accorded.

THE CHINESE WHOOPEE REVUE, an unusually elaborate affair presented by 16 young Orientals, must have caused steady Palace patrons to wonder what it's all about. Like a real Chinese tangle it may all come out in the wash, but those of the paying clan who saw Harry Rogers' *Chinese Show Boat* here less than a month ago will still wonder. Both productions are packed with merit, yet it cannot be a coincidence that one resembles the other strikingly in its staging scheme. Fortunately, but one number—the Chinese version of the *Floradora Sextet*—is identical. If we must say so, this production is decidedly superior to the Rogers version of what Chinese whoopee should be. There is missing, however, that charming touch given to the *Show Boat* affair by Mister Wu. Why, there should be two such strikingly similar attractions in the mart is the business of the respective producers. That's no reason why RKO should have been caught with the bag by playing one following another at the same house in less than four weeks. One of the Chinese boys, in impressions of Rudy Vallee and Ukulele Ike, tied up the show. The corking finale made an even better impression. Billing states the offering comes direct from a European tour and is sponsored by Jung Sam Wing.

CORINNE TILTON was singled out for a sizable ovation and clicked every minute on in her three character numbers. Material is punchy and its representation is of such merit as to stamp Miss Tilton as one of the cleverest character comedienne in vaudeville today. That drunk bit of hers has had more pieces lifted from it by other acts than any one we can think of offhand. A real hot reception whisked her off.

KEN MURRAY, back after five weeks, but this time to say au revoir before departing for more talkie work on the Coast, could have made a curtain speech before starting his act so warm was the ovation handed him. Several slight changes in lesser specialties, but otherwise the act is the same presented here in December. Again one must single Murray out as the biggest entertainment asset of this circuit. What he achieves in the line of laughs here he can do anywhere; something that can't be said for every comedian. Helen and Milton Charleston lend their usual important support, and they are not less appealing than on previous occasions. The Foster-Fagan-Cox trio fit nicely into the rib-tickling scheme, and Milton's new girl friend of the quivers, Bessie Fagan, also does right by her demoniacally clever boss. As if there wouldn't be more than one show-stop.

JERRY COE AND BROTHERS, Larry and Harry, were a smart selection for the intermission closer. The clean-cut youths do ensemble accordion numbers, one sings and his freres step nicely. Get plenty hot near the finish and then sell themselves 100 per cent, with a finish calling for clarinet and accordion accompaniment, while the third member does slow-motion hoofing of a high order.

HELEN SHIPMAN AND NEVILLE FLEESON represent a new combination for the much-partnered songwriter and lyricist. Enough changes in routine to accommodate it to Miss Shipman's talents as against the departed Grace Hayes. Miss Shipman gets sobby in the encore, and this raises her total impression by about 200 per cent. Fleeson lost a wov apron mate when Miss Hayes checked out, but Miss Shipman is altogether acceptable, but less appealing to those who cannot help making comparisons.

CLAYTON, JACKSON AND DURANTE made their customary strong impression in the closing frame. They couldn't have been spotted better, because no matter who might have preceded them could conflict with their bizarre style of work. Jimmy (Schnozzle) Durante has a new number almost as good as his *He Ups To Me*. This one is about his girl, Annie Bolt, and how he and his associated maniacs put it over. The "wood" classic of Broadway idiosyncrasy took them to the exit march. The punch finish is far less offensive than last time, thanks to Chic Sale's popularizing of the little houses built in back of big ones.

ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

running and entertaining. With the pit outfit on the stage, led by a special leader, the specialty people did their numbers excellently, and the 18-people mixed ensemble carried out its song-dance assignments beautifully. Mammy and Picks, dusky quartet, were the show-stop in their singing and dancing. Louise and Mitchell gave out nifty acrobatics, and Ted Ledford warbled well. Good reception. SIDNEY HARRIS.

St. Louis Theater, St. Louis

(Reviewed Saturday Evening, Jan. 11)

The Dakotas, two men in neat cowboy attire, assisted by the chic blonde, "Chic" Cooper, sent the well-balanced bill off to a fast start with their snappy routine of rope spinning, lassoing and fancy whip cracking. The turn is neatly presented and the trio got a big hand.

Lubin, Larry and Andre combine to give 15 minutes of good, varied entertainment. The straight man can sing and the lady is a good toe dancer, while the black-face comic is a wov with his peculiar chatter and actions. For a strong finish the two males show some splendid harmony in a song number.

Nelson B. Clifford and Marie Marion always hit home solidly with their audi-

ences. Their comedy material is excellent, and Miss Marion is a very clever performer. Her very walk, in fact every action of hers, is excruciatingly funny, and she kept the house in continuous laughter, as is her custom.

Henry Santrey and His Soldiers of Fortune. Here is a master showman, with an elaborate musical song-and-dance attraction that is hard to beat. They furnished three-quarters of an hour of fast entertainment, with not a dragging minute. Santrey, in addition to leading his orchestra of 15, sings several ballads with the usual dramatic effects, each with a special setting. His group of musicians are versatile, and most of them give specialties of some kind on their particular instruments. In addition, Jack and Bob Jordan give several dance numbers; Harvey Bell, a pleasing tenor, delivers several songs, and Irene Skeeters, a clever comedy eccentric danseuse, knocks 'em dead with a couple specialties. The Primrose & West minstrelsy bit was one of the high lights of a very high-class vaudeville turn. Prolonged applause necessitated Santrey introducing the principals of his talented cast.

Bebe Daniels, in *Love Comes Along*, was the all-talking photoplay attraction.

F. B. JOERLING.

Hippodrome, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 11)

Ade Duval and his *Rhapsody in Silk*, a legerdemain novelty, open. Duval's clever feats consist entirely of extracting from the osobe and apparently empty objects, realms and realms of silken scarfs and designs. Nice hand.

Cuby and Smith present a routine of acrobatic clowning. In hick togs, the performers fumble and fall on each other with a finale routine resembling a free-for-all. Neat applause.

Elizabeth Brice found favor with her interesting routine of song numbers. Former partner of Charles King warbles some of the ditties she and King once featured. Miss Brice gets good support from her unbillied pianist and a clever boy singer.

Buck and Buckles were a show-stop with their infectious pianistic and pedastatic bits. Bubbles has few peers as a hooper of eccentric buck and tap routines, while the abbreviated Buck's syn-copation of the classics and pop ballads is swell.

Willie, West and McGinty, the house-wrecking trio, prove that all is not so quiet on the Hippodrome stage, when they clown before their collapsible edifice. Their routine of hurling bricks, planks and whatnots and hilarious slapstick carpentry work brought the battered and bruised boys a good reception.

Ruiz and Bonita, the South American dancers, closed with a highly delectable routine of terpsichorean numbers. They printed a litting ballroom waltz in a spirited tempo, while their Spanish and torador and bull compositions were given with much abandon and excellent footwork. They are assisted by a musical ensemble of two femme harpists and a violinist and banjoist, all of whom show up to advantage in their respective specialty bits. Were roundly applauded.

S. M. SANDERS.

E. F. Albee, Cincinnati

(Reviewed Sunday Afternoon, Jan. 12)

Quality is the rule here this week with four of the five acts of headline caliber. Well spotted and with a variety of entertainment the bill clicked heavily with the Sunday afternoon throng.

Mijares, the wirewalker from Mexico, touched off the fireworks with an admirable bit of tight and slack-wire work marked with a heap of laughs and thrills. His work was punctuated with applause thrust, and the crowd brought him out for three bows at the end.

Boyd Senter, the Victor Record ace, assisted by Jack Russell, pianist, and Georgie Crooker, violinist and hooper, fed 'em from his hand in deuce. This versatile Senter boy entertains on the sax, trumpet, banjo, trombone, clarinet and violin, accompanied by Jack Russell, and it is easy to realize why the Victor people grabbed him up. Georgie Crooker opens the turn with a violin specialty, and follows with a neat combination tap and acrobatic routine, which is well received. As an encore Senter and Russell knock out a bit of harmony with the aid of a banjo, comb and kazoo to big results. Senter and his boys stopped things cold with their offering, and Boyd was forced to beg off with a brief speech.

Danny Duncan and Company, two men and three women, offer a hilarious sketch, based on domestic life, entitled *Old Sweetheart*, which the locals ate up with rare abandon. This is truly a funny vehicle and is sugared with wholesome laughs thrust. Danny-Duncan handles the chief comedy in great style, and is ably supported by Billie Long, Vivian Duncan, Harriet Hillard and Jack Easton. The company took its bow amid tumultuous applause.

Bob Hope, in his turn, *Keep Smiling*, proved bang-up entertainment in the fourth hole. This boy has a style all his own, and crams in more laughs per second than any of the fun dispensers we have seen here in a long time. He is assisted by a petite blond damsel. He received a rousing sendoff, easily good for an encore. He cut his comedy dance number, usually offered as an encore, due to a "busted" ankle, suffered at the last stand.

Ledova, danseuse, headlines this week's offering, and makes a mighty good job of it, too. She is assisted by Ivan Luttman, her dance partner; Julio Koehl and Erwin Hammer, pianists, and the Eight

FROM COAST TO COAST

Jubilee Singers, a colored group. Billed as *From the Classic to Harlem*, the Ledova act is a decided novelty in dance acts, and was eagerly accepted here. Ledova and her partner give a remarkable demonstration of classical torch songs, and follow with a modern Negro dance, with the Jubilee Singers supplying the Harlem effect. The latter group also offers several spirituals in good voice. This is an act that should satisfy the most critical audience. A torrid hand greeted Ledova and her helpers at the finish. **BILL SACHS.**

Main Street, Kansas City

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 11)
An excellent bill in harmony with the January Good Times Jubilee. The bill is opened with Helena Justa and Charlie, a colored team in songs and dances. Miss Justa's Bill Robinson impersonation is clever. The team faced an encore with their corking dance numbers. Joe McGrath and Elsie Travers, in *Now and Then*, went over great with their comedy chatter. Miss Travers does several neat dances. Their version of man and wife 70 years hence is a knock-out. Continuous applause brought this team out for numerous bows.

Irene Rich was given a nifty reception on her appearance. Presenting her new playlet, *Ask Your Wife*, in which she is capably supported by Edwin Jerome and Harold Elliott, she takes show-stopping honors and is forced in front of the curtain for a speech. Miss Rich does some fine acting, and the same can be said of her support.

Steve Freda and Johnny Palace are back again in *Ketch On*. This act has about the same material as previous years and might be getting a bit old. Nevertheless, their harmony is perfect, and Steve Freda lives up to his reputation as a great guitarist. Over to fair returns.

Arthur Petley and Company, three males and one female, closed to big returns. Their work is exceptional, and Petley's comedy keeps the house roaring throughout. This act will always receive a hearty welcome here. Prolonged applause at finish.

GREGG WELLINGHOFF.

Fox's Audubon, N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Evening, January 6)
Royal Umano Japs, seven-man Risley and acrobatic troupe, opened a corking bill with a whirlwind display of athletic agility interpolated with comedy panto. Stopped the show cold here.

Mae Wynn and Buddy, youthful and versatile pair of tap specialists, burned up the boards in the duce spot to heavy applause. This duo is one of the most appealing of any now playing the local houses and should shortly ring in on a long route at good money. Achieved a near show-stop here.

Frank Hunter and Percival, mixed comedy team, pulled heavy on laughs with their hokum routine of Italian dialectic gagging, dual and solo warbling and panto. Hunter displays a subtle gift for mimicry and panicked them with his travesty on Will Rogers, while Miss Percival supports him capably in feeding and singing.

Frankie Heath, diminutive warbler, assisted in the next-to-shut by an unbillied male pianist, got over nicely in a routine of song characterizations. Her peculiar husky-voiced delivery proves an enhancement rather than a handicap, because it is so admirably suited to the style of numbers in her offering. Big hand at the finish.

Duke Ellington and his Cotton Club Orchestra closed a satisfying bill with a foot-tickling repertory of hot jazz tunes, interspersed with corking specialties by Bob Williams, Eddie Recktor and a dusky lass from the Harlem Club. Received a big ovation and forced into three encore sessions of show-stopping caliber. **CONDE G. BREWER.**

Golden Gate, Frisco

(Reviewed Friday Evening, Jan. 10)

Reynold Tillis and Geraldine La Rue open with a dancing turn. They are assisted by a group of five chorines and a really capable girl pianist. Old-time dances and modern steps are presented by the principals in an entertaining way. A bird dance and a toe number by the

five girls are both applause-compelling. One of them steps out of line for a shadow dance for a good hand, all of which makes it an above-the-average opener.

Curly Burns and Company present a comedy skit of Chicago bootlegging activities, with bombs, guns and whisky cases as a background. The dialog is quite clever, well presented and gets over for much applause. A telephone conversation with a would-be patron from Scarface's hard-licker warehouse wherein he says "I don't care if you are a Congressman, you'll have to come and get it," gets a big laugh.

Fritz and Jean Hubert, billed as "The Inebriates" and dressed in evening clothes, do pantomime, dance steps and falls for many rounds of applause.

Eddie Pardo, assisted by a pretty girl and a comedienne, has a chatter act, plus songs and a few dance steps. The wisecracks on birth control need revision before being presentable to a high-class vaudeville audience, and Pardo's singing was not at its best, due to a bad cold.

Beehie and Rubyette Company, seven young men clad as Roman gladiators, excel in an athletic, strong-man and tumbling act, which moves with snap and exactness. Their pyramid building and acrobatics, done with the rapidity of machine-gun fire, brought many bursts of applause. **E. J. WOOD.**

Loew's National, N. Y.

(Reviewed Tuesday Evening, January 7)
House packed downstairs, with the upper two tiers from a half to three-quarters filled, indicating a healthy opposition to cross-the-street RKO's Royal Bronx. Five-act bill evenly matched, and audience appreciative throughout.

The Rallstons, mixed balancing and posing team, helmed with a corking routine of athletic feats, quasi-contortion bits and single hand-balancing stunts. Received an enthusiastic reception.

Cliff and Reiss, singing, dancing and instrumental male duo, warbled and stepped thru a pleasing duce to good results. Comedy chatter fell flat, but the pair redeemed themselves on hoofing. Finishing vocal strain, *Song of Songs*, by one lad, could be substituted advantageously for a strong pedantic finish.

Harry Holman, corpulent and genial comedian, offers his latest farce sketch, *Speculation*, and reaped a heavy harvest of laughs. Holman was ovated and got a heavy applause finish. Offering is a clever rehash of his former vehicles, with Holman assuming the role of grouchy and humorously surly office boss and parent. Capable assistance is given by Edith Manson and Hal Taggart.

George Kirby and Helen Duval, long-and-short comedy mixed team, walloped the laugh register consistently from start to finish in the next-to-closing frame, with their routine of singing and riotous chatter, interspersed with hokum and panto. Big returns.

The Happiness Girls, elaborate eight-piece musical, singing and dancing flash, starting Rose Kessler, continue to hold a strong appeal. They recently started their third season for this circuit, and it looks as if they are good for several more. Each one of these girls is a corking specialty artiste. Vociferous hand. **CONDE G. BREWER.**

Loew's State, New York

(Reviewed Saturday Afternoon, Jan. 11)

What a show layout here this week. There is no evidence of stinting on the quality of acts playing the bill, tho the customary five or six acts has been cut down to four. Packed house, as usual, at this performance, with all newswires and overture eliminated, due to lengthy M-Q-M feature film, *Dynamite*.

The Hungarian Troupe, three talented couples, open the show with a corking display of speedy Risley and acrobatic stunts, togged in picturesque green Hungarian Hussars' costumes. Sheer nerve and commendable showmanship won for them a decisive show-stop.

Benny Davis, song-writing celeb, who is heading a five-piece singing and dancing company, with musical numbers interspersed, put over a satisfying duce to big returns. Davis is the composer of such popular numbers as *Margie*; *Oh, How I Miss You Tonight*; *Lonesome and Sorry*, *Falling in Love With*

Someone and *Carolina Moon*, being credited in billing with composing Jack Donahue's *Sons of Guns*. Capable assistance is given him by Phil Ellis and Walter Riley, in dual-piano accompaniment, and Ruth Shaw and Margie Green in dance specialties. Big hand at the finish.

Joe Frisco, genial star of the flippant cigar, juggling derby and burning feet, stepped into a tumultuous ovation and show-stopping hand with his familiar routine of chatter, singing and dancing. Adds a new bit in impersonating Helen Morgan.

Oscar Stang and Orchestra, versatile 11-men musical, harmonizing and dancing outfit, maintained a consistent interest in their offering. Here is an aggregation each member of which stands out as an individual specialty artiste, yet whose co-ordinated work makes corking vaudeville entertainment. Big reception. **CONDE G. BREWER.**

Keith's Fordham, N. Y.

(Reviewed Monday Evening, January 6)
Rhythm and Taps, flash, got away fast on the take-off, making a clear field ahead for the rest of the show. It is heavy on good dancing, with sandwiching of pleasing warbling. Murphy Brothers are the pilots, with a crew comprising the Carroll Twins and Margie Kenner. Big returns at bowoff.

Lorraine Howard and Florence Newton did their stuff nicely to find a good hand awaiting them at the finish. They go in for warbling, with a big play for comedy. Buxom Miss Howard ably handles the clowning, while comely Miss Newton feeds well and has sweet soprano pipes.

Madge Kennedy, in the comedy one-acter, *The Red Hat*, makes the most of this weak vehicle. It is just her superb acting that makes the so-called comedy situations laughable ones. Herbert Warren is best of the support, which also includes Maxine Flood and Frank Naylor. Miss Kennedy stepped on to a polite hand, and went off to a good-sized reception.

Eddie Hall and Jack Pillard, next-to-shut, showed how laughs should be dished out, and the palm-whackers displayed their appreciation by giving them a deafening sendoff. These boys had them laughing consistently and loudly to their sure-fire hoke stuff. Hall is a great clown.

Willie West and McGinty, the familiar house builders, closed. They gave them plenty to laugh at—and how they laughed! Just natural for anyone to be convulsively amused at the slapstick this male trio engages in. Action speak louder than words with them, and not a word is uttered while it seems as tho the stage would cave in under the avalanche of falling bricks, scaffolding and whatnot. **SIDNEY HARRIS.**

Keith's Jefferson, N. Y.

(Reviewed Tuesday Evening, Jan. 7)

Eizabeth Morgan and Company open the bill, displaying an enjoyable routine of torch-songs numbers. The graceful standard bearer is best in an acrobatic tango with her tall partner, while a pair of nimble male tappers and a singing pianist give valuable assist. Good reception.

Barr and Davis, a pair of syncopated lassies, go Harlem in a big way with their dusky makeup and routine of hot love ditties. Buxom pianist holds down the comedy end, while the soloist's innovation of dramatic warbling of *Marching Home to You* is not up to the rest of her work. Were well received.

Joe Jackson, the tramp pantomimist, brought his collapsible bike on next for a round of hilarious clowning. Jackson is a master of keen comedy touches, and his work was loudly applauded.

Bobby Polson was slow in getting the crowd interested, but her fine song characterization of a Puritan and modern Priscilla was warmly received. She is a good singing comedienne.

Marshall Montgomery and Company pulled many laughs in their ventriloquist act, pretentiously mounted aboard ship. Montgomery's dummy work is unusually clever and his various tricks well performed. A blond singer gives him great support. Neat reception.

Buck and Bubbles, a pair of sepi comedians, got a swell reception with

their routine of typically Negro dancing, pianistic and comedy bits. Tall lad is excellent booter, while the short end of the team is a dandy jazz keyboard manipulator.

Six Janaleys closed with a fast-moving routine of risley work. Two older males act as supports for the supple-limbed quartet, who are tossed about from one support to the other and twirled around by the reclining workers in units of ones, twos and even trios like so many rotisserie chickens. Were loudly applauded. **S. M. SANDERS.**

Loew's Delancey, N. Y.

(Reviewed Wednesday Evening, Jan. 8)
Bob and Lucy Gillette, open with a conventional routine of juggling feats. Girl carries most of the juggling work, while male interpolates weak-comedy clowning. Sparse hand.

Van and Roe, mixed team, offer violin duets, team dancing and good warbling by the auburn-haired girl. Boy does a nifty tap specialty, while the girl takes main honors with her delivery of *Love Made a Gypsy Out of Me*. Their violin duets are neat. Good reception.

Fisher and Hurst, assisted by an unbillied eccentric comedian, offer a pair of laughable skits, together with the entr'acte gagging of Fisher and the neat warbling of *True Blue Lou* by the double-voiced Miss Hurst. Fair applause.

Clark and Smith went over nicely with their harmony warbling. Big fellow carries most of the solo work and displays a resonant baritone. He put over *Wedding Bells Are Breaking Up That Old Gang of Mine*, while his partner, besides showing up well in the harmony numbers, especially *My Southland*, makes a good keyboard tickler.

Henry Regal and Company offer acrobatic clowning moments, enlivened by the running gag fire of the two male performers. Their feat, whereby a suspended male forms a brace with his feet, which another catches with his feet by a leap from the floor, was well applauded. A girl adds atmosphere.

Garden of Roses, flash, closed with novel routines by a quintet of chorines, excellent dancing by a mixed team and neat warbling by a tenor. Good reception. **S. M. SANDERS.**

Keith's Franklin, N. Y.

(Reviewed Wednesday Evening, Jan. 8)

Professional preview night here, attended by a large audience generously active at palm-whacking. Three tryouts showed up. Unlike before, the seven regular acts got announcer introductions, while the three one-nighters were announced by Jack Usher, on the bill, as "guest" acts. The showing trio were Mendolla Duo, Frank Jones and Three Field Brothers.

Elizabeth Morgan and Company did well by the takeoff in an entertaining and neatly staged flash. It is heavy on good dancing and dotted with pleasing singing and ivory-tickling. Miss Morgan is an expert skipper and has a capable crew in Don Donaldson, Al and Jack Edwards and Larry Raymond.

The Three Jestis (Bessner, Seiler and Bessner) rang up a tremendous reception in the duce for their distinctively amusing routine of comedy dancing and singing. These boys have choice pieces of business, getting laughs consistently. Their street sweeper number packs a sock for the getaway.

Mendolla Duo, trying out, made an impressive showing with the patrons. Are a mixed team, with the male going in for warbling to the piano accompaniment of his partner. The chap has beautiful pipes, ideally suited for the Italian operatic classics. Pulled in prolonged returns. Could be developed.

Frank Jones, versatile pegleg artiste, (See REVIEWS on page 55)

TAP DANCES

BY MAIL: Beginner's Routine, \$2.00. Advanced Tap with Wings, \$3.00. Both by \$3.00. Or illustration, \$1.50 extra. Description of Time Step and Time Step Break, 25c in cover or stamps. Teachers of Ball, Tap and Ballroom Dancing.

THE KINSELLA ACADEMY

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Pictures ~ Presentations

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Small-Town Exhibs. Biz Booms With Color Films

Natural color productions play dates twice as long as black and whites—reaction to old photography after playing disastrous to business—strong foreign demand

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—More color in 1930. That is the slogan being adopted thruout the film industry. The public wants color. It has passed on it and now demands its adoption. This statement does not emanate necessarily from the motion picture theaters along Broadway, but particularly is this true in the medium-sized cities and the smaller towns. There is no gainsaying the fact that the "hinterlands" have fallen for color. The screen production fashioned after the stage musical comedy has been enhanced by color to such a large degree that it gives the small town the idea of the road-show attraction that has nearly passed from existence.

It is a known fact that the larger cities have been drawn to color films, but not to the extent of the smaller towns. Where color films have been played the business has been tremendous. Towns that formerly were two and three-day runs have been able to hold color film for a week and sometimes for two.

Exhibitors who have been forced to play the dead black and whites, no matter how strong the attraction, against the color films have been at a serious disadvantage.

There is one thing the producers are going to have to come to as quickly as possible and that is the making of more color films. For the reaction at a theater of a color film, followed by the black and white, has found a heavy decline at the box office. Out of New York, exhibitors are demanding more color productions and the producers are up against it for there are not enough color cameras in existence to meet the demand.

Technicolor having taken the lead in this new art is turning out cameras as fast as possible, but since it takes anywhere from six to eight months to build one color camera it can readily be understood how much time it is going to take before all films will be done in color.

In foreign countries the movie-going public has shown as much favorable reaction to the color film as in this country. It has been found to make the women stare look lovelier and the male players more natural. It has developed new styles in costuming and in scenic investiture. It is predicted that within two years the black and white film will be as much out of date as the silent picture is today.

Concerts Stay at Eastman

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Inability to come to an agreement on details has wrecked the possibility of altering concert arrangements at the Eastman Theater, leased by Public from the University of Rochester, to give the company every week clear for its own performances, it was indicated here this week. Sam Katz was in town recently in an effort to have the concerts shifted to the new Masonic Temple. Indications now are that things will go on as before.

Four F. N's in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Working ahead of schedule First National has four features in actual production, with many more slated to start in the near future. Productions now under way are: *Bright Lights*, with Dorothy Mackall; *Back Fay*, with Corinne Griffith; *His Woman*, with William Boyd, Monte Blue, Lila Lee and Betty Compson, and *Other Men's Wives*, with Billie Dove.



FELIX FEIST, general manager in charge of M-G-M's sales distribution, who in the short period of five years has risen from the sales ranks to head that company's entire sales force. Before becoming head of the sales department Feist was personal representative for Joe Schenck.

Impostor Arrested

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 11.—Maurice Neill, 27, who posed as a representative of Paramount Pictures, has been arrested here on charges of forgery and car theft. Officers from Brigham, Utah, returned Neill to that city, where he will be tried. It is claimed he admitted the passing of worthless checks. His identity with the industry could not be affirmed.

Long Shots and Flashbacks

By H. DAVID STRAUSS

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

NOW that the legitimate producers have organized to combat the ticket speculation evil it would not be amiss for the executives of motion picture companies to keep their eyes open against a similar evil entering the long run picture ranks. The speculators have already made a wedge in that direction and the time to put a stop to such tactics breaking into the picture field is now.

Of course, there is a certain amount of prestige for the picture that has its box-office employees saying, "Standing room only." While speculators next door or a couple of doors away have emblazoned on their window tickets for sale for the same production for which the box office cannot supply seats. Griers shouting their wares at the door of the speculator's office or whispering them to a patron who has been refused at the box office as he makes his exit from the door of the theater do not leave the would-be buyer in too pleasant a frame of mind.

There are at least two long-run theaters on Broadway that have made no attempt to stop the ticket speculators from securing seats to their productions. Had Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer officials stood outside of the Astor Theater during the run of *The Broadway Melody* and heard the remarks of disgruntled prospective patrons they would no doubt have realized that speculation in the picture game is becoming a hazard. The same would be true of the Warner organization during the run of *The Singing Fool* at the Winter Garden.

The motion picture public has been taught the ultra in courtesy and attention by the managements of the weekly change houses. It has built up a system that, while sometimes overdone, it still has made the entertainment-seeking public feel that its patronage is really sought. Legitimate producers have begun to realize what this system of courtesy has meant to a public that has received nothing more than sublime indifference of their box offices. Their banding together to stop the ticket speculation evil proves that they realize the public must be served. But the wait has been a little too long. Now is the time to keep the speculator from getting a hold on the long-run picture theater. Each week has seen an advance in long-run attractions on Broadway, and as more talking pictures take over legitimate theaters the more anxious will the speculator be to widen the wedge that has already given him a slight foothold. Motion pictures and their theater personnel have the confidence of the entertainment-loving public. It is up to the motion picture theater officials to keep that confidence. They cannot do it by giving the speculators a foothold.

Senator Brookhart, author of the Block Booking Bill, is not going to represent Ivan Abramson and Graphic Pictures in their \$1,300,000 suit against numerous motion picture organizations and motion picture Boards of Trade. The Senator has turned about face since he first gave his name as sanctioning the suit. The reason is that the Senator claims that he did not know the Abramson-produced films had rather suggestive titles and were based upon rather lurid stories. The Senator, who has dabbled in films for some time past without evidently a thorough knowledge of the situation, says now he will see why his name was used in connection with the suit after he had withdrawn from the case.

Fox Rumors Still Heard

RKO's rumored purchase of Loew stock held by Fox brings rise in stock

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—While the Fox situation seems to be more stable than it has been for some time past, there were numerous rumors concerning the organization during the past week. It is known, however, that Fox has his back to the wall and is fighting both against a trusteeship and a rumored receivership.

The matter was thought to have been all cleared up when early in the week it was announced that George Eastman, of the Eastman Kodak Company, had come to the assistance of Fox and would finance the Fox short-term obligations. These rumors were current in Wall Street, but were denied by Lewis D. Jones, vice-president of the Eastman Kodak Company, who stated that his company was in no way interested in the financing of the Fox Film Corporation.

The rumor that Ex-Governor Al Smith may become head of the Fox Film Company, which has been current on Broadway for several weeks, recurred again during the past week with Hollywood as the source of emanation this time.

During the past week there were rumors to the effect that Radio-Kelth-Orpheum had acquired part of the shares of Loew's, Inc., which were held by Fox Film, causing an upward activity in RKO securities in the stock exchange. The same rumor was also held responsible for the Fox Class A stock.

Rumors were also current to the effect that not only had RKO secured part of the Loew stock held by Fox, but that they were after 600,000 shares held by the Fox organization. Joseph P. Kennedy, who sold RKO to the company now owning and who is also adviser to Pathe, is said to have negotiated the purchase of the Loew Fox stock by RKO. However, the deal, in spite of the rumors, was denied by Iffram S. Brown, president of RKO.

Harry O. Hoyt Joins Equitable Pictures

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Harry O. Hoyt has been selected as production manager for Equitable Pictures, which will make pictures for the exclusive release thru the Motion Picture Congress of America. Hoyt's selection was announced Saturday by George W. Stout, president of Equitable Pictures.

Hoyt is one of the best known executives in the film game, having seen service as scenario editor with Fox, Metro, Goldwyn and First National. As a director he has to his credit *The Lost World*, *Rider of the King Log*, *The Women on the Jury*, *The Belle of Broadway* and *Sundown*.

Ruggles and "Sea Bat"

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Wesley Ruggles has been assigned to direct *The Sea Bat* for M-G. Charles Bickford will have the leading role. Ruggles recently finished *Condemned* for U. A.

For Paramount Club Dance

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Harold Stern and his dance orchestra have been chosen to furnish the music at the Paramount Club dance at the Astor on the evening of February 7.

Reisman Reorganizes Pathe Sales Department

*Divides territory into five sections instead of four —
three branch managers advanced to division chiefs —
sales personnel is announced*

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Phil Reisman, general sales manager of Pathe, has reorganized his sales department into five divisions—Eastern, Central, Southern, Midwestern and Western. The department formerly held four divisions. Under the reorganization, three branch managers have been advanced to the position of division chiefs. The division heads are: E. L. McEvoy, Eastern division manager, New York; H. D. Graham, Central division manager, Indianapolis; W. E. Callaway, Southern division manager, Dallas; H. S. Lorch, Mid-Western division manager, Chicago, and J. H. MacIntyre, Western division manager, Los Angeles.

E. L. McEvoy and W. E. Callaway retain their former posts with exchanges intact, except for the shifting of Buffalo from the Eastern to the Central division. J. H. MacIntyre, manager of the Western division, embracing Denver, Los Angeles, Portland, Salt Lake City, San Francisco and Seattle, was formerly branch manager of Minneapolis.

Harry Lorch, manager of the Mid-Western division, including exchanges in Chicago, Des Moines, Detroit, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Omaha, was formerly branch manager of Chicago.

Harry D. Graham, Central division manager, covering exchanges in Buffalo, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Indianapolis and St. Louis, also retains the branch managership of Indianapolis.

New appointments to branch managerships are: W. E. Branson, formerly branch manager at Des Moines, to branch manager at St. Louis; R. N. Nolan, formerly Chicago salesman, becomes branch manager at Kansas City; Lou Elman, formerly salesman at Des Moines, succeeds Branson as branch manager in the Iowa City, and W. E. Montgomery, who has served as salesman, cashier and assistant manager at Minneapolis, has been appointed branch manager at that post.

The personnel of the sales department of Pathe Exchange, Inc., is now as follows: Phil Reisman, general sales manager; J. F. McAloon, assistant general sales manager; E. W. Ballentine, manager of exchange operations; W. E. Rayner, manager of short subject sales; J. T. Richards, manager print department, and Earl Arnold, purchasing agent.

Eastern division: E. L. McEvoy, manager, New York, supervising C. W. Stombaugh, Albany; R. C. Cropper, Boston; H. Gibbs, New Haven; R. S. Wolff, New York; R. Mochrie, Philadelphia; A. Goldsmith, Pittsburgh, and R. C. Robin, Washington.

Central division: H. D. Graham, manager, Indianapolis, supervising J. B. Reilly, Buffalo; S. Jacques, Cincinnati; O. J. Ruby, Cleveland; H. D. Graham, Indianapolis, and W. E. Branson, St. Louis.

Southern division: W. E. Callaway, manager, Dallas, supervising W. W. Anderson, Atlanta; R. C. Price, Charlotte; W. E. Callaway, Dallas; H. R. Kistler, Memphis; O. C. Brown, New Orleans, and C. W. Allen, Oklahoma City.

Mid-Western division: H. S. Lorch, manager, Chicago, supervising J. J. Clarke, Chicago; Lou Elman, Des Moines; H. P. Zapp, Detroit; Ray Nolan, Kansas City; T. Greenwood, Milwaukee; M. E. Montgomery, Minneapolis, and R. S. Ballantyne, Omaha.

Western division: J. H. MacIntyre, manager, Los Angeles, supervising P. H. Butler, Denver; J. S. Stout, Los Angeles; H. L. Percy, Portland; A. J. O'Keefe, Salt Lake City; M. E. Cory, San Francisco, and C. L. Theuerkauf, Seattle.

Canada: T. W. Brady, Regal Films, Toronto, Ont., Can.

Joan Bennett Borrowed

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Joan Bennett has been borrowed from United Artists by Fox to play the lead in *Love Comes Along*, starring Lumsden Hare, Hamilton McFadden will direct the piece, which is an adaptation of Vincent Lawrence's stage play.

Warner on Vacation

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Lewis Warner, executive of M. Witmark & Sons, music publishers, left New York last week for a short vacation in Pinehurst, N. C.

French Musicians Launch Drive on Foreign Films

PARIS, Jan. 11.—At a recent meeting the French Federation of Music, speaking for the organizations grouped under its control—the Chamber Syndicals of Music Composers, Music Editors, Song Editors, Instrumental Music Editors, Music Sellers of France, Master Music Engravers and Music Printers—adopted the following resolutions:

"Considering that the sound and talking films of foreign origin are presented to the French public in foreign language and with a musical accompaniment almost exclusively composed of foreign music:

"Considering that an exclusion so marked of the French language and music on French soil constitutes, if it becomes general, a grave offense against the French culture and art:

"Emits the following resolutions:

"1. The talking films presented in France should utilize none but the French language.

"2. An important part of the musical accompaniment of synchronized films presented in France should be consecrated to French music.

"We have decided to pursue the study and adoption of all useful measures in making an appeal, if necessary, to the public powers and public opinions to prevent the motion picture becoming in France the instrument for the penetration of foreign expressions contrary to our national culture."

"Sky Hawk" for London

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The *Sky Hawk*, Fox, having passed the British board of censors, will open here at the Tivoli Theatre on the Strand January 27. The production is expected to run for several months.

Ralph Block With Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Ralph Block has been signed by Fox as writer to do original. Block was formerly with Pathe as a studio executive. The addition of Block brings the Fox writing staff up to 32.

Will Hays and Films Are Praised and Flayed

WINTER LAKE, Fla., Jan. 13.—That Will Hays has aided the motion picture business since his connection with it was borne out here this week in statements made by Prof. Clyde L. King of the University of Pennsylvania; Dr. William Murdoch McLeod, Presbyterian minister, of Pinehurst, N. C., and Charles W. Piquet, vice-president of the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America, before the Rollins College Institute of Statemanship in a discussion of motion pictures. The one dissenting voice regarding the good influence of Hays and his organization was that of Canon William Sheafe Chase, who denounced motion pictures and suggested a federal censorship.

The college students, however, in open forum disagreed with Dr. Case and stated that "motion pictures are the most powerful, potential medium toward world peace, and the industry under the leadership of Hays is consciously pointing them to that purpose."



LEON BAMBERGER, director of the sales promotion department of Paramount. Bamberger has been with Paramount for seven years, in which time he has served that organization in many advertising stints for his firm that have netted Paramount pictures considerable free advertising. Besides being with Paramount Bamberger is one of the leaders of the AMPA.

200 Small Wis. Houses Close

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 11.—More than 200 motion picture theaters have closed their doors in Wisconsin and gone out of business during 1929, according to Henry Staab, executive secretary of the MPTO of Wisconsin. This is a higher percentage of closeouts by 600 per cent than has ever been recorded in one year in the State of Wisconsin.

One of the main reasons for closing the theaters has been the inability of small theaters to cope with sound-equipped theaters, declared Mr. Staab. Many theaters are too small to equip the theater building with sound and have been forced to continue running silent pictures. And silent pictures have not been able to secure enough business for these theaters to remain in business.

Inability to cope with sound theaters was given as the reason for the failure of more than 90 per cent of these theaters. According to information received, the number of failures in the independent theater field in Wisconsin during 1930 will be greater than this year.

Oland Cuts Vacation

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Warner Oland has cut short his vacation in the East and has returned to the Paramount studios here to begin work immediately on an untitled feature.

100 Michigan Exhibs. Unite

*Co-operative organization
starts work this week—to
buy and book for members*

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 13.—The Co-operative Theater Service Corporation, whose membership is restricted to the MPTOA, was organized here this week with 100 Michigan theater owners represented. This number is expected to reach the 200 mark within the next few weeks.

The idea of the organization is to furnish a complete service of buying and booking to the exhibitor members. Offices in the Fox Theater Building will start functioning this week.

The board of directors consists of Frank Westman, C. W. Porter, Alex Schreiber, all of Detroit; P. C. Schramm of Kalamazoo; C. R. Beechler, of Charlotte, and H. T. Reynolds, of Grand Rapids.

Ray Moon, formerly connected with the Universal Detroit Exchange, has been selected as general manager. The other officers are John E. Niebes, treasurer; Carl Buermele, manager of city booking and buying, and E. H. Hickey, managing director.

As the name of the corporation implies, the business will be run on a co-operative basis. All profits of the business will be returned to member exhibitors in dividends proportionate to the amount of fees turned in.

Publix Places Dallas, Houston on Split Weeks

DALLAS, Jan. 11.—The split-week policy for the Palace will go into effect January 24. The Palace and Melba have been placed under the direction of Jack Jackson. Also in San Antonio the split week will be attempted. Ernest W. Morrison, district manager for Publix de luxe theaters in Texas, left Dallas Wednesday for Miami, Fla., where he has been assigned a post similar to the one he held in Dallas. The Palace will open new shows on Fridays and Mondays. During the Friday thru Monday the Public stage show will be seen. From Monday thru Thursday the Palace will supplement its picture attraction with "production overtures."

Barry Burke, Southwest division manager for Publix, declared there would be no change in the music personnel. Jimmy Ellard will continue as stage band leader; Johnny Winters, organist, and Alex Keese, pit conductor.

The Public stage shows will move to San Antonio after concluding their run here, thence to New Orleans. The Metropolitan, Houston, which has heretofore played the stage shows, will go into an all-sound policy, leaving only two Texas cities to have Public stage shows. The reason given by Publix for the split-week policy is that the pictures of today are not designed for seven-day exhibitions. They are not standard in length, elaborateness or box-office appeal. Some of them are too long to permit exhibition with a stage show. The Melba, another full-week Public house, will retain its policy with seven-day engagements. For unusual releases it is planned to move the four-day picture from the Palace to the Melba for an extended run.

Football Star in Film

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Marshall Duffield, star quarterback on the Southern California football team, has been given a role in Dorothy Mackall's starring production, *Bright Lights*. Noah Beery, James Murray and Elliot Nugent have the leading roles.

Chaney Still Silent

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Lon Chaney's next production will be *Sergeant Bull*. Chaney will make the production without dialog. Chaney's determination to continue to make silent pictures leaves only two stars that have not capitulated to the talkies, the other being Charlie Chaplin, whose next production will only carry a synchronized score.

Menace to U. S. Films Seen in Foreign Talkies

Fox Film Corporation's special representative returns from abroad after three years' stay—Germany and France leading in own talking productions, he says

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—J. P. Ryan, special representative of the Fox Film Corporation, after three years in Europe, returned to New York last week, and states that he finds a severe menace to American talking productions in Europe in pictures produced abroad with the dialog in their native tongue. Ryan states that sound pictures are advancing rapidly in European countries, much more rapidly than American producers realize and that the situation regarding American talking films is becoming acute. It is estimated, he also states, that only between 5 and 10 per cent of the theater patrons abroad understand English well enough to comprehend the plot of an American dialog film and says the most satisfactory way is to translate the dialog into the language of the country and superimpose the titles on the film, thus avoiding action interruption. Ryan also says that the largest progress in foreign-made talkie production has been shown by Germany and France.

During his three years abroad Ryan reorganized the Fox branches in various cities in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Sweden and Holland.

Contracts Renewed

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—In preparation for the opening of 1930 production, many of last year's scenarioists have had their contracts renewed by Warner Bros. Joseph Jackson, Grubb Alexander, Harvey Thew and Gordon Rigby are back at work on the coming season's product, with several more additions to be made.

Twin Cities Double

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 13.—What is said to be a record was established here when *The New Hat*, Educational-Mack Sennett comedy, played the State Theater, Minneapolis, and the Paramount Theater, St. Paul. This is the first time the two houses have ever booked in the same short at the same time.

New Para. Writers

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—Joseph March, Jack Kirkland and A. Harold Noon have been added to the list of scenario writers at the Paramount West Coast studio, according to an announcement last week. All three are waiting for assignments.

David Burton Assigned

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—David Burton has been assigned to direct *The Circle*, an adaptation of Somerset Maugham's stage success. Lewis Stone and Ernest Torrence have been added to the cast. The film goes into production in the near future.

Blystone Finishes Film

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—*The Big Part* has been completed by John Blystone for Fox. Dixie Lee makes her debut as a leading lady with a cast that includes Frank Albertson, Jack Smith, Sue Carroll and others.

Auger on Tour

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Edward Auger has left New York for an extended trip thru the United States in the interests of RCA Photophone, Inc., of which he is assistant general sales manager. Auger plans to open several new RCA offices.

Windsor Pictures In New Offices

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Windsor Picture Plays, Inc., has moved its offices from the De Forest studios, on West 48th street, to 729 Seventh avenue.

The Windsor organization is sponsored by Henry Olinberg and the Weiss Brothers and has just completed its first road-show production, *Her Ulfborn Child*.

Billy Sunday Considering Talkies — Sermons Only

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 11.—The Rev. William A. (Billy) Sunday, noted evangelist, is considering an offer made by Fox, he says, to give sermons in the talkies. This statement was made this week during a sermon he preached in the Churchill Tabernacle, where he is conducting a week's evangelistic meetings.

Today Sunday said he also has had other offers to go into the movies and has not yet decided negatively on the matter, adding that his sermons would reach a great audience of hearers. He would only consider preaching sermons, he states, in the films, and would not participate in any playlets or other dramatization.

Portland, Me., Deal Causes Staff Changes

PORTLAND, Me., Jan. 11.—The Strand Theater, owned by the New England Theaters Operating Company, opened Monday as a Public house under an entirely new management and with a revised scale of prices downward. From now on, according to the new owners, the local house will be headquarters for Public theaters in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont.

Armand Moreau, a former Portland man, is district manager; William Powell, assistant district manager, and George E. Sargent comes to the Strand as house manager from a similar position with Public in Waterville. His assistant will be Frederick E. Johnson, formerly assistant manager at the Metropolitan Theater in Boston. For an indefinite period Arthur J. Martelle, Metropolitan Theater organist, will appear at the Strand.

Sale of the Strand Theater was another of the theater activities here during the last few months that marked the passing of amusement house control from Abraham Goodside. Once proprietor of five out of nine theaters here, Goodside is now left with only the Empire, pictures, and the Colonial, second-run house.

Goodside at one time controlled the Em. closed since last winter, and the Jefferson, legitimate. William Reeves, who was with Goodside some 17 years and was manager of the Strand since it was built in 1916, has not been retained by the Public people, locally at least, and is said to be going to New York at an early date to consider several propositions.

New Vita. Varieties

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Forthcoming Vitaphone Varieties are *Money, Money, Money*; Eddie Buzzell, in *Hello There*; *Wedding Bells* and one untitled production. Stanley Rauh, author, has been signed to do originals for Vitaphone.

With "Buddy" Rogers

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Sharon Lynn has been assigned the leading role in *Buddy Rogers* next starring vehicle, to be titled *Safety in Numbers*. Victor Schertzinger will direct the production.

Jean Arthur Gets Lead

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Jean Arthur has been assigned the lead in *The Benson Murder Case*, which Paramount will produce as a starring vehicle for William Powell. Louis Gasnier will direct.



A. P. WAXMAN, director of advertising and publicity for Warner Bros., whose efforts in his department have been largely responsible for the meteoric rise of that company. Before holding his present position Waxman served in the war and was later with First National. Besides being the head of Warner's advertising and publicity, Waxman is also prominently identified with many Jewish charity organizations in New York.

Chi. Indies Seek Allied Affiliation

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—A group of independent Chicago theater owners has formed a new exhibitors' organization, known as the Illinois Independent Exhibitors' Association, and has begun to lay plans for associating itself with the Allied States organization, of which Abram F. Myers is president.

The new organization at the present time has about 109 members, some of whom were formerly members of the Chicago Exhibitors' Association, but became dissatisfied with it. Officers are Aaron Saperstein, president; Samuel Halper, secretary, and Sid Selig, treasurer. While organization it at present being confined to Chicago, it is the intention of the association to become Statewide in its activities. At a meeting this week it was decided that a representative of Allied States would be asked to attend a meeting next week, at which time the new association will seek to affiliate with Allied. Some of the members objected to joining with Allied, claiming that the membership fee of \$6,000 is too high for the association to stand at the present time. Their objections were overruled, however, and an invitation to Allied to confer with the local Indies was dispatched. The exact date of the conference has not yet been set.

M-G-M Abandons "Ex-Wife" Picture

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, according to announcements this week, will not film *Ex-Wife*, one of last season's most sensational best sellers. *Ex-Wife*, the published anonymously, was authored by Ursula Parrott. The Hays organization is seen behind the abandoning of the picture, the story of which was vastly censorable.

Gleasons Heading East

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Jimmy and Lucille Gleason are preparing to leave Hollywood for New York, where they may embark on a couple of legitimate ventures before returning to the West Coast. A few weeks in vaudeville will also break into their picture activities.

Two New Boyd Films

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Two features starring William Boyd have been slated to be released this month by Pathe. They are *His First Command* and *Officer O'Brien*. Dorothy Sebastian, borrowed from M-G-M, has the femme lead in both productions.

Publix Press Staff Shakeup

Harry Royster and James Furman shifted to new territories with advancements

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Publix Theater publicity staff, under the direction of A. M. Botsford, received one of the greatest shakeups it has experienced since its inception.

Harry Royster, Paramount Theater p. a., has been made supervisor of publicity for Rochester, Buffalo and Toledo. He is succeeded by Bud Gray, former p. a. of Publix's Metropolitan Theater in Boston. James Furman, who for the past year has handled the Rialto, has been made district supervisor of Public houses in Kansas City and Denver. Furman is succeeded by M. Gottlieb, who will handle the publicity, and Arthur Jeffries, who will direct the exploitation. Lester Allen has been assigned to the Brooklyn, Paramount, to succeed Lou Goldberg, who has been given charge of Public houses in New York, where he will supervise all publicity.

Several other minor changes have been made in the various territories outside of New York. No reason was given for the general switch of men other than it was thought a new atmosphere would be beneficial to the various men transferred.

The changes of Royster and Furman come in the way of promotions. Both men will be given theater responsibilities that will later lead to bigger jobs in the theater operating department. The transfers became effective last Saturday with the transferred men leaving their old assignments to accept the new ones Saturday evening.

Para. W. C. Studio Expansion Starts

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Paramount New York office has received work this week from the West Coast that a large studio expansion program is under way in Hollywood, necessitated by the heavy schedule mapped out for 1930.

The first project to get under way will be the construction of a four-story administration building, in which will be located the executive personnel of the studio.

Two more of the old silent stages will be reconstructed for talking-picture production, giving the studio 12 sound stages. The program also calls for the addition of projection rooms, a new assembly shop, an enlarged electrical building and a larger transportation department.

Spokane Managers Elect Grombacher New President

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 11.—Ray A. Grombacher, director and president of the Spokane Theaters, Inc., was named president of the Theater Managers and Owners' Association of this city at the organization meeting held here. Will Maylon, producer-actor-director of the dramatic stock company bearing his name at the Auditorium Theater, was chosen vice-president.

The object of the association is for more united action on the part of theater men of Spokane in any matter affecting their combined or individual interest. Every theater in the city was represented at the meeting.

Lawrence J. Carkey, Orpheum, was elected secretary-treasurer. Meetings will be held weekly. Those present besides the new officers were Howard H. Masoy, Empress Theater; Wallace A. Brooks, Majestic Theater; Philip W. Peismier, Unique Theater; Tom Tobin, Music Box Theater; H. R. Franklin, Rialto Theater, and C. A. Champland, Rex Theater.

Another Jail Story

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—*The Big House*, a prison tale, has been selected by M-G to go into production within the next few days. Wallace Geery will have the leading role, with George Hill directing.

Canadian Money Power May Back Nathanson

Sir Herbert Holt, known as Dominion's wealthiest man, interested in talkie theater proposition, according to Toronto reports—could be \$25,000,000 venture

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—According to rumors from Canada, Sir Herbert Holt, known as Canada's "wealthiest man", is of theaters to be built in the larger cities of Canada. Nathanson, formerly of Famous Players-Lasky, a few weeks ago chain of theaters in which he would be ment was immediately denied by the Warner organization.

The Toronto Star Weekly carries the following story immediately after the Warner denial:

"News reports tell of the impending entry of Sir Herbert Holt into the realm of the 'talkies'. He is said to be backing N. L. Nathanson in a \$25,000,000 venture. First-class theaters are to be built in all of the larger cities of Canada and in the future, perhaps, a producing industry founded.

"Twenty-five millions may seem a lot of money, but Holt could put it up just as easily as the average man could find \$25. A few years ago the labor members of Parliament carried out an unofficial investigation into Holt, the financier and industrialist. The result was remarkable.

"Holt is a director of 139 corporations, including most of the important companies of the Dominion. He practically owns 50 of them, and their combined assets would run into billions of dollars. He is head of one of the greatest banks; his various companies are concerned directly with the daily lives of every Canadian. Scarcely a citizen of this country falls, in the course of a day, to purchase some article or service from a Holt company. Glancing down the list one notes that Holt's interests include—water powers, gas, hotels, pulp and paper, furs, ladies' wear, men's wear, investment houses, bridge building, textiles, railways, flour mills, shipping, land and lumber, ship yards, life insurance, coal and precious metal mines, electrical supplies, railway express and telegraph, street railways, cigaret and pipe tobaccos. Holt used to be interested in Famous Players, but withdrew from the company a few months ago. It was but a sideline with him. Now he may become Canada's first great 'talkie' promoter.

"Of course, he would meet severe competition, but that would mean nothing to Holt; he has been overcoming severe opposition ever since he arrived in Canada in 1875, a poor Irish immigrant lad of 19 years. Moreover he could stand a little competition. Today Holt's personal wealth exceeds \$1,000,000,000. He has three dollars of his own money for every dollar of Dominion of Canada currency in circulation.

"In his 74th year he is still a man of towering physique and great physical strength. Broad-shouldered, with blue eyes, cold and steely; sharp, aquiline features and broad brow. If you have a bank bill of large denomination in your pocket take a look at it. Holt's photograph may be on it. He would be a person of interest in any crowd. Seldom seen in company with other men, he works 14 hours a day. Today he controls companies whose operations span the world. Should he enter the 'talkie' game, it will be in a big way. The record, however, fails to show that he has ever seen a motion picture and presumably he is profoundly ignorant of the relative merits of even the most famous of screen beauties."

Strong Cast for Short

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The strongest all-star cast that has ever been assembled on the Educational lot has been brought together to produce Educational's Sugar Plum Pops, which is slated to go into production at once. The cast includes Daphne Pollard, Andy Clyde, Harry Gibson, Marjorie Beebe, Bert Swar and others.

Gaynor's New Role

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Janet Gaynor's next starring vehicle for Fox will be *Common Clay*. This is the first time that the actress will have a sex role since her association with Fox.

First M-G-M French Talkie

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The *Unholy Night*, the M-G-M production authored by Ben Hecht and directed by Lionel Barrymore, has been selected by that company as the first production to be made in the French tongue for distribution abroad. Jacques Feyder, who came to this country from France to direct *Greta Garbo in The Kiss*, has been selected as the voice behind the megaphone in this production. The French dialog version is being prepared by Frederic Mauzens.

M-G-M has already produced *Sun-Kissed*, starring Vilma Banky, in German, and *Ledrones*, a Stan Laurel-Oliver Hardy comedy, has been produced in Spanish.

Pathe Arranges Far East Distribution

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—T. S. Delehanty, of Pathe International Corporation, has arranged for the distribution of the Pathe program for the current year in the East and Far East.

In India, Pathe pictures will be handled by Alexander Hague, one of the largest film companies in the Far East, with headquarters in Bombay. In China, the Peacock Motion Picture Corporation will continue to release Pathe pictures.

U. Ono, who has been distributing Pathe product in Japan for several years, will continue to handle that output. Due to the limited sound conditions in Japan, Pathe's output there will consist mostly of silent films.

The Philippine Islands will see the Pathe product, distributed by the Lyric Film Exchange, of Manila, and in South Africa, the International Variety & Theatrical Agency will handle the product.

Leviathan To Show Talking Pictures

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—When the U. S. liner *Leviathan* has finished its reconditioning in Boston she will be equipped for talking pictures, to be presented to its patrons on their various cruises abroad and return. Western Electric is preparing to make a survey of the acoustic possibilities of the grand ballroom, with the sound installation to follow as soon as the reconditioning of the ship has been completed.

Ever since 1923 the *Leviathan* has presented silent pictures to the passengers in the ballroom, and during the summer months they have been presented on deck to second and third-class passengers. Requests from passengers for talking pictures brought the move to make the installation.

Heath Replaces Yorke

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Frank Heath has been appointed casting director of the Paramount Long Island studio, to succeed Emerson Yorke, resigned. Sol Tepper has been named to take over Heath's former duties as assistant casting director.

Pathe's Spanish Film

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Pathe's first talkie in Spanish, *Her Private Affair*, has been shipped to South America for distribution. A company of Spanish actors made the version under the direction of Emile de Bezat.

Round-the-World Liners Go Talkie—Will Pioneer

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—All the passenger steamers of the Dollar Steamship Lines fleet to the Orient and round the world will be equipped with talking motion pictures, starting with the installation on the round-the-world liner *President Fillmore*, departing from New York westward January 16, according to announcement today by R. Stanley Dollar, president of Dollar Steamship Lines. Western Electric will install equipment on the *President Fillmore*. This marks the first invasion of the Pacific Ocean and seas westward as far as the Mediterranean with sound on film.

Talking movies are known in Japan, China and the Philippines, but the arrival of the *President Fillmore* at Straits Settlements, Ceylon and other Far Eastern ports will give residents there the thrill of witnessing talking movies.

Racine Theaters Battle Tax Jump

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 11.—The seven Racine, Wis., independent theater owners who have been having a fight with two chain theaters controlling film releases in Racine have now lined up with the chain in fighting a proposed city ordinance which would raise theater license fees in that city from \$150 to \$750 for any theater charging more than 35-cent admission prices.

When the independent theaters first protested against the chain theaters' control of the situation they appealed to the mayor of Racine, asking him to help them, otherwise they would be forced out of business by January 2. However, in the meantime, officials of the MPTO of Wisconsin got the independents and the chain officials together at Milwaukee, at which time a satisfactory arrangement was arrived at whereby the independents were given some relief. The chains permitted the independents to get earlier release dates than nine months on second-run pictures, and in some instances the independents were allowed first-run pictures.

This meeting, which was held in Milwaukee, seemed to clear matters up, and much harmony existed between the two factions. The Racine common council and the mayor, however, were still to have their say, and then brought up the \$750 license fee at a meeting this week. Officers of the MPTO of Wisconsin were on hand to protest against the fee, as were many other theater men, including the independents in Racine. Steve Bauer, State president of the Wisconsin organization, stated that this proposed fee was 1,000 per cent more than any other theater in the State was paying. Despite the protests of the theater men, however, the mayor and the council are determined to pass the ordinance. If it passes, theater men declare, the Racine situation will no doubt be in a worse muddle than ever before. In order to protect themselves the chains, it is stated, may withdraw the second-run protection concessions which they have just given to the independents, even though the independents are filled with them in fighting this proposed license increase.

Schenk Returning

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Joseph M. Schenk, Samuel Goldwyn and William Phillips will arrive in New York tomorrow from Europe aboard the *He de France* after a vacation in Europe.

Schildkraut's New Role

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Joseph Schildkraut has been assigned the leading role in Universal's *The Gear of Broadway*, which is to soon go into production. No director or supporting cast named as yet.

4,212 W. E. Installations

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The total number of installations of Western Electric sound systems is 4,212. Of this number 3,181 are in the United States, 177 in Canada, 59 in Latin America, 231 in the Far East and 564 in European countries. This figure excludes 157 screening rooms throughout the United States.

Warners Buy More Ground

Purchase plot on W. 54th street, New York, to-house music subsidiaries

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Realizing that music publishing has become as much a part of the film business since the advent of sound as the production of the film itself, Warner Brothers have purchased a plot of land on West 54th street with the idea of erecting a 10-story building for their music-publishing subsidiaries.

Since dialog and song have become a part of the film business practically all of the big producers have aligned themselves with some music-publishing organization. Rivalry exists in the song-writing field of pictures even keener than it has in the musical stage production. Numerous song hits in the last year in the films have overshadowed the musical comedy hits by three to one.

The piece of property acquired by Warners is between 11th and 13th avenues and is 25,000 square feet. Fifteen thousand square feet of the property faces on West 54th street, while the other 10,000 square feet fronts on West 55th street. The transaction was negotiated by Hubert & Hubert and Sam Krulovitch as brokers, with Charles L. Yarmy representing Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc.

Chamberlin Manages Little Carnegie

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Milton H. Chamberlin, for many years manager of the Plaza Theater, at Madison avenue and 39th street, has been appointed manager of the Little Carnegie Playhouse.

The Little Carnegie is now being wired for sound. Opening its doors about two years ago as an ultra-modern theater, the little theater had built up quite an exclusive clientele on silent productions, nearly all of them foreign made.

A demand for talking pictures brought the announcement of sound installation. RCA Photophone's new Type O equipment being selected. The first sound program will be presented January 18.

Johnson's Film for Cohan

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Across the World with Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnson, which introduces the famous camera explorers in their picture accompanied by talk, will have its premiere at the George M. Cohan Theater Monday, January 20. The picture follows in Eddie Dowling's *Bliss o' Glory*, which comes to a close on the Sunday evening preceding the premiere.

Fox Buys "3 Faces East"

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—*Three Faces East*, Anthony Kelly's stage play, has been purchased by Fox as a starring vehicle for this year's release. O. H. P. Garrett has been borrowed from Paramount to write the adaptation. No cast announcements yet.

Rubin With Tiffany

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Benny Rubin has been signed by Tiffany for the leading role in *Sunny Days*. The story is an adaptation of the story by A. P. Younger. Work on the piece will begin as soon as Rubin completes his contract with M-G.

Historical Shorts

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—James A. Fitzpatrick is producing shorts on Lincoln and Washington that will be released for play dates February 13 and 22. The pictures depict the lives of both men.

Leave for Coast

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—John W. Conidine, Jr., William Cameron Menzies and Joan Bennett, all members of the United Artists organization, left last week for the Coast.

Wage Dispute Compromised

Chicago M. P. operators accept \$2.50 increase in lieu of six-day week

CHICAGO, Jan. 11. — Settlement has been effected in the wage dispute between motion picture machine operators and theater owners. A two years' agreement, a compromise, was signed. The smaller independent houses held out for a long time, but eventually capitulated and signed the agreement Friday.

Exhibitors affiliated with the Chicago Exhibitors' Association were represented by a committee headed by Jack Miller. The new indie association was represented by Emanuel Eller, former city judge. Tom Maloy, business agent, and Tom Reynolds, president, represented the operators.

Under the new agreement, operators in talkies will receive a \$2.50 salary increase for 1930 and an equal increase in 1931. Originally, the operators had not asked for an increase, but sought a six-day week. The new agreement holds to the seven-day week, with the option of one day off without pay.

Agreement between the theaters represented by the Exhibitors' Association was reached Thursday night, but it was not until Friday afternoon that the indies were reconciled. In all, about 150 theaters are affected, of these 54 are chain houses. Operators in the silent movies receive no increase.

Sheehan Outlines Fox 1930-'31 Plans

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Detailed plans for the Fox production scheduled for 1930 to July, 1931, have been announced by Winfield Sheehan, general manager of that company.

Raoul Walsh will direct *The Oregon Trail*. *Common Clay* will be directed by Victor Fleming. Janet Gaynor will star in *Molnar's Liliom*, directed by Frank Borzage. Jack London's *The Sea Wolf* will be directed by John Ford. Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* will be directed by David Butler.

Talking picture rights have been secured to the following novels: *Basquerie*, by Eleanor Mercein; *The Mad Song*, by Mabel Wagnalls; *The Last of the Duresses*, by Zane Grey; *The County Chairman*, by George Ade; *The Painted Lady*, by Larry Evans; and *The Country Beyond*, by James Oliver Curwood.

The following dramatic successes from the stage have been obtained for production: *The Men Who Came Back*, by Jules Goodman; *The Fatal Wedding*, by Theodore Kramer; *The Yellow Ticket*, by Michael Thornton; *The Dancers*, by Gerald du Maurier; and *The London Revue*, to be directed by Hassard Short. Sheehan plans to remain in New York two weeks before leaving for the Coast.

Columbia in Brazil

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Columbia has closed with Reunites F. Matarazzo to again handle the distribution of the company's product in Brazil. Matarazzo has handled the distribution of Columbia's production there for several years.

Ministers to 12,900

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—During the last year the hospital division of the Roxy Theater has treated 12,900 cases. One-fifth of that number were theater patrons, the remainder being made up of members of the personnel and emergency cases from the neighborhood that demanded immediate attention. Several major operations were performed.

February F. N. Releases

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Ned Depinet has selected three productions to be released by First National during February. They are *Loose Ankles*, February 2; *The Other Tomorrow*, February 9, and *No, No, Nanette*, February 16.

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Coleman Leaves "U"

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Meyer Coleman, who has been connected with Universal's sales department for a number of years, leaves that organization this week to become connected with a theater business in Detroit. He will be associated with Jacob Schreiber in the latter's management of his string of theaters in Michigan. Coleman will make his headquarters in Detroit.

Pathe Song Winners

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—During the last year Pathe composers created five songs that are among the best sellers in the country. The songs are *Little by Little*, from *The Sophomore*; *If I Had My Way* and *I'm That Way About Baby*, from William Boyd's picture, *The Flying Fool*, and *At Last I'm in Love and Out of the Past*, from *Red-Hot Rhythm*, featuring Alan Hale.

"Oliver Twist" as Talkie

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—M-G-M will produce Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*. Lionel Barrymore is slated to direct, with no cast announcements as yet.

Erwin Gets Contract

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Stuart Erwin has been given a long-time contract by Paramount. Erwin played the dumb schoolboy in Nancy Carroll's *Sweetie*.

Vancouver Laugh Week

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—A new house record has been established by the Colonial Theater, Vancouver, with a Laugh Week, composed of four Educational comedies, *The Big Palooka*, *Girl Crazy*, *Buying a Gun* and *Don't Get Excited* were the Educational shorts used. The box-office record will make the house try the stunt again.

RCA Boston Rep.

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Chester W. Sawin, long identified with the sales end of the motion picture industry, has been appointed district sales manager for RCA Photophone in the Boston territory. He will have with him H. H. Paul, radio engineer, on his sales staff. George H. Wiley has been appointed to handle the Albany territory.

Gamby's Second Short

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Maria Gambarelli has completed her second short feature for Paramount at the Eastern studio. It is titled *The Porcelain*.

Looking for Theater Name

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Loew's Theaters, Inc. is searching for a name for its new house that will be opened next month in Washington Heights on the far uptown West Side. Many suggestions have poured into the Loew office, but none has been accepted as yet.

HOLLYWOOD BRIEFS

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 11.—There is very little actual work going on in the motion picture studios in Southern California, according to the current production schedules available. A survey reveals but 17 pictures at present in the cutting rooms of the various studios, with 63 pictures reported in the process of shooting, while figures made public have some 200 productions announced as being prepared. The above figures cover the product of about 40 studios and are believed to be somewhat exaggerated, as it is doubtful that production activity is as extensive as represented. There is an unusual number of unemployed actors at this time, with the majority of the 50 agents catering to motion picture talent reporting a slow season. For some reason the attitude of the supporting-cast player is highly pessimistic despite the elaborate production schedules announced by the various studios for the ensuing season.

Janet Gaynor is reported to be selected for the Jane Crowe role in *Common Clay*, which will be produced as a talkie by the Fox Film Corporation.

Hollywood motion picture studio fire losses in the last three years have been estimated at \$3,500,000, which is said to be considered remarkably small in view of the \$100,000,000 investment credited to the film industry here and for the highly inflammable product turned out, as well as the great fire hazards encountered in the production thereof. The recent Consolidated Film Industries, Inc., blaze is responsible for the large proportion of the losses sustained, it being

estimated that \$3,000,000 worth of film and property was damaged in the conflagration, which was covered by insurance.

Fox West Coast Theaters, according to a recent announcement, plans an extensive theater expansion program which involves the construction of 23 of the most modern talking picture houses in Los Angeles and other California cities as well as in Arizona, Washington, Montana, Oregon, Missouri and Colorado. It is said the tremendous increase in patronage of film theaters since the talkies were first shown is responsible for the program to be launched.

James Gleason seems destined to become a permanent resident of the film colony, as it is reported he has contracted for the writing of dialog for three pictures, one for Pathe, one for Warner Brothers and one for Tiffany Productions.

A current rumor has Florence Reed about to take a try at the talking motion pictures, with talk that she will appear in a screen version of her stage success, *The Shanghai Gesture*, heard from many sources.

Lewis Milestone, Universal Pictures director, in charge of production of *Ali's Quiet on the Western Front*, was injured by an explosion during the filming of a scene of the picture Monday, although he was saved from serious injury by a German helmet, which he was wearing at the time. Milestone was struck by flying timbers thrown into the air by the explosion.

First Ufatone Talkies Ready

Six productions, including one Jannings, due in N. Y. from Germany next week

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The first six Ufatone productions shipped from Germany are due to arrive in New York next week. This is the first group of talking pictures made in Germany by Ufa and includes one Emil Jannings production, *Blue Angel*, with Marlene Dietrich in the leading feminine role and directed by Erich Pommer and Joseph Sternberg.

The others include *Loose Waltz*, an all-talking musical with Lillian Harvey, John Patton and George Alexander, directed by Erich Pommer and W. Thiele; *Immortal Vagabond*, music and dialog drama, with Liaine Hald and Gustave Froelich, directed by Joe May and Gustave Ucicky; *Heart's Melody*, with Willy Fritsch and Dita Parlow, directed by Erich Pommer and Hanns Schwartz; *The Last Company*, with Conrad Veidt, directed by Joe May and Kurt Burnhardt; and *The White Devil*, with Ivan Mosjakin and Lil Dagover.

The Ufa organization turned out some of the most successful silent productions in the last few years, and its dialog films in a foreign tongue will be watched with interest. It is believed that there is a great enough foreign element in the larger American cities interested in pictures to make these films successful here.

New Television Device Demonstrated in Frisco

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 11.—A new television device was demonstrated this week by its inventor, Philo Farnsworth, in San Francisco. Designed expressly for a synchronized hookup to any type of A. C. radio receiving set, the new television unit is expected to revolutionize radio.

The test was made by the young inventor, a 23-year-old University of Utah graduate, under the scientific patronage of William Huntington Crocker, San Francisco capitalist. The Kemper Corporation, a California radio manufacturer, has secured exclusive control of the unit. It was announced by Edgar M. Peak, an official of the company. Peak states that plans are being made to operate a television broadcasting station in this city within 60 days.

Dressler and Moran

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—Marie Dressler and Polly Moran have been cast together in a comedy that will be directed by Charles Riesner. No title selected as yet.

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Presentation Notes

PAUL ASH returns to the Oriental Theater, Chicago, as m. c. January 24, probably for one week only.

THE ROXY stage presentation is being held over a second week, due to the popularity of the feature, *Hof for Paris*, which it seems is developing into a second *Cook-Eyed World*. The revue is called *Son Soir Parée*.

PUBLIC STAGE UNITS will soon play split weeks in Des Moines, Omaha, Dallas and San Antonio. At present no definite schedules have been made, but it seems that commencing Friday, January 24, *Farmyard Frolics*, which started out as *Vegetarian Days*, will play the Palace, and on Monday, January 27, go into the Texas, San Antonio, for the first part of the week. On Friday, January 31, *Velvet Revue* opens at the Paramount, Omaha, and the following Monday plays four days at the Paramount, Des Moines.

TAMPA PERSONALITY TRIO, a local popular song and dance act of Tampa, Fla., made its presentation debut New Year's Eve at the beautiful Tampa Theater and proved a decided hit. It is scheduled to appear there for an indefinite run. The trio is composed of Dan Haselmire, Claire Boudrey and Naice Prince. The routines are performed in the mezzanine of the theater, this being the first time such an idea has been introduced to local audiences.

CHARLES NIGGEMEYER has discontinued the production of presentation units for the Public Circuit. After serving as production head for the Public units in Chicago, he came to act in a like capacity for the shows produced here in the East. Niggemeyer was with the production department in the East for several years. The work of staging the units now falls to Jack Partington, Frank Cambria, Boris Petroff and Louis McDermott. The last named is working on *Tip Toppers*, which was left incomplete by the departed Niggemeyer, and opens at the Olympia, New Haven. The cast includes Harry and Grace Dixon, Darling Twins and a Fred Evans Ensemble.

THE LOVE PARADE, Maurice Chevalier's splendid musical romance which is much longer than the accustomed program feature, has necessitated the withholding of the Public unit, *Red Rhythm*, from playing the Olympia, New Haven, this week. It makes its initial appearance instead this week at the Metropolitan, Boston. The show is built around American Indian themes and atmosphere. The featured attraction is the renowned U. S. Indian Reservation Band. This is a Jack Partington show, with the remainder of the cast composed of Joe May and Doty, Geraldine and a donkey act, cryptically titled *Genusium*. There is also a Seravo ensemble.

HARRY RICHMAN is being held over for a second week at the Brooklyn Paramount. Richman will bring his songs and patter into the New York Paramount week following his present engagement.

JEAN FINLEY, congenial Public publicity director of units, has returned to his eighth-floor office in the Paramount Building after a brief Christmas vacation in Dallas, Tex.

NICK LUCAS is the first of the big shots to appear at the Oriental, Chicago, following its new policy to offer headline presentation acts. Lucas brings his crooning voice and lulling guitar in for a week, commencing January 16.

BERT GORDON, comedian, joins a Chicago Public B unit this week at the Oriental, Chicago, and will successively play the Granada, Marbro, Chicago, and Fisher, Detroit, houses.

A NUMBER of well-known vaudeville attractions have been secured for Loew's de luxe presentation shows. These include Mills and Shay; Runaway Four, acrobatic comedians; Lou Holts, singing comedian and m. c.; Fortunello and Cimilino, foreign clowns, and John Maxwell, who does that interesting "male and female" characterization.

WALTER NILLSON, eccentric cycling clown, recently caught at Loew's Delaney, has been booked by the William Morris office for a four weeks' engage-

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ment at London presentation houses. He sails January 15.

IRVING AARONSON and his music-making Commanders will sojourn for several weeks in Miami. They are booked for the Roman Pools Casino, commencing this week.

CY LANDRY and Bernard and Henry play this week at the Fisher, Detroit.

THE JUGGLING Serge Flash has been booked for the Capitol, New York, week of January 17.

DE BELL AND LEE, dancers, have been booked by William Morris for a few weeks' engagement at the Kit-Cat Club, London.

JED DOOLEY, comedian, has been signed to appear in a new Public unit, opening at the Olympia, New Haven, week of January 24.

BARTO AND MANN, who made a considerable hit in their last Public appearance at the Paramount, New York, in the Anniversary Show, will rejoin the revue this week at Buffalo and play thru the Chicago Public houses inclusive.

WARNER PRESENTATION houses will feature quite a neat crew of vaudeville acts during the next few weeks. Joe and Willie Hale will play four weeks in Warner houses, opening this week at the Enright, Pittsburgh. Allan and Canfield are this week at the Stanley, Utica, and next week at the Earle, Philadelphia. Colby and Murphy are this week at the Enright, and the following session finds them ensconced at the Earle. The latter house will shelter the clown, Fery Cowey, this week, while the Enright commences its present stage show with, among others, Bayes and Speck, Joe Penner, who moves along to the Earle the following week, and Doris Roche.

Sound Installations

ABERDEEN, Miss.—Temple Theater.
ALGONA, Ia.—Call Opera House.
ALICE, Tex.—Texas Theater.
BALTIMORE—Waverly Theater.
BRITT, Ia.—Princess Theater.
BROOKLYN—Werba's and Van Buren theaters.
BROWNSVILLE, Tex.—Capitol and Queen theaters.
BUDAPEST—Omnia Theater.
CARCADIA, Wis.—Strand Theater.
CLEVELAND, O.—National Theater.
CLEVELAND, Tex.—Palace Theater.
COLBY, Wis.—Badger Theater.

COLEMAN, Tex.—Howell and Son theaters.

COLUMBUS, Miss.—State and Princess theaters.

COON RAPIDS, Ia.—Lyric Theater.

CROSBYTON, Tex.—Queen Theater.

EAST BALTIMORE, Md.—Red Wing Theater.

EASTLAND, Tex.—Connolee Theater.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—Liberty Theater.

ESTHERVILLE, Ia.—Grand Theater.

FT. RILEY, Kan.—Post Theater.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb.—Island Theater.

GRAPEVINE, Tex.—Palace Theater.

HOLTON, Kan.—Perkins Theater.

HULL, Que.—Laurier Theater.

KANSAS CITY, Kan.—Gautier Theater.

LLANO, Tex.—Lantex Theater.

LOCK HAVEN, Pa.—Martin Theater.

LOVING, N. Mex.—Palace Theater.

LUTON, Eng.—Alma Super Kinema Theater.

MALVERN, Ia.—Empress Theater.

MANCHESTER, Ia.—Piazza Theater.

MARISSA, Ill.—Gem Theater.

MARLIN, Tex.—Rex Theater.

MINNEOLA, Tex.—Select Theater.

MONESSEY, Pa.—Star Theater.

MOUNT AYE, Ia.—Princess Theater.

MULESHOW, Tex.—Lone Star Theater.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn.—Princess Theater.

NEW HAMPTON, Ia.—Potter's Fireman's Theater.

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—Rivoli Theater.

NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.—Orpheum Theater.

PAMPA, Tex.—Griffith's Theater.

PHILADELPHIA.—Savoy and Family theaters.

PITTSBURGH, Kan.—Capitol Theater.

ROCKWELL, Ia.—Empress Theater.

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—Spreckels Theater.

SAN SABA, Tex.—Ritz Theater.

SCHUYLER, Neb.—Bohemian National Hall.

SHAWNEE, Okla.—Griffith's Theater.

SONORA, Tex.—La Vista Theater.

SPRAY, N. C.—Central Y. M. C. A. Theater.

SPOKANE, Wash.—Majestic Theater.

THOMASTON, Conn.—Opera House.

TOLEDO, O.—Bohm Theater.

TRENTON, Mo.—Hubbell and Plaza theaters.

TROY, N. Y.—Astor Theater.

UNIONTOWN, Pa.—State Theater.

VASSALE, Tex.—Princess Theater.

WALSEY, S. D.—Cozy Theater.

WARREN, O.—Ohio Theater.

WASHBURN, Wis.—Rex Theater.

WILMINGTON, Del.—Park Theater.

WOODWARD, Okla.—Woodward Theater.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.—Uptown and Rialto theaters.

ture in his exploitation campaign. The Binghamton Press offered prizes for the best discussion on the difference between the modern maiden and the one of years ago. The local radio station broadcast the theme song from the picture every night a week before it opened its engagement, giving the play dates and the theater a boost. Framed one sheets were placed in the waiting rooms of the bus and railroad stations in the city. Clothing and furniture stores provided the window displays on this production.

BROADWAY MELODY (M-G-M)—The Union Pacific used 10,000 hangers on excursion trains running into Denver when this production played the Ogden Theater. This stunt was paid for by the railroad. Five thousand heralds were sent out in a direct-mail campaign. The Sun Drug Store Company furnished six windows for the campaign and the local Brunswick Company 10. The Kress Store donated a large window exclusively to the music and the production. Seven dance places around the city plugged the music both over the radio and to their patrons for a week before the engagement opened. The campaign was assisted by a M-G exploiter.

SALLY (F. N.)—A National tieup that will be of distinct benefit to the exhibitors showing this picture has been arranged with the Pharoah Drapery Company, manufacturer, whereby the Pharoah Company will arrange window displays in all department stores throughout the country using its line of goods at the same time the picture is being played locally.

STAMP TIEUP FOR KIDDIE SHOWS—Reeves Epsy is to be credited for making a tieup several weeks ago, whereby all managers of Warner circuit houses were able to secure stamps of foreign denominations from the International Stamp Distributing Corporation to be used at kids' shows. The stamps cost two cents per pack; each pack containing eight stamps, and are great material to be used where the special kid shows are not booming as they should be.

WELCOME DANGER (Para.)—Julius Curley, of the Stanley staff, Philadelphia, planned a classified ad in the local newspapers that created a lot of comment. It was picked up by a couple of columnists and resulted in a great deal of publicity for the production. Curley ran an ad in the paper that read: "Wanted a man with an ox who can impersonate Harold Lloyd to work in connection with the star's first talking comedy, *Welcome Danger*. Apply with ox at the Stanley Theater." One columnist in the city wanted to know how the ox could read the ad to answer it.

DISRAELI (Warners)—I. J. Hoffman, of the Roger Sherman Theater in New Haven, pulled a good stunt on this picture when it played his house. Hoffman had 2,500 cards run off in script that read: "I am sorry that I did not see you before leaving for California. We are having a great trip. Saw a marvelous picture last evening, *George Arliss*, in *Disraeli*. Remember *Disraeli*, the first Jewish prime minister England ever had. Notice this picture advertised in the New Haven papers today. Don't miss it." The cards were sent to Omaha and mailed from there to make the stunt seem more realistic. They bore an Omaha date line.

NEWSBOYS' MATINEE—Larry Jacobs, of the Stanley-Warner Theater, Pittsburgh, made a hit with *The Pittsburgh Press* when he invited all the newsboys of that paper to a special show exclusively for them. The *Press* gave the theater a double spread on the current attraction that was opening. It resulted in additional business without expense or effort to the theater. The moral is: Play to the newspapers whenever possible.

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, 1560 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

LUCKY IN LOVE (Pathe) — Sidney Davidson, manager of the Colony Theater in New York, introduced a systematic campaign to sell this feature when it played his house. Morton Downey sang over the radio and plugged the feature on several occasions. The publishers of the music also gave the picture a boost by having it played over various radio stations, with the theater getting a break with the announcements of the playing time. Twenty-five stores in the metropolitan area gave window displays on the record, many playing it out over the street via an amplifier. All the songs from the production received window displays in the near-by stores. A special photo showing Downey in a new automobile with a banner of the picture was used in the windows and showrooms of over 150 car dealers in New York, Westchester and Northern New

Jersey. Oil paintings were used in the lobby with panels before and during the run of the picture. Heraldry were used the week preceding the engagement.

SHOW OF SHOWS (Warners)—The recent tieup formed by Witmark & Sons, music publishers, on the feature song of this production provided a distribution of 500,000 heralds in Chicago by a direct-mail campaign when the People's Gas & Electric Company of that city mailed out its monthly statements to Chicago homes and business houses. This monster piece of work must be credited to S. A. Serwer, of the Witmark office, who made all contacts on the stunt.

OUR MODERN MAIDENS (M-G-M)—Fred Perry, manager of the Strand Theater, Binghamton, N. Y., included an interesting Discussion Contest on this fea-

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"The Golem"

(NO DISTR. CREDIT)
At the Film Guild Cinema

Revival of one of the earliest and best foreign productions to be given domestic showing. Film was treated with much fanfare and ballyhoo when first exhibited at the Criterion Theater, playing there as a two-a-day special seven or more years ago. Now, by chance, the Film Guild has excavated a print of the picture and is exhibiting it along with Pola Negri in *A Woman of the World*, which should have been the temperamental Polish star's swan song and wasn't, thereby depleting the Lasky-Zukor coffers of some several thousand dollars for the remainder of her contract.

The Golem is a somberly told and fantastic legend of the Ghetto Jews of Prague during the very dark middle ages. In an attempt to stave off being driven out of the city by the king's edict, the chief rabbi makes a clay figure, a product of his own mind, a super automaton. This figure is instrumental in saving the king's life when the rafters of the palace fell in due to the blasphemous jesting of the old rabbi by the carousing court. But the mute being, after his work is completed, desires to still live and his trek thru the ghetto is strewn with death and desolation. Finally a small child picks off his breast the star, which contains the magic work which gave him life. Thus he returns to clay again and the pious community rejoices once more.

Photography and direction excellent, the weird and supernatural atmosphere being well depicted. Rudolph Schildkraut is splendid as the chief rabbi.
S. M. S.

"Throw of the Dice"

(CAPT. AUTEN DISTR., 1540 B'WAY)
At the 55th Street Playhouse

Following in the wake of those other Hindu productions, *Shiraz* and *The Light of Asia*, this latest picture is a gorgeous pageantry of Oriental splendor and color. Film was produced in India by the Ufa director, Franz Osten, with the same principals who played in the earlier efforts. This includes the beautiful actress Seeta Devi, a native girl with undeniably comely appearance and charm. The picture has been carefully executed with authenticity in producing the exotic atmosphere of the country with its carefully worked-out attention for the settings and costumes. Perhaps the most artistic film to come out of India, which, judging from the few efforts it has done, has made them all creations of artistic merit. There is a languid, chattering mood pervading the entire work, and if its dream-like atmosphere at times appears to slacken its action and produce a static tempo this effect is highly effective and quite concomitant with the theme of the picture.

The story is an adaptation of a Hindu legend concerning the romance and adventure of two powerful kings who love the same woman, Sumitra. Thru intrigues of court, pageants and love scenes, the tale reaches its climax after the many details have been recounted with much skill in the acting, direction and excellent camera work. Picture should have popular appeal in houses other than the so-called "art" cinemas.
S. M. S.

"The Farmer's Wife"

(BRITISH INTERNATIONAL)

At the Little Carnegie Playhouse.

The far-famed beauties of the traditional English country side, especially the quiet and reposeful landscapes of the Devonshire country, is the distinctive feature that surrounds the stolid and awkward simplicity of Eden Phillpott's comedy, now transformed to the screen by an English company. Insofar as atmosphere characterizes the fable of this Victorian Lothario, the sedate farmer, Sweetland, who a wife-hunting would go, this innocuous bucolic romance is unsurpassed. In fact, the plot is so interwoven around the locale that it becomes an intricate study to discover just where the story arises and the atmosphere leaves off. There is a careful attention to detail, such as the authentic representation of English country houses, their appointments and the reconstruction of the natives of that enervating era (the comedy recalls thru setting and habitations the twilight of the Victorian age, or its lapping over into the early days of the present century) are so fully bodied etched with their strait-laced

NEW FILMS

Caught in New York

moral propriety, their high sense of trivial decorum (should we overlook the hysterical flutterings of the "full blown and over" coyness of the buxom Mary Hearn), that one may revel in the portrayal of these seemingly daguerrotypes folk, instead of trying to enjoy the static-paced and unimportant story.

Alfred Hitchcock has captured some beautiful shots, while his delineation of comedy situations seems forced and heavy.

Jameson Thomas unwittingly hides his histrionic light under a bushel of bewhiskered appendages and makeup, but aside from this too theatrical appearance he does fairly well as the prosperous farmer who wanted his women "handsome, stout of back and an acquisition to his scullery".

Lillian Hall-Davis is the girl with those requisites, who is finally, after her master's several disappointments in love, rescued from the servant's quarters to grace his station as the new farmer's wife.

Hardly what one would enjoy as entertainment, were he anything but an antiquarian or landscape admirer.
S. M. S.

"The Aviator"

(WARNER VITAPHONE)

At the Beacon

The ornate and decorative Beacon Theater, recently acquired by the Warner people, is evidently being used for first-run program pictures, not capable of meriting runs at their houses, all of which seem to hold forth with special-run productions. *Tiger Rose* and *Second Choice* were both exhibited here for their initial metropolitan runs, and now *The Aviator*, a frail but heavily gaged picture, is holding forth. The film is an adaptation of a play by James Montgomery, a drama which escapes memory as to its production date. Roy Del Ruth directed and can only be recommended for his treatment of the hilariously funny stunt-flying scenes, some of which lack authentic, with the rest of this burlesque sequence possessing neat trick studio work that is pretty convincing.

Edward Everett Horton and Patsy Ruth Miller are featured, and their parts are merely a rebash of the ones they played in *The Hottentot*. In fact the theme is dangerously patterned after that latter effort, with the only difference being its aerial atmosphere instead of an equestrian one. Again Horton is made out to be ridiculously stupid, by his absent-mindedness, his vacillation and his perpetually upset mood. But Horton is an engaging farceur of the obvious and trivial emotions and carries off his characterization with much fun and excitement. Especially does he ring the bell in the cleverly worked out scene in which he makes his flying debut, with the unprogrammed stunt flyer also worthy of praise.

Patsy Ruth Miller is flat and too ingenuous. The girl is playing down, not up, to what she can best do. Dialog when it hits is packed with swell gags. Should be popular in neighborhood houses.
S. M. S.

"The Rampant Age"

(CONTINENTAL PICTURE)

At Loew's New York Theater

This one offers little in the way of entertainment. It is a rewrite of about all the flaming youth productions that have been trotted out in the past and mainly depicts just how unnaturally American youth can be imagined today.

The story is that of a good little girl, Merna Kennedy, who doesn't care to run around to wild parties, but does in the end to give some competition to the blond hussy who is stealing her boy friend, James Murray.

Virtue, of course, wins out in the end, after a long and hectic struggle, and the girl takes the boy home after he has learned a lesson. Eddie Borden is included in the cast of principals and is the most realistic performer of the lot. His drunken role is deserving of a much better production than this.

It's not much to Phil Rosen's credit that he is the director of the piece.

Could have been made into a fairly decent program picture, but as it is, it's a total loss except to those small-town houses whose patrons love to see this sort of thing and thank heaven they are away from the imagined evils of the great cities.

Sound is okay, but this is one not to get excited over.
JAMES F. LUNDY.

"Her Private Affair"

(PATHE)

At the Colony

Ann Harding interprets a very neurotic and high-strung society woman in her latest starring vehicle for Pathe. The theme is a basically false one, built upon the surmise that a woman can commit a murder, give herself away by the most obvious of actions and yet manage to keep those around her entirely unsuspecting of her guilt. This idea is made even more incredulous when her husband and admirer are both the magistrate and barrister, respectively, who are actively engaged in the prosecuting of the case; in this instance the finger of crime pointing to the shell-shocked servant of the deceased party.

Aside from the undeniable stupidity of the two main male characters in not associating some connection from the distraught mannerisms of the lady who buries her past lover by the expeditious and conveniently singular route of gun work with the mystery in question, the story is haphazardly related and far too sketchy in its individual scenes to make for interest. The heavy barrage of emotional fireworks that Miss Harding is put under never once arouses sympathy, her lovely and sartorially-impeccable appearance being coldly wasted in a film which contains the core of a good dramatic conflict gone wrong.

Paul Stein has so concentrated everything upon the star's woe that he presumably forgot all else. Harry Bannister plays the judge and husband in a too-good-to-be-true martyr fashion, while John Loder in a pleasing voice is adequate as the boy friend.

Its chances of popular success are limited.
S. M. S.

"Navy Blues"

(METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER)

At the Capitol Theater

William Haines, the smart aleck boy of the M-G-M lot, has one of his usual typed roles in this, his first all-dialog production. Instead of the usual sporting or college locale, naturally, from the title one understands he is one of those youths who have joined the navy to see the world and play the girls. This atmosphere allows for plenty of rough and tumble, numerous wisecracks and humorous comedy situations, all blending into a rather entertaining picture.

Haines was first heard on the screen in a few sequences in *Afias*, Jimmy Valentine. His rendition of lines at that time seemed a little forced. However, careful direction, study and a character that is thoroly in sympathy with the Haines personality have given the lad the assurance he needed.

Haines has the role of a fresh sailor, who finds his women, fools them and forgets them. The ship arriving in port has its complement invited to a social given by the Uplift League, which is just one of those things to the lads who like their women fast and their liquor strong. Here Haines meets Anita Page, who mistakes his attentions for love, and after disobeying her parents and leaving her home for the sailor, finds that she is just another evening's pleasure for this irresponsible likeable youth.

Thinking he had intended marriage she is forced into a rather precarious existence when he returns to his ship and is ordered to Panama. But all the time he is away he realizes that she is the one girl in his life and returns to her home town to right the wrong. He is forced to search from place to place for her and then, to get her away from the man she is attending a cabaret with, he is forced into a rough and tumble fight. But it all ends happily, and that's that.

Haines as the irresponsible, obstreper-

ous sea-going youngster is given excellent support by Karl Dane in the role of a Swedish sailor whose bickerings and pranks with Haines are reminiscent of Victor McLaglen and Edmund Lowe in *The Cock-Eyed World*. Dane's portrayal lends much to the amusing comedy situations that creep in thru the greater part of the picture. Anita Page in the role of the girl is nicely cast. Elythe Chapman has the role of the mother, and J. C. Nugent that of the father. The art of the excellent character actress, Elythe Chapman, has not been accentuated by the sound of voice. Miss Chapman handled the reading of the lines with a finesse that is delightful. J. C. Nugent knows his stage too well to bring any wrong impression in character portrayal. Also nicely cast.

Clarence Brown's direction had been nicely sustained thruout with the picture hitting it off at a fast tempo at the start and holding it thru to the finish.
H. D. S.

"The Survival"

(UNUSUAL PHOTOPLAYS CORP.)
At the Cameo

Film is a heavy-handed screenization of one of Balzac's lesser classics, based on the Frenchman's *Splenders de Miseres de Courtisans*. Photoplay version has been juggled around to make the role of the escaped criminal, Jean Collin, played by the gargantuan Paul Wegener, the main character. Manfred Noa directed, and his technique smacks of the pre-war vintage. The plot moves snaillike and is quite a potpourri of melodramatic intrigue, bizarre scenes and what not so dear to the fiction fashioners of the middle 19th Century.

Wegener, a fugitive from justice, crashes in his car, driven by his faithful Chinese servant, Pascard, well acted by Nien Son Ling, with the Marquis de Herrera. The latter, who is an exact prototype of the criminal, is killed. Wegener poses as the marquis and establishes quarters in the best society of Paris. He adopts a handsome youth and sets about to destroy the boy's love for a beautiful courtesan. He persuades the girl to become the mistress of the rich Nuocinger, making her believe her lover's chances of success in the world will be better realized without her. When the youth discovers this the pair reproach the fraudulent marquis, who tells them he is the escaped criminal. Before he can be taken into custody by the police he kills himself, declaring he must have his freedom even at the point of death.

Wegener brings a seriousness to his role that at times belies the adventurous and daring character he enacts. The youth is well played by Werner Feuterrier, who carries a too obviously crude make-up. Renee, the demi-mondaine, is the same Andree La Fayette who was Tribby in the American production of that name several years ago. She has an interesting personality, but little talent for acting. For double-feature grinds and second-run houses.
S. M. SANDERS.

"Glorifying the American Girl"

(PARAMOUNT)
At the Paramount

Ziegfeld's long-awaited production that has been hailed for many months as being the tornado of the year arrived at the Paramount as a mere zephyr that will find itself dubbed as one of the many mediocre pictures of the year.

From beginning to end the production has been cut and recut into so many pieces that even its coauthor and director, Millard Webb, couldn't quite assemble it again in proper order.

The story, if you would call it that, is one of a song plugger, Mary Eaton, who has fond dreams of going on the stage. Her piano plugger is in love with her and doesn't want her to remain, but she spurns his love and plays the tank towns in vaudeville with a not so good ham, Dan Henley. God's gentle gift to the legitimate theater, a Ziegfeld agent, approaches the pair and asks them to come into New York for a tryout before the great impresario. They come, but only the girl is selected, which doesn't worry her partner at all, who has her under contract for a 50-50 split of her salary.

The boy in the meantime has fallen in love with a girl, Olive Shea, who succeeded Mary, and as the car carrying Mary to her opening night runs down her successor, unknowingly, the boy rushes to her side in the hospital and they are married. Mary gets a telegram to that effect just as she is supposed to

go on the stage, and while she does not deny her public, it is with tears in her eyes that she goes on with the show.

As this point for some reason the plot of the production ceases and a gigantic revue commences. The greater part is in technicolor and the entire latter part shows a great deal of preparation and talent. Eddie Cantor does his tailor-shop act, which is the hit of the entire bill. One receives the impression that the audience would have preferred that the rest be left out and Cantor substituted, for it's a certainty that Helen Morgan and Rudy Vallee are no bargains in the entertainment they provide. The public is rapidly becoming fed up on Vallee, and he is tolerated simply because he's there.

Both Morgan and Vallee require about five minutes apiece to do their stuff. The Morgan girl sings *What Wouldn't I Do for That Man* and Rudy croons *I'm Just a Pagan Lover*. New York audiences have heard this last one so much that they are about to believe Rudy is kidding them or something.

Cantor holds the spotlight for about 10 minutes and keeps the audience in shouts of amusement the whole time.

The production as a whole lacks many features that, if incorporated, would have made it one of the hits of the year. The story was badly handled and dropped off leaving Mary Eaton in the hands of the heavy, who was all set to collect half her stipend for goodness knows how long. Olive Shea, voted the most beautiful radio singer in 1928, was not given the part she deserved. This girl, with a little training, is going to amount to something in pictures yet.

Many beautiful sets are used. The one given to Helen Morgan ranks with anything Roxy ever staged in his emporium, and the lighting effects and spectacular method used are nothing short of breath-taking.

Irving Berlin, Walter Donaldson, Dave Stamper and Larry Spier are credited with the music, Ted Shawn with the ballet ensembles, and revue finales designed and staged by John Harkrider.

This is what is generally classed as an audience picture, and the names on the billing will get them and possibly please, but it's a sure thing it's not what Paramount expected it to be. J. F. L.

Sound Shorts

"Sky Boy" (METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER) At the Capitol

Harry Langdon, who faded from pictures some few years ago and since that time has had a difficult time recovering his position on the screen, makes his return to filmdom in this Hal Roach comedy directed by Charles Rogers.

The wistful Langdon is an excellent bet for the sound pictures. Having seen him in vaudeville, after his sudden departure from the screen, one necessarily feared for him in dialog films. However, the picture has been so nicely contrived, the gags and pieces of business so well placed and the direction so neatly handled that thru this one effort Langdon must be given his place on the talking screen.

The picture does not allow a great deal of dialog by Langdon, but what he has to do is well done and so thoroly in keeping with the character and the Langdon personality that it stands out. Langdon, in his full-length features, it was claimed, had made an effort to do too much, having written, directed and played the lead in his last two stories. Under another's direction and with someone else's material he comes thru.

The film cannot be called a world beater, tho it will make a good filler on any program and should certainly serve to re-establish the star on the screen. H. D. S.

"Ladrones" (Night Owls) (M-G-M ALL-TALKING SPANISH COMEDY)

At Loew's 116th St. Theater

With Warner Brothers attempting to prove the foreign deflation by the production of German-speaking films, Hal Roach and the M-G-M forces have produced a Spanish short, primarily made for consumption in the Spanish-speaking countries. Picture was recently given its premiere at Loew's 116th Street Theater, which is located in the center of a neighborhood composed mainly of natives of a more or less Iberian extraction, with the majority immigrants from the

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Latin-American countries and the West Indies. As an index to how these people take to pictures speaking their own patois, Manager Grattan reports a lock-out for the first day, more than 8,000 eager patrons indulging in lusty laughter at the slap-stick antics of Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. The picture was booked for two days, being an experiment of the M-G-M foreign film department to gather its reaction from a foreign audience before exhibiting it in other countries. Picture, regardless of its shortcomings in both comedy and dialog usage, will go over in these countries because of its novelty of Spanish dialog and will no doubt aid toward alleviating foreign antagonism now so prevalent toward American productions. James Parrott directed the short. The dialog is of the most primary nature, consisting merely when it is used, and not often at that, of short curt expressions, salutations, epithets and other figures of speech, never hardly more than one-word remarks.

The usually loquacious and amusing buffoons, the slap-stick Rover boys of comedy, Laurel and Hardy, evidently couldn't master their Spanish grammar in time for the production schedule of the picture. Their severely economical use of dialog to is unfortunately overcome by their indulgence in the stupidest and most utterly crass antics that has fallen to their lot since they forged to the front as comedy short headliners. Only the novelty of the new language saves the short from being a total flop. As a pioneering effort it deserves success, but on that strength only. S. M. S.

"Chili Con Carmen" (UNIVERSAL)

STYLE—Animated cartoon.
TIME—Six minutes.

One of the best animated cartoons that has been yet paraded before an audience since the inception of sound. Oswald has to choose between the elephant and cat dancer, which keeps his breath coming in short pants. Later shots of a bull-fight burlesque keep the audience in a roar.

This cartoon exemplifies the possibilities of sound and animation. Whereas it would be only another comedy in a silent version it is a scream with the sound accompaniment.

No exhibitor should miss this one. J. F. L.

"Wednesday at the Ritz" (PATHE)

STYLE—Two-reel playlet.
TIME—Twelve minutes.

It is impossible to put a great deal of plot into 12 minutes of screening time, but in this variety brand Pathe comedy Philip Tannura, the director, has saturated the production with as much comedy plot as possible.

Evelyn Knapp plays the lead with Charles Kemper and while it would have been possible to improve on Kemper, whose voice sounds greatly like that of Charles Ruggles in a drunken role, it would have been impossible to secure a more desirable lead than Knapp.

The comedy is well rounded and should prove a hit in any type house. J. F. L.

"Bows and Arrows" (PATHE)

STYLE—Grantland Rice Spotlight.
TIME—Eleven minutes.

This is a very good short, tho not up to the high standard set by the Rice Spotlights in the recent past. It deals with the history of bows and arrows and the first half of the production is devoted strictly to explaining the various features about them.

Some very good shooting is done and while this short will not prove of very great interest to the shooting galleries it will prove a highly desirable short for the better class houses. J. F. L.

The recording is okay.

Roy Evans Assisted by Al Belasco (METRO-MOVIETONE)

STYLE—Black-face comedy, singing and musical.
SETTING—Interior.
TIME—Ten minutes.

Here is an engaging movie short, excellently recorded. Roy Evans unloads his nifty yodeling pipes to good advantage while manipulating the ivories. He is given support in the comedy by Al Belasco, who later joins him with some neat sax, too.

Roy Evans is best while warbling *St. Louis Blues*, giving it a yodeling effect. His voice is ideal for mechanical recording and he will no doubt be seen in many more shorts from time to time. Belasco has very little to do, but his sax playing is good.

The kind of short and snappy talkie that pleases all. S. M. S.

"Ship Ahoy" (PATHE)

STYLE—Animated cartoon.
TIME—Seven minutes.

An Aesop Fable that is above the average in action and entertainment. These fables are being constantly bettered and are on a near par with other producers in the cartoon field. Aesop's Fables at one time were the best animated feature on any screen. For some reason the quality of these shorts reached a low ebb and a sudden rise in their entertainment value is a most welcome thing for exhibitors who have played Pathe shorts for years.

Recording okay and this one will click. J. F. L.

"Badge of Bravery" (UNIVERSAL)

STYLE—Western.
TIME—Fourteen minutes.

Another one of those bucket-of-blood Westerns that are still being played in some small theaters somewhere, tho it has been years since anyone has seen them outside of a projection room.

This production is the old stuff with the gun-fighting hero and the three bad men. Bud Carson appears in this one, which happens to be no credit to himself or the piece.

Good for the mining towns, where the boys like diversity of program and plenty of action. J. F. L.

"A Perfect Day" (M-G-M)

STYLE—Two-reel talking comedy.
TIME—Twenty minutes.

Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy again hit the bull's-eye of good short entertainment in their latest slap-stick talkie, appropriately satirized by the title, *A Perfect Day*. As usual the antics of the pair are confined to a limited space, but within that area they pull some swell gags and horseplay. This time the family prepares to go for a Sunday auto drive. The cantankerous Lizzie balks, however, at every turn, and before they are actually riding away there has been pulled some swell nonsense.

One bit deserves unusual mention, for it represents how infinitely more successful sound has added to comedy possibilities. This comment derives from the scene where the big boy, disgusted with the dumb efforts of his obstreperous pal, gives him a resounding whack on the head with the car clutch. The noise produced by the blow is so perfectly timed with the victim's receiving of the wallop, and with his attending painful pan, that the effect produced upon an audience is positively electric. This is one of the best effects the talkies have yet achieved in the synchronization of sound and action.

Will no doubt be approved of by many. S. M. S.

STAGE SHOWS

Paramount, New York

Modes and Models is the title of this week's stage show at the Paramount. Boris Petroff is credited with its staging and the bill is composed of Rudy Vallee and orchestra; Chester Fredericks, dancer; Duffin and Draper, dancers; Brenck's Golden Horse, an educated animal; Nita Carol, singer, and Montrose, Evans and Reynolds, dancers.

Rudy Vallee had five minutes in the current picture. The audience evidently thought this enough time, as Rudy and his Yankees failed miserably to satisfy. Chester Fredericks did a couple of difficult dances that went over well. Duffin and Draper also scored with their act billed as *Animated Rag Dolls*. Brenck's Golden Horse, who does everything but talk, was clever enough to get a healthy hand that was due mostly to his master's showmanship. Nita Carol and Montrose, Reynolds and Evans were pleasing in their respective songs and dances. The latter team are a trio of fast-stepping boys that know their intricate routines perfectly. They were deserving of a much better spot on the bill.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Crawford played selections from Paramount's *Love Parade* and the song hit *If I Had a Talking Picture of You*. As usual, this industrious couple were well received. J. F. L.

Capitol, New York

Gypsy Dreams, the latest Chester Hale presentation, is sumptuously staged and beautifully costumed, introducing Leon Navara as guest master of ceremonies, presenting Renoff and Renova, the Six White Lilies with Angelo, Estes Jones, Carl Saxton and a group of Chester Hale Girls as well as the Capitolians, who are featuring *Love Me*.

The scene is a woodland setting with the girls attired in gypsy costumes for the first number. A male solo dancer works in this number, doing some nice acrobatic stuff, after which Navara makes his entrance.

A few years ago Navara, then known as Leon Varrava, did a single act in vaudeville. Being a finished musician he takes the stage alone for a few minutes, introducing several selections broken by a short line of comedy chatter. He finishes with a heavy concert number that sends him off to big returns.

The Six White Lilies, a group of male dancers doing a burlesque ballet, score heavily. This aggregation has been seen in the Broadway picture houses numerous times, but always seem to ring the comedy bell, as they did on this appearance.

Renoff and Renova, adagio dancers, were saved for the next-to-closing spot and held it nicely with their intricate and dexterous catches and poses. A husar dance by the Chester Hale Girls is also a feature of the production. H. D. S.

Orchestra and Melody

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Kemp Band To Florida

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Hal Kemp and his orchestra, who last night concluded their third consecutive winter run in the Moorish Grill of the Hotel Manger, have been signed for a 'three months' engagement at the Coral Gables Golf and Country Club, Coral Gables, Fla., opening January 15.

The band, with the exception of Kemp, is slated to leave tonight for the new stand. Kemp will remain over here for a few days and then make the trip by plane.

Schayer Booking Orchestras

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Morey Schayer is a busy man around the Windy City these days booking orchestras and acts for Benner's attractions and is doing very well, having played and booked some of the nicest spots in town this winter, one of which was the New Year's Eve party at the Showmen's League of America, where he furnished a hot five-piece orchestra that was well liked. Morey is a real trouper. Last year he and his wife, Ethel, who is also well known in the business, played the season for the 101 Show.

Smart Set Back Home

CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—The Smart Set Girls Orchestra is back in Canton after a several months vaudeville tour which ended recently in Philadelphia. The band, headed by Helen Lelansky, for the next several weeks will play dances and night clubs in the Canton territory.

Hughie Shea for WHBC

CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—Hughie Shea and his music, one of the leading bands of the Canton district, will be a regular feature at the new Station WHBC opening here soon. The band will also fill engagements out of town from now until spring.

West Coast Office Opened by M. C. A.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The Music Corporation of America has just opened a Pacific Coast office, located in the Oviatt Building, Los Angeles. The new branch will be linked with the present offices in New York City and Chicago to cover the entire United States with M. C. A. attractions. According to J. C. Stein, president of the corporation, the direct results emanating from the California office will be threefold in character: The introducing to the West Coast of some of the popular orchestras of Chicago, New York and other Mid-Western and Eastern localities; the opening up and developing of new business in hitherto restricted territories of Western States, and the extending of orchestral tours to virtually cover every State in the union.

Under the company's systematic routing programs it will now be possible to tour bands from New York thru Chicago to Los Angeles and other points in the West. Each office has jurisdiction over certain States, and the new far West office is the last link in the chain. Incidentally, altho the Coast office is a totally new step, the M. C. A. is already well known in the West thru its novelty service, which supplies special ideas, advertising and novelties to ballrooms, cafes, hotels, lodges and clubs.



"HUSK" O'HARE, whose orchestra has just returned to the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, for an indefinite return engagement. He is one of the best-known dance band leaders in the Middle West.

Tommy Christian At Gibson Hotel

Tommy Christian and his Recording Orchestra last Thursday night began a limited engagement at the Gibson Hotel, Cincinnati, coming here from the popular Mounds Country Club, St. Louis, where the Christian boys enjoyed a sensational four weeks' run. The Gibson booking was arranged by the M. C. A. During the Cincinnati engagement, Tommy and his music makers will be a daily feature over Station WLW.

Kemp's Studio Combo At Boston Restaurant

BOSTON, Jan. 11.—Kemp's Studio Orchestra, which recently concluded a tour of New England picture houses, is now being featured for an indefinite period at the Grand Gardens, Chinese-American restaurant here. The date was arranged by "Pop" Gallagher, veteran Boston booker.

G. Kempton Read, pianist and director of the outfit, is acting as master of ceremonies. Gene Miller and Tommy (Tucker) Moss are recent additions to the outfit.

Carl Fischer Firm In Merger With Conn

The Carl Fischer Musical Instrument Company announces a merger with the C. O. Conn, Ltd., of Elkhart, Ind., whereby the latter agrees to operate the Carl Fischer firm along the same lines as heretofore and with the same personnel. Its retail and mail-order activities will be continued under the name of the Carl Fischer Musical Instrument Company.

Walter S. Fischer will become associated with the new enterprise as a director of the C. O. Conn Company, Ltd.

Jacobs Replaces Watkins

CLEVELAND, Jan. 11.—Merle Jacobs and his Lake Shore Hotel Orchestra has been engaged to knock out the dance melodies at the Clarendon Tent, succeeding Sammy Watkins and his Recording Orchestra, long a big favorite here. Watkins will take his tooters to a Buffalo night club for an indefinite stay.

Joe Burke Credited With String of Hits

Joe Burke, Philadelphia boy, is credited with the greatest succession of song hits of 1929. Teamed with Al Dubin, lyric writer, Burke wrote the musical score for the Warner Bros.' hit, *Gold Diggers of Broadway*. Previous to that, Burke's song, *Carolina Moon*, headed the list of popular music for a period of 19 weeks. His success alone would have assured Burke a place at the head of the list, but he followed that with the score of *Gold Diggers of Broadway*, which contains *Tip Toe Thru the Tulips* and *Painting the Clouds With Sunshine*. The first of these two songs has held first place in popularity and sales for the last several months. Running it a close second is *Painting the Clouds With Sunshine*.

Burke, however, has not retired on his laurels. He has written the musical score of the Warner Bros.' version of the stage hit, *Hold Everything*, which has just been completed in motion picture form. And, according to the pre-hearings of *Watching My Dreams Go By* and *A Darn Fool Woman Like Me*, sung by Winnie Lightner in her latest picture, *She Couldn't Say No*, for which Joe Burke also wrote the music, even greater success is predicted for him.

Denver Musicians Elect

DENVER, Jan. 11.—The Denver Musical Protective Association, at its annual meeting recently, elected the following officers: Michael Muro, president; Harold P. Wurtzbaach, vice-president; F. J. Leibold, recording secretary, and John Herr, financial secretary and treasurer. New members of the executive board are G. A. Foster, James A. Gould, Alex Horst, Wallace C. Nielsen, Frank Spiegl and H. H. Waldmann.

Harry Swift Has Own Unit

PT. WAYNE, Ind., Jan. 11.—Harry Swift, until recently piano player with Ted Lewis at the Coconut Grove in the Hotel Ambassador, Los Angeles, has opened with his own orchestra at the Mandarin Restaurant here.

"Doc" Mize on Tour

DALLAS, Jan. 11.—"Doc" Mize and his band, a nine-piece aggregation, who have been playing at the Hilton Hotel, Abilene, Tex., have just commenced an extended tour thru Central and West Texas. In the Mize roster are Jerome Daily, Joe Hlavaty, "Doc" Mize, "Luke" Grigar, Johnnie Kanak, "Rudy" Doorak, Bill Eberts, "Chink" Smith and Joe Gallagher.

Doyne Dodd Band In New Territory

Doyne Dodd and his Royale Travelers, 10-piece dance and presentation band, who in the past have established an enviable reputation in Northeastern Arkansas and Southeastern Missouri, are at present breaking in new territory thru Southern Illinois. The band boasts of a string of novelty and "hot" arrangements, and Henry (Toby) Eastman is featured in the role of master of ceremonies.

The complete personnel includes Doyne Dodd, director and trumpet; Rey McCallister, trombone and baritone; "Country" Miles, banjo and guitar; "Doc" Pressler, piano and piano-acordion; Henry Smith, drums; Harold Graves, bass; Earley Knowles, reeds; Billy Moore, reeds, and Jimmie Boyd, Jr., reeds. Raymond Drye is handling the publicity and booking.

'Husk' O'Hare At Old Stand

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—"Husk" O'Hare and his Own Band moved into the Stevens Hotel here last Monday night for an indefinite return engagement. The O'Hare organization holds the long-run record for a musical attraction at the Stevens, having appeared there for 32 consecutive weeks in 1928.

Last Saturday night the O'Hare combination concluded a highly successful engagement at the exclusive Casino Club here, where the band was a feature at practically every debut party and fashionable society ball held there during the season just ended.

Bostonians on Home Grounds

Art Bronson and his Bostonian Orchestra are now playing their second winter season thru Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and South Dakota. On the Bronson payroll are Art Bronson, manager and piano; Herb Hannobs, banjo, violin and guitar; Otto (Pete) Jones, trombone and trumpet; Phil Phillips, trumpet and sax; Oddie (Skeeter) Cromwell, reeds; Sammy Alken, reeds, and "Jew Baby" Stewart, drums.

Melody Mart Notes

WERNER JANSEN and Robert Stephen, of The Cleveland Plain Dealer staff, have written a waltz song, entitled *Lenore*.

HOLT, PERRY & SANDERS, INC., of Kansas City, Mo., reports that its latest releases, *Mary Lee* and *Sweethearts of Yesterday*, are being plugged over practically all of the larger stations to big results.

BOB ROBERTS, of Denver, has placed his composition, *Moon Boat*, with the Independent Music Publishers, Sally Mason, blues singer, recently introduced the number for the first time over Station KOA, Denver.

H. W. SLOAN, of Siloam Springs, Ark., has joined the free-lance staff of the I. M. P., and his first number, *Where the Quackin' Flows*, will be released within a few days.

LOYD HUNTLEY and his Isle of Blue Orchestra, of the College Inn, Chicago, recently featured *And How* over a nationwide hookup of the NBC System.

LOUISE M. ROESCH, organist at the new Warner Bros.' Beacon Theater, New York, is featuring *All on Account of You, Why Do I? When Someone Is in Love and For You Took That Too*. The numbers were written by Jack Knebel and Eddie Jones.

WALTER E. NOURBY's Rainbow Ramblers, playing thru New England, are plugging a new ditty, titled *Virginia West*.

SAM SERWER, director of exploitation in the New York offices of M. Witmark & Sons, announces another big coup, effected by Clarence Parrish, of the Chicago Witmark office, in the form of a tieup with the People's Gas Company, of Chicago, on *Singin' in the Bath tub*, novelty song hit from Warner Bros.' *Show of Shows*. The tieup consists of prominent display of the song title in the company's monthly magazine, which goes to 900,000 customers along with

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the monthly gas bill. Serwer says that this monster tieup with the People's Gas Company is only one of the big clean-ups in the tieups made on Singin' in the Bathub, as rarely a day goes by during which he is not approached by the manufacturers of soaps, plumbing supplies and allied industries, offering their services in effecting tieups on the song.

BERNARD POLLACK, sales manager for M. Witmark & Sons, has left New York on an extended tour, which will take him as far as the Pacific Coast. Pollack will be gone for several weeks, and will include every Witmark office in his itinerary.

Ballroom Notes

AKRON, O., Jan. 11.—Doc Perkins and his Iowans will leave East Market Garden here tonight, and tomorrow will open at the Arcadia, Buffalo, N. Y., for an indefinite period. Gordon Cherney, piano and sax, and George Emerson, trumpet and guitar, are recent additions to the combination.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Jan. 11.—Walter E. Noury and his Rainbow Ramblers, now on tour of New England ballrooms, are taking a brief vacation at their headquarters here, before winding up the balance of the trip.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 11.—Moonlight Garden here, Roy C. Dexheimer, owner, gave its final dance of the season New Year's Eve, with Marie Weber and her Music Masters, of Peoria, Ill., furnishing the dance tunes. Manager Dexheimer reports the largest season since he opened the dancant three years ago. The ballroom is being enlarged and remodeled in time for the spring season.

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 11.—Phil Baxter, composer of Piccolo Pete and other well-known hits, filled a six-day engagement with his orchestra at the Ritz Ballroom here recently. The Baxter unit succeeded in drawing a well-filled floor nightly.

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CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—After being closed to dancing since last October, Moonlight Ballroom, at Meyers Lake Park, reopened this week-end. Carl Sinclair continues as manager. The best available traveling bands will be booked for Saturday and Sunday engagements. The ballroom will be operated part time only until May when the season at the park will open and the ballroom will be on a full-time basis.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 11.—A 40 per cent increase in dance hall business is reported by Frank Kellogg, manager and owner of the Garden Dancing Palace here, for the 1929 season compared to previous years. Altho the annual report stated that generally business was quiet, holiday and special dance features brought the total receipts to a larger gross than heretofore. Christmas and New Year's Eve dances were the largest in six years. The hall, the largest ballroom of its kind in the Northwest, was opened just 10 years ago. A feature of the Garden policy is the five-cent dance and the general admission plan. The general admission plan is worked out on the loge system, with tickets issued for seats the same as a theater. Fee is \$1 per couple for the evening. Old-fashioned dancing is coming back here, not alone with the elderly people who patronize public ballrooms, but with the younger crowd as well. At least one night each week is devoted to these programs at the Garden.

A. J. DURSCHLAG'S Musketeers are the featured musical attraction at Toni Silvestro's Restaurant, Cleveland.

JOSEPH SAMPEITRO, orchestra leader, formerly at the Fox Theater, Seattle, Wash., has been named program director at Station KOIN, Portland, Ore.

DUFF MIDDLETON and his orchestral combination have been engaged to furnish special musical numbers in conjunction with the Oberfelder-Ketcham Players at the Crawford Theater, Wichita, Kan. The aggregation is meeting with marked success with its special arrangements.

STANLEIGH MALOTTE is the featured solo organist at the Portland Public Theater, Portland, Ore.

THE OREO ORCHESTRA, under the direction of Al Strleman, has been engaged for the remainder of the season at the Jung Roof, New Orleans.

FRANK MORRIS and his Variety Vendors are now featured at the Hotel Mayflower Roof Garden, Jacksonville, Fla.

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Musical Musings

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BEN BEATY and his orchestra are now in their 11th week of an indefinite engagement at the Cozy Inn Cafe, Fort Wayne, Ind. In the Beaty outfit are (See MUSINGS on page 33)

ALL ORCH. ARRANGEMENTS BY HARRY L. ALFORD.

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Dramatic Stock

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Theater Workers' Greed Suicidal, Say Managers

Reports received at T. S. M. A. headquarters claim unreasonable demands throwing mechanics, actors and musicians idle as companies are forced to close

Reactions of the stock managers to the militant address made by George Julian Houtain to the heads of various branches of the theater's art and industry are in evidence in the form of communications received at T. S. M. A. headquarters, New York. President Harder states in a bulletin to managers that many actors, directors, producers and union men, as well as managers, have telephoned, written or called personally to congratulate the association on the program and policy suggested by Houtain.

This development indicates that Houtain's emphatic declaration that his proposal is not to be disposed of peremptorily by the turt refusal of Canavan and Weber to co-operate is widely echoed and applauded.

The attitude of a great many stock managers is expressed in the response the Houtain challenge drew from Al Jackson, whose sound judgment on matters pertaining to the stock field never fails to command respect. Jackson writes from his own experience and observation:

"All managers should write to headquarters their grievances, telling what these drafts actually do. I had a chance to open a company this year in Springfield, Mass., but the stagehands demanded seven men, at \$75 top. I asked for five men on one-set shows. The business agent agreed with me, but when they had their meeting they still demanded seven. I made four trips there, but they wouldn't budge, with the result that 32 people lost opportunities for work. We can't properly compete with the movies, under present conditions. We have to stint and save. Actors' salaries have been cut so much they can't afford to wear the clothes they should. We should have more leeway to advertise and make our settings finer. Stagehands here are making \$80 to \$120 a week, and most of them have two jobs. I have new men every other show, consequently my stage waits are too long and light cues missed. They have nothing invested except a pair of overalls, while some of the actors must work for as low as \$50, pay hotel bills and try to buy clothes.

"Of course, I know you are hearing this on every side, but that's just what we want. Maybe the actor and manager will finally get the guts to put up a real fight, and throw that old slogan away, 'You can't lick the stagehands'. After all, I guess we won't have to lick them, because they will lick themselves by putting us out of business."

Jack Lynn Now Restaurateur

WARRENSBURG, N. Y., Jan. 13.—Jack Lynn, whose stock company played New England houses over a period of long years, is now operating a restaurant here. But Jack has not deserted the stage entirely. With his wife, Clara, he is appearing before lodges in various parts of New York State, presenting old-time sketches. Lynn carries sets for the bits.

Cannon Stock Reopening For Season in Zanesville

CANTON, O., Jan. 13.—Robert Cannon, who for the last two years has fostered dramatic stock companies at the Grand Opera House here, and whose company closed with *Irene*, has shifted his activities to Zanesville, O., where at the Welles Theater he will open with the company an indefinite run of stock. The company is now in rehearsal in that city.

Court Dissolves McGarry, Inc.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 13.—By a court order, the McGarry Majestic Players, Inc. of Buffalo, have dissolved. The company was organized May 24, 1923, with a stated capitalization of \$500. It was authorized to engage in a general theatrical business. Subscribers to the capital stock were: Garry McGarry, New York City, and Charles P. Franchot and Renee Linabury, Buffalo. The certificate of dissolution was filed with the Secretary of State.

OWING TO ILLNESS in her family, Frances Kain, ingenue, withdraw temporarily from the Brockton Players, Brockton, Mass., leaving immediately for her home in Beachhurst, L. I.

Minneapolis Wants Drama

Movement afoot to establish permanent home for spoken plays

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 13.—A permanent dramatic stock company, backed by business men, or a resident unit of the Theater Guild for Minneapolis, is the project planned by Mrs. Carlisle M. Scott and associates. Mrs. Scott is well known as a local impresario. She has been working three years on the project now in hand.

During these three years she has brought to Minneapolis various Theater Guild companies, such as the company playing *Forgy* here last week. Later in this month she is bringing the Theater Guild Repertory Company in three plays never before seen here. The ultimate idea is to establish here the only resident Guild unit in the Northwest. Chicago has the closest unit to this city. It is proposed to build a theater and office building in which the permanent company will be housed.

Performances given by the Guild companies on tour have been a strong incentive, and popular interest in the project is widespread and growing, the fame of the spoken drama being keenly felt here since the withdrawal of road shows because of impossible routing.

Morosco Plans Stock For Tryouts in Phoenix

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 13.—A stock theater to be used chiefly for the production of new plays is the project Oliver Morosco is considering for Phoenix. The producer and playwright has been here for a conference with representatives of the Public-Rickards-Nace interests, the object of which is the taking over of the Apache Theater by Morosco.

The deal is believed to have been closed, as tentative arrangements have been made for renovating and redecorating the theater. It is Morosco's intention to stage Richard Walton Tally's *The Thrill Lady* as the initial production. He has been endeavoring to interest the Shuberts in the project, with what success is not known. He says, however: "I have been assured of the support of many local organizations and individuals who are interested in the continued growth and progress of Phoenix. In my opinion this will do much toward the further development of the city and will attract population."

The plan provides also for playing road shows of the first class at the Apache. "With a main-line road running thru Phoenix there is no reason why large producers cannot book their shows into this city," he says.

Moroni Olson To Tour Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Jan. 13.—The Moroni Olson Players are in Ogden preparing another play prior to a 10-week tour over Coast cities, ranging from Santa Barbara to Seattle. Altho Mr. Olson has not played Utah cities this year, his work is well known here and his players come chiefly from this territory, hence most of them are enjoying vacations with their relatives while rehearsing. The company has been unusually successful. The players have been rehearsing at Mr. Foulger's cottage at Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Taking the Cue

By ROBERT GOLDEN

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

NOW that George Julian Houtain has promised to enlist "women's organizations all over the United States in the fight to preserve the theater", you may look confidently for something doing at the crossroads, and not d. w., either.

Which foregoing reflection recalls that the first Civic Theater in America recognized as a permanent and successful institution was the Detroit Civic, founded by Jessie Bonstelle. The name and fame of Jessie Bonstelle are international. Possibly, in the constructive sense, no figure in the English-speaking theater today towers above that of the actress and director who has given the best of her brilliant career to dramatic stock. Incidentally, Bonnie, as she is affectionately called by her intimates, has had a hand in the training and making of many of the celebrities of today. John Drinkwater is on record as pronouncing her one of the chief saving influences of the spoken drama in the United States.

Many legitimate players who rely upon summer stock engagements to carry them thru the warm months may be disappointed this year, as Lester Al Smith, Napoleon of the stock field, who, it is easy to remember, went the way of the original Napoleon, surmises, but the situation is not so bad by half as Smith represents it when he says: "Only half as many companies will be active as were carrying on a year or so ago." Let's scan the record. At the meeting of the T. S. M. A., in New York, June 10, figures quoted in an official report disclosed that on May 11 there were 157 stocks active in the United States and Canada. In this connection, compare with the 1929 record these figures compiled by that walking encyclopedia of theatrical information, Paul Scott. He delved back 11 years. In his survey, which shows 30 stocks operating in 1918; in 1919, 70; in 1920, 79; in 1921, 77; in 1922, 87; in 1923, 102; in 1924, 103; in 1925, 104; in 1926, 122; in 1927, 125, and in 1928, 178. Smith is inclined to be pessimistic. He may be wrong. The other Napoleon who sought one too many worlds to conquer was.

Capitalizing the growing popularity of stock, managers of certain repertory companies recently under canvas are settling down in halls and small theaters in the sticks and throwing their banners to the breeze emblazoned with the legend, "stock company." Well, can you blame them? Many of these enterprising impresarios are at the same time strengthening the artistic caliber of their casts. And so the distinguishing line between rep. and stock becomes fainter.

The red light marking the exit in theaters was probably the invention of some genius anticipating the inclination of women drivers where traffic signals are shown.

Quote the comedien, commenting upon the meeting of reformers who would elevate the stage: "Maybe if they would leave it alone it might do something like that for itself. It has wings and flies."

Al Smith is vice-president of the Theatrical Stock Managers' Association. Al Smith is a road company manager. Al Smith is *The Billboard* correspondent at Hollywood. Al Smith, erstwhile in national politics, is a friend of showfolk. Al Smith is the organizer in a Duluth motion picture theater. Al's well.

Stock Actor (at the window): "Can I give you my I. O. U. this week for a hamper 'n a quarter? I gotta meet some bills."

Treasurer: "No."
S. A.: "Make it \$50."
T.: "He says no."
S. A.: "Aha! Crabbin' again, eh? Gimme the four bits."

Music Box Is Home Of Civic Repertory

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 13.—The Music Box will be thrown open for the Civic Repertory Theater's second season January 20, with John Galsworthy's *The Skin Game* as the inaugural attraction.

The organization is the same that entered the local production field last year at the Figueroa Playhouse, where it was known as the Los Angeles Repertory Theater. Having now acquired control of the Music Box, it hopes to make its permanent home here. The Civic Repertory has ambitious plans for developing along institutional lines which will appeal to much larger audiences than heretofore.

Edwin Maxwell has been engaged to direct the opening production. He was for several years an active member of the New York Theater Guild. Following *The Skin Game* the players will present *Gotin' Home*, Ransom Rideout's play, produced by the Drama League of America, one of the best plays written last year. Simeon Gest and H. Ellis Reed are sponsoring the Civic Repertory Theater.

Paul Gilmore Opens Cherry Lane Theater

NEW YORK, Jan. 13.—The Cherry Lane Theater, Commerce street, Greenwich Village, opens under the direction of Paul Gilmore Monday, January 27, with a new play, *The Short Cut*, by Percival Lennon, with Helen Holmes and a Broadway cast.

The theater will be run on the subscription plan, \$3 seats for \$1, if six seats are bought in advance.

Kathleen Comegys Again Heads Favorite Players

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Jan. 13.—The cast of the Favorite Players at the Lyric is being further strengthened by the engagement of Kathleen Comegys, always a popular figure here, who will make her reappearance with the company January 20 in *Let Us Be Gay*. Miss Comegys will replace Leneta Lane as leading woman. Miss Lane goes into rehearsal for a new George M. Cohan play, to be produced on Broadway this spring.

Miss Comegys has recently closed on Broadway in the Howard play, *Dread*. This is the third time Miss Comegys has headed the cast of the Favorite Players, creating a role in stock, this being the first stock production of *Let Us Be Gay*.

Heading Bainbridge Stock

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—*Ladies of the Evening* served this week to introduce Gladys Hurlbut as the new leading woman of the Bainbridge Players at the Shubert. Miss Hurlbut scored a splendid personal success in her opening performance, receiving a warm hand at every curtain.

The production as a whole is one of the best given by the Bainbridge stock this season. Outstanding in the cast also were Ruth Lee, making her initial appearance as second woman; Victor Jory, Robert St. Clair and Jack Paige.

Kondolf's Eye on Rochester

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 13.—George Cukor and Walter Palmer, the latter now in Paris, staged two successful seasons with stock shows at the Lyceum and Temple theaters here, was back in town last week. Kondolf was looking over prospects for another house. The Lyceum now is running legit, and the Temple has been bought by RKO as a straight sound film house.

Peruchi Players Now On Co-Operative Basis

JACKSONVILLE, Jan. 13.—E. J. Sparks, president of Duval Amusements, Inc., announces he has turned over the Arcade Theater to the Peruchi Players on an actual cost basis and the company will work on a co-operative basis. The stagehands, house attaches and players and musicians will share in the profits.

The first move of the players was to install an orchestra in the pit. It was felt that the lack of music all along has had something to do with the falling off in patronage.



"RHEA DIVELEY, leading woman of the Kodzie Theater, Chicago, now in her second season at that house, recently scored a distinct hit in the Florence Reed role of *The Shanghai Gesture*. Miss Diveley has been in New York productions, besides stock engagements in Washington, Atlanta, St. Louis, Boston, and Columbus, O. She is a graduate of the University of California, a talented musician and an expert swimmer.

Malakoff's Stock Players

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Jan. 13.—Malakoff's Broadway Players, recently opening a stock engagement at the Playhouse, has the following included in the cast: Helen Joy, Florence Rowan, Virginia True Boardman, Jeanne Powers, Leonard Lord, True Boardman, Pierre Malakoff, Tom McElhany and Valerian Yavorsky.

WEST COAST ACTIVITIES

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—Dale Winter and Henry Duffy are in Los Angeles, playing at the President in *The Cat and the Canary*, this week. It gives Duffy one of his favorite comedy roles, Paul Jones, while Miss Winter plays Annabelle West. Albert Phillips is seen as Roger Crosby, the lawyer, while George Leffingwell and William Mcauley, both of whom played in the original production, are also in the cast.

Guy Bates Post is in Portland, Ore., for his engagement at the Dufwin in that city in *The Masquerader*. Post estimates that he has acted the dual role of Chilcote and Loder nearly 1,700 times, the play having proved the most popular of his starring repertoire. Lillian Kemble Cooper, English actress, who played Eve Chilcote in the recent presentations of *The Masquerader*, will have the same role in the Portland production.

Taylor Holmes, in *Your Uncle Dudley*, opened at the Dufwin Theater, Oakland, Calif., this afternoon. Duffy, thru the courtesy of Paramount Studios, secured the services of Betty Bronson to play opposite the star. This is Miss Bronson's first appearance on the speaking stage.

Kolb and Dill opened at the Alcazar Theater, San Francisco, with *Give and Take* last Sunday afternoon. The only female role is played by the popular star, Josephine Dunn, who has been borrowed from the M. G. M. studios by Henry Duffy.

Henry Duffy has added Dan Jarrett's comedy, *Self Water*, which John Golden

Spicer's Stock Is Due To Reopen in Denver

DENVER, Colo., Jan. 10.—Charles Clogston, general manager for C. C. Spicer's theatrical interests in Salt Lake City and Denver, is here negotiating for the reopening of the Denham, Spicer's dramatic stock house, which closed January 4.

Ralph Lee and Fred Dunham, of the company, have an option on the playhouse, and hope to open soon with a new leading man and lady. Gladys George and Ben Erway, former leads, left for Hollywood as soon as the house closed. The rest of the company are still here. Large numbers of pledges of support have been received. If enough are received the theater will open soon.

Todd Show a Hit in Canton

CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—C. H. Todd has completed promotion of the annual J. O. U. A. M. Follies at the Lincoln High School Auditorium, playing two nights to capacity audiences. Todd has presented home-talent musicals and minstrels in Canton and near-by towns for the last several years.

Dramatic Stock Notes

DOROTHY LORD has joined the Oberfelder-Ketcham Company at the Orpheum Theater, Kansas City. She takes the place of Helen Audiffred, second woman, who has returned to California. Miss Lord opened in the support of Burton Churchill in *The Bachelor Father*.

AN INTERESTED SPECTATOR at the Henry Duffy production of the famous Belasco play, *The Boomerang*, recently was Martha Hedman, who not only created the role of Virginia Xelva, now in the hands of Kay Hammond, but appeared in the role more than 500 times.

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Miss Hedman and her husband, Henry Arthur Holmes, who are spending the winter in California, attended a performance at the El Capitan, after which Miss Hedman congratulated Miss Hammond on her rendition of the part.

MARGUERITE WOLFE, who had been ill in Grant's Hospital, Columbus, O., since Thanksgiving, was able to leave recently and return to her home at Kustis, Fla., where she will remain until the end of winter.

THE MOST APPRECIATED holiday greeting received by a member of the Detroit Civic Theater Company was a radiogram sent to Kalman Matus by his cousin, Lieut. Malcolm P. Hanson, who is with Admiral Byrd's Antarctic expedition. The greeting took on added interest because Matus happened to be playing in *Remote Control*, the first radio play produced.

CIVIC REPERTORY THEATER, of Los Angeles, has changed its mind again as to the organization's first production at the Music Box Theater January 20. Now it seems *And So to Bed* will be the initial bill. Robert Milton, playwright and director, will direct. Casting has started.

AGNES ELLIOT SCOTT, one-time Gilbert and Sullivan operetta prima donna in London, and more recently of Henry Jewett's Repertory Theater, of Boston, has now joined E. E. Clive's organization at the Copley Theater, Boston.

GENE LANE, who closed recently with the Earl Ross Players, in Oak Park, Ill., has left on a motor trip that is to include Kansas City, Fort Worth, Dallas, San Antonio, and other cities in the Southwest, winding up at Tulsa, Okla., where Lane expects to spend several weeks.

FOR NEW YEAR'S WEEK, the Dudley Players, at the Kodzie Theater, chose *The Shanghai Gesture*, and it proved a happy choice that attracted large holiday (See STOCK NOTES on page 33)

Broadway Stock Possibilities

PLAY	THEATER	PRODUCER	AUTHOR	SETS	CAST	COMMENT
The Playbox of the Western World.....	Irish	Irish Theater.....	J. M. Synge.....	1	9 Men 8 Women	Unfavorable. Theme and cast requirements unsuited.
City Haul.....	Hudson	GB Boag	Elizabeth Miele.....	1	16 Men 5 Women	Fair. Theme adaptable, but cast requirements large.
The First Mrs. Fraser.....	Playhouse	W. A. Brady.....	St. John Ervine.....	1	4 Men 4 Women	Favorable. Excellent comedy, requiring expert handling.
Damn Your Honor.....	Cosmopolitan.....	Vincent Youmans.....	Vellier Gardiner.....	1	12 Men 5 Women	Unfavorable. Theme weak; costume requirements heavy.
The Unsocialists.....	Longacre	Harry Delf.....	Harry Delf	1	17 Men 14 Women	Unfavorable. Ringo theme and large cast against it.

NOTE: Detailed reviews of the above productions were published in the previous issue of "The Billboard".

Repertoire

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Lewis Troupe Resumes Tour

Members enjoy five-week layoff—show booked thru Northwest under auspices

HOLTVILLE, Calif., Jan. 11.—The Lewis Players resumed their tour recently at San Jacinto, Calif., after a five weeks' layoff over the holidays. The members of the company enjoyed the layoff, and spent considerable time motoring to Los Angeles, Hollywood and the various beach resorts.

Wald Zeis, advance agent, has the Lewis organization booked for an extended tour thru the Northwest, playing under auspices. The company is presenting *His Perfect Twin*, with a powerful line of between-the-act specialties. A new line of billing also is being used.

The specialty artists include Thayer and Della, novelty musical act; Alberta, ventriloquist; Lewis, the magician; Harry Lewis, comedy act, and Miss Richards, piano and banjo specialties. Mrs. Zeis and daughter, June, are traveling with Zeis in the advance.

Frank Maury Lands Several Fair Dates

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—Frank Maury, manager of the Lanshaw Players, now playing two-week circle stock in West Kansas, attended the recent meeting of the State Association of Kansas Fairs and informs that he has contracted to play a number of fairs in the fall.

At present Maury carries 12 people and for the tent season the company will be augmented to 22 people. The headquarters of the show is at Morland, Kan.

Art Callahan in Atlanta

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—Arthur Callahan, who closed his Arthur Callahan Dramatic Players in Clarksville, Tenn., the latter part of December, after a very successful house season, has motored to Atlanta, where he will winter until the reopening of his company early in March.

Callahan states that he will enlarge his company for the coming season, and will open his tent season in Lincoln, Ill.

Craigs Make Ready For 1930 Tent Tour

MADRID, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Mr. and Mrs. Merton Craig, owners and managers of the Craig Bros.' Tent Show, who motored to Florida after closing their tent season last October with a view to playing the South this winter, are now back at their home here, getting their trucks and outfit ready for the 1930 season. Things in the South don't look very promising, they state.

Manager Craig states that while the past tent season was not quite up to that of 1928, it was satisfactory, and he is planning on enlarging his outfit for the coming season. "I am still willing to do my bit for an organization," Craig states, "and I hope it won't be long before we will have an organization to look after our interests."

HOWARD AND LILLIAN VAIL, after spending the holidays at home in Plymouth, N. C., are now working circle stock in and around Hickory, N. C.



DONALD FRASER, juvenile lead with the Johnny Coultis company, playing circle stock in New Jersey. He has appeared with Shubert's "Blue Bird" Company and also in pictures on the West Coast.

Don's Comedians in Idaho

Don's Comedians, under the management of Don Muckel, continue their season of circle stock in Idaho. The company has just completed its 13th week in the Pocatello territory, and, while business has not been all that it should be, the folks report at least a pleasant engagement. The cast includes Vilma Castner, Dawn O'Day, Gladys Fuller, Eva Sheppard, Robert Bayley, Hal Stack, R. J. Sheppard, Don Muckel and Harry Sobns.

Honor Veteran Showman

A delightful party was held recently at Pete's Place, in Reading, Pa., in honor of John A. Dorward, veteran showman, who celebrated his 71st birthday. After a sumptuous dinner, furnished by Robert L. Styer, the boys launched into a string of stories of the old days.

Those present represented practically every branch of the show business, and included Harry (Pete) Heilmann, Bright Jones, Ed Hale, Charles Kurtz, Robert L. Styer, Frank Kretz, R. H. Brisson, George W. Platt, John A. Dorward, Frank Kirk, Ed McIntire, Ray Wolfskill, Arthur Huber, Charles Rowe and Clarence Barbour.

In the Spotlight

By BILL SACHS

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

A LOT of surprises are destined to be poured on the tent show world when the various attractions get under way in the spring. The past season was not up to standard financially with other seasons, due largely to the business depression thruout the country, and as a result many of the more enterprising managers have been lying awake nights recently, in an effort to devise some scheme or idea to make their show more attractive this coming season, and to bring in the folks who remained away from the box office during the tour just ended.

Towards the end of the last canvas season, several of the shows in the Southwest conceived the idea of carrying a miniature menagerie as an added attraction, chiefly for the kiddies, and the plan is said to have worked out satisfactorily from a box-office standpoint. It probably is inconvenient to transport a collection of animals in addition to your regular equipment, but when such an attraction tends to increase the revenue it is worth the extra trouble. In times of poor business conditions a hustling manager does not mind going out of his way to bring the customers into the big top.

Many of the parks and fairs frequently employ free acts to draw the patronage. Why not a free act on a tent show? Many of the tent theater companies still give a free street parade down thru the main street of the various towns. While the parade may arouse considerable interest in your show, and at least remind the folks that you are in town, it does not draw them down to your main entrance. That's where a free act has the edge. Many people will not walk a block to see a parade, that would walk a mile to see a high diver or a fire eater. And they have to walk down to your tent to see the attraction, too.

After you get the people on your lot, it's up to you to get them into your tent. And only an attractive, up-to-date line of bills will do that. Not the same ones you offered them the season before, however. Anyway, the free-act idea is worth a bit of thought. It's probably not a new idea, but it's serviceable.

Col. W. I. Swain, one of the most successful and experienced tent show managers in the game today, is one of those who has something up his sleeve for the coming season. Just what it is we are unable to say, for the Colonel, now in training on pork sausage and pancakes at his ranch in Dwight, Kan., has steadfastly refused to divulge his secret "until the proper time comes". He wants to give the new "wrinkle" a fling before discussing its merits.

"Why don't the tent manufacturers," asks a Mid-Western manager, "offer us fellows something new in the way of tents?" "What I mean," he continues, "is something that will attract the public's eye. A seasoned tent showman looks upon a new tent like a rare, old painting. He can rave about it all day long. But how about the layman? A tent to him is just so much canvas. Surely something can be done to make the tent more attractive or more interesting to the patron. True, the old tent is serviceable and practicable in every way, but still there is something lacking. Possibly a bit of flesh would help, but anyway let's have some new ideas from the makers." We'd rather leave that to the tent manufacturers to answer.

Billy Wehle Delays Tour

Son's illness is cause of postponement—signs new people for 1930 season

Billy Wehle, owner and manager of Billroy's Comedians, who was to have begun a swing around the Public houses in Florida with a six-people act, featuring Cal West and Marion Roberts, shortly after the first of the year, has been forced to postpone the tour for several weeks, awaiting the recovery of Billy Wehle, Jr., who recently underwent an operation for the removal of his appendix at the Grace Hospital, Detroit. He is on the road to recovery, and is reported to be resting nicely.

Manager Wehle has spent the last several weeks preparing for his 1930 tent season. He already has engaged several new people and acts for the coming season.

Sweets Enjoying Stay In Los Angeles, Calif.

"We are here for the winter and are sure enjoying it," writes George D. Sweet from Los Angeles. "There are lots of trouper out here and to date have met 20 who have been on the Sweet Show at various times.

"Will be here until about the middle of March and then will head for Chicago to select our cast for the coming summer. Conditions are not so forte here, also some of the shows are getting a little money. We are looking forward to a good season next summer."

The Sweets will be pleased to hear from old friends at 572 N. Kingsley drive, Los Angeles.

Lippincott Doing Magic for Winter

Lippincott, the magician, who closed his repertoire show a month ago at Elkton, Ky., has reverted to his regular winter policy of straight magic, and is now playing thru Tennessee and Kentucky territory to good business. He carries two assistants. Business for the two weeks before Christmas was "brutal", Lippincott says, but since the holidays has been good.

"I find it easier to book the smaller show during the winter season, as in the larger towns they want only about 30 or 40 minutes with their pictures, and it doesn't matter how small the show, as long as you can deliver the goods. And they don't take kindly to a rep. show at any price.

"We began the new year right, with a turn-away business New Year's Eve at the Princess Theater, Springfield, Tenn. We were visited there by McWilliams, the magician. We also enjoyed a pleasant visit with J. B. Sublett, the 'Kentucky Wizard', who is connected with the leading daily paper at Bowling Green, Ky. Also caught Richards, the magician, at Hopkinstonville, Ky., last Saturday night."

G. B. DuQUESNE, of Harve Holland's Comedians, and wife, Jacqueline LaRue, known as "the girl who sees tomorrow", spent the holidays in Fort Worth, where Miss LaRue filled a radio engagement at Station KBAT and DuQuesne appeared with the Plaza Players in Liloa Time. The Harve Holland Comedians resumed their tour last week at Itasca, Tex.

Rep. Tattles

BILLY BARBER, formerly with the Bert Melville Show, is now playing with his orchestra at Station WHIS, Bluefield, W. Va.

ROY NEWLIN, well-known rep. comedian, is spending the winter in Fort Gibson, Miss.

W. S. CAMPBELL is at present playing a string of one-night stands thru Louisiana.

M. L. FRISBIE, of F. S. Wolcott's *High Brass Follies*, writes from Fort Gibson, Miss., that the recently opened *Follies* clubroom there was visited by a number of well-known showfolk during the last 10 days. Among them were several members of the Earle Newton Players, who played a three-day engagement at a local theater; H. R. Wiggins, formerly agent ahead of the old Huntington Minstrels; Rube Wadley, agent; W. W. Clark, general agent for the M. L. Clark & Sons Shows; W. S. Campbell and Roy Newlin.

DOYNE DODD and his orchestra, well known in Mid-Western repertoire circles, are now touring thru Southern Illinois to marked success.

ELOISE MEAHAN, of the Harve Holland company, visited her mother in Los Angeles over the holidays. "Dutch" Meahan visited in South Texas; Fred and Blanche Forbes spent Christmas in Dallas; Gene Kenyon visited in Carthage, Tex.; Jim Hull went to Oklahoma City, and Dorothy Saxon and mother, Mrs. Paula, visited in Fort Worth.

BOYD TROUSDALE is booked to open with his company in Cedar Rapids, Ia., Sunday, for an unlimited run. The Trousdale Players are this week winding up their stock run at Sioux City, Ia.

LESLIE E. KELL will open his tent season early in February at Hemphill, Tex., it is reported.

GLADYS MURDOCK is a recent addition to the cast of the J. Doug Morgan No. 2 Show, Charles Morrill, manager, now showing thru Texas.

CHARLES McALLISTER is in advance of the Jack and June Alfred Comedians thru the Lone Star State. The show is reported to be doing satisfactory business, and, according to present plans, will remain out thruout the winter.

DELPH AND MERCEDES POST are now trouping with one of the Chick Boyes units thru Nebraska. They were until recently with Ed Ward's Princess Stock Company.

JOE SAULINE AND DOLLY CRAWFORD are now with the Dubinsky Show at the Crystal Theater, St. Joseph, Mo.

JOEY AND MAE LA PALMER, following the close of the J. Doug Morgan Show, motored to Pueblo, Colo., where Joey has an eight-piece orchestra playing dances in Pueblo and surrounding towns. Conditions in that territory are generally fair, they report, but there is plenty room for improvement.

BUSH BURRICHTER, comedian, is being featured with the Orpheum Stock Company, playing rotary stock in and around Rockford, Ill.

BUSTER HARMOUNT is seriously ill in a hospital in Dayton, O., according to his wife, Leona Alfretta, who is at present appearing with the Louise Brown Players at the Rialto Theater, that city.

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The Billboard on sale at BRENTANO'S, 27 Ave. de l'Opera; GRAND HOTEL, Blvd. des Capucines, and METRO, Place Pigalle.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—The fashionable Champs-Elysees will lose two of its leading theatrical landmarks before the close of the present season. The popular Ambassadeurs has already been razed, but will be replaced by a new and modern Ambassadeurs and an adjoining playhouse—the Theater de la Concorde. The Theater Femina, at present occupied by the Paris American Players, will soon go into the hands of the wreckers to make way for a publisher's display room. Many famous French, American and other stars have been applauded at both the Ambassadeurs and Femina and their end marks the regretted disappearance of two more landmarks of Paris.

The directors of the new Theater Pigalle are planning a festival of foreign presentations for next spring at which leading artists and troupes from several countries will appear. Among those expected to take part in the festival are the Theater Guild of New York, Max Reinhardt, Tairoff, Meyerhold and Ruggero Ruggeri.

The Empire Music Hall is presenting a new bill headed by Benevol, illusionist. Other features of the program are the American colored singers and dancers, Greenlee and Drayton, the dancers of Lois Hutton and Helen Vanel and the dance team, Zoiga and Rachel.

Among the week-end arrivals were Mary McCormic, opera singer; Jacques Thibaud, French violinist; Alfred Cortot, pianist; Benno Moisevich, pianist and composer; and Lener String Quartet.

New Moon, presented at the Chatelet as *Robert the Pirate*, was greeted with

scant enthusiasm, altho well mounted and presented. Janet Flynn, American dancer, scores a hit, as do the dancers drilled by Sante Duncan. The French stars sing and act their roles in excellent fashion, but the production lacks spirit.

Jane Marnac is excellent in her interpretation of the leading role in the Apollo Theater production of *Shanghai Gesture*. The melodrama is beautifully mounted and well cast, with Alice Fields crowding the star for honors.

The American dancers, Bernard and Rich, and the child wonder, Gina Rigelli, were the attractions at the New Year's gala at Noel Peter's.

A holiday jazz ensemble starring the popular Fratellini family of clowns; Jackie Collier, impersonator; Miss Tamara, trapeze artist; Breitbart, strong man, and Os-Ko-Mon, in his Indian number, are features of the new bill at the Cirque d'Hiver.

The new Montmartre music hall, Menus Plaisirs, opened last week with an excellent revue featuring French wit and minus jazz and sensational scenic numbers. Cice Vidiane, star of several French versions of American musical comedies, heads an excellent cast of comedians, singers and dancers.

Morino and Norris, the "Show-Boat Boys", who have been featured at Lou Mitchell's Plantation, have returned to London to complete bookings there.

Roy Barton, popular pianist at Harry's New York Bar, won a pair of husky, young porkers Christmas Eve and is proudly setting up claims as a rival to Jack Stone, Franco-American sausage king.

Zoe Baron and the English dancers of the revue at the Folies-Wagram are appearing in the new French sound film production, *The Shark*.

Marguerite Wales, American dancer, and her partner, Nicholas, will soon make their return to Paris and also play the principal parts along the Riviera.

Grace Edwards, American blues singer,

Kansas City Ripples

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—Jessie Adams has left the city to join the newly organized Lewis & Glasgow Circle Stock Company, playing in Missouri.

B. RESSIE HALE, recently reported with the Leslie Players at the Palace Theater, Baltimore, advises that this is incorrect and that she did not open with said company and had no connection whatever. At present she is in the city visiting with relatives, after a year's absence, during which time she was with Raynor Lehr and Emmett Lynn in the East.

AL RUSSELL, of Russell's Comedians, now playing the Best Theater, Topeka, Kan., was in the city over the week-end.

MR. AND MRS. TED RAGAN are recent arrivals here.

JERRY WILSON and Perol Ballard closed recently with Ed Ward's Princess Stock Company and have returned here.

THAT FAMOUS Dancing Billy Weber also is here.

JIMMY RICE, JR., is at his home in McCrory, Ark.

AUBREY KIRKMAN, musician, is resting in Mountain Grove, Mo.

MR. AND MRS. JOE BAIER are at home in Central City, Neb.

MR. AND MRS. JERRY BRUCE are in the city, having come here from Rock Island, Ill., where they were playing with a third company.

JEAN GIBBONS came here from Omaha, where she has been visiting the last few weeks.

MR. AND MRS. W. H. PENDEXTER are back in the city after their holiday visit with their homefolks in Columbia, Mo.

MR. AND MRS. HUGH REIGLE came into the city last week and expect to remain here until spring.

MR. AND MRS. STRAD have closed with *The Mfracle* and came here recently from Des Moines, Ia. The Strads are well known in the rep. and vaudeville field.

RUSSELL MURDOCK, Al Pearce and Earl Thomas left here several days ago en route to Bronte, Tex., where they will open the King-Thomas Players.

BOB (SLATS) PEAGIN arrived in the city recently.

TOMMY WARD has returned here from his visit to Jerseyville, Mo.

leaves Paris at the end of January for a tour of the British isles, opening at Birmingham.

James L. Lanin, brother of the New York orchestra leaders, Sam and Howard Lanin, is returning to America at the end of the week to fill engagements in Florida.

The French version of *Journeys' End* closes its run at the Theater Edouard VII shortly, but will probably be shifted to another house.

The Cordoba Sisters are entertaining at the new cabaret, Bar du Coin, in the Champs-Elysees quarter.

Rex Evans is entertaining at Chez Victor.

Joseph W. and Will J. Dusenbury, former theater operators of Columbus, O., are touring France, Spain and Morocco.

Jack Connelly, director of the Fox Movietone in Paris, has returned from Chamonix with his family.

Josephine Baker has returned from Italy, but leaves shortly for Strasbourg, where she will star in a revue.

Jack Forester, American dancer, has joined Edmonde Guy and Ernest Van Duron in a new dance number.

Luxor Gali Gali, Egyptian illusionist, is appearing at the Bouef sur leTort and the Grand Ecart.

Pizarro's Tango Orchestra has chartered an airplane to fly to London January 3 to open a six weeks' engagement at the Savoy.

The musical clowns, **Novelle Brothers**, open a tour of the French Riviera in February at Cannes.

Joseph M. Schenck and **Samuel Goldwyn** have returned from London.

Roserae, **Cappella** and **Sylvio** are the attraction at the Florida.

Frisco, popular colored entertainer, has opened his attractive new cabaret, **Frisco Domingo**, on the Rue Fromentin in Montmartre.

Ben Beno, trapeze artiste, arrived in Paris yesterday from Dusseldorf, Germany, en route for Lisbon, Portugal.

In the Provinces

Albert Powell, aerialist; **Will Lacey**, cyclist, and **Swan Rigens** and her **American Diving Beauties**, **Ann Booker**, **Helon Lemley**, **Peggy La Rue** and **Chickie Grey**, are features of the bill at the Olympia, Barcelona.

Broadway is being presented at the Valle, Rome, by the **Compagnie Za-Buna**.

The **Musical Hamm Brothers**, who are touring South America with a tent show, report business not so good and plenty of artists stranded or out of work.

Along the Riviera

Cecile Sorel and her company are presenting a repertoire of Comedie-Francaise successes at the Casino Municipal in Nice.

V. Cortez and **Miss Honey** and the **Diamond Beauties** are appearing with **Gregor** and his **Gregorians** at the **Palais de la Mediterranee** in Nice.

Maquy and **Williams**, acrobatic dancers, are at the **Paris-Palace** in Nice.

Leo Deslys and **Keno Clark** are entertaining at the **Perroquet** in Nice.

Emmy Magliani and **Terrence Kennedy** are dancing at the **Hotel Continental**, Nice.

The **Cracker Jacks Jazz**, popular colored band formerly featured at the **Palermo**, Paris, is now playing at the **Chateau Madrid**, Cannes.

Isabel Allen, American singer, has been scoring a success in the opera, *Thais*, at the **Casino Municipal**, Cannes.

Peggy and **Jill Harris**, **Maxon Wood** (See **PARIS LETTER** on page 33)

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Loie Bridge Finishes Run

Orpheum, Wichita, changing to straight talkie policy—show does well there

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 11.—The Loie Bridge Players will tonight conclude a successful 10 weeks' engagement at the Orpheum Theater here, and beginning tomorrow the house will operate under a straight "talkie" policy. The Bridge company, featuring Loie Bridge and Harry Cheshire, has been presenting all-script bills in conjunction with talking pictures and met with marked success with the Wichitans.

In the Loie Bridge cast are Bill Rader, Dorothy Woodward, Buddy Wood, Harry Cheshire, Loie Bridge, Walter Wright and William Dougherty. The company's popular quartet comprises Messrs. Wills, Weymer, Bishop and Dougherty.

The ensemble is made up of Fannie Parsons, Ione Barnett, Frances Powers, Florrie Joyce, Kathryn Crawford, Hattie Chappelle, Irene Golden, Caroline Ward, Fortis Lippitt and Evelyn Jacobs. All the girls do specialties.

Harry Cheshire, who has been associated with the Bridge organization for the last 12 years, recently purchased a lot in one of Wichita's finest residential sections and is planning on settling here permanently.

Paul Landrum Company Set in Rockford, Ill.

ROCKFORD, Ill., Jan. 11.—Paul Landrum and his *Starlets* of 1929, who opened at the Star Theater on New Year's Day, have been favorably received here, and business since the opening has been satisfactory, considering the present business slump. The Landrum company is slated to remain here indefinitely.

In the roster are "Hap" Moore, producing comedian; Harry (Jake) Arnie, Jew comic; Hobby Stevens, juvenile and specialties; Paul Landrum, straight; Esther Schiller, ingenue and specialties; Shirley (Ginger) Sherwood, soubret and blues singer, and Peggy Devere, Josephine Marino, June Collins, "Chick" Leonard, Dolly Worley and Rita (Fleming) Arnie, choristers. The Starland Trio, composed of Messrs. Landrum, Arnie and Moore, is one of the features of the show.

"Talk of the Town" In Sioux Falls Run

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Jan. 11.—Harry Brewster's *Talk of the Town* Company, 12-people tab organization, has been installed at the Capitol Theater here for an indefinite run. The fast-moving show is equipped with a good line of wardrobe and scenery, and to date has been getting a fair share of the business. All of the members of the company hail from Kansas City, Mo.

In the cast are Harry Brewster, owner, producer and light comedy; Ruth Lee, chorus producer and comedienne; Mildred Tubbs, ingenue; Bill Coy, comedian; Buddy Summers, second comedy, and E. Tom Hays, straight and general business.

The chorus is made up of Elaine Wagner, Patsy Winnefred, Jean Norton, Billie Barnette, Queenie Burke and Rita Bishop. Dick Wagner is house manager.



BILLIE COOKE, who has just closed as soubret with Virgil E. Siner's Company in Lexington, Ky., and who will shortly go into New York to prepare for her wedding to the son of a prominent turfman, after which she plans to retire from the stage. Miss Cooke, with her former partner, George Riddle, toured the major vaudeville circuits for four-and-one-half years in an act entitled "The Girl Friend", under the direction of Charles S. Wilshin. Before joining the Siner show she did soubrets for Hal Hoyt's "Why Worry?" Company at the Band Box, Springfield, O.

Umpleby-Wylie Co. In Shawnee, Okla.

SHAWNEE, Okla., Jan. 11.—The Garden Follies Company, owned and managed by "Chet" Umpleby and Jack Wylie, is set for an indefinite stay at the Victory Theater. Business since the show's recent opening here has been satisfactory.

In the Garden Follies roster are Jack Wylie and "Chet" Umpleby, producers and comics; Fred Caudle, general business; "Toots" Wylie, ingenue; Ethel Crosby, soubret, and the Cornell Sisters, Lois Thompson, Viola Lake, Lena Pindley and Vina Lindell, choristers. The company is using both script and revue bills.

Frank Carlton Is M. C. At Schenectady Resort

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Frank Carlton, who has appeared in tabs, with Raynor Lehr, Palmer Hines, Harvey D'Orr and other well-known attractions, as well as with several Columbia Wheel shows, has been installed as master of ceremonies at the Hi-Hat Club on Saratoga road.

In the Hi-Hat floor show, besides Carlton, are Charlotte, dancer and skater; Julia Rose, soubret; Wanda Reynolds, dancer; Harry Whelan, singer, and the Six Hi-Hat Steppers, including Dot Drake, Lee Guccio, Maybellie Dane, Francis White and the Darling Sisters. Several of the above are well known in the tabloid field. The show is produced by Gertrude Blanche.

The show is carded to a well-known Montreal cafe within the next few weeks.

Desmond's Revue For Mobile, Ala.

L. Desmond's *New York Roof Garden Revue* last Saturday night concluded a four weeks' stay at Fort Benning, Ga., from where the show moved into Mobile, Ala., for a month's engagement. The latter booking was arranged by Joe Spiegelberg. Desmond is carrying 16 people, including a jazz orchestra and six girls in line. Holly and Bud Desmond are the featured dancers.

"Altho we did not pack 'em in nightly at Fort Benning," Desmond states, "we did very well and got by nicely." "Joe Spiegelberg hasn't much down this way, but he's still fighting and what he does give you is good."

"Blue Streak" Closes

CUMBERLAND, Md., Jan. 11.—Jack Burke's *Blue Streak Revue*, 18-people Mort Goldberg production, closed and disbanded here last Saturday night. The company covered 10 weeks of the Sun Time to lean picking.

Harold (Red) Frey, musical director, and Jack Burke and wife, Bebe Jolly, are still here, while other members of the company left immediately after the closing to seek other engagements.

Moore and Shy Land Picture House Dates

"Happy" Moore and Emil Shy, former standard vaudeville act, who have just wound up a hectic season with the Jack Burke *Blue Streak Revue* over the Sun Time, played a few dates in Cincinnati last week for Morris Jones, after which they pulled out for St. Louis, where they are slated to play the Skouras Bros. Granada Theater this week, with a number of other picture-presentation houses in the St. Louis territory to follow.

The team is well known in and around St. Louis, having played picture houses and clubs in that section several seasons ago.

"Flash Parade" Back To Springfield House

RICHMOND, Ind., Jan. 13.—Fred Hurley's *Flash Parade* Company, Bud Brownie, manager, will wind up a three weeks' stay at the Murray Theater here Saturday night. After which the company will return to the Band Box Theater, Springfield, O., for a limited engagement. The Virgil E. Siner Syncooped Steppers is slated to follow the Hurley unit at the Murray.

The new Hurley production, headed by Billy Van Allen, is reported to be doing very well at the Springfield Band Box. It has not yet been announced where the company will move when the *Flash Parade* returns there. Arthur Hawk's Company is slated to follow the *Flash Parade* at the Band Box in about another month.

May Valentine Plans Tour Thru Southland

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 11.—Word has been received that May Valentine, light opera director of New York, will arrive in Thomasville, Ga., soon, accompanied by a troupe of 35 singers and dancers, a large assortment of scenery and her own orchestra, and will make the South Georgia town headquarters for her troupe during its season of rehearsals. Miss Valentine is organizer of her own companies. She plans to take her troupe on the road, putting on musical comedies in the cities and towns in South Georgia and Florida.

The Chatterbox

By BILL SACHS

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

OF THE three leading managers and producers in the tabloid field last season—Lewis Mack, Raynor Lehr and Bert Smith—only the latter remains in the tab game. Mack folded up early in the season, when the going became rough, to take an m. c. job in the East, and Lehr recently disbanded his show after a none-to-for-te success to enter vaudeville, but Bert Smith still carries on to big success at the Hippodrome in Baltimore. Despite the hue and cry of "talkies" and poor business conditions Bert Smith is about to chalk up the best season of his career. The reason for his success is obvious. His motto has always been "give them the best possible for the money"—and he abides by that saying. It's not "how cheap will you work?" with Bert, but "what can you do?" He gets good people, pays them a living salary and thus gains the co-operation of his entire troupe. He is the "King of the Miniature Musical Comedies" today and is destined to hold that title as long as he cares to.

The chorus of a musical tab is 50 per cent of the show, and, in some instances where the audience is made up largely of foreigners unfamiliar with the English language, is 75 per cent of the performance, but despite this fact many managers are wont to neglect this important part of their show. They use the chorus merely to fill in vacant spots, whereas its true purpose is to brighten the performance and to add speed and zest.

The chief requirement for a good chorus line is a good chorus producer. Don't expect your chorines to "wow" the folks out front, if they are being trained by a person who has only a faint idea of what it's all about. And another thing, don't expect your choristers to do their best work in old "raggy" wardrobe which you have been toting around for years. Dress 'em up and watch the improvement. If the girls wear hose, see that it is washed regularly. Dirty opera lengths are repulsive to a particular audience. If your chorus works without hose, have the girls use whitening made for that purpose. Nobody pays good money to see a flock of scars or bruises on chorus girls' legs. Give your chorus more attention and you'll see a noticeable improvement in your show.

And speaking of choruses. Have you ever thought that possibly somewhere in your line there is a girl that can do an individual dance or song, thus adding to your string of specialties? Possibly in your chorus there are several girls who with a bit of coaching would make an ideal harmony duo, or maybe a dance trio. It may take a bit of coaxing to get some of these lasses out of the line, but it will be worth your while, and will pay you back in dollars and cents. You are paying them for their services, so why not get the most out of them?

"Musical Dance Shoppe" Ending Bay City Date

BAY CITY, Mich., Jan. 11.—Vardo & Kinney's Musical Dance Shoppe, under the direction of Forrest L. Abbott, will end its stock run at the Temple Theater here January 19, and shortly after that will move into the Ada Meade Theater, Lexington, Ky., for an unlimited stay. Business during the show's run here was just fair.

"This sure has been a tough season for tab. shows and show business in general," Philip Vardo states. "Had four people walk out on me last Saturday night, but was fortunate to get several people from Detroit to fill the vacancies. If any show keeps moving and makes a living this season it can consider itself lucky. Sure miss Will Loker, but he's better off out on the farm counting the eggs this season."

Jack Lord in Little Rock

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Jan. 11.—After a 14 weeks' engagement at the Magic Theater, Omaha, Jack Lord and wife opened with the company at the Little Roxy Theater here on New Year's Eve. The company is under the management of Jim Topping, and included in the cast are such well-known tabsters as "Nig" Shope and wife and Lillian (Texas) Bentz. The policy of the house is two bills a week, with a special midnight ramble on Saturdays.

Lord played the Little Roxy for two seasons with his own company more than 10 years ago, and he met many of his old friends upon his return here.

S. E. Reeve Back at Desk

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 11.—Sani E. Reeve, treasurer-manager of the T. O. B. A. Circuit, is back at his desk here after his 10-day trip over the northern end of the circuit. The object of his trip was to study conditions in that section.

"I found," said Reeve, "that the show houses are suffering from lack of patronage, but that it is not due to poor shows." Reeve visited Cincinnati, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Columbus, Springfield, Indianapolis, Louisville and Nashville.

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Tab. Notes

MAX GOLDEN has been spending the last several weeks with his mother in Boston.

AL FRANK, whose 20-people company is playing an indefinite engagement at the Capitol Theater, Portland, Ore., is also appearing regularly over Station KXL.

CHARLES (DOME) WILLIAMS is back with Henry Prather's *Honeymoon Limited* Company after a week's absence due to the death of his father in Nashville.

BOBBIE FIELDS, who has been doing soubrettes with the *Facts and Figures* Company at the Princess Theater, Youngstown, O., for the last six weeks, closed with that attraction Saturday. She expects to work a few club dates in Chicago, after which she plans to take to the road again with another Mutual Wheel attraction.

LARRY VALE, who was with the Jack Burke *Blue Streak Revue*, which closed recently at Cumberland, Md., is now playing the Morris Jones houses in Cincinnati.

BETTY CULLEN, after a two months' tour with the *Blue Streak Revue* over the Sun Time, has gone to her home in Alliance, O., for a rest. Miss Cullen was formerly for eight seasons with the Raynor Lehr Company.

LAUREL RENAUD, soubret, after winding up the season recently with Jack Burke's *Blue Streak Company*, went to her home in Boston.

EVA BROWN, Dolly Dinamore and Grace Armbruster joined Bill Leicht's *Teddy Bear Girls* Company at the Majestic Theater, Danville, Va., last week. The trio closed recently with the *Blue Streak Revue*.

MARIE LAYMAN, who formerly worked with the various rotary tabs, in and around Cincinnati, is now with *Wine, Women and Song* on the Mutual Wheel. Marie asks that all her old buddies drop her a line.

SPIEGLE (TEDDY) BRYANT and wife are now working with Fred Hurley's *Flash Parade* Company at the Murray Theater, Richmond, Ind.

FACTS AND FIGURES, the A. B. C. attraction under the management of Low Beckridge, is being held over another week at the Princess Theater, Youngstown, O., making six weeks in all at that house. At the end of this week the company will head into Michigan territory. Arthur Hauk's Company follows *Facts and Figures* into the Princess, opening Sunday.

TEDDY UNDERWOOD'S *Record Revue*, a new show, opened on the Gus Sun Time in Winchester, Va., Monday.

THE FREEMAN THEATER, North Fork, Va., re-enters the Sun fold again on January 19, when Marshall Walker's *Whis Bang Revue* opens at the house for a limited stay.

JACK ROOF is slated to begin a swing over the Sun Circuit within the next few weeks. It is reported that Roof is ill and confined to his bed at the present writing.

JAY AND BETTY MASON advise that they are now in their 41st consecutive week with their musical comedy and burlesque idea units at the Academy Theater, Buffalo, N. Y. The units are playing two other Buffalo houses, as well as a number of night clubs in that territory.

HERE'S ONE for Ripley's "Believe It or Not" book. Billy Reed, comic, writes in to say that he recently left the Bill Leicht Show at Winchester, Va., without notice and owing a hotel and restaurant bill. "But," Reed continues, "I sent money to settle the latter two accounts and to let my friends know that I do not leave a town with the hotel men and restaurant owners saying you can't trust an actor." But, Billy, all this doesn't account for jumping the show without a notice.

LARRY BENNER, well known in tabs., was tendered a birthday party December 29 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morey Schayer in Chicago. Among those pres-

ent, in addition to Benner and the Schayers, were Mildred Pennington and Elizabeth Carter, well known in tab. circles and last season with the 101 Ranch Show; Lola Kato, dancer; Fannie Schneider, night-club entertainer; Les Nichols, whistling ventriloquist; Art Kemp, from the white tops; Jack Mason, comedian, and Steve Stephanick, violinist.

HUGH (SCOTTY) McKAY, well-known quartet man, until recently with Henry Prather's *Honeymoon Limited* Company, and now confined at the U. S. Veterans' Hospital, Memphis, Tenn., is becoming rather homesome there and asks that all his old friends shoot him a line. Address him in care of Ward 3-B, the above hospital.

STOCK NOTES

(Continued from page 29)
crowds. With a capable cast, the piece was presented in a manner that put it over splendidly. Rhea Dively played the Florence Reed role, that of the Chinese mother, and Idabelle Arnold had the role of Poppy.

WALTER F. POLMER, joint owner of the Kondoff-Polmer Company, Rochester, N. Y., is one of the promoters of the most ambitious of recent American ventures in Paris. With Carol Sax he has produced *The Road to Rome* at the Theater Femina in the Champs Elysees, the production winning unstinted praise from the Parisian critics. The company plans to follow the system of the Theater Guild in America. A large part of the seating is sold by subscription among the 40,000 American residents of Paris.

LAWRENCE KEATING, who was last season's second man with the Brockton Players, Brockton, Mass., has resigned from the James J. Hayden Players, of which he was leading man, at Portland, Me., and gone to New York. Walter Gilbert, former leading man at the St. James Theater, Boston, is reported as his successor.

AFTER HAVING DISPOSED OF the prohibition question in *Now and Then*, which will soon end its run at the Alcazar, San Francisco, Kolb and Dill will resume their old controversy over capital and labor in *Give and Take*. This Aaron Hoffman piece will be revived at the Alcazar.

LEX LINDSAY, new leading man with the Plaza Players, Sacramento, Calif., opened with that organization last week in *The Skyrocket*.

RAY COLLINS and Kathleen Robinson were the visiting stars appearing last week with the Capitol Stock Players, Capitol Theater, Albany, N. Y., in an excellent presentation of *Conscience*.

SAM TUTHILL, former juvenile with the Cleman-Walsh Company, has returned to Des Moines, Ia., to open a dancing school.

OBERFELDER-KETCHAM have announced John Moore to play leads opposite feminine guest stars in Des Moines, Ia. Moore makes his debut to Des Moines audiences in *The Copperhead*, which will star Ian Keith.

MUSINGS

(Continued from page 27)
Ronald Sale, trumpet, melophone and violin; Johnnie Watt, piano; Jack Little, drums and guitar, and Ben Beaty, reeds. Charlie Morris, until recently with the "Ducky" Yountz Orchestra, is at present substituting for Jack Little, who is at present on the sick list.

LEO KITCHEN'S Orchestra last week moved into the pit at the Arcade Theater, Jacksonville, Fla.

"BILLY" BARBER and his West Virginians, 10-piece outfit, are still the featured studio orchestra at Station WHIS, Bluefield, W. Va.

HAROLD STERN and his Hotel Ambassador Orchestra, New York, have been selected to supply the music at the Paramount Film Ball, to be held at the Hotel Astor, New York, Friday night, February 7.

WEBB'S ENTERTAINERS are at present playing RKO houses thru the Middle West. In the personnel are Harry Webb, violin and director; Rudy Budd, piano; Johnny Jones, drums; Jimmie Christian, bass; Jimmie Ray, banjo; Wendall De

Lory, trombone; Eddie McCarty, trumpet; Neil Nelson, Jack Haggerty and Fran Berry, saxes; Vi May, accordion, and Ann Gilling and Johnny Johnson, dancers.

CHARLES AMBERGER, formerly banjoist with Paul Specht, Vincent Lopez and the U. S. S. President Harding Orchestra, has opened a music studio in the Strand Building, New York.

CONN'S ROYAL RADIO HAWAIIANS, who played last week at the Hialto Theater, Indianapolis, are now working a string of one and two-night stands thru Illinois, under the direction of Kenneth Hackley. In the Hawaiian lineup are Harry Conn, manager; Kathleen Conn, feature dancer; David K. Trask, steel guitar; John Munson, guitar; Don Smith, guitar, and Harry West, uke.

CHARLES F. A. SCHWARTZ, of Riverside, N. J., formerly with the Sousa and Pryor bands, and last season with the Sparks Circus Band, is now playing the sax and clarinet with the Clearwater Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Rocco Grella, at Clearwater, Fla. The Clearwater organization is heard several times weekly over WFLA.

DOUG WILLIAMSON, singing drummer from the South, has joined Marjorie McKay's Orchestra, holding forth at the Dayton-Biltmore Hotel, Dayton, O.

JOE SHOER and his band are now in their fifth month at Luigi's Cafe, Detroit, and are slated to remain there indefinitely.

FRANK RICH and his orchestra, 11-piece combination, is scheduled to open at a popular Louisville (Ky.) dance resort in the near future. Before beginning its Louisville run, the Rich band will journey to Richmond, Ind., to make several sides for the Gennett firm. In the lineup are Frank Rich, Irvin Stenle, Tommy Gerspacher, Al Gross, Jack Landkroner, Jack Gable, Jimmie Schneider, Meyer Smith, Bill Swain and C. W. Johnson.

EDDIE BLACK, formerly at the Club Pair o' Dice, Little Rock, Ark., is now leading his own Gallopin' Dominos aggregation regularly at the Rainbow Garden, Okmulgee, Okla.; the Okemah Hotel, Okemah, Okla., and the Elks' Club, Henryetta, Okla. Included in the combo are Gus Shulze, piano and arranger; Lew McCann, sax, clarinet and harmonica; Ray Mathis, banjo and voice; Jack Bell, violin and euphonium; Eddie Black, trumpet, entertainer and manager, and Austin Rush, drums.

PARIS LETTER

(Continued from page 31)
and the revue, *Hyson's Ideas*, are the attractions at the Ambassadeurs, Cannes.

George Gordon is presenting his comedy act at the Casino de Beausoliel, Monte Carlo.

Monti Lyle is entertaining at the Knickerbocker, Monte Carlo.

Noble Stesle's jazz band is furnishing the dance music at the Hotel de Paris, Monte Carlo.

Lartigan's Orchestra is playing at Ciro's, Monte Carlo.

Belgium

Brussels is furnishing an opening for many American acts. The Hudson Wonders are playing at the Embassy, and Transvariety, Billy Arnold's agency in Paris, has booked Bob Fisher, black-face comedian, to appear at the same cabaret at the end of February. Kent and Berenice, colored steppers, will be at the Merry Grill in February, and Morino and Norris, the "Show-Boat Boys", appear there in April.

The Stanley Brothers have closed their engagements in Antwerp and have left for Leipzig, where they will play a month at the Krystallpalast.

Babe Evans and her Redheads, who have been playing an extended engagement in Brussels, leave for New York January 8.

Prince Tokio, Japanese acrobat-dancer, is at the Palais d'Éte in Brussels.

Journey's End will be presented in Brussels at the end of January.

T. Jay Quincy is presenting Gladys Quincy in her under-water act and dance number at the Palais d'Éte, Brussels.

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Burlesque

Conducted by ALFRED NELSON—Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York

Charles Burns' Company At Irving Place Theater

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Charles Burns, directing manager of the Irving Place Theater, presenting Mutual Circuit shows, augments the circuit company weekly by a permanent stock company that proves an attraction for patrons.

Burns' supplemental stock company includes Rich (Shorty) McAllister and Johnny Weber, comics; Leon DeVoe, straight and character; Mildred Cozzerre, talking woman and blues-singing specialist, and Tillie Ward, talking woman, singing and dancing soubret, augmented in scenes when the occasion demands by some one or more of the 16 runway girls.

Isabelle Lorrre and Peggy Reynolds are the featured fem. number leaders on the runway.

During a recent visit to the Irving we caught Comic McAllister and Leading Lady Cozzerre, aided by Jean Kerman, a pretty, petite blond runway girl, in the *He Never Was Your Father* comedy bit, and what they got out of that comedy bit evoked continuous laughter and applause.

Miss Cozzerre's blues-singing specialty was a classic of its kind in voluminous melody that was enhanced by her ever-present ingratiating smile and revelation of her model-like form in a parade of her pleasing personality.

In another cleverly conceived comedy bit Comic Weber and Leading Lady Ward put over *You Don't Have To Be Afraid of Him* bit for laughter and applause aplenty, followed by Leon DeVoe in an artistic realistic dramatic interpretation and portrayal of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde for merited applause on his exit.

Soubret Ward in her specialty put personality aplenty into her performance that included a dance dynamic.

Isabelle Lorrre and Peggy Reynolds, two pretty, petite brunets, in their respective numbers on the runway and spotlighted on the stage in strutting strip parades, stopped the show.

In a recent review and in "Seen and Heard" last week we used the name Gertie instead of Isabelle in referring to Isabelle in person.

Dancing Dolls on the runway have all the essentials, youth, beauty, talent and ability, singing in harmony and dancing in unison.

On the afternoon of our visit we caught Frank Damsel's *High Flyers* and found their performance far superior to the one that we reviewed at the Columbia Theater.—NELSE.

Several Changes in Co. At Empress, Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—Myron O'Briskey, representing Jacobs Brothers at the New Empress Theater, coming here from the East, advises that he is still interested in the Detroit houses.

Riddle (Nut) Kaplan replaced "Snitz" Moore as comic and received a nice reception. James Yeoman came in from Los Angeles to produce.

Florence Naomi joined December 30 as prima donna. Dolly Davis has left to join a Mutual Circuit show.

Added Attractions

Norma Lee augmented *Naughty Nifties* at the Empress, Chicago.

Plaza Theater Stock

PT. WORTH, Tex., Jan. 11.—Matt Kolb is organizing a company in Chicago for a season of burlesque stock at the Plaza Theater.

Broadcasting the Ball

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Meyer Harris, chairman of committees for the Burlesque Club Ball, has issued an SOS to all radio stations within reach to broadcast the ball, which will be held at the New Palm Garden, New York, Sunday evening, February 9.

Palace Theater Stock

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—The Palace Theater Stock Company, scheduled to close Saturday last, has been retained on a week-to-week closing notice.

Players Partied

Charles Burns, manager Irving Place Theater, New York, Mutual Circuit house, and operator of the *Tempters*, en tour the circuit, spent Christmas Day with his company at Scranton, Pa., where his elation at making a profit on the week led up to his becoming the self-appointed host to his company on Christmas night at Taver's Cabaret, where he presented the members of his company with a feast and suitable gifts as his contribution to their Christmas cheer.

GRACE WASSEN, soubret of *Broadway Scandals*, is now single and the same is applicable to Morris Perry.

Changes on Circuit

Route sheet for January 13-18 and January 20-25 indicates 43 shows en tour. Four shows lay off week of January 13-18, viz.:

Kuddling Kuries, out of Gayety, Brooklyn.

Big Revue, out of Apollo, New York.

Bohemians, out of Utica.

Jazztime Revue, out of Kansas City.

Get Hot does not lay off this week, but jumps direct to Jamaica.

Astoria — Steinway Theater, Jules Leventhal, directing manager, did not close as scheduled January 4, but continued last week, closing its season Saturday.

Broadway Scandals did not lay off as scheduled last week, but played its regular date at the Steinway Theater, Astoria.

Oriental Girls, Sol Brody, operator and manager, closed their season Saturday at Washington.

Four shows lay off week of January 20-25, viz.:

Hindu Belles, out of Gayety, Brooklyn.

Best Show in Town, out of Apollo, New York.

Dainty Dolls, out of Utica.

Sliding Billy Watson Show, out of Kansas City.

Bridgeport-Jamaica.—The lay-off week heretofore out of Bridgeport has been bridged by the exit of *Oriental Girls*, and *Get Hot* jumping direct from Bridgeport to Jamaica, all subsequent shows doing likewise.

Tempters, Charles Burns, operator, jumped from Reading into the Irving Place Theater last week and the Columbia Theater, New York, for the current week.

Puss Puss, Dick Zeisler, operator, on its lay-off week out of Bridgeport, jumped direct to Pittsburgh for its midnight opening Sunday.

Cracker Jacks—Harry Shapiro succeeds Morris Zaiden as manager at Albany.

Take a Chance—Maurice Castello will sub for Nat Fields as manager for two weeks beginning at Schenectady, while Nat attends a legal conference in Milwaukee.

Placements

Milt Schuster Agency, Chicago, has made placements, viz.:

Empress Theater (Circuit), Chicago—Norma Lee.

Plaza Theater (Stock), Ft. Worth, Tex.—Wallace Nash, Moss and Mellon, Gladys St. Claire, Ann Darling.

Chautau Theater (Stock), Chicago—Dolores Lawrence, Marjorie Fairburn, Virginia Leah, Irene Kelly, Fay Murray, Gladys Democico, Shirley Shields, Green Sisters, Vera Cohen, Bonnie Delaney.

Star and Garter Theater (Stock), Chicago—Thelma Gleason, Ernst Holder, Joe Kilch, Johanna Slade.

Academy Theater (Stock), Chicago—Mary Delight.

Itz Weber Agency, New York, has made placements, viz.:

City Theater (Stock), New York—Eddie Aiken, Bobby Randall, January 4; George Walsh, producer, January 11; Mary Sunde, January 18.

Bijou Theater (Stock), Philadelphia—Art Gardner and Pritzie White, January 13.

American Music Hall Theater (Stock), New York—John O'Donnell, January 13.

Nat Mortan Agency, New York, has made placements, viz.:

Fulton Theater (Stock), Brooklyn—Al Watson.

Girls in Blue (Circuit)—Cleora, classic dancer, as added attraction in Scranton.

Best Show in Town (Circuit)—Boots Rush and Marie Miller, opened at Jamaica.

Current Comment

By NELSE

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

AS CONDUCTOR of the Burlesque Department for the last 12 years we have been the recipient of ceaseless comments from caustic critics demanding to know why we do not take exception to burlesque in general and burlesque players in particular.

For the most part the communications are from a class of writers known far and wide as "letter to editor" writers, who hope to see their letters in print.

There is another class of writers who, having failed in their aspirations to become producers or players, are actuated by envy in becoming "letter to editor" writers and contributing caustic criticism of producers and players. Many among them have selected burlesque as a fertile field for their fault finding.

One of these fellows from the Far West came to us several years ago seeking our aid in meeting producers to whom he submitted several scripts that he considered masterpieces of burlesque comedy. His likable personality and fluent praise of his own work impressed several producers favorably, and one of them entered into a contract for several comedy bits that called for special scenic sets that set the producer back several hundred dollars.

The producer permitted this fellow to stage his own scenes and rehearse the comics and other players, and their inability to garner laughter and applause for the new bits caused the author to brand them as inefficient burlesquers who couldn't or wouldn't try something new.

After two weeks' tryout the censors on the circuit ordered the bits out and the comics put on their own, thereby making an enemy of the author and an unwarranted "letter to editor" writer who has condemned us frequently for our failure to criticize producers and players for what he is pleased to term persistent use of time-worn BITS in burlesque.

Granted that present-day producers and players apparently content themselves with the production and presentation of time-worn BITS, what about the producer of so-called Broadway shows and their players, who pilates the same bits for his own presentations?

There are more time-worn bits of burlesque now being shown in Broadway shows than new bits and far more than in burlesque.

These time-worn BITS are acceptable to Broadway theater patrons for several reasons; that is, costly scenic productions, colorful lighting effects, efficient stage direction and far more talented and able players than burlesque warrants.

As set forth in previous issues, burlesque today is the workingman's show, produced and presented at workingman prices of admission, and taking into consideration that it is the only form of theatricals with over 40 shows en tour, it is pleasing the patrons, otherwise it couldn't continue.

We are not condoning the faults of burlesque producers and players, but being fully familiar with the inner workings of burlesque; that is, the financing of 40-odd theaters and shows, their maintenance, and limited patronage given this particular style of presentation, we are being guided by existing conditions and decline to be swayed by those unfamiliar with these conditions.

Granted that the faults of producers are many and varied, they can do little to remedy them as long as they are held down to approximately \$4,000 for their productions and \$1,700 weekly for their presentations.

Chief among those faults open to justifiable criticism are their house programs that leave patrons and reviewers to guess at the identity of new players, the absence of company managers from front of house, where they should be to review their presentation and performance of players, the inability of comics to camouflage their double entendre, the lack of talent in their feminine players, featured fems that failed to realize that the day of strutting strips is passing out, dirty, dilapidated scenery and costumes, that can be remedied along practical lines with no additional cost to the producers. If we except the lack of talent and ability in the featured fems, that should be remedied by them personally by a little time, labor and money in the actual study of music, singing, dancing and delivery of lines.

CIRCUIT REVIEW

TAKE A CHANCE

—With—

MAX COLEMAN AND INA THOMAS
The entire production and musical numbers staged and presented by Nat Fields at the Columbia Theater, New York, week of January 6.

CAST — Max Coleman, Ina Thomas, Johnny Goodman, Larry Ames, Ralph Poe, Harry Ryan, Gaby Fields, Marion O'Neil and Tiny Huff.

CHORUS — Lara Dort, Fritz Dort, Dolly Walters, Marguerite Roe, Dolly Reig, Thelma Fields, Lucille Rynon, Lela Level, Tiny Level, Fern Bowers, Georgian Carter, Dorothy Bates, Jean Arden, Marie Palmer, Marion Kenyon and Cora Larmie.

PRODUCTION — Far more than the usual full-stage sets: include an Oriental interior, street in Chinatown, fancy interior, Spanish set, Mexican cabaret, prison scene from *Faust*, in the trenches, and ballroom for the first part; a minstrel first-part set for the opening of the second part, then a bungalow interior, theatrical manager's office, and an elaborate Western scene, supplemented by silk semicycles, pictorial drops and drapes with gorgeous gowns and chic costumes apropos to each scene.

PRESENTATION — A diversified series of comedy sketches, bits and dialogs given new twists and turns in lines and actions to make them appear different, supplemented with more than the usual specialties and novel ensemble numbers.

Characterization

Max Coleman, featured comic, with his usual black mustache, pallid face and frequent changes of comedy clothes, including feminine attire, carried the burden of the comedy, but indicated no inclination to hog the center of the stage, giving and taking with his co-workers to garner laughter and applause, which was freely given by the pleased patrons through the presentation.

Coleman shows a great improvement in his comedy-making abilities, which include parody singing and eccentric dancing.

Ina Thomas, a Dresden-doll type of youth and beauty, enhanced by an ever-present ingratiating smile and flirty eyes, was effective in scenes, singing sweetly in leading numbers and standing out distinctly in a spot-lighted, strutting strip parade of her pleasing personality which proved an optical feast to the patrons.

Johnny Goodman, late of *Nite Life in Paris*, jumped into the show Sunday night, without a rehearsal, and, strange to say, appeared to far better advantage than in any other show in which we have caught him heretofore.

Goodman is doing a brown-bearded, white-lined mouth, sloppy-attire tramp and making them laugh and applaud his wisecracks and funny antics, supplementing in numbers by singing harmony and hoofing.

Larry Ames, a melodious singing straight man, fed the comics ably in several scenes and, as a characterized dope daret, evidenced real dramatic ability.

Harry Ryan, a classy-clothed, clear-dictioned juvenile straight, supplemented in song and dance like a typical vaude artiste.

Ralph Poe, another singing straight man, evidenced far more than the usual dramatic ability as Black Pedro and Captain Plagg.

Gaby Fields, blond prima donna a la operatic, appeared perfectly at home leading a Spanish number and equally so as an eccentric comedienne.

Marion O'Neil, a personally attractive, ever-smiling brunet soubret, evidenced the talent and ability of the thoroly experienced burlesquer in scenes and stood out distinctly as a melodious singer and nifty dancer in leading numbers, thereby stopping the show and reappearing for an acrobatic dance that was equaled only by her specialty.

Tiny Huff, a dazzling blonde, evidenced fab. and vaudeville training in scenes, leading numbers and in specialties as a singing and dancing soubret.

Ryan and Huff put over a singing and dancing specialty, with Ryan doing an eccentric, and Huff taps, huck and wing, and the latter interpolating a blues-singing single specialty.

Larry Ames and Marie Palmer, in a special scenic set, interpreted, portrayed and sang the *Miserere*, from *Faust*, with exceptional ability.

Specialties in minstrel first part included Prima Fields, characterizing the girl singing *Rein*, ran the gamut of

sentimental emotional dramatics in her recital; Juvenile Ryan put over an intricate eccentric dancing routine, Marion O'Neil a nifty dance routine, Comics Coleman and Goodman, Straight Ames, Juvenile Ryan, Prima Fields, Soubrets Huff and Chorister Palmer blended harmoniously with ragtime opera.

Lara Dort, Fritz Dort, Thelma Fields and Dolly Walters, four personally at-

tractive brunets with slender, symmetrical forms, put over a contortional acrobatic dance that eventually will in all probability find itself featured on Broadway.

CHORUS—Superior in beauty, talent and ability to the usual run of circuit choruses, singing in harmony and dancing in unison a la Tiller and putting far more pep into their performances

than most of the choristers on the circuit.

Comment

A costly production and presentation of clean and clever comedy, staged by one fully familiar with the requirements of burlesque patrons.

A talented and able company well cast in their respective roles.

A fast and funny show with diversified features that make it far more attractive than the usual run of circuit shows.

Columbia Theater Company

Willie Creager, director of the orchestra, minus the former miking, is admirable, and his specialty a treat to lovers of music.

Jean Steeles' singing of new lyrics was enhanced in one number by a cleverly conceived costume that lent itself to a novel story.

Mary Lee Tucker has conceived a series of contortional acts—these are the personification of cuteness.—NELSE.

Changes in Casts

American Music Hall Theater (stock), New York—Artie Leeming closed January 4, being succeeded by Max Febrman, Virginia Wheeler closed at the same time for a brief vacation. Lee Smith, former featured fem of *Nite Life in Paris*, opened January 6 and closed Saturday, being succeeded by Mary Lee Tucker, late of the Columbia Theater runway, where Miss Smith succeeds Miss Tucker.

Hugh Mack, straight man, did not succeed Walter Weber, as previously published, as Weber continues in cast.

City Theater (stock), New York—Sam Mitchell succeeded Ernie Mack and Eddie Alken and Artie Lloyd succeeded Paul Ryan and Eddie Lorraine January 3; Bobby Randal opening same time. George Carroll, comic, opened January 11, and Mary Sunde opens Saturday. Connie St. Claire has canceled her notice to close and will continue. George Walsh succeeded Eddie Welch as producer last week.

Burbank Theater (stock), Los Angeles —Charles Pricher closed January 4 for (See CHANGES IN CASTS on page 44)

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HOTEL HERMITAGE	From 25 Up	Times Sq., Ave. 624 and 7th Ave. Phone, Wisconsin 2880
HOTEL HUDSON	102 W. 44th St. (E. of E'way)	Rooms, \$1.50 Daily; \$8 Up Wkly. Bryant 7772
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MANFIELD HALL	236 W. 24th St.	Columbus 2070
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Memphis Sends a Word on Lighting

The Memphis Little Theater may be small in many respects, but when it comes to the switchboard for control of the lighting system, there are few theaters in the country which outstep it. Some may have a more elaborate or larger board, but these are not in large number and when counted up are those not in the semi-pro class.

The main board has two dimmer banks, consisting of 15 dimmers controlling 50 lines of 1,000-watt capacity, two independent dimmers for the control of small spots and one dimmer of large capacity for the control of floor floods. In addition to this there are 10 lines on the board which are known as "hot" lines, for use of direct lighting where dimmers are not needed. A portable bank of five dimmers can at any time be cut into these "hot" lines if necessary. The "house" lights are independent of the stage board and are operated by two dimmers. The lighting for the stage in the main comes from floods overhead. Supplementing these are spots under stage, which are used to soften the lighting by being reflected on the stage from mirrors specially built for the purpose which are situated in what is usually used for footlights. A series of balcony and side floods and spots is also made use of. For exterior work a complete "eye" lighting system has been installed.

"In order to maintain this system which was developed by Director Alexander Wyckoff and Geoffrey F. Mayor, production manager, an electrician and two assistants are maintained on the regular production staff."

Selecting Players For Pyre Guild, Chicago

New plays and players are being selected for the 1930 presentations of the Walton Pyre Guild Players of Chicago. Original manuscripts are being considered, and many members of the cast are being chosen by competition. It was announced recently.

When asked to describe some of the purposes and ideals of the group he heads, Pyre, who has had extensive experience on the professional stage as actor-producer, said:

"Our organization is in its infancy and at this stage we cannot say into what it may grow. That depends largely, of course, upon the ideals that shall actuate it, and upon what is visioned as the need of the community at large—for unless this is met ideals mean little or nothing."

Radio Pioneers Form Little Theater Group

Arthur H. and Leome Faust, radio pioneers of the Northwest, and former directors of the St. Stephen Players of Minneapolis, have announced the formation of a new Little Theater group to be known as the Faust Players.

Faust will act in his usual capable capacity of director general, while his mother, Leome Faust, will act as assistant director and manager. Leo Sprunck will be stage manager, Robert Hoover as advance man for tours, Robert LePerve as house manager and Edward McMullin as the publicity agent.

The company is composed for the most part of semi-professional and professional people and includes Dorys Hauskey, Mary Dunn, Lucille Anderson, Sally O'Brien, Lucille Sullivan, Helen Rawson, Helen Habata, Phyllis Webber, Robert Reddin, Richard Kunz, Christian Jensen, Joseph McIlhenny, Leo Sprunck, Robert Hoover and Virginia Johnson.

Fort Wayne Civic Theater Opens Second Season

The Civic Theater League of Fort Wayne, Ind., opened its second season with *The Silver Cord*, and drew warm praise for its production in the newspapers. Mrs. Phelps was played by Bess Baldwin, retired professional, living in Fort Wayne. Others in the cast were Mrs. Dan Flanagan, Betty Bowerfind, Mrs. Gordon Banks, Robert Keegan and Roger May. Inga Paar Leine is director of the comparatively new organization here.

The league is incorporated and Dan Flanagan is president. Herbert Butterfield, former stock director, has done some assisting backstage.

New Theater Type Arising

The Little Theater movement in the United States is developing an entire new type of audience throughout the country. This was the declaration recently of Leon J. Richardson, director of the

Little Theaters

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

National Drama Week To Dramatize Services and Needs of the Theater

National Drama Week of 1930 is to be celebrated February 9 to 15, according to the Church and Drama League of America, which is sponsoring the sixth of these annual events. Hon. John W. Davis is honorary president of the league. Rev. S. Parkes Cadman is president and Rev. George Reid Andrews is executive director. From the plans which have already been worked out by hundreds of organizations of all kinds throughout the country, Drama Week this year is expected to surpass in breadth and variety of activity the celebrations of previous years.

The purpose of Drama Week is to throw the spotlight of public interest on the part which the drama plays in the life of the individual, the life of the community and the life of the nation. The activities of Drama Week serve to dramatize the power of the theater and its inimitable services to culture, education, recreation and civic spirit. They serve also to stage the appeal of the drama to the public—the appeal for audiences which understand, for audiences which appreciate and show their appreciation, for audiences with a growing taste for the best.

Among the national organizations which are endorsing Drama Week this year and co-operating in its activities are: Actors' Equity Association, Actors' Fidelity League, American Child Health Association, American Federation of Labor, American Library Association, Arizona State Drama Association, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Girl Scouts, International Lyceum and Chautauque Association, National Association of Book Publishers, Playground and Recreation Association of America, Young Women's Christian Association and Zeta Phi Eta Sorority.

Each day of the week is to be dedicated to a different phase of the drama's many significant relationships.

Every available means is to be used, according to the programs of the participating organizations, and special broadcasting of plays, "radio teas" in studios and homes. The churches will join thru the medium of pulpit discussions and adult Bible class consideration of the dramatic values in the Bible. Public luncheons, teas, dinners, round-table discussions and lectures will carry the message to all kinds of groups. Newspapers and magazines are co-oper-

ating. Organizations interested in education, women's clubs, church societies, commercial organizations, little theater groups, civic organizations of every type are to express their own special interest in the drama in effective ways. Appropriate displays and exhibits in churches, schools, stores and libraries are projected. Of course, there will be special theater parties wherever possible and productions by little theaters, pageants and sacred interludes by church organizations, play readings by women's clubs and special children's performances.

This is the first Drama Week to be sponsored by the Church and Drama League, which is an affiliation of the Drama League of America (which inaugurated the idea), the American Theater Association and the Church and Drama Association. It is nonsectarian, unendowed and unsubsidized by any commercial interest, and not operated for profit. Thru a number of practical services it aims to make the audience worthy of its drama and the drama worthy of its audience. These aims are forwarded effectively thru providing and stimulating audiences to support good plays which need support; guiding the playgoer in finding the best in the entertainments clamoring for attention; helping in every possible way the semi-professional and amateur dramatic groups; co-operating with all technically interested in the dramatic arts thru the medium of counsel and information, organized travel for first-hand study, etc.

Realizing that under present conditions in the commercial theater, communities away from the few large theatrical centers must create their own living drama, particular attention is paid by the Church and Drama League to community theaters, dramatic clubs of schools and colleges, church dramatic organizations and little theater groups of all kinds. The league also recognizes that the regeneration of the commercial theater may prove to be in the hands of those playwrights, performers, artists and directors who have learned their arts in the practical schools of experience in these groups. Much that is vital, new and inestimably valuable has already come to Broadway from these sources.

Drama Week is organized and conducted this year, as in the past, by Sue Ann Wilson, associate director of the Church and Drama League, from headquarters at 260 Fourth avenue, New York City.

University of California Extension Division, who recently completed a nationwide survey of the movement. He said:

"A third of the 22,000 high schools of America are studying and applying production methods to a rather decent grade of play. Broadway may be dying, but never was the theater so alive in the rest of the United States. Hundreds of little theaters act Shaw and Shakespeare, Milne and Molnar, Barrie and Barry. A new audience is growing up in the high schools of the United States. They will graduate looking for something besides talkies."

Western Springs, Ill., Little Theater Makes Debut

Residents of Western Springs, Ill., recently attended the first of a series of plays given by the Little Theater group of this suburb. Three one-act plays were presented at the premiere, *Op o' Me Thumb*, a London skit by Fenn and Fryce; *Happiness*, by J. Hartley Manners, and *Station YYY*, by Booth Tarkington.

The direction is in the hands of Mary Cattell, the only professional in the group. The charter members of this group are: Paul White, Helen Vaughan, C. H. Vaughan, Mrs. W. H. Hatendorf, Arthur Warner, Mrs. J. W. Rahill, Mrs. F. G. Wheeler, Mrs. Calvin George, Mrs. C. L. Keller, C. L. Keller, Mrs. Carl E. Helmbrodt, Ruth Holmes, Carl E. Helmbrodt, Mrs. C. A. Wickstrom, E. O. Pat-

erson, Mrs. Arthur Warner, Mrs. J. B. Dandridge, Mrs. Paul White, Mrs. W. W. Gunkle, Mrs. L. B. Sperry, F. G. Wheeler, H. J. Cattell, Mrs. J. C. Cattell and Mrs. Marjorie M. Bowman.

Petit Theater Seeks To Develop Playwrights

The Petit Theater du Vieux Carre, of New Orleans, thru its workshop, is seeking to develop Louisiana playwrights, and is opening a contest for one-act plays. Anyone in Louisiana is eligible, but the play must have been written expressly for this contest. If it has been printed in any publication, or if it has been acted, it will not be considered. There are no other restrictions. Any theme may be chosen, and it may be developed around any number of characters. The contest closes January 31. The judges are: Jessie Sharp, Rabbi Louis Binastock and Doctor Pierce Butler.

The Southern League Of Little Theaters

The Southern League of Little Theaters recently held its first meeting since organization in Anniston, Ala. Birmingham, Ala., and Chattanooga, Tenn., were represented among others, and Mobile, Ala., was the only member not sending a representative. A representative from Columbus, Ga., was a guest.

Dr. Cleveland, of Anniston, led an informal discussion on membership, after

which other phases of little theater work were taken up. It is hoped that an exchange of plays between the groups can be effected later.

Carrie Knox entertained at tea in her home and in the evening the delegates attended Goldoni's *The Fan*, presented by the Anniston Little Theater.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in Birmingham, the date to be announced later.

San Francisco Theater Will Stage Prize Plays

Theater Arts, Inc., of San Francisco, will present the prize-winning plays of its recent play-writing contest as its next production, which will be given during January. These plays, which were judged as the best of the 28 submitted by a committee headed by George C. Warren, of *The San Francisco Chronicle*, will be staged under the direction of Talma-Zetta Wilbur, production director of the Theater Arts.

Elsie Wilbur captured first honors in the contest with her drama *Nereis*, a story of San Francisco Chinatown. Francis A. Raymond, of Burlingame, duplicated his feat of last year, coming second with *Indiscretions*. Third prize went to Kay Clover, of Paso Robles, for a comedy, *Alimony Preferred*.

Penalties, by W. B. Lord, was the best play submitted by a member of Theater Arts. William Vann Connors and Emery Chabot took second and third places among the members with their acts, *To the Victors* and *Two Sides*.

The Playcrafters Of Rock Island, Ill.

The Playcrafters of Rock Island presented *The Best People*, by David Gray and Avery Hopwood, during December under the direction of Stanley Nothstein. Leading roles were portrayed by Mildred Nelson, Elizabeth Soper, Forrest Ditzel and Bob Schroeder. Modernistic settings for this production were executed by members under the direction of Elbert Smick.

Nashville Little Theater Will Present Two Plays

On Approval, a recent English play, has been selected by the Little Theater of Nashville, Tenn., for the first of two productions during January.

Besides an informal reception two short plays will be given and rehearsals for these are already in progress. Welcoming the guests will be Mrs. B. Kirk Rankin, president; Rufus S. Phillips, director, and other officers.

Milwaukee Presents "Rip Van Winkle"

The Little Theater of Milwaukee presented lovable old Rip Van Winkle in December. Arthur Blackaller, a character actor of 30 years' experience, took the part of Rip. Blackaller, by the way, played with Joseph Jefferson for five years in the part of young Cockey and made an especial study of the part of Rip, thereby giving an authentic, clever and interesting impersonation of every manner and intonation of Joseph Jefferson.

Two hard workers in the interest of (See LITTLE THEATERS opposite page)

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Columbia's Booking Policy Is Changed

Stage, screen and radio talent will be interested to know that the Columbia Broadcasting System hereafter, thru its Artists' Bureau, headed by Henry Burr, will book most of its talent direct. This statement was made shortly after the New Year by the Columbia officials.

"All contractual booking arrangements have been severed," said Burr, "and we shall continue to book talent which we desire for Columbia programs, even if it is under contract to agencies. We desire, however, full leeway in procuring the best radio talent from all sources."

Henry Burr, of Henry Burr, Inc., and his assistant, L. C. Montcastle, recently were appointed in charge of Columbia's Artist Bureau. Burr is one of America's best-known showmen. He is known as the producer of more Victrola records than any other artist.

Since Burr joined Columbia, many innovations are understood to have been made in talent booking, and the present announcement by Columbia is not the least in importance.

Jeff De Angelis Escorts Niece to NBC Audition

A great star of yesterday sat in an NBC monitoring booth recently, and listened to a young entertainer who may be a star of tomorrow. The old troupier was Jefferson De Angelis, whose rendition of Gilbert and Sullivan roles made him internationally famous two decades ago. The embryonic star was his niece, Perqueta Courtney, a very pretty young soprano, giving her first microphonic appearance.

Measures Taken To Prevent Use Of Profanity In Broadcasting

Steps against the use of profanity in radio broadcasting have been taken from time to time with no real results. Measures to prevent the use of profanity in broadcasting were advocated in the Senate January 6, and Representative Lankford (Dem.), of Douglas, Ga., introduced Bill H. R. 7977, which provides for Government ownership and control of all radio communications in a proposed "department of general welfare."

Some action against profanity over the radio was also advocated by Senator Dill, of Washington, who called the attention of the Senate to a telegram sent by L. K. Watrous, of Minneapolis, to the Federal Radio Commission, containing allegations against Station KWEH, of Shreveport, La. It has been complained that cursing and profanity had occurred over the radio from this station.

Senator Dill read from Section 29 of the law of 1927, relative to radio, which states that "no person within the jurisdiction of the United States shall utter any obscene, indecent or profane language by means of a radio communication."

Senator Dill advocated an enforcement of this law, stating that "The Radio Commission, if it feels it cannot take action by revoking or suspending a station's license, ought to call upon the district attorney of the community to enforce the penal provision of the law."

"I feel that I owe it to the public," said Senator Dill, "if not to the Radio Commission, to call attention to this abuse of the use of the radio, and I hope that if the Radio Commission does not take note of it that the Attorney General of the United States, thru the proper district attorney, will take note of it, and put a stop to the continued use of profanity and obscene language by this station or any other station in the United States."

Chicago Stations Quarrel Over Priority Rights

In the old days, court jesters fought over whose turn it was to entertain and gain favor with the king. Present-day jesters have said that the only free thing we have is air, but out in old Chicago there has been some recent trouble regarding "air rights."

As a matter of fact, so great was the argument, that it was brought up before the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia, which on January 6 reversed the decision of the Federal Radio Commission denying Station WENR of Chicago an increase in operating hours from two-sevenths to one-half time.

In an opinion on appeals of three

Radio Entertainers

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT

(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

stations in the Chicago area, all involving decisions of the Commission in apportioning the time on the 870-kilo-cycle channel, the court ordered that WENR be given one-half time on the frequency. Station WLS, Chicago, using five-sevenths time on the channel, must relinquish so many of its hours of operation as will give WENR an equal time division. Station WCCB, Zion City, Ill., which formerly operated on the frequency, was denied application for restoration to it for a limited time.

Radio Joins Stage and Screen Presenting Works of Tarkington

Radio has combined with the stage and screen in presenting the works of Booth Tarkington. *Penrod*, the Hoosier author's ever-amusing novel of boyhood, is presented in a series of dramatizations by Julian Street, Jr., over the NBC System. The series was started Sunday evening, January 5, at 9:15 EST, and will continue thereafter.

When Looks May Count

The year 1930 has promised something in the way of television, and when television actually enters the home, radio entertainers may have to resurrect the old grease-paint and make-up box.

Television, in natural colors, is on the way to realization thru a new discovery by William Hoyt Peck.

Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford are to make a special motion picture for television broadcast. It has been announced by representatives of the Kemper Radio Corporation, Ltd. The picture will be transmitted by the Farnsworth Television System at San Francisco some time in January.

KYW, Chicago, Making Tests

The long-promised 50,000-watt Westinghouse transmitter of KYW, Chicago, is at last making nightly tests on the air after midnight. Said to be something very new and wonderful, and everyone at KYW is all worked up about it. Perhaps one reason is that records count and time must be carefully watched during these tests. Otherwise, the giant tubes might blow out—at \$2,400 a blow!

Iowa Stations Combine

Synchronization of broadcasting Stations WHO, Des Moines, Ia., and WOC, Davenport, Ia., backed by a \$500,000 rehabilitation project thruout the State, will be completed some time in January, according to plans of the Central Broadcasting Company.

Lloyd C. Thomas, commercial manager of Westinghouse stations, has been offered management of the two Iowa stations, but his acceptance has not been announced.

YOLANDE LANGWORTHY, WABC artist, writes and produces *Arabesque*, a modern *Thousand and One Nights*.

In addition to portraying the role of Zuweida, a Romany gypsy, Miss Langworthy, who is also an accomplished singer, sings gypsy airs during the *Arabesque* broadcast. Miss Langworthy, a niece of Vincent Massey, the Canadian Ambassador, holds a degree of Doctor of Music from the Toronto Conservatory.

BEATRICE MORELAND, who has been portraying the character of Sarah Higgins, in the *Main Street Sketches*, for nearly two years over Station WOR, is resigning her position. Her many friends and admirers had the last opportunity of hearing Sarah just before Miss Moreland sailed January 11 on the S. S.

Franconia for an "around-the-world cruise".

HAROLD SANFORD, tenor, will sing *Why Adam Sinned* Saturday night at 9:30. We are, not sure, of course, that Adam sinned on this particular night; what we really mean is that Harold will tell all thru Station WJZ and the NBC chain this Saturday evening.

FRANK GITTELSON, distinguished American violinist, has been booked for

a series of Sunday morning Artist Recitals over Station WBAL, Baltimore. These programs are on the air each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Gittelson, an internationally known concert artist, is a member of the faculty of the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore.



LARRY LARSEN, Frank Gittelson is popular organist heard from Station WGN, The Chicago Tribune Station, atop the Drake Hotel.

GEORGIA BACKUS, radio actress, is also a writer of radio dramas, and is heard in some of her own works thru Station WABC and the Columbia chain. Miss Backus is a regular WABC staff artist.

PHIL MAHER, who writes sketches and plays for the *Nit-Wits* and the *Show-Boat Hour*, is now broadcasting from Station WPCH. Phil does songs and monologues.

SANTINA LEONE, soprano, will be heard from Station WHAM, Rochester, N. Y., Saturday, at 7:15 p.m.

WESTELL GORDON, lyric tenor, and Louise Vave, coloratura soprano, were among those regular members of the Roxy family to celebrate the eighth year of broadcasting from the Capitol Theater, New York.

DAVID DROLLET, tenor, one of the most colorful personalities in the musical field, recently made his debut with the Roxy ensemble. M. Drollet sang the *Miserere* from *Il Trovatore*, with Viola Philo.

MARJORIE JENNINGS, little motion picture actress, is another professional to fall before the "mike". She appears in the *Mountainsville Sketches* emanating from Station WABC.

EUGENE GOOSSENS, world-famous conductor, will conduct a special program given by the Rochester Civic Orchestra Monday evening, from 10 to 10:30, EST.

WILL OSBORNE, radio crooner at CBS, sort of allows that he can't help it if his voice sounds like Rudy Vallee's. They're both nice.

HAL KEMP and his orchestra, NBC broadcasting unit, which is at present a feature in the Moorish Grill of the Hotel Manger, will be heard in their last program of the season on the air in New York, Thursday evening, at midnight, from WEAF. The boys are booked for a three months' engagement at the Coral Gables (Fla.) Country Club.

ALICE BOULDEN, featured in *Hold Everything*, made a recent radio debut thru Station WPCH.

MARION KERBY, contralto, and John J. Niles, tenor, will make their first public New York appearances at Station WOR. Featuring American folk songs and what they term "Negro Exaltations", they will be on the regular weekly *Barbazon Intimate Recital* concert series,

starting Wednesday, January 15, at 9:30 p.m.

JOAN CRAWFORD and her husband, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., were heard in the *Voices From Filmland* hour over the Columbia network thru Station WABC.

ERNO RAPEE, conductor of the Roxy Symphony Orchestra, has resigned his position with the Roxy Theater to become associated with Warner Brothers. He leaves for the coast around the middle of January to assume the musical direction of all the Warner interests.

VIC IRWIN, orchestra leader at the Mayfair Roof Restaurant, is looking for a suitable air signature for his orchestra in the nightly broadcasts over WOR and WMCA.

RAJAH BABOID, vaudeville mind-reader, is exploiting his Scollay Square date in Boston by broadcasting lectures on phrenology and psychology over Station WEZA, Boston.

JOSEPH VENERI is presenting a solo program of ballads and Italian music over Station WOR. Joe uses his mandolin, of course. Both he and his partner, Chas. Rotella, have broadcasted from Stations WOR, WAAT, WMCA and WHN.

MILT COLMAN, vocalist and ukulele player, heard six mornings a week thru the NBC System, has been engaged by the Robbins Music Corporation to make ukulele arrangements for sheet music, the firm has announced.

CHIC SALE, famous comedian, is presenting his rural sketches of a small-town character thru Station WEAF.

ELMER F. BERNHARDT, baritone, and Nathan Cohen, xylophonist, will be with the WBAL Ensemble in Baltimore Saturday evening, January 18, at 8:30.

GRACE L. NEEDHAM, radio singer, and George E. Clark announced their marriage recently.

ELLSWORTH NEFF, psychologist, is being featured over Station KJBS, San Francisco.

LITTLE THEATERS

(Continued from opposite page)
The Milwaukee Little Theater are Leslie H. Martin and Ray M. Lipscomb. Both these boys appreciate the co-operation and encouragement of Margaret Rice, manager of the Palmet Theater, Milwaukee.

It is the purpose of the Milwaukee Little Theater to present to drama lovers of the city the best plays by a company of Milwaukee's own talent, chosen from among the members of the several local dramatic organizations.

News From Bonham, Tex.

The Little Theater of Bonham, Tex., was organized in April, 1928, with a paid membership of 105. At present it has no little theater of its own, but hopes to in the future. The expenses for each production are usually as follows: House, \$60; director, \$35 or \$40; royalty, \$35 to \$50; books, \$15; incidentals, \$50.

Two of their most successful plays were *The Thirteenth Chair* and *Come Out of the Kitchen*.

San Antonio Forms Junior Play Group

Under the general chairmanship of Mrs. J. F. Hardie, a Junior Little Theater has been organized in San Antonio, Tex. It will be sponsored by the regular little theater there and has for its purpose promotion of dramatic art among school children of the city. Joyce Garrett was named dramatic director. The juniors' first play, *The Adventure of Pinocchio*, will be presented in January.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., To Have Little Theater

News that Cedar Rapids is to have a little theater will be welcomed by many people. With the development of a little theater, Cedar Rapids, with its Little Gallery and symphony orchestra, will be well on the way to participate helpfully in the national cultural and creative revival.

Radio Comedy Collection

Radio Entertainer's Comedy Collection, 61, Act. 61: GAMBLES, H. Sketches, 51: PARODIES, H. E. L. GAMBLES, Playwright, East Liverpool, O.

Zoe Dyac Set With Warners

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 11. — Zoe Dyac, mentalist, billed as the "Amazing Aztec", opened at the Warner Bros. Enright Theater here yesterday for an indefinite run, with other Warner houses in this territory to follow.

Assisting Miss Dyac is Louise Audrey Holly, who is billed as "America's Youngest Psychic". The act is under the personal management of M. E. Hallenbeck. Zoe Dyac will appear over the air from Station WCAE during her stay in this city.

Magi Meet in K. C.

Carter Harrison, writing from way out there in Wichita, Kan., says that a number of magic boys in that territory recently enjoyed a grand get-together party at the home of Dr. Irwin in Kansas City, Mo.

T. Nelson Downs, 'King of the Cards and Coins', and Eddie McLaughlin drove down from Marshalltown, Ia.; the Great Boss and myself motored up from Wichita, and we all went to Dr. Irwin's home, where we found magic aplenty. Dr. Breaksley, Ben Smith and Dr. and Mrs. Irwin, all of Kansas City, were already deceiving each other when we arrived.

"Dr. Irwin worked his giant cards, of which he is the inventor, and, of course, T. Nelson Downs did his marvelous coin work. Doc Breaksley did a new version of the Card Thru the Handkerchief. The Great Boss had some new wrinkles with the billiard balls and a new principle in card location. About 4:30 o'clock in the morning Mrs. Irwin served us a delightful breakfast, after which we returned to our hotel, to be joined by George Staple, magician, headquartering in Kansas City. Later Ray S. Harshbarger, of Topeka, joined the party, and we visited Doc Wilson. About half of the party drove more than 500 miles to sit up all night and talk magic. Why says magic is dead way out west in Kansas?"

Parent Body Convenes

The program presented by the Parent Assembly No. 1, Society of American Magicians, following the business meeting at the McAlpin Hotel, New York, January 4 was opened by Mulholland with the stunt of pushing a lead pencil thru a nickel. Ernest had a chosen card announce its own location by reversing its face in the pack. Clinton made use of his credit to borrow a dollar bill and then permitted members of the audience to divide and shuffle the pack. As a volunteer assistant read the numbers on the bill it was found that they corresponded to the cards as they were dealt from the top of the pack. Maguire passed three knots from one rope to another. Schlieper put a handkerchief into a glass and all in a paper bag, which he crumpled in his hands, the contents having vanished.

Meyenberg (Fräzee) used Al Baker's method of changing the color of handkerchiefs and did some mystifying knot tricks with handkerchiefs. Salinger used a Jap box to good effect, handkerchiefs appeared and disappeared and it finally filled to overflowing with flowers. Altman showed the reversed card and his favorite method of locating selected cards after a thorough shuffling of the deck. Belais showed an example of currency inflation. A nickel and a cent, each about three inches in diameter and seemingly weighing a pound, vanished into thin air. Mussey showed what long practice will do when applied to coins and cards. Manuel made a coin spin back and forth over his fingers and repeated the effect, using a stack of four, winding up with the cards up the sleeve and into the pocket, 12 of them in all. Zingone had a selected card returned to the pack, which was then wrapped in a handkerchief. The chosen card passed right thru the fabric visibly, and the fancy shuffles that followed must have meant many weary hours of practice.

Mulholland, as master of ceremonies, then introduced a distinguished visitor from England, Chris Charlton, who responded briefly to the hearty greeting of the society. Margules closed with his puzzling mind-reading effect. The magicians and their friends then paid a visit in a body to Mrs. Harry Houdini at her newly opened tearoom on West 49th street.

Magic and Magicians

Conducted by WILLIAM SACHS
Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Dr. Frederick Karr On Air in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Jan. 11. — Dr. Frederick Karr, psychic, who has been appearing over the air from WINT here for the last two weeks, has been engaged to remain over there for another week. He is being featured over the ether twice daily.

The Karr show, *A Night in Spiritland*, has been on 14 weeks and to date has not lost a single performance. At three of the week stands the show was held over for an additional week. Dr. Karr reports. The show's equipment is all new and includes a number of brand-new spirit effects.

Nashville Magicians Plan Tennessee Ring

NASHVILLE, Jan. 11.—Nashville Society of Magicians, as its regular monthly meeting last Friday night, discussed plans of expanding the organization into a State-wide magician society, to be known as the Tennessee Ring, I. B. M. The Nashville group expects to receive a charter for the project in another month. Among the visitors at the meeting were Gene Gordon and Clay Callahan. New members taken in included Frank Lyne and Clifton Graves.

Following the business meeting, Gene Gordon performed some of his manipulative effects. Jack McElroy and his partner, Richard Hardaway, presented a 15-minute act, featuring a new white-rat vanish. Clifton Graves, David S. Rose and Harris also entertained during the evening.

Yasah Has New Act

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—An entirely new act, running 35 minutes, is being presented this season by Yasah the Magician, who is at present making his headquarters in this city.

His presentation, *The Screen of Life*, in which he is assisted by Helen Kober, dancer, is proving a startling innovation. Yasah also is introducing many new stage and lighting effects.

Oakland Magic Circle Notes

OAKLAND, Calif., Jan. 11.—Greatrex, Canadian escape artiste, was a recent visitor at the secretary's desk en route to Los Angeles to fill dates.

Hugh Johnston, veteran vaudevillean and sleight-of-hand expert, is around the Bay region. Rumor has it that he has given up tramping for the time being and is now in the real estate game.

The contest between members of the S. A. M., of San Francisco, and the Oakland Magic Circle has been set for a date in March, to be followed by another in October. The contests are to take place every six months until the trophy provided jointly is won by one organization three times.

At the local RKO Orpheum last week the Kelso Brothers, in the revue *Cutting Capers*, are exposing the effect *Baking a Cake in a Hat* and also a screen disappearance. Both exposures are a mistake. The effects when presented go over well and get a good hand, but when exposed by one of the comedians the "blow-off" is very flat. A number of other magical items are introduced without further exposing.

Magic Notes

PAUL McWILLIAMS enjoyed the holidays at his home in Nashville.

MADELINE SEYMOUR, escape artiste, will head for Texas shortly to begin her 1930 season.

CLAY CALLAHAN is enjoying a busy season in and around Pulaski, Tenn., with an original and clever turn.

T. J. CRAWFORD and Goodlette Dodson recently entertained the faculty at the Vanderbilt University, Nashville.

SIDNEY LEVINE recently gave an hour's show before 500 children at the Union Hall, Montreal.

CAMERON entertained 400 kiddies recently at the annual New Year party staged by *The Seacow*, Wichita, Kan.

HARRIS AND ROSE have been moving along fairly well in the Nashville territory with their magic and mind-reading work.

GENE GORDON has been playing thru Central Tennessee for the last month and is still going well thru there. He is making his headquarters at Franklin, Tenn.

JEAN DE JEN and Lucille Tustin are slated to present their *Counterfeit Miracles* under the auspices of the Kiwanis Club of Ardmore, Okla., January 27.

MAGIC CHIEF EAGLE advises that Melvo has closed his magic shop in Kansas City, Mo., and has moved south into Tulsa, Okla. Melvo has an attrac-

tive window display, and business was good in Kansas City, Chief Eagle infers.

W. KENNETH CLAYTON, of Toms River, N. J., states that he and Mystic Clayton have patched up their differences in names to the complete satisfaction of both.

THE MEMBERS of Toledo (O.) Ring No. 7, I. B. M., were the guests of Harry Blackstone during the latter's engagement in that city last week.

MRS. BETTY BUTTON, of Oakland, Calif., professionally known as Princess Karataka, recently suffered a slight abrasion of her left leg while assisting her husband, Prince Vantine, in the *Shooting Thru a Woman Illusion*.

A LIKENESS of Joe Lawrence, St. Louis magician, graces the front cover of the January issue of *The Spirit of St. Louis*, official bulletin of the St. Louis Ring No. 1, I. B. M.

KENEVA the Magician, now working around New York and neighboring cities, announces that he plans to take a large show out next fall. He is at present making his headquarters at 139 Elm street, Yonkers, N. Y.

MILT ROBBINS has just concluded a successful engagement with his magic act at the Meyers Bros. department store, Springfield, Ill., and has returned to Petersburg, Ill., for a much-needed rest, the first since closing with the Robbins Bros. Circus. He expects to hit the road again February 2, playing houses thru Illinois and Iowa, featuring his wife, Mitzi, in her mental act.

Mentalists on Air In L. A. Territory

Alla Rague, mentalist, has just concluded his 16th consecutive week of broadcasting over three Los Angeles stations. He is on the air 30 minutes daily. He has been heard over KPLA and KMTZ, and for the last eight weeks has been on the ether from KMIC. He expects to continue his radio work in Los Angeles until summer sets in, after which he plans on heading eastward.

Rango, the Mystery Man, is being featured over Station KOPF, and Phenomena has been entertaining the listeners of KPT. Ali-Din, crystal gazer, is playing a number of small neighborhood houses in Los Angeles and is doing well. Alla Rague informs. There hasn't been a magic or mental act in any of the larger L. A. houses for the last several months, been known to continue their act selling Rague states.

Boston S. A. M. Boys Usher in 1930 Season

Boston Assembly No. 9, S. A. M., ushered in its 1930 season Friday night, January 3, with *Guest Night* and the attendance was beyond all expectations. More than 100 guests were present from all over New England.

After a few words of welcome and an account of the activities of Boston No. 9 the show was opened by Bert Adams, who gave a demonstration of mindreading. John Percival was next with silks in various combinations, rising and torn and restored cards and a bit of decorative paper tearing. Dick Cartwright vanished his overgrown wrist watch and then treated the folks to a series of cartoons. Bert Adams entertained us with a bit of mental magic. Others on the program during the evening were Delano and son, Harold Smith, Henry Bordicott, Paul Razoux, Joe Para and Vic Miller.

Joe Para was awarded the Sam Bailey prize for the best performance of the evening by popular vote. John Percival copied the second prize and Harold Smith ran third. After the awarding of prizes cats were in order.

Los Angeles Mystics Install Old Officers

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11. — The Los Angeles Society of Magicians, at its regular meeting and grand dinner, held at 648 South Broadway on New Year's Eve, re-elected and installed the following officers: Frank Fewins, president; William H. Brown, vice-president; Arthur Valli, secretary, and Alex T. Williams, treasurer. The leaders were lauded for their fine work during the year just ended.

Immediately following the session, two wand wielders who were present for this occasion, Barkann Rosinoff, a recent arrival from Arizona, and Fred Paltersack, of San Jose, entertained Capt. T. Jones and Arthur Valli at the Hotel Roslyn. With a penchant for poetry, Rosinoff has put together a unique routine with silks which should eventually earn for him the title of the "prestidigitator poet". After Rosinoff's poetic presentation Captain Jones insisted upon opening his bag of tricks. They would probably have been in session until the "wee sma'" hours but for the fact that Valli and Jones each had a New Year's Eve performance to present, so the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

LANDRY, the "French Court Magician", enjoyed a "red one" recently at the Casino Theater, New Bedford, Mass.



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LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Minstrelsy

By BOB EMMET
Communications to 25 Opera
Place, Cincinnati

W. H. REID'S DIXIE MINSTRELS were guests of the management at a Christmas dinner given at W. H. Reid's home in Suffolk, Va. Mrs. Helen Reid, who had been a patient in Roosevelt Hospital, New York, since last September, arrived in time to meet the company and enjoy the feast. The Dixie Minstrels will start rehearsals before the middle of this month and will play near-by towns, clubs and cafes until they are ready to take to the road for the early spring season.

SLIM THOMAS, minstrel comedian, advises he and his wife have joined the *Swain's Sam From Alabama* Company, opening Christmas week at the Prolific Theater Bessemer, Ala., where the show played two weeks to big business. "We have a nine-piece jazz band," Slim writes, "and it is the talk of the town."

A LINE ON THE PROGRAM of the Moore & Burgess Minstrels, season of 1930, copy of which was received from Tom Birchmore, reads: "It is respectfully requested that patrons of the Moore & Burgess Minstrels will refrain from encooring any of the songs or dances, as the program is unusually long." How many American minstrel men could survive that?

SOMEHOW, THERE ISN'T a convincing ring these days to the keylines of the chorus of Texas Dan, which run: "Texas Dan, minstrel man, dining in a swell cafe half a dozen times a day."

DOC SAMSON denies the report that he lost \$50,000 in the stock-market crash and emphasizes his denial with the assertion that such a calamity was just \$49,998.50 short of possible.

THE EVER READY JOE MCGEE was pinchhitter on Mrs. George H. Primrose's *Spirit of Minstrelsy*, following Christmas, for "Father John" Healy, who was called to Philadelphia by the death of Mrs. Healy. Joe joined the minstrel act at Minneapolis. He will continue as substitute for the veteran until the latter gets his affairs straightened out. "This is the second week at the Seventh Street for vaude," McGee writes, "the Hennepin being closed, and it's a sellout at every performance. So you can see they

want vaudeville. I have some new scandal on Bobby Gossans and his bass-drum championship pretensions, but I would like to ask Lasses White for a few pointers before I turn it loose. John Vogel will be all right as a judge. He can hear Hop beat the drum."

JOHN T. ROY, minstrel fan, reports from Holyoke, Mass., the success of a minstrel production staged in Chicopee Auditorium by the Belcher Lodge Minstrels. Edward Bromage directed, and John Schutt occupied the interlocutor's chair. Principal comedians were Leon Bond, Jim Williams, Al Paul and Huddy Smith. Roy writes: "Holyoke people are great lovers of the old-time style of minstrelsy. There is enough exceptionally fine amateur minstrel talent in this city to organize three or four troupes that would compare favorably with the best professional companies, if given competent direction and staging."

COMES NOW AL TINT, the yodeling minstrel, challenging the bass-drumming prowess of Bobby Gossans and expressing doubt that the Columbus boy can qualify if the judges should decide to apply the tests prescribed by the Ancient and Honorable Order of Boogie-woogie, whose membership includes only those pounders who measure up to a fixed artistic standard, to the contestants. Says Al: "I wonder if this Bobby Gossans can play Poet and Peasant in six flats on the big drum? If he can't he ought not be allowed to class with Eddie Leahy, formerly bass drummer with the Nell O'Brien Minstrels. I can testify that Eddie plays a bass drum in any key. When the band tunes up, Eddie tunes the drum by the beat of the baton, or, as the inept call it, the drumstick. Eddie can sure read the spots. In my opinion there is but one truly great bass drummer today. He is Eddie Leahy. He has been the best in minstrelsy since the De Rue Brothers' Minstrels trouped. Ask anyone who ever saw Eddie and his bass drum on the O'Brien show. He sure shook a wicked baton." Tint is now doing a single around Chicago, but says he will journey to any part of the universe any time to witness the proposed contest, and he will be there to see fair play and to protest any foul beats that may be attempted.

NEWSBOYS of the Holyoke Transcript-Telegram contributed to the Santa Claus fund sponsored by that newspaper by giving a minstrel show in Knights of Columbus Hall, Holyoke, Mass., December 17. The newbies played to capacity. They were drilled for their performance by Mrs. Eugene A. Moriarty. Featured endmen were John Moriarty and Dan Harrington. Six little newgirls appeared in a dance in the olio. Pupils of half a dozen local dramatic and music

schools augmented the newsboy talent. Monte Bucholtz was the featured vocalist.

TOM BIRCHMORE, manager of the Birchmore & Lindon attractions, writing from Bostonville, England, recalls incidents of his professional career in the United States before he joined the Moore & Burgess Minstrels at St. James Hall, London. Says the old minstrel, now 74 and still in harness: "It was in 1876 I was in Texas. At that time one Ben Thompson was running a gambling hall in Austin. In December, that year, Mike Wilson set up a counter attraction in the form of a variety theater. This rather upset Thompson, and on Christmas night, he, with a party of friends, went to break up the show. They started by lighting fireworks and throwing them into the orchestra. This brought Mike Wilson, carrying a gun, from the bar. The theater was packed, and you can imagine the stampede when it started. One of the gang threw pepper in Wilson's eyes. He raised his gun, but Thompson shot him dead. It was evident Thompson did not want the opposition of a show against him. On attempting the same thing at San Antonio, he was killed by the proprietor (a man named Foster), of the Blue Front Theater."

THE JAZZ CRAZE is dying and old minstrelsy is swinging back into favor. Mrs. George Primrose told reporters in Des Moines, Ia., last week when her minstrel act was playing at the Orpheum. The Primrose act demonstrates that the clog steps, the ballads and the black-face comedy still have good drawing power. "The modern audience doesn't demand youth alone, but appreciates merit in the oldtimers," Mrs. Primrose said. "My company is made up of men over 60. There is Johnny Healy, who has just turned 75. For 32 years Johnny has been doing the Old Black Joe character." Because it was the ambition of the late George Primrose to see American minstrelsy perpetuated, his widow has kept the Primrose name alive for 11 years with the act she is now presenting in vaudeville.

BILLY S. GARVIE and Mrs. Garvie passed the Christmas holidays in New York, and Billy reports that while there he met a notable coterie of oldtimers at the N. V. A. Club. Among them were Jim Leonard, T. F. Thomas, Hank Brown, Fred Stone, Billy Jerome, Sam Morton, Scream Welch, Eddie Moran, Sam Johnson, Roger Imhoff, Hi Tom Ward, Harry Bartlett, Dennis Mullen, Tom Gillen, John Duffy, Corinne, Lizzie Wilson, Mark Sullivan, Jim Thornton, Patsy Doyle, Major Doyle, Charlie McDonald, John Le Clair, Sam Scribner, Charles Barrett, Fred Freddy, the Crowells, Joe Wilton, Todd Judge and M. Hamill.

view Hamper in repertoire, which was largely attended by school teachers, students and visitors from near-by towns. The auditorium has been dark for more than six weeks, the only activities being large Christmas parties held by the various groups.

NEW ORLEANS.—Al Jolson has been engaged by the management of the Municipal Auditorium for an engagement at the auditorium January 30.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Plans for the purchase by the Federal Government of the Washington Auditorium, built several years ago as a result of efforts by interested business men of Washington, and with the hope that it would come into favor as the scene of entertainments of various characters, and on a large scale, operas, expositions, etc., are being made by Representative Frank Bowman, of West Virginia, who has offered a bill in Congress providing for its purchase at a cost of \$1,000,000.

The plan of Bowman is to have the auditorium converted into a headquarters for the National Guard of the District of Columbia and to be used also on occasions by different patriotic organizations.

The auditorium has not proved a success from the standpoint of its use for outstanding entertainments, although it has been popular as a place for holding fairs, expositions and the like. The view seems to have been that it did not fit in with the needs for operatic presentations, possibly because of its acoustics. In any event, it has not proved as popular as its sponsors and builders, as well as the people of Washington, had expected. Hence the plan of Bowman to sell it to the Government. During its existence, however, the auditorium has been the scene of a number of notable gatherings.

Under the Bowman Bill, the \$1,000,000 asked as an appropriation will be used to purchase the structure and also make the changes necessary to its occupancy by the National Guard and for like purposes.

WORCESTER, Mass.—A bill authorizing the city of Worcester to borrow \$2,000,000 for constructing a municipal auditorium was filed in the State Legislature last week. The bill reads as follows: "For the purpose of constructing a Municipal Memorial Auditorium, the city of Worcester may borrow, from time to time, within a period of three years from the passage of this act, such sums as may be necessary, not exceeding, in the aggregate, \$2,000,000, and may issue bonds or notes therefor, which shall bear on their face the words, Worcester Municipal Memorial Auditorium Loan Act of 1930."

If this bill is adopted by the Legislature the building of the auditorium will begin shortly thereafter and dreams of citizens for a worthy amusement center will have been realized.

TOLEDO, O.—Robert J. Eustace, industrial commissioner of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce, advises that the Toledo Industrial Progress Exposition held recently at the Auditorium here was a decided success and that net profits now total about \$17,000. The success of the exposition was attributed to the injecting of new life to the whole exposition by bolstering up the time-worn exhibit displays with good entertainment features. Such noted attractions as Creatore's Band and Al Sweet's Huszar Band were engaged for the exposition and proved favorites with the crowds.

PORTLAND, Ore.—The work of decorating the Public Auditorium to make it more attractive for road shows was started January 3 by the Charles Amman Company, which received the contract from the City Council for \$2,350. The revampings of the auditorium include acoustics, renovation and installation of velvet drapes.

COLUMBUS, O.—Motion pictures promoted by private individuals may continue at the Lebanon Opera House under a ruling issued recently. The Opera House is the municipal auditorium in City Hall and is also used by the city when public occasions require it.

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Mayor Marvin, who is conducting a hearing of the opinions of citizens concerning the needs of a civic auditorium for this city, will make a decision shortly on that score. Many of the public's opinions are in favor of an auditorium and a final decree to that end is expected soon.

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96 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

Auditoriums

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

HARTFORD, Conn.—The annual Auto Show of Hartford, which opened January 18, will run for one week at the State Armory. So far, judging from patronage, this will be a record year for auto shows. A big musical program features the show.

NEW ORLEANS.—The new Municipal Auditorium was formally opened January 17 with a public-school pageant. The auditorium will become the legitimate successor of the old French Opera House as the locale for carnival balls, according to an announcement by Manager Charles A. Koch. The noted Minnesota Band is scheduled for a matinee and night performance in the concert hall of the structure February 3. The dates between February 3 and 22 have been tentatively assigned for the showing. In the main auditorium, of the Max Reinhardt-Morris Gest spectacle, *The Miracle*. The Ball of Oberon will be held February 24; The Atlantians, February 25; the Krewe of Mystery, February 26; Proteus, March 3, and Comus, March 4. The midnight reception of King Rex at the Court of Comus, the closing spectacle of the carnival season, will be one of the most significant balls held since the days of the old French Opera House. On March

6 the Chicago Civic Opera Company comes to the auditorium for two performances. An Automobile Show is being planned for the week of March 15-19, and during the week of March 24-29 the Freiburg Players will present their *Passion Play* under the auspices of the American Legion.

Manager Koch has done some very fine work in booking so many good attractions for the first season of the new auditorium.

DALLAS.—The *Miracle* opened December 26 at the Fair Park Auditorium here for a run of 18 days. The production is staged by Morris Gest and includes a cast of 400, headed by Princess Matchabelli and a score of other well-known stars.

The Miracle is the largest stage attraction that has ever been brought to Texas. Booking of this huge attraction was done as a more or less box-office gamble, but the amount of business done so far proves the attraction was not an unwise risk.

PORT WAYNE, Ind.—The theater fast at the Shrine Auditorium, main legitimate house here, was broken last week with the three-day engagement of Gene-

Beauty Box

Lemon Balm at Special Price

A few weeks ago we mentioned a new lemon juice and olive oil preparation.



This excellent beautifier for softening and bleaching the complexion was offered by the manufacturers to *The Billboard* readers at the special price of 50 cents. The regular price is 75 cents, but the

makers would like to have you try it and in order to introduce it to you they have made this offer. We are calling attention to it again for the benefit of those who did not see it the first time. Comes in a most unusual and intriguing bottle, too. You will be delighted with this lemon and olive oil preparation and will want it always on your dressing table.

Rouge With the Glow of Health

Our cosmetics are going more natural all the time—things and affairs which represent outdoor life and health reflect themselves in our powders, complexion tints, etc. Suntan is marching in with even greater popularity predicted for the coming spring and summer seasons. It's going to be smart to have the glow of health—au naturelle or acquired. And so we have the health tint rouge which is absolutely transparent and when applied gives the face the glow of health without the least appearance of artificiality. Defies detection, too. Price is 50 cents a bottle.

Aromatic Astringent

To make an absolute success of the facial massage you must complete the good work of a cleansing cream and flesh food by "setting" the massage. To accomplish this "setting" an aromatic astringent lotion is applied, following the massage, to tone up circulation and to firm the skin. Some use the aromatic astringent with ice-water compresses while others use it plain. Its aromatic goodness is decidedly bracing. An aromatic astringent lotion not only restores the facial contour to youthful firmness and elasticity, but it will revive the most drooping spirit after a day of fatigue. A most invigorating astringent, fresh with the odor of balsam, which keenly penetrates the pores and tightens the skin costs \$2 a bottle.

Want a Make-Up Booklet?

A booklet on *How To Make Up* will be mailed upon request. In it are directions for tramp, Negro, Creole, Irish, Italian, old age, character makeup, etc.

To Refine the Pores

An otherwise lovely makeup is completely ruined if the skin is marred with eruptions, blackheads and enlarged pores. Enlarged pores and blackheads usually go hand in hand. A good cleansing cream will soften the skin so that the blackheads can be removed easily. Apply a little pore refiner every night and your skin will improve rapidly. We will be glad to recommend a perfect pore refiner which is the product of a well known and recognized beauty authority in New York. Cost is \$1 a jar.

Don't Cut Your Cuticle

Especially when you want a hasty manure. We have found a new cream cuticle remover which is squeezed from a pointed tube, a wee bit at a time. Can be carried in your purse and referred to when a hasty manure is needed. Simplifies manuring in many ways. 35 cents a tube.

How Are Your Hands?

If they are not as they should be we urge you to try wearing the soft, fabric night gloves for a while and note the difference. A tube of bleach cream and a tube of tissue builder cream comes with the night glove set which costs \$2.

Want To Lose That Extra Chin?

We know of a valuable adjunct in the treatment of double chins. It is a

Feminine Frills

By JOSEPHINE M. BENNETT
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

New in the Shops

FOR GENTLEMEN ONLY are the smartest hand-turned dancing oxfords imaginable. Just the things for soft-shoe, tap and buck and wing dancing and for formal ballroom dancing, too. Flexible and light weight. Men's and boy's sizes in patent leather for \$5.75 a pair and 25 cents extra for postage. Taps may be attached for 75 cents extra and heel jingles for \$1.75 extra. Wood-split clog soles attached for \$2.50 extra and wood soles and heels attached for \$3.50 extra. Pass this information along girls.

ALONG BROADWAY of late we've seen so many swanky little Russian boots and have had so many inquiries about them that we scouted around to find the latest models and bargains for you. That one shown in the illustration



is a perfect beauty. It comes in all colors and with high or low heels. The one sketched is made of suede with leather cuff, heel and toe vamp. Moral decorative design and buttons are in gold and this model is called the Whoopee Boot. Not only can it be procured in all colors, but in all combinations of colors and leathers, also white with white fur collar. Cuff can be turned up, too, when you are wanting to keep extra nice and warm. The price of the Whoopee Boot is \$9.98, plus 25 cents for postage.

A similar boot which comes in kid with all-over ornamental design may be had for \$6.98, plus postage. When ordering either of these boots please state size and enclose pencil outline of your left foot to insure perfect fit, as there is a slight variation of size in different makes of shoes.

AND HERE ARE the aluminum taps someone asked about recently, and very fine ones, too. They are made of aluminum and metal alloy and give the much desired ring when dancing. Light, durable and very easily attached. They come in three sizes at 50 cents a pair and 75 cents a pair attached to shoes. Please include 10 cents extra for postage.

WE KNOW WHERE to get those heel jingles, too. They cost \$1 a pair and if attached to shoes they cost \$1.75 a pair. And if you need some shoe taps they may be had for \$1.75 a pair and \$2.50 if attached to slippers.

EMERGENCY RUBBER SANDALS come in tiny rubber bags in a pretty cretonne design to be carried in the handbag in anticipation of the sudden

thermo-pac chin support which in a new scientific method lifts and places the muscles of the throat and chin into normal position. A special astringent lotion, used with the pac, forms a most effective method for losing an unwanted chin. The pac costs \$3.75, and two bottles of the astringent cost \$1.

appearance of rain. Lots of girls carry them in the evening to protect delicate slippers. May be had in black, tan or gray for 75 cents a pair.

THESE ARE THE DAYS, since we have become so completely ladylike, for casting shy glances and blushing all over the lot. Since we are going in strong for clinging vine and lavender days we may just as well do all the things that grandma did



when she was being so ladylike, and grandma certainly knew how and what to do with her fan. A fan has many uses, whether to waft glamour about the evening or stage ensemble or just to fan dream dust into masculine eyes. Anyway, please pay some particular attention to the perfectly glorious fan pictured above. You can't tell, from the illustration, how beautiful it is, but it is made like lovely flower petals and is most beautiful when spread out across its 21-inch width. It is mounted on a very new cloudy celluloid handle, especially compounded in cloudy effect which makes it neutral to all colors. Comes in all pastel shades for \$16 and we are telling you in advance that it is most beautiful, new and fascinating.

COLONIAL WIGS, also from grandma's days, are in again for parties, etc. The less expensive ones come made of silken mohair and they are certainly an addition to the fancy dress or costume. Saw a beautiful chorus ensemble recently and the girls were lovely in pale pink frocks and white wigs. The mohair wigs may also be had in bobbed designs in white and colors. They are so light and fluffy, too, as they weigh only four ounces, and very inexpensive. They cost but \$2 each.

WHILE WE ARE on the subject of fancy dress and costume parties, pagents, etc., we might add that the artificial eyelashes go wonderfully with the silk mohair wigs, especially the Colonial white ones. Keep these in mind for that costume affair. The artificial eyelashes come in two styles—for stage or street wear, in black or brown, at \$1 a pair. Very simply applied.

YOU CAN HARDLY afford to be without one of the little two-piece dance sets we just looked at. The steen trunks come in black, navy, lavender, red and green. All-white steen blouse or white blouse with collar trimmed to match trunks. Not only can these sets be used for dancing and rehearsing, but they are fine for gym work and around the studio, too. In fact lots of the girls wear them around the house for comfort. The set is only \$1.05. Send dress size and color desired.

SHOW PEOPLE ARE finding heaps of fun and diversion in the marionettes that are now more popular than ever. Amateurs are going in for marionette shows, too, producing them in schools, at social functions, etc. An interesting book filled with historic and technical information about marionettes costs \$5. Further information about marionette outfits may be had from *The Billboard* Shopping Service.

Footlight Fashions

Estelle Taylor At the Palace

Yes, Mrs. Jack Dempsey followed her famous boxing husband into the Palace about a week later and she's mighty gorgeous, too. As stunning and magnificent as the gowns she wears and into which she seems stumpy to have been poured. Particularly lovely she was in a frock of white lace and taffeta, just suited to her dark beauty. The bodice was of extremely delicate lace, tight at the waistline and falling into the full skirt of taffeta with ruffle fullness at the ankle. The skirt was very long, leaving only a faint glimpse now and then of the dark green slippers that matched Miss Taylor's evening handkerchief of chiffon.

Another gown, more formal, was of black transparent velvet cut very low. The straps of rhinestones over the shoulders descended below the waist and finally developed into a huge bow at the right side. The bodice was tight and the skirt full, but with a most intriguing hemline effect. It was cut to the knee on the side and fell in pointed fullness to ankle length. Coker, bracelet and slipper buckles were all of flashing brilliants and rhinestones. A blue chiffon handkerchief was the only touch of color.

Girls! Attention!

A noted beauty expert has selected shades suited to the four leading types of complexions, the pale or ash blonde, the golden blonde, the medium brunet and the dark brunet. And for these different types she has created just the right blending shades of exquisite powder. The silk stockings, above mentioned, exactly match the new powder creations. In other words, to be really chic this coming year, one must buy powder and hosiery at once, tres certainement!

Now keep in touch with us, as we are going to tell you more about this fashion note later.

Lila Lee Wears Soft, Sweeping Lines

One of the best-dressed girls of the screen is lovely Lila Lee, and she lives up to this reputation in her new Warner Bros. picture, *The Sacred Flame*.

A taffeta evening frock in a beautiful new shade of capucine has a princess blouse attached to the full skirt at the uneven neckline, the skirt falling gracefully to a greater length on the right side. A feature of this dress is the triangular inset of old lace at the normal waistline, also at the right.

Another frock is of heavy white satin in most sophisticated lines. And how Miss Lila can wear sophistication! One could scarcely ever forget her clinging frocks in *Drop*.

Speaking of the new mode in femininity Miss Lee said: "What if wispy bits of lace or silk do trail about the heels? The Charleston is certainly not in vogue any longer. In line with the elegance of the new frocks, dancing has also become elegant."

This season we can be charming, feminine, alluring and graceful—all the things that really were not quite possible with the knee-length evening dress and the boyish bob. They were chic, certainly. But feminine? No!

A Fashion Note—

Tweeds are going to be very popular. In fact they are now. The wardrobe of the smart woman should certainly contain one of those swanky, tweed coats. A tweed beret and a fluttering gay scarf and you are at sports fashion's best.

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.

Costumers

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1560
Broadway, New York

KIVIETTE is executing the feminine costumes for *The 9:15 Revue* for Mrs. Ruth Selwyn.

MAHIEU provided the costumes for the Ice Carnival at Madison Square Garden. Mahieu has practically given up production work, concentrating instead on film theater presentations in New York and adjoining States.

MME. BERTHE is designing and executing costumes for a revue which Nils T. Granlund will take to Florida.

CHARLES CHRISDIE supplies costumes for the following productions: *East Is West*, Thatcher Players, Scranton, Pa.; *The Wizard of Oz*, Detroit Civic

Theater, Detroit; *Just Married*, Chamberlain Brown Players, Greenwich, Conn.; *The Nervous Wreck*, Lyric Theater, Allentown, Pa.; *Twelfth Night*, Little Theater, New Orleans.

EVES COSTUMES COMPANY is executing the men's costumes for Ruth Selwyn's *9:15 Revue*.

Scenic Artists

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1560
Broadway, New York

G. A. WEIDHAAS has been engaged by George White to design and execute the sets for his forthcoming musical, *Flying High*.

HENRY DREYFUS has signed with Herman Shumlin to design and execute the sets for the play entitled *And All the World Wondered*.

CLEON THROCKMORTON will execute the sets designed by Willy Fogarty for the Hungarian Art Theater's revival of the former musical success, *Sart*.

SCHAFFNER & SWEET have been engaged by Harry Frazee to design and execute the sets for *Sher's No. Lady*, which will feature Lynn Overman.

CHARLES E. LESSING, president of Local 829, has been appointed a member of the Spray Painting Fact Finding Commission by the general executive board of the P. D. P. H. of A. Lessing will shortly begin a tour which will carry him from the northern part of Canada and along the Atlantic seaboard to the Pennsylvania border to investigate working conditions and to estimate the number of men employed in spray painting. This method of painting has been condemned by the brotherhood as injurious to health with the result that non-union members are employed. It is now planned to introduce laws in the various State legislatures to guard against unhealthful effects from the use of the spray brush and bring this type of worker within the union ranks.

THE CLOSING of the Lyceum Theater, Paterson, N. J., which had been playing stock, terminated the engagement of Shirley Braithwaite.

A. G. VOLZ, business agent of Local 829, returned this week from a tour of inspection in New England.

New Incorporations

DELAWARE

Long Island Open-Air Opera Association, New York City, to create and encourage opera and other forms of music, no capital stock; Corporation Trust Company of America, Wilmington.

KENTUCKY

Billy Rendon Amusement Company, Louisville, \$15,000; William Rendon, Vivian Chapin and Horace A. Lindsay.

MICHIGAN

Project-O-Phone, Detroit, to deal in motion picture apparatus, supplies and equipment, \$100,000; filed by the company, 1358 Mullett street, Detroit.

NEBRASKA

United Theater Circuit of Omaha, Lincoln, to buy, sell, lease and operate theaters, \$150,000; H. R. Brown, W. C. Haapke, W. E. Penner and F. H. Parker, Omaha.

NEW JERSEY

Mayfair Theater, Inc., Newark, motion pictures, \$100,000; Leber & Ruback, Newark.

Metropolitan Undergraduate Cinema, Newark, to operate theaters, 2,500 shares common; George A. Hobart, Newark.

NEW YORK

Briggs Supply Company, Manhattan, motion pictures, 100 shares common; A. Dunn, 342 Madison avenue.

Nilmuis, Manhattan, motion pictures, 300 shares common; S. Levy, 475 5th avenue.

College Theater, Queens, 100 shares

Theatrical Mutual Assn.

By DAVID L. DONALDSON
Grand Secretary-Treasurer

NEW YORK LODGE No. 1—The following officers were elected at the regular meeting held Sunday, December 1: Thomas McGovern, president; William Noon, vice-president; Joseph McCarthy, past president; James D. Crosby, recording secretary; William T. Butler, financial secretary; Edward W. Otto, treasurer; Charles Hepburn, sergeant-at-arms; John Lilly, marshal; Paul Schmidt, chaplain; William Bradley, cutter guard, and A. M. Roland, J. C. Vermilyea and John Casey, trustees. Public installation of officers took place at the regular meeting Sunday, January 5. There was a short business session held before the installation. Following the services came dancing, refreshments and a good time in general.

There is some talk about a get-together dinner during the month of April. These are getting to be regular events and the more there are of them the better the "boys" will become acquainted.

The following brothers have been added to the house committee: Bill Weil, Paul Stahl and Bernard Stahl.

Mrs. Beth Bender and her aids have sent out a call for members for the ladies' auxiliary and they expect to have a big roster in a short time.

LONG ISLAND LODGE No. 67—This local held its election of officers for 1930 December 26. The following were elected: Frank Lachman, president; Thomas J. Lloyd, vice-president; Henry E. Schmidt, recording secretary; Henry Luck, financial secretary; Max Silverman, assistant financial secretary; Philip Hitter, treasurer; Thomas McDonough, chaplain; M. Adikoff, sergeant-at-arms; George Klein, outer guard; Paul P. Hirsch, Charles F. Eichhorn, Charles Beckman, Patrick McNellis and George Hamilton, trustees, and William B. Martin, marshal. These "boys" for the next 12 months will handle the affairs of No. 67 and they are out to sell the T. M. A. to every one who is eligible. Among the things of interest at this meeting was the notification from the grand secretary-treasurer that the grand president had appointed Brother Thomas J. Lloyd deputy grand president to represent Long Island Lodge. Brother Charles F. Eichhorn, second grand vice-president, spoke to the members and assured them that by 1931 this lodge would increase its membership 100 per cent. The local is obligating from 4 to 10 new members at every meeting and by the time the new year comes around the lodge ought to be on top with the largest membership.

The Pride of Long Island Lodge was to hold installation Friday evening, January 10. An account of this will be given later.

common; Levy, Gutman & Goldberg, 2 Lafayette street, Manhattan.

Theater Owners Trading Corporation, Manhattan, securities, 200 shares common; C. U. Caruth, 283 Broadway.

Stan-A-Phone Equipment Distribution Corporation, Manhattan, motion pictures, 200 shares common; L. M. Levy, 36 West 44th street.

Pauleo, Manhattan, motion pictures, \$5,000; M. C. Goldman, 570 7th avenue.

OHIO

Lyceum Theater Company, Beechwood, 250 shares of no par value; Paul G. Herig, Frank J. O'Malley and George C. Mulvihill, 1001 Hippodrome Building, Cleveland.

Clifton Theater, Inc., Cincinnati, to operate a motion picture theater, \$15,000; Reuben Horchow, C. E. Haack and Ada E. Auberger.

TEXAS

Hippodrome Amusement Company, Ft. Worth, to operate motion picture theater, \$25,000; Herman Gartner, Ben F. Allen, Jr. and J. P. Murrin, 1106 Main street, Ft. Worth.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Maribora Amusement Company, Inc., Darlington, to buy, sell and operate theaters, \$1,000; George B. Henderson and Helen M. Henderson, Darlington.

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18 Cases, Size 23 or 25. Brilliant White Rhinestones and Settings, 64.50.
Colors—Size 23 and Settings, 55c Green, 5 Cr. to Pk. White—Size 25 and Settings, Special, \$1 Green, 2 1/2 Green to Pk. MODERN-HANDY BUTTON MACHINE CO., 1489 West Ohio Street, Chicago, Ill.



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LONDON

By COCKAIGNE

Marchants, Haddenham, Thames

The Billboard on sale at COCKINGS, 17 Green St., Leicester Square, and DAWSON, American News Agents, 4 Leicester St., Leicester Square.

Legitimate Stage

LONDON, Dec. 17.—*Virtue For Sale*, Lillian Trimble Bradley's American play, is in rehearsal for London production by Edward Laurillard, and will feature the American actor, Hartley Power, who has recently been playing over here in the piece, which will be relieved with music, and J. H. Roberts and Henry de Bray will also appear. There will be a preliminary provincial tryout New Year's week.

When Peter Godfrey offers the American antique, *Ten Nights in a Barrow*, or *Rained by Drink at the Gate* Theater as a New Year's attraction, Elsa Lanchester, Elsie French, Arthur Chesney, Edward Chapman and Norman MacOwan will be prominent in the cast.

Alfred Wellesley will have an important part in *A Warm Corner*, by Arthur Wimperis and Laurie Wylie, to be presented Christmas Eve at Princes. Tonie Edgar Bruce returns to the London stage in this comedy after a four years' absence, and W. H. Berry, Connie Ediss, Isabel Wilford, Heather Thatcher and Austin Melford will be members of the company.

Samuel Goldwyn and Ronald Coleman are expected in London for the first showing of *Condemned*, which is to be presented at the London Pavilion after *The Taming of the Shrew* finishes, which is now scheduled for January 9.

Peggy Wood has roused fresh enthusiasm this side by her talkie, *Wonder of Women*, presented at the New Empire Friday. She is to remain here to tour the provinces in *Bitter Sweet*, when that success has exhausted its London public.

Sorry You've Been Troubled, Walter Hackett's piece starring Marion Lorne, reached the 100 mark last night.

Dancing Shoes is pronounced as London's next musical comedy by J. L. Sacks.

Marie Tempest is being replaced by Zena Dare in *The First Mrs. Fraser* for a week while she takes a short vacation from this obstinate success.

Frank Vosper's murder play, *People Like Us*, semi-privately given at the Arts Theater, has drawn such attention that its season is being extended—a remarkable state of affairs for a play that the censor will not pass.

Frederick Ranalow, Sylvia Nells and Dewey Gibson are in *The Rose and the Ring*, which is the coming presentation at the Lyric, Hammersmith, under Sir Nigel Playfair's direction.

The Mikado is the Gilbert and Sullivan opera selected for the Christmas season at the Savoy, and will be played by Derek Oldham, Winnie Melville and Bertha Lewis.

The Student Prince will be followed at the Piccadilly by *Here Comes the Bride*, which has been a real hit in the provinces, with Clifford Mollison, Richard Dolman and Jean Collin.

The Last Enemy, by Frank Harvey, will be put on at the Fortune by Tom Walls Thursday with a notable group of artists including Nicholas Hannan, Athene Seyler, Laurence Olivier and O. B. Clarence.

Vaudeville Field

Helen Johns and her Glorious Girls arrived in London at the week-end from the Continent, where their Paris engagement brought about a meeting with Bon Johns and her band, who returned to New York last week. Helen Johns and company opened last night at the Palladium, where this week's attractions include newcomers with original stuff to put over. There are Guido Delro, accordionist; Chilton and Thomas, in their dance sensation; Three Cresco Brothers, doing remarkable athletic feats in addition to Helen Johns. Con Colleano remains in the bill following his great reception last week, and the British ingredients are chiefly Lily Morris and Will Pyffe.

Much interest has been aroused by the names just announced of leading members of Charles B. Cochran's next revue show. One, Ada May, American comedienne, has already established herself in popularity at the Dominion in Follow Thru. Jack Powell, trap drummer, will be a newcomer to English revue. Fowler and Tamara are famous on both sides of the Atlantic, and Eric Marshall, concert singer, and Gunda Mordhurst, of folk-

song fame, will bring new blood into revue material.

Fowler and Tamara are starring in cabaret this week at the Kit Kat, where last week's show featured Maxon and Wood, Dezzo Retter and Zeida and John Juan.

Adele Nelson and her husband, who have of course brought over with them their elephants, Myrtle, Tilly and Jeanie, and the Hanneford Family will be among the guests at a luncheon party at Olympia, which is to be the kickoff to the circus season there. Lord Londale and the Lord Mayor of London and sheriffs will be present.

Stuart Ross and Joe Sargent are becoming favorite radio artists, and gave their latest successful broadcast Saturday.

A sensation among American turns working the London halls at the moment is that of Gerardo and Adair, teamed with Hillis and Flint, and William Shaw, who made a tremendous hit at the Victoria Palace last week. Lew Grade's smart dancing at this house and the Kirks in Fun on Broadway are also turns to watch.

Russell and Marconi have left for the Empire, Paris, but have return dates in London in the new year.

A novel attraction at the Coliseum this week is Power's Elephants, which have not been seen in this country for several years. Sunny Jarman remains, Layton and Johnstone pay a return visit, and the acrobatic Rubio Sisters are an outstanding number.

Willie Schenck and Company are among latest bookings for South African vaudeville.

The Alhambra is playing its last variety week before being converted into a talkie house. The Adama Sisters go strong, Martinek and Constance are clever newcomers, and Hayden, Nevard and Wheldon, the Barrecoeta musical clowns, and the Hindustans are in the program.

Flora le Breton is this week appearing at Manchester Hippodrome, where from the stage she talks with her replica on the film as the Photophone Girl.

The Three Pirates arrived in England last week after a South African tour, of which they report well. They have been secured for the Wylie-Tate pantomime at Newcastle.

Patti Moore and Sammy Lewis, American song and dance artistes, are shortly due for a return visit to this country, where they have dates until March.

Hetty King went great at the Alhambra last week, this being her London return after 10 weeks your side.

Brown and La Hart are joining Bertam Mills' Olympia Circus.

Bill Tilden gave a successful cabaret turn in last week's Trocadero entertainment as a raconteur.

The Hotel Cecil is making a splash with Paired and Lindholm, twin pianists, and Penelope Spencer and Hedley Briggs.

AUSTRALIA

By MARTIN C. BRENNAN

198 Pitt Street, Sydney

SYDNEY, Dec. 12.—The biggest sensation in the amusement business of this country has just hit the newspapers. It is the mutual agreement between Union Theaters, Ltd., on the one hand and Hoyts Theaters on the other. These two factors have been bitterly opposed to each other for many years, and with the advent of talkies and the necessity for erecting new theaters, both companies went over the limit. Today sees them in the position of having to come together in order to save themselves from financial destruction. Some idea of their individual efforts, as opposed to one another, is indicated in the colossal theaters erected in almost every State of the Commonwealth. The result is that today the oversteering in each center makes theatrical business almost an impossible financial success.

With the merger or agreement, call it what you will, several proposed new building schemes will go into the discard. Other propositions too, all of an extensive nature, will be scrapped. The film distributors will no doubt be seriously affected in price, as the two companies concerned were the two largest hirers of motion pictures, and it was in competing with each other that the AP and Hoyts people paid any figure in order to beat each other.

Milard Johnson, who represented Australasian Films, Ltd., in New York for many years, returned here last week, due to the firm having decided to call in its

overseas representatives. E. H. Strelitz, who is still in the United States, where he has been booking acts for UT, will no doubt be on his way back shortly. Harry P. Muller, for some years San Francisco representative for Williamson-Tait, arrived back here two weeks ago. He has been appointed general manager in New Zealand for that firm and took up his new duties this week. He succeeds the late Bert Boyle, with the difference that Muller's activities will be considerably greater.

Vaudeville, as before indicated, is almost dead in Australia, but George Marlow, lessee of the Grand Opera House, is still keeping a little company going from week to week, altho the season will be interrupted by a brief run for Alfred Prith, to be followed by a Christmas pantomime. It is anticipated that Prith, formerly a J. C. Williamson revue favorite, will experience a flop, as he has lost public sympathy thru his unfortunate lapse of some weeks ago, followed by another when, billed as the attraction at a leading charity affair, he failed to put in an appearance, nor did he previously indicate that he would not be on hand.

To have *The Journey's End* come into the Criterion for the Christmas season, the run of Leo Carrillo in Lombardi, Ltd., will terminate during the next fortnight, by which time he will have played here nearly five months—a remarkable run in these days of strenuous opposition of the talkies. Carrillo has aided business by his personal interest in many of the commercial and social functions that are part of this city's daily life. He has, invariably, taken an active part in one or another of those affairs which subsequently mean a healthy reflection in the box office.

The new government is hot foot after fresh avenues of taxation, but it is noted that entertainments will still be the "fall guy" for those who, year after year, think that every penny spent in amusement is so much money.

The Lawlers, Americans, give a demonstration of ax throwing and manipulation of stock-whip handling at the Grand Opera House, vaudeville. The man of the team does all the slick work, proving himself a master at the game, while the lady, dressed in the style of a Mexican belle, does some neat dancing and lets her partner flip the whips round her in breath-taking manner.

Joseph Wayne, American, manipulates the ivories at the King's Cross Theater, Sydney. Wayne has also recorded many numbers for the Columbia Graphophone Company here and is a popular exponent of numbers at the theater.

Pauline Johnson, British film star, has arrived in this country. A few weeks ago the press came out with a story that she had been engaged by the Fox Corporation to star in a series of pictures to be made in this country, altho the local office knew nothing of the matter. Miss Johnson is now in Melbourne and states that the news also is new to her. She is here merely on a visit, accompanied by her mother, and is taking a vacation on the advice of a physician. Miss Johnson is staying with her sister in Melbourne, Mrs. C. B. Oliver, and intends returning to England in about five months' time.

After being dark for several months, the palatial Empire Theater at Railway Square, Sydney, erected a couple of years ago by Rufe Naylor, reopens next Saturday, this time as a talkie house. Ronn Shafto, well known in motion picture and theatrical circles, is managing director of the new venture, which will cater for the public at reasonable prices.

In Perth, W. A., things theatrical continue in a bad way, all legitimate and vaudeville houses being closed and performers getting work in stage presentation as the only opportunity afforded the local artists.

Frank O'Brian and his revue company bid farewell to Sydney next Saturday night. This likable little English comedian, together with Janice Hart, has provided bright revues at the Fuller Theater with great success and with his departure will leave Sydney with yet another theater closed. The Fuller house, however, will be darkened during a period of cleaning, overhauling, etc., and opens again for the Christmas season with Ernie Lotings and Company.

Sydney shows are very much in the minority. *Show Boat*, at Her Majesty's, and Lombardi, Ltd., at the Criterion, are the only productions running. At the Grand Opera House, George Marlow is presenting *Old-Time Minstrels* and vaudeville and getting a fair amount of patronage.

Glen Dale, who has been appearing as Gaylord Ravenal in *Show Boat*, has

returned to America. Michael Cole now fills his place in the cast.

The Jewish Opera Company played a week at the Palace Theater, Sydney. Kol Nidre and Bar Cochba were among the operas offered. The company is nothing if not talented, yet the response of the public was far from gratifying. We understand that the productions played to a considerable loss, and it is the intention of Jacob Strinin, the producer, to stage the operas elsewhere in this city at a future date with a view to securing better patronage at a more favorable opportunity.

Nellie Bramley, after 84 weeks of consecutive productions at the Theater Royal, Brisbane, is taking a vacation, and a well-earned one at that, when one takes into consideration that weekly changes of program have been given with but few repetitions. The Royal probably will be taken over by another company for six months and will carry on with popular productions.

Mayne Lynton, one of the best known and most popular actors in Australia, has secured a five years' lease on the Savoy Theater (late Adyar Hall), Sydney. He will be the managing director of a company which proposes presenting comedies and dramas with a high class cast.

Marino and Mona are in the stage presentation at the State Theater this week. Their graceful and novel dancing has been very popular over this way, and they have played return seasons to most of the houses on Union Theaters Circuit.

Seb Meza, after three weeks at the State, Sydney, is now in Newcastle, presenting his eccentric dancing at the Tivoli Theater.

The Humphrey Bishop Company is now touring Victoria, where business thru the country centers is excellent.

Rio Rita, after touring thru the country centers of Queensland and New South Wales, is due back in Sydney. It is now announced that Gladys Monetteff, Janette Gilmour and Company will provide the holiday attraction at the Majestic Theater, Newtown (Sydney).

Leon Gordon is doing well in Melbourne, presenting *Ernest's Millions* at the Comedy Theater.

The Green Mill, popular dance resort of Melbourne, has been taken over by the Wirth Bros., this country's premier circus proprietors. The place will continue as a dance palace, however.

Ernie Lotings and his company of English comedy artistes are presenting their weekly change of program at the Tivoli, Melbourne. Burlesque numbers are a feature of the productions.

George Sorlie, popular touring manager, who presents comedy under canvas, applied to the Manly (Sydney) council to erect his tent in that seaside resort. The council, however, declined to grant permission for the erection of a canvas theater.

BERLIN

By O. M. SEIBT

183 Uhland Str., Charlottenburg

The Billboard on sale at the Aldon Hotel and at Oelder's Newsstand, 151 Friedrich Str., one block from Wintergarten.

BERLIN, Dec. 31.—The Wintergarten is closing the old year with a bill that will be difficult to repeat as to quality. Ten acts and every one a hit. Outstanding are the Nathano Bros., American roller skaters; 16 Lawrence Tiller Girls, Roth and Shay, the Weintraub Syncopators, George Bonhair Troupe of Hisey acrobats, the Flying Hartwell Bros.; Les Diodatis, artistic posing act.

For January the Wintergarten has booked among others, Bob, Bob and Bobby, the Six Artonis, Seven Alfredo, Andre Renaud, Ernest and Yvonne, Paul Westemeier and Lottie Dobschinski. The 16 Lawrence Tiller Girls are in their second month.

The Scala bill for January includes the Three Swifts, American club jugglers; 16 Foster Girls, in their first German date; Florence and Grip, adagio team; Cortini, conjurer; Max Wall, eccentric dancer; Schenck and Company, equilibrist; Ausel and Arthur, comedy acrobats; Schichl-Charton's Marionettes, DeMario, well-known American contortionist on the trapeze; Green, Wood and Violet, Hampati-Bumati act.

Gladys Quincy, American underwater act, is playing the Apollo, Dusseldorf, at present, going over strong. In the same bill is Ben Beno in his initial German

San Francisco

date. Beno opens January 6 at the Coliseo Recreitos, Lisbon, Portugal.

Carl Hagenbeck's Circus of Stellingen fame made a brilliant impression on its premiere Christmas Day, with an abundance of excellent animal acts and other strong features. Business has been capacity so far. Richard Sawade, connected with the Hagenbecks for over 40 years, is the general manager.

The Van Droyens Sisters, "tallest women alive", have returned to their Berlin home from a long tour with the Johnny Jones show. They have several offers for European dates, including one for Oslo, Norway, to open January 10, but they will return to the States in March to open with Tishman and O'Neal.

Bob Ripa, famous boy juggler, is leaving for a tour thru Switzerland, playing the Capitol cinemas in Basel and Puerich.

Berlin's latest movie palace, playing four vaudeville acts in every show, is the Lichtburg at Gesundbrunnen, which opened a few days ago with three shows a day. Two other picture houses were opened during the month in Berlin, both with added vaudeville attractions and silent pictures.

The 17 Tenin Glazeroffs, Russian dancers, are the individual hit of Jean Gilbert's operetta, *Hotel Stadt Lenzburg*, at the Theater des Westens. Otherwise this production is one of the weakest of the season in spite of a name cast.

The Drel Linden, Leipzig, was opened by Manager Jules Marx Christmas Day with a fine bill, including Hans Beets & Company, Boeker's Bears, 10 Deblars and Nerelide.

Kassner, the magician, now features the disappearing elephant. Kassner is playing the Lieblich, Breslau, on shares for the month of January.

Dujo, the chimp, from the French Circus Rancy, is the added attraction of the new Wintergarten bill.

Bobbie Hind with his London Sonora Band is back in Germany, currently at the Bastel in Cologne.

Antonio Trio, musical clowns and parodists, have been prolonged twice at the Circus Talamonsky, Riga.

Manager Hans Gruss of the Deutsches Theater, Munich, informs that he has disposed of his Cabaret Bonbonniere in the Bavarian capital, devoting all his time now exclusively to the Deutsche Theater. During the forthcoming Oberammergau Passion Plays Gruss will play the largest available vaudeville acts.

Max Reinhardt will play in Paris next May during the festival season, staging one of his Berlin hits in the German language. Incidentally this festival season in Paris will also bring a guest play of the Theater Guild of New York. A Russian ensemble under Talroff and Meyerhold will represent Soviet Russia, while Italy sends a troupe under Guggero Ruggieri.

Cosima Wagner, aged widow of Richard Wagner, was 92 years old, December 25. She is now almost totally blind and lives permanently at Bayreuth.

Fred Angermayer's new drama, *Fly, Red Eagle*, at the Lessing, received lots of free publicity by Mussolini's protest thru the local Italian ambassador against certain parts of the play. As there is no censorship in Germany the government refused to intervene.

Toronto

Word has reached here that Walter Huston, former Toronto boy, is to play the title role in D. W. Griffith's new talkie, *Abraham Lincoln*. It is the first occasion on which a Canadian has taken any leading part in a film so nationally American and so internationally important as *Abraham Lincoln*. Huston was the original star in O'Neill's *Desire Under the Elms*.

At the Princess Theater here *The Strange Interlude* has broken all box-office records for this season. At an average price of \$2.50 to a seating capacity of 1,600, it played the six performances to a total of almost \$23,000.

Minneapolis-St. Paul

Joseph Plunkett, New York, general manager of theater operations for Radio-Kelth-Orpheum, arrived January 8 to confer with officers of the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association and with St. Paul civic organizations to acquaint them with the RKO jubilee celebration being conducted during January.

Approximately 1,000 women of the Women's City Club of St. Paul are now engaged in a campaign to obtain the necessary advertising for the season of German opera to be presented in the auditorium February 18-19.

Art Hickman, San Francisco orchestra leader, after four months' confinement in a local hospital, has been removed to his home. Coincidental with the news of his partial recovery from sickness comes word that he has been named defendant in a damage suit for \$10,000. Hickman was cited as the owner of an auto, driven by Fred Noon, which ran down and seriously injured a nine-year-old boy last January.

Anson Weeks, who has been promoted from orchestra leader to musical director of the Mark Hopkins Hotel, is visiting in New York.

Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks arrived here a few days ago, concluding an around-the-world tour on the Asama Maru.

Also arriving on the same boat were L. M. Reubens, Chicago police commissioner and former theater owner, who, with his wife and three daughters, returned from an Oriental voyage. The girls are professionally known as Charlo Dawn, Irma King and Lillian Lang. Reubens recently sold his string of theaters in the Middle West.

Follow Thru closed Saturday at the Capitol Theater after a three weeks' run. It is being followed by *Bad Babies*, which had an interrupted run in Los Angeles.

The Stratford-Upon-Avon Festival Players, after ending their run at the Columbia with *Much Ado About Nothing* a week ago, were entertained last Friday by former Senator James D. Phelan at the San Francisco Golf and Country Club.

The Columbia was dark last week, but the current attraction there is the Columbia Grand Opera Company, with a repertoire of 14 popular operas.

Last week saw the close of three popular shows at the Homer Curran playhouses—*Follow Thru*, at the Capitol; *Baldie's Chatter-Sowris*, at the Curran, and *Journey's End*, at the Geary.

Maurice Chevalier is booked to appear at the Auto Show at the Exposition Auditorium February 1 to 8.

Charlotte Greenwood's popularity shows no sign of diminishing, as *She Couldn't Say No* is now in its ninth week at the President Theater, and the end is not yet in sight.

Toledo

The Toledo Blade has contracted with Eddis Cantor to publish news of the day as seen by the comedian. It is more or less an imitation of Will Rogers.

The Princess Theater, a Public house, will hereafter open on Fridays.

The Gaudsmith Bros., appearing on the Public unit, Showland, which played the Paramount Theater here last week, were on the sick list and unable to make an appearance during the week.

The Toledo Paramount Theater will celebrate its first anniversary the week of January 17. A big celebration is planned for the occasion, with various specialties to be arranged by Paul Spor, Merle Clark and Merlin Lewis and Manager Sydney Dannenberg. A special unit, *Anniversary Show*, will make its first appearance in the Midwest during this week.

Jack O'Connell, manager of the Vita Temple Theater, staged *The County Fair* last week as his weekly radio number. O'Connell has a band which he calls The Vagabonds, and it is otherwise known as Frank Terry and his Chicago Nightingales.

A benefit dance will be held in Toledo next week, the proceeds going to Joe Belmont and his family. Belmont, a former well-known circus performer, is practically destitute.

Cleveland

McGee and McGee, Frank and Anita, have closed their Cleveland bookings and are now working Western Pennsylvania for the Pat Lanigan agency.

Tex Howard and Bee Gilmore open at the Uptown this week with their Western novelty act.

Frank Cummings, who has been producing at the Times Square Theater, Detroit, spent the week-end at his home here prior to going into New York with his wife, professionally known as Billie Bailus, burlesque soubret.

"Skipper" DeLoes has opened a new night club, the Skip Inn, on downtown Payne avenue. Eddie Kline, well-known carnival man, is acting as m. c. at the place.

"Shorty" Sullivan has motored to New

York to secure novelty acts for several of the leading downtown cabarets.

Helen Findlay, who has been appearing in *Good News*, is spending a few days at her home here between engagements.

Ruth Durrell, local songstress, has joined the staff of Station WTAM.

Florian DeNarde, formerly of the Stillman Theater, is now assistant manager at the RKO Palace here.

Elsie Miller, formerly of the State box office, is now at the Cameo, succeeding Avalon Henry, who has gone to the Allen.

Paul Kemmerly is now manager of the Colonial in Akron. He was formerly connected with the State and Allen theaters here.

Mary Elizabeth Gleason, dancer, spent several days here with her parents last week before proceeding to New York to join a show.

Journey's End, the widely proclaimed war play from London, will open at the Hanna January 26 and will be followed by the new farce, *She's No Lady*. The Ohio Theater is dark and will be for three weeks.

Joe Smith, of Joe Smith's Orchestra, at present is sojourning in Miami, and will journey on to Cuba before he returns for the opening of the dance hall at Euclid Beach this spring.

Ebony Dears!, by Marion Harvey, Cleveland novelist, won first prize in the play contest conducted by Mrs. Martin Heydemann, of the Barn Theater. The second prize winner was *Phantom Hands*, by Mrs. Josephine Jeffreys, and the third *Melodible*, by Esther Alger.

Buffalo

Beginning January 10 Shea's Buffalo celebrated its fourth anniversary program with an elaborate program.

Word has been received here from New York that Gus Shy is going into talking pictures after a long and successful career as a comedian in musical shows. Gus is a former Buffalonian.

Dr. Leslie A. White, professor of anthropology at the University of Buffalo, gave a lecture on Soviet Russia at the Little Theater recently.

John L. Priebe, senior at the University of Buffalo and recent winner of the Atwater-Kent audition, supervised the annual musical entertainment presented to the University of Buffalo honors group recently. The performers were W. Leslie Barnette, student pianist; the Palestrina Singers, a mixed chorus of 15 voices under the direction of Robert C. Hufstader; Dr. Nathaniel Cantor, professor of sociology, violinist, and Emily W. Linner, a member of the chorus, accompanied at the piano by Mr. Hufstader.

Dallas

The Queen Theater, a grind house, one of the oldest theaters in Dallas, is being wired for sound.

Jimmy Elhard, master of ceremonies at the Palace, dropped out of this week's stage show to nurse a heavy cold. Alex Kesse, pit orchestra conductor, was Elhard's pinch hitter.

The date for the appearance of the *Freiberg Passion Play* in Dallas is the week of March 31.

The *Miscel*, now playing at State Fair Auditorium, did not play to capacity business every night the first week. The business the second week, for the first three days, almost doubled.

Karl Houtzelle, president of Interstate, has left Dallas for an inspection tour of the circuit.

Harry Sachs, distributing booker for Public, is in New York for a home-office conference.

Portland, Ore.

The rate of \$1,000 a week for the auditorium, the ordinance schedule, is too stiff a price for road shows which wish to use the house for three or four days. Upon the recommendation of Hal M. White, a rate of \$550 for shows using the house for three or four days was authorized. There is to be no change in the rental rate for one-day shows, this being \$225.

San Antonio

The Empire Theater, independent house, has opened with a policy of straight first-run talkies.

Jimmie Rogers, Victor recording artist and until recently in big-time vaudeville, stopped off here recently en route to Kerrville, Tex., where he resides.

Ernest Hares, formerly organist at the Antec Theater, is now concert organist at the Municipal Auditorium.

Denver

The Stratford-on-Avon Players will give a week of Shakespeare at the Broadway, beginning January 21. Victoria Powell, of the advance crew, gave lectures before several clubs here.

Clyde E. Hill, superintendent of City Park Zoo, has been appointed a member of the advisory building committee of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums.

Jack Hanigan is back in town with the revue, *Do'n' Things*, at the Orpheum. He was for years chief electrician at that house before going on the road in 1926.

The late Otto Floto, veteran circus owner and Post sporting editor, left an estate valued at \$217,480.91. Five thousand dollars was willed to Harry J. Dunne, of Pitcairn, Pa., and the remainder left to Floto's widow, Mrs. Katherine K. Floto, of Denver.

Bull Montana and Mike Miller will wrestle here in an American Legion show at the City Auditorium January 18.

Walter A. Putter, president of Wafirms, Inc., N. Y., was here last week completing a deal to use pictures taken by the Colorado African expedition in the first all-sound wild animal film. The feature will be completed in Hollywood.

Thirty-one conventions are scheduled this month in Denver, the largest centering around the dates of the Western National Stock and Horse Show January 18-25.

A blue law passed in 1861 prohibiting theaters, circuses, etc., to operate on Sunday will be argued before the Supreme Court January 20. D. J. Mooney, operator of the Princess, Ordway, Colo., was tried in the lower court for the offense and the case was thrown out of court, but the district attorney appealed on a writ of error.

Boston

Anderson's Theater at Mattapan Square, smallest in Boston, has been awarded a bronze plaque in recognition of its excellent sound projection. The award of merit was made by J. M. Shreck, managing editor of *The Motion Picture Exhibitors' Herald-World* to Arthur Anderson, proprietor and manager of the tiny theater.

Steve Fitzgibbon, former manager of the RKO Keith-Albee Theater, is now radio representative of *The Boston Daily Record* at Station WLOE, which has reopened its studio.

City Censor John M. Casey, reappointed by Mayor James M. Curley, was recently taken to Haymarket Relief Hospital, but was later removed to his home in West Roxbury, where his condition is said to be improved.

Emmett Moore, Irish tenor, is back at the Arlington Theater with some more movies of *Happy Days in Erin*, which he is showing, as well as appearing personally in two plays, *The Night Before the Fair* and *The Minstrel of Kerry*. This year's engagement is for two weeks.

Manager Joseph H. Brennan, of Loew's State Theater, played host to Dudley Digges and the Theater Guild Acting Company appearing in *Major Barbara* at the Hollis Street Theater at a matinee of the all-dialog film, *Condemned*, in which Digges makes his picture debut. June O'Dea, a Lexington, Mass., girl, is being welcomed home again as a member of the *Pleasure Bound* cast at the Shubert Theater.

St. Louis

The American Theater reopened its doors Sunday night with Bert Lytell in *Brothers*.

Follow Thru closed a two weeks' engagement at the Shubert-Rialto Theater Saturday night. *After Dark*, scheduled for this week, was canceled and as a result the theater is dark this week.

Harold Kreuzberg and Yvonne Georgi, dancers from the Mary Wigman School of Germany, appeared at the Odeon January 7 under the auspices of the Civic Music League.

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Los Angeles

Mae West, in *Diamond LQ*, at the Biltmore Theater, is on her third and final week of the local run. It is stated the engagement will prove unprofitable, as two weeks' business has been stretched over the three weeks. The company will make what is believed to be the season's record jump, when it entrains Saturday night after the last performance for Philadelphia, where the attraction opens for an indefinite run at the Chestnut Street Opera House, beginning January 16.

Paul Dullacoll, of Actors' Equity, who recently settled the MacLoom-Equity controversy here, is returning to New York. He will stop at various points along the route, his first stop being at San Francisco.

With Los Angeles getting its much-wanted rain, a packed house turned out to greet the Stratford-Upon-Avon Festival Company at the Belasco Theater. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* proved a strong attraction as the initial offering of a two weeks' repertory.

Cherise Souris is the attraction at the Mason Opera House for two weeks, beginning January 13. The response at the box office indicates capacity business.

Journey's End, English war play, will be the attraction at the Belasco Theater for an indefinite run, starting January 19.

George M. Cohan is not to forsake the stage for Hollywood, altho he is coming to the film colony at an early date to write and direct a talkie for Al Johnson. Cohan and his company, in *Gombing*, will be the attraction at the Belasco Theater during the period he is engaged in making the Johnson picture.

Edward Everett Horton retired from the stage until he finds a suitable play, with the concluding performance of *Among the Married*, at the Majestic Theater last Saturday night. Horton stated that in the two years as a star-producer in Los Angeles he has found but two genuine successes out of many plays he has presented here. *The Swan and Among the Married* are the two big winners. Horton says he will close with the same amount of money that he opened with.

As a result of his plea of guilty to Federal Judge William J. James, Stanley Rose, Hollywood bookstore proprietor faces a four months' jail sentence for committing copyright piracy of *Chic Sale's* best seller, *The Specialist*. It was revealed some 3,000 copies of the book had been printed by Rose, which, according to United States Attorney William Gallagher, had been sold to local concerns and dealers entirely, and from the same source came the information that Sale has sold 500,000 copies of the book throughout the United States.

Sam Wren, actor, has returned from an 18 months' visit to Australia and New Zealand. In Australia Wren was featured by the *Williamsons in Log That Of*, a revival of *It Pays To Advertise*, and in *The Patsy*.

Mrs. Henry W. Savage, widow of the producer who died two years ago, has arrived in Hollywood for a visit, with plans made to spend the balance of the winter here, it is said.

The Theater Mart will present *The Scar*, an original comedy by Mrs. Alice Batney, on January 16, for one week only. Sarah Padden, well-known stage and screen actress, will head the cast, with Raymond Flood directing the play.

The Biltmore Theater will adopt a picture policy for an indefinite period, following the conclusion of the Mae West engagement. Starting January 12, the feature film, *Hunting Tigers in India*, together with several short subjects, will be the attraction in Los Angeles' first-class road-attraction theater.

Omaha

Marie Klensy, formerly program director for Radio Station WOW, has been appointed commercial director, succeeding Eugene Konecky, who was selected as editor of *The Woodmen News*. She is the only woman holding a similar position in the United States.

Margaret Shotwell will be pianist-soloist at the next Omaha Symphony Concert, to be given late this month.

Billy Meyers, new m. c. at the Paramount Public Theater here, has signed a two years' contract with Publix. Gilbert Jaffey, formerly musical conductor at the same theater, has resigned to become first violinist with Henry Santrey's RKO orchestra, now touring.

The Wisner Sisters, Omaha girls,



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The Billboard Pub. Co., Cincinnati, O.

starred in *Barnyard Frolics*, Publix unit, played the Paramount last week. A feature of their shows is singing in the lobby to waiting customers by Sunny Burnett, radio favorite.

J. N. Krier, formerly manager of the Broadway Theater, at Council Bluffs, has been assigned to the Paramount Public Managers' Training School. He is succeeded by Robert Fulton, of the Princess Theater, at Sioux City. Mr. Fulton's position as assistant manager has been taken by Gaylord Jones, formerly head usher at the Paramount Theater, Omaha.

Plans for a 300-piece dance and concert orchestra to play a Publix dance have been started by the Omaha Musicians' Union, Local No. 70, of Omaha, of which Rangval Olson is president, starting this year his fourth consecutive term.

Sensational Sex Plays Fade Out

JUST a year ago Peaches Browning, of "Daddy Browning" fame, found vaudeville customers. Today she is trying to collect three weeks' salary from an unknown producer whose play flopped last week when he couldn't get anyone in to see Peaches. Also, just a year ago, Mae West, of the sensational sex plays, was going full blast, and so was Texas Guinan, with her "Hello, Sucker," and a dozen more of the botchy-totchy type. Now they are out of the limelight.

This is just one of the striking phases of the changing tides of the amusement public in the last 12 months. As showmen see it, the year 1930 promises to be a genteel one. They claim it is the influence of the change in women's clothes from undress flapper costume to the "longer" skirt frock of modest, graceful lines.

Perhaps that is the reason! But whatever it is, plays of *The Front Page* type have disappeared from the Broadway stage. Any number of the rough plays, flavored with street profanity, have failed diamally. The plays that are doing business in New York at the moment feature characters who speak the language of the London drawing room, such as *Strictly Dishonorable*, *Berkley Square*, *The First Mrs. Fraser*, *Bitter Sweet* and so on.

The dainty Evelyn Laye is getting more limelight in New York than Peggy Hopkins Joyce. The English prima donna attracts much more attention at the St. Regis or Blitz when she enters than the flamboyant Peggy of many husbands,

romances and marriages. Miss Laye, to see her off the stage, looks like something that stepped out of the Queen's drawing room. Gertrude Lawrence, known as the "highbrow" type of comedienne, and Beatrice Lillie, who also married an Earl, are about the most darning in the New York limelight at the minute.

Sophie Tucker found New York so grim and proper that she decided that Broadway was no place for the *Last of the Red Hot Mamma*, and so she is opening in London in a new show the first of March. The elegant long-skirted American ladies want their comedy served this year by comedienness who look as if they could play nothing more risqué than an Oliver Goldsmith comedy.

The *Whoopie* idea has disappeared entirely. Arthur Hammerstein is making money on *Sweet Adeline*, something of an operetta. And Ziegfeld's best hit is the distinctly highbrow *Bitter Sweet*, an out and out operetta. In fact, the operetta idea, the new thirst for gentility, is going so well that last-minute reports bring word that *Milzi* will revive *Sari*, a sweet musical romance that vanished from the billboards long before the past decade of hip-pocket flasks. And then the Shuberts are indulging in no more *Nights in Paris*, *Spain*, *Venice* and the like. They, too, have "gone operetta" with their highbrow Victor Herbert Festival.

Even the exciting mystery plays so profitable a year ago can find no playgoers in the new year of 1930 with such blood-curdling appetites. At least a dozen were tried out in New York and were packed up and sent to Kaln's storehouse. Even A. H. Woods, of bedroom-farce fame, has given up the idea of repeating any *Mary Dugan's* since *Scarlet Pages* failed. He is looking for the Theater Guild type of plays and might not reject Bernard Shaw, if such a thing could happen.

And the same story holds true of the movies. The demand there seems to be for high romance, written out in capital letters. Love scenes between Charlie Farrell and Janet Gaynor are liked for their wistful qualities. The fragrant Greta Garbo is holding on much better than Clara Bow to the new trend in tastes. Romance instead of sex appears to be symbol for 1930.

No less authority than Samuel Goldwyn, recently in this city, made such a prediction not more than four weeks ago. He pointed to the popularity of his highly romantic Ronald Colman and *Bulldog Drummond* as an example of the new craving for romance and adventure. *The Cock-Eyed World* pictures, he said, would have no pull in 1930. Even the sensational playwright, Samuel

Shipman, has been obliged to forsake melodrama and murder themes for *Oliver Twist*. He is adapting the much done Dickens classic for the movies.

These are the prophetic high signs for the year of 1930 in the world of amusement. Many things can happen, but showmen insist that entertainment of 1930 will be more like days of *The Merry Widow* than the *Whoopie* days of the last 10 years. It's rather hard on the "front-page" celebrities, but then nothing lasts forever.—GRACE DAVIDSON, in *The Boston Post*.

The Greenwich Village Ball Scheduled for Friday Night

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Cynthia White, famous for her bizarre balls and entertainments in Greenwich Village, has completed arrangements for her 12th annual ball at Webster Hall Friday night.

This will be the social event of the season for Greenwich Villagers, for all the celebrities, including poets, artists, sculptors, authors, playwrights, theatrical producers and players, will be found there.

As usual there will be a stage and floor show by paid entertainers and interpolated talent from the patrons who are cordially invited to step forward and strut their stuff, and what some of the Broadway showfolk do in struts after the midnight hour is conceded to be the highlight of the entertainment. A white and colored orchestra will alternate in providing music for the entertainers and dancers until daybreak.

CHANGES IN CASTS

(Continued from page 35)

a brief vacation, being succeeded by Billy (Bumps) Mack. Virginia Jones, featured fem for the last 16 weeks, is scheduled to close February 1 and motor to New York via New Orleans.

National Winter Garden (stock), New York—Scotty Freidell closed Saturday.

Gayety Theater (stock), Montreal—Mollie Williams, featured fem for opening week only, closed January 4.

Rialto Theater (stock), Chicago—Olga Mae closed January 4.

Best Show in Town (circuit)—Rae Gerche closed at Bridgeport. Boots Rush canceled her engagement to reopen at the National Winter Garden, to succeed Beba Malvey at Jamaica, Miss Malvey joining I. J. Irving's act in vaudeville.

Speed Girls (circuit)—Paul Jerome engaged to open.

Step Lively Girls (circuit)—Don P. Kellatney, former juvenile of *Step On It*, opened recently.

Bare Feet (circuit)—Reggie White closed at Springfield.

Moulin Rouge Girls (circuit)—Nanette Dalley, featured fem, closed at Cincinnati due to continued illness and entrained for her home in Baltimore for treatment. Middle Gibbons, former featured fem of *Lid Lifters*, succeeded Miss Dalley, and Johnny Goldsmith succeeded Sam Cohen as manager of company.

Take a Chance (circuit)—Johnny Goodman succeeded Charles Greiner at the Columbia Theater, New York.

Puss Puss (circuit)—LaVilla Maye, featured fem, out of the cast for the last two months, returned to the cast Sunday last at Pittsburgh, thereby relieving Buster Sanborn, who has been substituting for LaVilla during her illness.

Seen and Heard—By NELSE

DOLLIE DAVIS, formerly of the Empress Theater Stock Company, Kansas City, is scheduled to open at the Chateau Theater, Chicago.

HARRY SHEER, has been transferred from the National Theater, Detroit, to the Empress, Kansas City.

MEYER HARRIS, master electrician and promoter of featured fems in burlesque, has chartered an airplane to carry his latest protege, Frances Parks, runway soubret of Dalton's Burbank Theater runway, Los Angeles, to New York for a one-night attendance at the Burlesque Club Ball and, incidentally, a parade of her pleasing personality for the benefit of Broadway producers. Miss Parks will embark Monday morning for her return trip to Los Angeles.

Theaters Planned

ALBANY, N. Y.—The Pine Hills Theater will be replaced by an apartment house, according to Harry Lazarus, owner.

BIRMINGHAM, Eng.—Alf Levy, of Liverpool, plans to erect a new film theater here to seat 3,500.

CINCINNATI—The Midland Building Company, a local concern, has been awarded the contract to erect a combined theater and store building at the northeast corner of McMillan street and Gilbert avenue. Work on the structure is to be started early in February. The theater will be controlled by Publix. Total cost is estimated at \$3,500,000.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif.—Construction of a theater especially built to accommodate the super-sized screen required by the Spoor-Berggren wide film process has been started here. The buildings, which will be used for experimentation and executive showings of films by the new method, will be one story in height, with over-all dimensions of 45x115 feet.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—A new motion picture theater, with seating facilities for 1,500, will be erected on 75th street, just west of Troost avenue, by the Westbrook Investment Company. Albert B. Fuller is the architect.

PHILADELPHIA—Samuel Shapiro plans to erect a new 4,000-seat theater at Allegheny and Kensington avenues. The house will be known as the Midway and is estimated to cost \$650,000.

RENFREW, Ont.—Arrangements have been made by M. J. O'Brien for the erection of a new motion picture theater to be equipped for audions. The house is expected to be completed about June 1.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—Famous Players' Canadian Corporation has purchased a site at Broadway and Brantville street for the erection of a new theater to cost \$400,000.

Theater Deals

ATLANTA, Ga.—The Southern Amusement Corporation has taken a lease on the new theater to be built here on Peachtree road. The house will have a seating capacity of 1,000 and is expected to be completed by March 1.

BEMENT, Ill.—Willard and Glenn Durbin have purchased the Lyric Theater from Frank Mellinger and will rename it the Avalon. Mellinger, who has owned the house the last year, also owns a theater in Champaign.

BOISE, Ida.—The Strand Theater has been purchased from J. E. Thamer by the Publix Theater Corporation.

CANTON, O.—The Palace Theater, operated for two years as a RKO house, later acquired by Publix, becomes a Warner Bros. house with the subletting of the theater by Publix. Warners will continue to operate the Alhambra Theater, Canton, also.

CINCINNATI—The Clifton Theater, on Ludlow avenue, has been taken over by the Clifton Theater Corporation on a 10-year lease. The house is to be remodeled, 800 new seats added and equipped for talkies.

CRYSTAL CITY, Tex.—Dan Sloan, of Little Rock, has purchased the Guild Theater here from F. W. Pullman.

DE RIDDER, La.—The West Louisiana Theater Corporation has purchased the Beart Theater interests here and in Leesville.

DES MOINES, Ia.—G. A. Howell and M. L. Sauvage have bought the Lyric, Coon Rapids, Ia., from J. E. Ridgeway. It is planned to remodel the house and equip it for talkies.

LEOMINSTER, Mass.—The Plymouth and Rialto theaters here have been leased to the Plymouth Amusement

Company, a Massachusetts corporation, headed by Fred Murphy, of Quincy, Mass., by Mrs. Rosina McEvoy, owner of both houses. Mrs. McEvoy and her son, Arthur McEvoy, will retire from amusement lines. Both theaters will be under the management of Michael O'Brien of Boston. The lease became effective January 1.

MANNING, S. C.—The Garden Theater, which has been closed for several weeks, has been taken over by G. K. Hanks.

MAPLETON, Ia.—O. P. Brown, of Omaha, has purchased the new Princess Theater here from Ella Weekes, who has been the owner the last year.

MERIDEN, Conn.—Joseph M. Rice has purchased the Life Theater from Samuel P. Meadow. George A. Diehl will continue as manager. The policy will remain unchanged.

RAYMOND, Wash.—The Willapa Harbor Theaters, Inc., which recently bought the Raymond Theater from A. G. Basil, has resold the house to the former owner, Bernard Mulligan, who has been managing the theater for the Willapa interests, is going to the Blue Mouse in Seattle.

STRASBURG, O.—The Hall Theater, which has been operated for several months by the Garver Bros. Company, has been reopened under the management of Russell Norman and John Sundheimer.

VANCOUVER, B. C.—U. P. Dewees, owner of the Strand Theater here, has leased the Pantages Theater. He plans to reopen it under a new name and new policy.

WASHINGTON, Ia.—F. W. and Art Redding have purchased the Graham Theater from J. A. Sebesta and Harry Frankel. Art Redding will manage the house and plans to book one-nighters.

Theater Openings

MADISONVILLE, Ky.—The Capitol Theater, built on the site of the old Garrick Theater, opened January 6. The house has a seating capacity of 800. E. W. Dozier is manager.

OMAHA, Neb.—The new Ritz Theater, at 25th and Patrick streets, opened recently. The house is in the colored section and is modern in every respect. It will be conducted by H. A. Taylor, who has operated the Alhambra in the same neighborhood.

SALEM, Va.—The new Salem Theater has opened. The house was built at a cost of \$150,000. R. L. Carpenter is manager.

TOLEDO, O.—The Bohm Theater, Alhambra, Michigan, seating 1,100, has just been opened. Latest talkie and sound devices have been installed. George Bohm, owner of the Censor, movie house, erected the new theater.

WAYNESBORO, Va.—The new Cavalier Theater, a 900-seat motion picture house, has been opened.

WEST BEND, Wis.—The Community Theaters, Inc., has opened a new 900-seat house here.

REOPENINGS

BALTIMORE, Md.—The Waverly Theater, recently acquired by F. H. Durkee Theatrical Enterprises, has reopened with sound.

CINCINNATI—Shubert Theater, which has been closed since the end of the legitimate season last year, reopened January 12 with *A Night in Venice*.

MARIETTA, Ill.—The Gem Theater reopened as a talkie house January 6.

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—The Radio Theater reopened here January 1 under the management of Harry Perlewitz.

WENATCHEE, Wash.—After its recent fire the Gem Theater has been completely repaired and remodeled and reopened January 3.

WHITE RIVER, S. D.—The Gem Theater has reopened after making repairs.

Theater Alterations

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—The Richmond Theater has been completely remodeled and redecorated, which gives it a colorful Spanish effect. New equipment and new seats have been installed.

BEEVILLE, Tex.—Improvements costing approximately \$20,000 have been completed at the Rialto Theater and the house is again open.

CHICAGO—The Pantheon, a North Side motion picture house, has added a new wide screen costing \$175,000. The new screen measures 35x25 feet. The lobby, foyer, auditorium, balcony and stage have all been redecorated at a cost of \$100,000. A new \$10,000 electric sign has also been erected.

INDIANAPOLIS—The Grand Theater has installed an air-purification device.

NEW BRITAIN, Conn.—The Embassy Theater, formerly the Lyceum, has been renovated inside and out at a cost of \$125,000.

SAN FRANCISCO—Publix is spending approximately \$20,000 on redecorating and refurbishing its California Theater, placing new carpets, curtains, drapes and scenery.

TAMPA, Fla.—Plans are being drawn for the enlargement of the Casino Theater. When completed it will have 400 additional seats. The approximate cost of enlargement is estimated at \$15,000.

WORCESTER, Mass.—Negotiations are under way, according to Harry T. Naylor, new manager of Warner Brothers' Strand Theater here, for taking over additional property and widening the lobby. The house is to be re-seated, redecorated and new carpets placed. New projection machines are to be installed, and a large magnascope screen will take the place of the one now in use. Expenditures, it is estimated, will cost approximately \$85,000.

Theater Staff Notes

GEORGE W. ANDREWS, of Milwaukee, has been named manager of the Myers Theater, Janesville, Wis., to succeed James Zanias.

JACK-LE VOIS is the manager of the new Appleton Theater, Appleton, Wis., for Brin Theaters, Inc. He formerly was manager of the Brin Theater, Menasha, Wis.

A. DUMONT, manager of the Embassy Theater, Neenah, Wis., has been appointed manager of the Brin Theater at Menasha in connection with the Neenah house, according to Stanley Brown, district manager for Brin Theaters, Inc.

J. B. KOPPEL, formerly with Balaban & Katz, has taken over the management of the Ritz Theater, Berwyn, Ill., for J. Lasker & Sons.

GEORGE W. SARGENT has been appointed manager of the Strand Theater, Waterville, Me.

M. ROSENTHAL, who for the last 15 years has managed theaters in the East, where he also conducted a vaudeville booking agency, has been appointed manager of the Lyceum Theater, Duluth, Minn., a Publix house.

JOHN B. QUICK, for several months manager of the Orpheum Theater, Phoenix, Ariz., has resigned to devote his time to personal business. Prior to assumption of managerial duties at the Orpheum, he was a member of the orchestra.

WIRT S. McLAREN, who has been identified with theatrical interests of Jackson, Mich., for many years, will take over the management of the new Butterfield Circuit house, when it is completed there about March 20.

EARL WADGE, who has been manager of the Orpheum Theater, Portland, Ore., since its opening a few months ago, has been transferred to the Minneapolis house. He is succeeded at the Portland house by J. H. Hayes.

WILLIAM A. HARTUNG, after 21 years in the service of the Orpheum Circuit,

has resigned as manager of the Orpheum Theater, Seattle, Wash. He is succeeded by Henry Sommers, formerly with the Orpheum in Chicago, but more recently with Warner Brothers in New Jersey.

R. W. PINKHAM, manager of the Playhouse, Montpelier, Vt., has been promoted to the Boston office of the Maine & New Hampshire Theater Company. He is succeeded at the Playhouse by L. B. Purepo, formerly manager of the Strand, South Paris, Me.

WILLIAM E. FINE, formerly manager of the Bellrose Theater, Bellrose, L. I., has been named manager of the Darien Theater, Darien, Conn., to succeed Major J. A. Umpleby.

CLAIRE STOVER, former organist at the Rialto Theater, Burlington, Ia., has been appointed assistant manager of the Palace Theater. Harold Barnes is the manager.

ANDY GUNNARD, assistant treasurer at the Seattle Theater, Seattle, Wash., has been appointed manager of the Metropolitan Theater for Publix Circuit to serve during such times as this house plays pictures between dramatic engagements.

FRANK H. RUSSELL, brother of Jack Russell, whose musical comedy company is filling an engagement at Pantages Theater, Seattle, Wash., has been named house manager as well as company manager.

Fires and Robberies

HIGH POINT, N. C.—An unmasked man held up and robbed the ticket box of the Broadhurst Theater of approximately \$200 here on the night of January 7. Only a part of the day's receipts were in the box.

QUINCY, Mass.—Approximately 600 patrons of the Merchants Theater here fled from the auditorium on the night of January 4 when fire followed an explosion in the projection booth. No damage was done to the theater.

SPRINGFIELD, O.—Two women were trampled in a panic at the Majestic Theater here January 4 when a film exploded in the projection room. The flames were confined to the booth. Ernest Scott, projectionist, was burned about the face.

BIG SPRINGS, Tex.—A lone bandit recently robbed the cashier of the Ritz Theater here of \$100.

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—A fire which started in the projection room of the Palace Theater here did damage of \$500.

AMERY, Wis.—Fire completely destroyed the Gem, a motion picture house here, recently. The theater will not be rebuilt.

DALLAS, Tex.—Burglars broke in a rear door of the Trinity Theater, a neighborhood house, and took \$300.

PORTLAND, Ore.—Much valuable projection equipment was destroyed by a fire which broke out in the projection room of the Nob Hill Theater here New Year's Day. Some 75 people were in the theater, but quietly walked out.

CLARINDA, Ia.—Fire in operating booth at the Armory Theater here January 2 caused \$2,000 loss to films and equipment of the theater. The fire occurred while the theater was empty.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex.—A defect in the projection machine caused a fire in the booth of the Sam Houston Theater, a neighborhood house located near Fort Sam Houston. The flames were extinguished by the operator. This was the second fire at the theater within three weeks.

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NEW PLAYS ON BROADWAY

(Continued)

FULTON

Beginning Monday Evening, January 6, 1930

WATERLOO BRIDGE

A play by Robert Emmet Sherwood. Directed by Winshell Smith. Settings designed by Raymond Bovey. Settings executed by R. W. Bergman Studios. Presented by Charles Dillingham. Starring Glenn Hunter and June Walker.

Kitty Cora Witherspoon
A Military Policeman Hannam Clark
Gertrude Eunice Hunt
An Officer George O. Wallis
A Sergeant Major Alexander Frank
A Sergeant Douglas Garden
A Sailor June Walker
A Soldier William Evans
An Australian Allen Fagan
A Civilian Herbert Saunders
Roy Cronin Glenn Hunter
A Constable David Post
Mrs. Hobley Florence Edney
A Laborer George Spelvin
His Wife Margaret Searis

ACT I—Scene 1: Waterloo Bridge, London. Eleven O'Clock in the Evening of a November Day in 1917. Scene 2: Myra's Room in Mrs. Hobley's Lodging House. A Few Minutes Later. ACT II—Scene 1: Myra's Room. Noon the Next Day. Scene 2: Waterloo Bridge. The Same Evening.

Robert Emmet Sherwood has again taken one-act material and unsuccessfully attempted to build it into a full-length play. *Waterloo Bridge* is a trite and old story that would have made a delightful playlet, but only manages to be boring in its present form.

The production is held high, however, by superb acting, engaging lighting effects on a fine setting and by beautiful writing. It proves that a good dramatic morsel requires much more than the thin material employed here.

The old story of a woman of the streets coming into a clean life thru the wholesome influence of a chaste young soldier furnishes the entire story. The boy meets the girl on Waterloo Bridge thru her coyness and instantly falls in love. He wants to marry her, but she, having also fallen in love with him, wants to spare him the indignity of marriage to a woman of her caste. She evades him, but he finally discovers her before the final curtain on Waterloo Bridge. He goes off to war leaving behind him a clean woman, who will be waiting for his return, supporting herself meanwhile on his allotment.

Sherwood has failed to include dramatic action in the play, and so the play becomes windy and too talky and tiresome to listen to. There are times when the dialog lifts the weak play right out of the reaches by sheer force. But they are fleeting moments that Sherwood has not pressed home. When these occur he submits to silly sentimentalisms that are so trite and trying that only the sincerity of the stars holds the thing together.

There is not one character besides the stars that is essential to the play. Altho there are three others that have fine sounding lines and many of them, and they are splendidly acted, the parts simply do not fit into the business at hand. It appears at times as tho the Sherwood has falsely injected these characters in an effort to make a piece of expert playwrighting of thin substance.

Glenn Hunter, as the naive American boy attached to the Canadian Army Corps, gives one of the finest paced performances in the current theatrical year. His work thruout is even and enjoyable. June Walker gives to the part the same sort of consistent effort that Hunter puts into his work. But the devotion of the stars of the play is not sufficient, altho they do literally lift the entertainment to heights it should not attain at times during the two acts.

Cora Witherspoon treats her part carefully most of the time after the first scene with Miss Walker when she was given to too hurried reading. Her intonations after this one bad period, added to a rich cockney accent, considerably aid the plot and atmosphere of the play. Florence Edney and Hannam Clark, in the only other parts of any size, are well cast and for the most part do flawless work.

The setting of *Waterloo Bridge* is arresting and interesting. The other set is ordinarily satisfactory, both for de-

tails and interest. The off-stage effects are too shallow except for the bombs supposedly dropped during an air raid.

Waterloo Bridge is another unfortunate selection for Glenn Hunter and certainly gives June Walker little. It more or less continues the belief that Robert Emmet Sherwood, author of *The Song to Rome*, is a one-play playwright. To disprove this he must give the theater better things than *Waterloo Bridge*.

CHARLES MORAN.

BILTMORE

Beginning Tuesday Evening, January 7, 1930

CHILDREN OF DARKNESS

A play by Edwin Justus Mayer. Directed by the author. Setting and costumes by Robert Edmond Jones. Presented by Kenneth MacCowan and Joseph Verran. Starring Basil Sydney and Mary Ellis.

Mr. Snap Walter Kingsford
First Bailiff Albert Vees
Mr. Cartwright Kirby Hawkes
Mr. Perry Richard Veran
Jonathan Wild, the Great Charles Dalton
Count La Ruse Basil Sydney
Laetitia Mary Ellis
Lord Wainwright Eugene Powers
Baillies Joseph Skinner, William Frankell
ACT I—A Room in the House of Mr. Snap. The House Adjoins Newgate Prison, London. Late Morning, May 23, 1725. ACT II—The Same. That Night. ACT III—The Same. Next Morning.

Here is a play written with intelligence and performed with intelligence by Mary Ellis, Basil Sydney and an excellent cast. *Children of Darkness* is a bright spot in a very dull theatrical season. It is an auspicious introduction for the new producing firm of MacCowan & Reed and a production of which they may well be proud.

Occasionally the dialog becomes boringly talky and at least once every act Basil Sydney becomes too studied in his role. But these moments are fleeting and quickly forgotten.

There is some trace of that keen subtle wit and biting language of Edwin Justus Mayer in this play. It does not approximate the entertaining lines he lavished on *The Firebrand* not many seasons ago, but there is amusing subtlety.

The manner in which the under-sheriff of London enriched himself thru the unfortunate debtors who were incarcerated for nonpayment of obligations in the 18th Century is the background of the story, which of itself is mainly the cheating cheaters business coupled with a nymphomaniacal excursion of the jailer's daughter to teach her lover, Count La Ruse, kindness. Each renting the exclusive section of the jailer's home to be out of the dreariness of a stinking jail, there are brought together two noblemen, a poet and an overlord of the underworld. Abetting these are the daughter and the scheming under-sheriff.

Noticeably, Mayer meant to inject some sort of a thesis into this drama, but the story and the embroidery of his theme are too entertaining to permit the sermon to come thru. Likely it had something to do with the inability of a rake to change his mode of life after years of philandering.

The costarring Sydneys strive for honors and it is hard to find fault with either performer, excepting the little idiosyncrasy of Sidney to become too forced in his portrayal. Miss Ellis is superb in her mimicking scene with her younger admirer, the poet. Her performance is more even than Sydney's.

Two character parts resting in the capable hands of Charles Dalton and Eugene Powers are interpreted with compelling devotion to both period and script. Dalton, the underworld lord, and Powers, as the aristocrat who has poisoned his family, are beautifully done parts. J. Kerby Hawkes does the young poet nicely enough, but his earnest efforts to be ridiculously young and uninformed fall short periodically during the play. Walter Kingsford is splendid.

The setting and the costumes are vivid and quite interesting, making something of a pictorial spectacle of the production.

Children of Darkness is perhaps not a play that will rival the receipts of Broadway, but it is a production which had Jed Harris brought it to town last year as *The Gooler's Wench* he might have looked back upon an accomplishment as most certainly the new producers will. It will not entertain or even amuse lesser audiences, but the discriminating playgoer will find it pleasant.

CHARLES MORAN.

HARRIS

Beginning Wednesday Evening, Jan. 8, 1930

SO WAS NAPOLEON

A play by Jack O'Donnell and John Wray. Directed by John Hayden. Setting by Ward-Harvey Studios. Presented by Robert W. Newman and Arnold Johnson.

Hartley Hopkins Grant Mills
Belle Cherry Frances Cressy
Adolph Frank Det
Littleton Looney Hugh O'Connell
Sam Henderson Paul Ryan
George Pope Lloyd Russell
Earl Truesdale Julian Harte
Roland Wilson Orville Harris
Charles Powell Herbert Scandling, Jr.
Frances Goodrich Mary Murray
Belle Spencer Bentley
Commodore Barker Louis Prohoff
Solemon Hyeross Granville Bates
Dolly Thorpion Ruth Donnelly
Don Pedro Zeballos Sydney Riggs
Cousines de Bouchard Ella Earl
R. Walter Tallford Franklyn Fox
Senator Halpin Jack Rafferty
Joujou Cesar Rosmany
Beauvalant Marcel Rousseau

ACT I—Scene 1: Asteroom of a Private Dining Room, Onondaga Hotel, Syracuse. N. Y. Evening. Scene 2: Promenade Deck, S. S. "Leviathan" in Front of Looney's Cabin. Afternoon. ACT II—Drawing Room of the Cousins de Bouchard's Suite, S. S. "Leviathan". Two Days Later. ACT III—Cousines de Bouchard's Villa at Nice. Two Weeks Later.

The situations and idea that make *So Was Napoleon* are so ridiculously absurd that the play, altho extremely well acted and well mounted, manages to furnish a completely wasted evening. Jack O'Donnell originally wrote it as a short story and it won a prize of some description or other. It would make an entertaining short story, but as a play it is nothing short of ridiculous even tho it has laughs and ingredients that make for hilarity. Its main fault lies in the fact that all the characters are drawn as stupidly as the central figure, who is admittedly a sap. It is one thing to set a simple person into a unique situation, but to draw others so that even their good sense is lost is neither good theater nor funny. It is absurd.

Littleton Looney suddenly comes into a small fortune left by his aunt back home in Syracuse, where apparently, for many years, he had been the object of every practical joker in the community. We find "Little" Looney being tendered a farewell banquet by his friends. He pays for his own banquet, his own farewell gift, and just to make it more ridiculous the friends send a bunch of fake telegrams from important people to the ship which is to carry him to better things and better breaks on the other side.

He falls in with a party of business men and engineers that are trying to save Countess de Bouchard's mines in Bolivia before the men from the money marts gather them in at their own price. He is mistaken for the engineer who built the Barge Canal. From then on it grows worse until Looney offers a feasible plan to save the mines quite by accident and it would be believable except that it is too ridiculous, considering time and one thing and another.

Rugh O'Connell as the sap is doing the best piece of work in his career. He makes the poor fool a simple sort of person who is lovable in his simplicity. O'Connell proves himself an actor of true merit. Franklyn Fox contributes nicely to the production, as do Ruth Donnelly and Granville Bates. Jack Rafferty portrays a windy senator and does it extremely well. Mary Murray is badly miscast and entirely unable to do anything to make her efforts believable.

The settings employed in the production are lavish, decorative and accurate. The show certainly does not rate the expenditure of the money put into this department alone.

The direction, what there is of it, is bad, with the several characters resorting to vulgar slap-stick business to force laughs. This sort of thing never aided a play and hinders this one.

There are two things to be sorry about in this attraction. The first is that Hugh O'Connell wasted such good acting on it and secondly that this new firm of producers lavished so much money on it. It is decidedly unworthy of production.

CHARLES MORAN.

Cheer Unfortunates

STILLWATER, Minn., Jan. 11.—Mike Mayen, in accordance with his annual custom, brought cheer to the unfortunates in the Minnesota State Prison during the holidays by staging a great entertainment within the walls. Co-operating with him were Edwin A. Smith, district manager for the Twin City Public Theaters, and J. J. Sullivan, warden.

The talent was drawn from Minne-

Stage Employees and Projectionists

By EDWARD HARRISON
Communications to 1550
Broadway, New York

WILLIAM A. DILLON negotiated a one-year contract for Local 677, mixed, with the managements of the Palace, Gem and Thornton theaters, West Warwick, R. I.

VICT-PRESIDENT HARA settled a dispute between Local 19, stagehands, and the Embassy Theater, Baltimore, Md. The management agreed to employ a maintenance man.

LOUIS KROUSE effected an agreement between the Tivoli Theater, Portsmouth, Va., and Local 350, whereby any time the curtain or lights are used a stagehand must be employed.

WILLIAM P. RAOUL is in attendance at the conference in Charlotte, N. C., which is formulating plans for the organization of the textile workers.

VICE-PRESIDENT HARA has been assigned to Trenton, N. J., to adjust a controversy of Local 116, stagehands, with a theater management.

ROAD CALLS: Arena Theater, St. Louis; Huntington and Tivoli theaters, Huntington, Ind.

ROAD CALLS LIFTED: Auditorium Theater, Concord, N. H.; Majestic Theater, Hornell, N. Y.

JOHN TONDRA, Local 644, sailed on the S. S. Resolute to make a round-the-world trip for Fox Movietone.

WALTER SCOTT, Local 644, has been assigned to Miami by Fox Movietone.

HECTOR FRISSELL is assembling a camera crew to make a picture of the seal fisheries off the Labrador coast for Paramount release.

RANDOM NOTES—By Wesley Treat

LOUIE ROBBIA, projectionist, member of Local 312, Enid, Okla., is working in Tulsa.

CHARLEY PECK is projecting pictures at the Uptown Theater, Wichita, Kan., which is equipped with sound, running matinee and nights.

LOCAL NO. 535, Atchison, Kan., has named the following officers for the current year: Dick Moore, president; Ira McCollan, vice-president; Coyte Wells, secretary, and John Stechwehn, business agent. Biglow and McAllister are in charge of the projection at the Royal.

At the last regular meeting, Local 414, Wichita, Kan., elected F. E. Welsh, president; McBride, vice-president; Alden Pider, secretary; Deacon Phillips, financial secretary; Leo Kickrell, business manager, and Ed Martin, sergeant-at-arms. They will serve for the current year.

HODGES AND FULTON, members of Local 312, Enid, are doing extra work in Kansas City. Al Teague, 312, stage employee, is with a road show again this year. Grant Davis is stage carpenter at the Convention Hall, Enid.

JAMES R. CAMERON, New York City, well-known projectionist and author of several text books on motion picture projection, has been named associate editor of *Projection Engineering*, a new publication pertaining to projection and sound equipment.

S. E. ANDERSON is in charge of the screen results at the Princess Theater, Superior, Wis.

PROJECTION results at the New Warrenton Theater, Warrenton, Mo., are in charge of Projectionist Robert Haviland. The house is equipped with sound apparatus.

apolis and St. Paul theaters, artistes cheerfully volunteering and contributing their best to the program. Earl Patwell was master of ceremonies. On the bill were Eddie Witsche, with his piano accordion; Minnie Dietz, of the violin and clogging feet; Charles Keathe, musical artist; Joseph McCurdy, acrobatic dancer; McCarthy Sisters, sister act; Pagan Hawaiian Trio; Earl Patwell, monologist; Bob Mann, Swiss yodeler; Eddie Russell, entertainer; Brancoli and His Pals, and the Toyland Babies, directed by May Erickson.

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The Agency Campaign

On Monday, January 6, the Supreme Court of the United States, without handing down a written opinion, declined to review the decision of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals of August 12, 1929, which reversed the injunction granted by Federal Judge Frank J. Coleman to William Edelstein, restraining Frank Gillmore and certain other Equity officials as individuals from enforcing the provisions of the agency policies announced by the Actors' Equity Association.

This decision probably marks the end of a fight of more than 15 months, during which Edelstein has served as the standard bearer of a group of personal representatives who sought, by legal means, to prevent the application of the agency regulations to themselves.

There is, of course, the possibility of their turning to the New York State Courts, but the prospects of eventual success there are not very bright.

In the first place they would carry the millstone of this group of Federal Court decisions in favor of Equity, which could not but weaken their case. And then, in many of the conflicts between employers and employees, the State Courts have shown an understanding of and a sympathy for the attempts of employees to protect themselves thru social legislation than the more remote Federal Court judges.

And so Equity anticipates seeing the remaining employment agents and personal representatives drop their legal fight and as gracefully as possible accept the agency regulations and live and work in perfect amity with Equity for their enforcement. And Equity assures them a hearty welcome when they do come in.

Kansas City New Year Meeting

A meeting of Equity members in Kansas City New Year's Day was addressed by Berton Churchill, second vice-president of the association; Cliff Langsdale, local legal representative of the association; W. Frank Delmaine, traveling representative from the Kansas City office; Dr. Traverce Harrison, Kansas City instructor; Herschell Weiss and Fred L. Stein, members; Bill Bruno, former member, and John O. Rao, also a member.

It is the intention of the Kansas City office to hold these meetings frequently, and it is hoped that the next one will be addressed by Paul Dullzell, on his return from his successful visit to the Pacific Coast.

Ticket Speculation

The action of Equity's Council January 7 in instructing the president to write to the committee representing the producing managers who are seeking to break the grip of organized ticket speculators on the legitimate theater should have a decisive effect upon the solution of the problem.

The history of such schemes makes it reasonably certain that however sincere and faithful is the desire of the majority of managers in effecting a reform, there are sure to be individual managers who will refuse, for one reason or another, to conform to the program and who will require some sort of policy power to hold them in line.

That policy power may be derived from the public support of the plan as expressed thru a committee of laymen of high standing in the community, or it may be necessary to make use of the authority with which dramatists and actors speak thru their Dramatists' Shop and Equity Shop, respectively.

Nor does it seem that the right of such vitally interested parties as actors and dramatists to protect their interests

can be challenged successfully. For it has already been shown that the courts are inadequate to curb organized speculation.

Equity does not believe that speculation will be entirely abolished by its action. It may be possible to bootleg or dig out a certain number of tickets for most of the popular plays. But Equity believes that this can be made a casual, sporadic hazardous proceeding, instead of its being the normal and organized procedure it now is.

And perhaps it may lead eventually to the American Theater Board, for which Equity has worked so long and so earnestly.

Martin Mann to New Hospital

Martin Mann, long a member of the association, called at Equity headquarters to report that he had just left the Actors' Fund Home at Amityville, L. I., to enter the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital to undergo a major operation.

The good wishes of all Equity's headquarters staff, which has known him for a long time, go with him on this occasion. Mann also said that when he had sufficiently recovered to see visitors that he would be very happy to have callers.

Federation's Radio Request

The Chicago Federation of Labor operates a broadcasting station known as WCFL, and also "The Voice of Labor". Recently it changed its original wavelength of 970 kilocycles to 1,280 and then, not satisfied with the change, went back to its first love.

Now WCFL has sent a questionnaire to Equity which seeks to discover, among other things, how reception, noises, interference and other details which mean so much to radio fans have been affected by the change.

Equity has no radio, nor any knowledge of such things, so it passes the

questions on to such of its readers as are in a position to answer this request.

Patriotic Repertory Players

Louis Hallett and Gene Francois, ardent members of the association and believers in all its works, look with pronounced favor upon *The Revolt of the Actors*, the story of Equity, by Alfred Harding, which was published recently by William Morrow & Company. In fact, Hallett writes:

"*The Revolt of the Actors* should be read and reread by every stage beginner. It will at the outset instill in him the right principles and create an appreciation of his membership. In fact, we consider it of such importance that we require apprentice members of our company to be the possessor of a copy."

Well, all we can say is: We hope History turns out to be one of those cinch courses to which all freshmen naturally aspire.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION.

Chorus Equity Assn.

DOROTHY BRYANT, Executive Secretary

Richard Lear is playing the lead in Nancy Gibb's act, *Dear Little Rebel*. He obtained this engagement thru the Chorus Equity Employment Agency.

At least once a week the Chorus Equity refers some one of its members to the Actors' Fund for medical aid. It is very seldom that our members are also members of the Fund, altho this is the actors' charity and the dues are only \$2 a year. Recently we sent to the Fund one of our members who had to have a serious operation and who had no money to pay for it. Following is a letter which this

member sent to the Fund: "Dear Mr. Austin—I am taking advantage of the fact that I am feeling a bit stronger to express thru this little note the gratitude and appreciation I feel in my heart for the marvelous kindness you have shown me, for the necessary financial aid and for procuring medical attention for me. Words are inadequate in such an instance, but believe me when I write that I am deeply and sincerely grateful. I expect at the Rest, with its kind people, good food and restful quiet, to regain steadily my normal health and strength. I shall never forget all that the Fund has done for me."

This member has been under the care of the Fund for over a month. When you realize that the dues of the Fund are only \$2 a year it is obvious that it is up to all members of the profession to give it their hearty support.

On January 21 there will be a special matinee of Earl Carroll's *Sketch Book* for the benefit of the Fund. The Chorus Equity has 100 tickets for this benefit which the Fund officials have asked us to get our members to sell. Thinking that they can help some needy members of Chorus Equity, as well as stimulate the seat sale, the Fund is paying 50 cents for each ticket sold. Even without this inducement we feel that all our members should gladly volunteer their services. If you wish to help the Fund by selling these seats see Mrs. Lawler at the Chorus Equity office.

Twenty-three 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, Billie Fanning, Jane Hurd, Elizabeth Huyler, Ruth Kennedy, Eva Lewis, Jan Linderman, Peggy McGowan, Hazel St. Amant, Ellen Speeler, Florence Sterling, Margaret Samson, Muriel Seeley and Loris Taylor.

On February 15 all mail that has been held in this office prior to July 1, 1929, will be returned to the post office. If we have passed your initial before you see the list write to the office and ask to have any mail that may be here forwarded.

We are holding mail for Rita Carita, Irving Carter, Blanche Clark, Dorothy Coulton, Margaret Carthew, Vera Campbell, Angela Cummings, Austin Clarke, Charles Calway, Marjo Child, Anne Caldwell, Lucille Constant, Phyllis Cameron, Cyrilla Casey, Don Creed, Comfort Collins, Grace Coyne, Marie Cole, Hal Clyde, Leon Canova, Audrey Christie, Cecilia Caskey, Helen Casanova, Anne Cunningham, Donn T. Carney, Warren Crosby, Rose Collins, Gloria Christy, Ruth Cannon, Don Creed, Ann Constance, Billie Cortez, Alan Crane, Valerie Chambardon, Constance Cappe, Don Cortez, Grace H. De Viney, Tonia Dumova, Betty De Mattia, Joan D'Arcy, Roger Davis, Edward Denny, Ann Davis, Peggy Davis, Yvonne Destinn, Vera Dona, Marie De Jordan, Loree Dew, Irene DeJoy, Bette Davis, Howard Deighton, Peggy Deighton, Alfred Deste, Edith Deighton, Jackie Duncette, Elin Dennis, Glade Dean, Mary Dale, Carmen De Bois, Thomas Denton, Marguerite Davidson, Jack Dayton, Dorothy Dow, James Dalton, P. E. Daly, Dorothy Dianne, Christine David, Mary Dolan, Constance Durand, Don Donaldson, Gilbert R. Denton, Mildred Dunlap, Martin Dennis, Val De Marr, Shirley Dennis, Norma Daly, Peggy Dalton, Catherine Devery, Micky Dugan, Jack Dayton, Harriette Dixon, Frank Dunn, Gene Du Pont and Adele Dickson.

We are holding packages for Petra Olsen, Jerome Maxwell, Howard Deighton, Jose Martel, Alfred Milano, Shirley Gustin, Allan Crane, John Van Tuyle, Betty Davis, Sylvia Ulrich, A. Thompson and Dorothy Leo. DOROTHY BRYANT, Executive Secretary.

Buying Theater Tickets

WITH all due respect for Mr. Erlanger, it must be said that his representative's statement, explaining why this important manager will not join in the effort to market theater tickets on a reasonable and fair basis, begs the question. It is asserted that Mr. Erlanger puts tickets for his attractions in the box office, where either agencies or "the public" may buy them for cash. But the public buys as individuals, and for a single performance. Agencies buy for weeks and even months at a time. The public is unorganized. The agencies are organized, and with them ticket buying is a business. On first nights, after a "hit" is palpable, agency representatives visit managers and arrange for large blocks of tickets. When the public, after reading the reviews, goes to the box office next day there are no good seats to be had for weeks in advance. It is \$6 against \$60,000, and the larger sum wins easily. The facts of the situation brush aside Mr. Erlanger's excuse, and a heavy burden of proof will remain upon his shoulders if the project should fail.

With the large number of signatures in hand, with arrangements in process to police the new plan, and with the support of actors and dramatists assured, there seems to be no reason why the failure of Mr. Erlanger and Mr. Dillingham to co-operate should be sufficient to block the plans of the other managers. Of the 64 theaters in New York, 58 have signified adherence to the Hopkins resolution. Of the 38 managers, only two are standing out, and they control but six theaters. If the other managers really mean business, they should go on with their scheme. It provides for proscriptio of those ticket agencies which engage in "buys". Mr. Erlanger invites "buys", but if agencies which avail themselves of the opportunity are crossed off the list of the 34 other managers, their business will suffer seriously. Had many managers and owners refused to co-operate, the outlook for the present effort to make theater tickets available at a fair premium would be dark. But with only two recalcitrants, the project should be regarded as established. If public support after March 1, the date on which it is to be made binding, is not quickly and effectively in evidence, the public will have only itself to blame for continuing the present intolerable conditions.—*The New York Times*.

36TH YEAR

The Billboard

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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.



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In Which We Say a Few Things Concerning Policies

FEW THINGS in the world are more misunderstood than the policies of a newspaper.

Various interpretations devised to fit the requirements of friend or foe, as the case may be, are constantly being placed upon news items and editorials appearing in the press. Inasmuch as we are now concerned only with *The Billboard*, we take this opportunity of going on record on certain matters pertaining to its policies, in the hope that thus we may clear many of the misunderstandings that apparently cloud the scene.

The Billboard, let it be said here and now, prides itself on its policies. It believes them to be constructive; it feels that it stands for the best interests of the amusement business and those who are in it. The sole object of this paper is to present news of the various amusement fields as it is; it states facts, ungarbled and uncolored. In its editorial page it attempts always to interpret these facts in a manner that will stimulate the growth and prosperity not of any one particular field, but the amusement world as a whole.

Before we go any further, let us make it clear that if promoting one interest is sound policy; if pitting one branch of the business against another is sound policy; if printing accounts of the personal misfortunes and scandals of people in the business is sound policy; if coloring facts to fit selfish purposes is sound policy; if selling editorial space to large interests that they may promote their own welfare is sound policy; if sacrificing independence and ethics for money and favors is sound policy, then (and we cannot be too emphatic in stating it) we say that the policies of *The Billboard* are woefully weak.

On the other hand, if a newspaper should be constructive, truthful, independent, fearless, honest; if it should state the facts as they are; if it should interpret these facts in a way that it honestly believes stands for the best interests of the majority; if it refuses to be dictated to by any individual or group; if it criticizes when it believes criticisms justifiable and praises when praise is merited; if it strives always to serve all branches of the amusement business and not one branch; if it insists on the complete independence of its editorial and advertising columns; if it refuses to print meaningless items concerning the personal misfortunes or scandals of those who derive their livelihood from the business and profession it serves, then, and then only, can its policies be termed sound. We prefer to let *The Billboard* stand on its merits; you are the judge.

This newspaper lays no claim to perfection. It makes mistakes and it has enemies—what institution that is living, growing, energetic and militant has not?

In recent years statements have been made and published that *The Billboard* is intensely opposed to motion pictures and the motion picture business. May we go on record once and for all and brand this—a LIE!

We believe the motion picture to be the greatest medium of mass entertainment in the world today, not to mention its power as an educational instrument. Time and time again, as the records will show, we have advocated the cause of motion pictures, and it is demonstrated conclusively every week in *The Billboard* that its columns are open to legitimate news pertaining to that field.

We proudly and readily admit that we have spared no words in criticizing motion pictures and some of the methods employed in that business whenever we believed such criticism justified. Are the movies above criticism? Certainly our records will show that we have been equally as critical of vaudeville, legitimate, stock, burlesque, carnival and the various other indoor and outdoor fields. But who can deny that we have ever tried to be anything but constructive? We are not solely a motion picture paper, nor a legitimate theater paper, nor a vaudeville paper, nor a carnival or circus paper. We are a paper covering ALL fields. We pride ourselves on being an AMUSEMENT PAPER.

At the present time we are carrying on a campaign to enlist the interest and aid of the Chambers of Commerce in the United States in a movement to bring back traveling attractions of all kinds, be they legit. shows, vaudeville, circuses, carnivals, burlesque, tabloids or repertoire. Because of this campaign we have been openly accused of fighting the movies. WE ARE NOT!

We always have believed, we do believe, and, until there is a change, we will continue to believe that the motion picture interests are following a shortsighted, unintelligent policy in employing every possible means to kill off all other forms of professional entertainment. We believe that if they continue to follow such a policy it will react, and soon, to their harm. We believe that such criticism is justifiable and CONSTRUCTIVE not only to the amusement business as a whole and the public in general but to the motion picture people in particular.

We base our views on what we believe to be sound logic and elementary psychology. It is our opinion that, unless a change of diet is offered, the public will become saturated with "talkies", and that when that point is reached the motion picture business will hit the toboggan unless relief in the form of plays, vaudeville and other "in-the-flesh" attractions is presented. Can even the motion picture people themselves view such criticism as other than CONSTRUCTIVE and aimed at promoting their best interests?

In our efforts to interest the Chambers of Commerce in this movement we have placed stress on the fact that touring attractions mean far more to the merchants of any community than do motion

pictures. We state (and we welcome proof to the contrary) that by having no legitimate theater, no vaudeville, no burlesque, no circuses, no carnivals, no presentations, no tabloids, no stock companies, no repertoire shows, the merchants of any city are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars and in some cases millions a year.

We say that traveling actors must spend large amounts in cities where they play for lodging, clothing, food, laundry, transportation and incidentals. We say that touring "in-the-flesh" attractions bring thousands of additional dollars from the surrounding country towns that are not large enough in themselves to support such theaters. We say that dark legitimate and vaudeville theaters mean money out of the pockets of local merchants thru the loss in wages suffered by unemployed local stagehands, musicians, cleaners, billposters and house-attendants.

We say that a high percentage of the money that goes thru the box offices of theaters playing touring attractions is placed back in circulation in the same city in which the theater is located. We say that in the motion picture business, especially since the domination of chain control, most of the money that goes into the local picture houses is taken out of town.

We say all these things and we fight for them because we believe them right. We have not been shown otherwise. But we continue to maintain that WE ARE NOT ANTAGONISTIC TO THE MOTION PICTURE INTERESTS. Why?

Has anything been said in these columns about who eventually might control the legitimate and vaudeville theaters of the country and make the return of touring attractions possible? Several times within the last two months we have indicated that we believe that the day is not far off when the motion picture interests will control the legitimate theater, when they will produce and book their own plays. The same goes for vaudeville.

In that event, as we see it, the tremendous resources of the picture people will be thrown behind the legitimate and vaudeville fields. The motion picture corporations will encourage the return of both forms, because in them they will see the opportunity of satisfying the public demand for relief from an all-"talkie" diet.

If such a probability means more work for actors, playwrights, musicians, stagehands and others connected with the theater; if it means increased prosperity for the merchants of the country; if it means the rejuvenation of the theater as it concerns touring attractions, then we are for it.

We do not like to see the passing of the independent producer, any more than we like to see the independent motion picture producer, distributor or exhibitor being killed off. We are for them and will do all we can to fight their battles. They are the safety valve of the business. They keep competition lively. That is healthy for any industry.

There is plenty of room for every branch of the business. Each is a separate and distinct form, having its own audience, developing its own medium and technique. We are not for any ONE of them, but we are wholeheartedly for them ALL.

We believe, as we have indicated time and time again, that there is greater prosperity ahead for all of them than any one of them has heretofore enjoyed. It can be gained, however, only if the various fields get together and work for the best interests of one another—they all come under the head of amusements.

May we state again that we are for the motion picture and the people who operate that field just so long as they pursue a policy that we are convinced is for the best interests of the AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY? We take issue with them when they do not, just the same as we do with any other branch of the business.

And so, let's cut out the scrapping; let's get together and promote our own future by promoting the other fellow's.

Is our position clear? We'd appreciate your reaction.

Attention of RKO

Editor The Billboard:

The writer has read with considerable interest the discussion in The Billboard relative to the future existence of the vaudeville and legitimate stage. Thinking possibly you might be interested in a communication which I recently wrote to the RKO Circuit, I am enclosing copy of the same.

CLARK R. BELKNAP
Seattle, Attorney at Law.

The accompanying letter speaks for itself. Undoubtedly there are thousands throughout the country who feel exactly as Mr. Belknap. His letter to the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Circuit is printed below.—Ed.

RKO Circuit,
Orpheum Theater,
Seattle, Wash.

Gentlemen:
The writer is one of those who is very desirous, extremely anxious, to have high-class vaudeville retained in Seattle. Inasmuch as we will, in all probability, have to look to RKO service for such entertainment in the future, I thought it might not be unappreciated by the Orpheum management if I express myself quite plainly.

Frankly, I believe that you are not treating the public fairly, either in your picture program or your vaudeville.
Last Saturday, December 21, I saw your picture, "The Careless Age". Just why it was so entitled I am unable to see, or just why it was ever exhibited or even produced in a condition of condorm. I suppose the only reason it was exhibited is because it was produced. But why pick a supposedly high-class theater like the Orpheum in which to display it?

The feminine lead is a musical comedy star. But why select for a musical comedy star one who cannot sing when we have ten thousand good singers in the United States? Maybe I am unfair to Miss Young. Maybe she can sing, but that shrewd nose-maker (talkie equipment) you have would ruin any singing. Just why you would spend a million dollars for such a beautiful theater and then man that old hand organ is more than many people can understand.

After having such promising musicals as "The Desert Song", or the "Gold Diggers", so wonderfully produced at the Music Box, I'll confess it takes pretty good vaudeville to make me sit thru some of the pictures you have been exploiting. Vaudeville is going to have stiff enough competition without hanging such a ball and chain as "The Careless Age" about its ankles.

And as for vaudeville there seems to be but two kinds in your vocabulary. One deals with one married man having an affair with another man's wife. The other jokers centers closely around the southern end of humanity. I am no Puritan, but certainly not all the wit in the world you might dish up a little something else once in a while.

Personally, I was not very pleased in this new building be struck the Orpheum Circuit. It was afraid they would do just what they did so—spend more money for a house rather than for programs. I would prefer to see a show in a barn than something else in your gift palace.

If vaudeville is slipping it is your own fault. You must treat the public with a little degree of fairness or the public is just going to quit patronizing your shows altogether. The writing of the hand on the wall has been very plainly interpreted to you by The Billboard.

Yours for real vaudeville entertainment,
CLARK R. BELKNAP.
CRB: MD.

A Boy Speaks

Editor The Billboard:

The voice of a 15-year-old high-school boy may not be regarded as being a very good authority on theater matters, but here's my opinion regarding Emma Barlow's article which was in "The Forum" January 4. It is true that comedians often resort to smutty jokes to amuse their audience. Most high-school boys and girls tend to say, the ones in the school where I attend would rather listen to the low type of comedian in preference to animal acts or educational amusements. Some performances which are given are supposed to be legitimate, but in reality they are not fit for legitimate theaters. I have often heard smutty jokes which had been told on the stage, retold by young children in the street. I think that matters are pretty bad and decent people can't go to a neighborhood theater without hearing smutty jokes told them for amusement. All girl revues are not to be condemned because there are a few rotten ones. I think that cheap vaudeville is certainly hurting the theater.
WARRREN H. WOOD.
Englewood, N. J.

In Retrospect

Editor The Billboard:

We have just closed another year in history, a year that has seen many accomplishments, failures and worst of all business and social depression. During the past year we have witnessed one of the worst stock market crashes in our history and at the same time it has been a year of great and important coincidences. But now, very starkly, facts describe the chaos in which we of the theatrical world have found ourselves, its causes and effects.

To begin with, we have witnessed a revolution in the theater with the advent of talking pictures and the old order of things has been overturned. Whether talking pictures are of a lasting nature only time and the great theater-going public can decide, but one thing is certain: if immediate action is not taken by officials in all lines, it shall never rise from the hopeless tangle into which it has become enmeshed.

Of late the trade journals and organization officials have been trying to analyze a few of the reasons and causes of the present crisis in the industry and the business. Especially the managers who have played their established routes year after year, always giving the same bills, same old moth-eaten gags and songs, and comies who insist on wearing one dirty suit and shirt until they are ready



Address communications: "The Open Forum", The Billboard, Box 872, Cincinnati, O.

stagehands and operators, who all during the years of the silent pictures had been building up a powerful organization to fight any new act and seeing in sound such a power officials were quickly called together and new plans of attack formulated. But in the desire to protect their interests they employed tactics against which all common sense revolted. Salaries were raised to an exorbitant figure, extra men were added to all theater staffs, unfair methods were used by the men employed. With the advent of such conditions all managers began to see the light with the result that at no time in our history have there been so few road productions.

In the years that have passed a fine orchestra had been a permanent institution and the public looked for it, but here too, with the advent of sound, the glue became thick. Fandersonism reigned in all musicians' minds and hearts and their war cry became "down with this mechanical robot", to the force with human music masters". But here again we find chaos because of change, and they, too, resorted to insane measures.

Salaries were raised, working hours limited and incapable men were forced on the market. The public, which had been so kind to the foolish virgins, they stand outside the gate, the oil in their lamp turned out. Now the American Federation of Musicians is spending thousands of dollars in national advertising which is falling as bread upon stagnant water and is being turned into slimy dough. The public cares nothing of their woes and so far their efforts have been received as so much folly, read but not appreciated.

Now let us go to the front of the theater and place the manager on the dissecting table as it were. Since the advent of the chain theaters, it is a known fact that all managers are merely puppets worked by strings, said strings being to a massive oak desk in an elegantly furnished office in New York. These men are worse than common slaves. Deprived of the use of their own initiative and forced to use methods planned in New York, no matter how nonsensical, they work as drudges, victims of the man higher up. Their programs are prepared, advertising selected, attacks picked by the main office with no regard to local or best conditions. All that has been brought about a big change, but it remains for the future to offer a solution. The field of vaudeville has wanted thru the blindness of managers who think they can offer the public talk acts year after year. It is like feeding a man beans, he soon grows tired and if the repulsive article is still insisted upon he refuses to eat. Vaudeville will return in the fullness of time.

Let us turn our attention to a neglected body of people, the legitimate actor. What a pitiful sight and we can truly say with Hamlet, "Alas poor Yorick, I knew him well". But, alas, what is being done. Fine dramatic talent is being wasted on inferior productions. Undesirable themes are thrust upon them, labor conditions as well as railroad and hotel rates have made road tours impossible and, with all, his condition has become such it's no wonder the old tragedian says, "Oh, Grave, where is thy Victory? Oh, Death, where is thy sting?". In the field of motion pictures, too, much has already been said and since I do not care to provoke a smacking dog I shall pass over it lightly giving only the details. In fact there is nothing but details. No originality in themes, the excessive use of the atrial atmosphere, the boring employment of color, the sacrilegious expenditure of money and inferior talent—all this goes to make up the picture. But the public still sits and Barham and Darwin were right, also Darwin should have used a jackass for a model instead of a monkey.

And last but not least let us look at what is said and done dramatic stock in. As a matter of fact it's more out than in. What causes it? What goes for motion pictures also fits it. And that's not all.
Therefore, since the stagehands, operators and musicians working only the details and upheld high salaries than the rest of us living by lowering them; since most of the managers are marionettes subject to the will of an idiotic puppet; since road attractions and vaudeville are on the wane because of all these things; since the legitimate actor is a pauper instead of a star; since good dramatic stock is also on the wane, all because of blaring, idiotic talking pictures, consisting of nothing but girls running up and down the stage, singing impossible themes and speaking absurd lines, I think that the best remedy that can be offered is complete reorganization and it ought to be the ambition of all the profession to see that it's done.
GEORGE E. WHITE.

MI. Clemens, Mich.

Ridiculous

Editor The Billboard:
Having once been a trouper, I am naturally interested in show business and always read The Billboard. I wonder if show people aren't to blame for the present crisis in the industry and the business? Especially the managers who have played their established routes year after year, always giving the same bills, same old moth-eaten gags and songs, and comies who insist on wearing one dirty suit and shirt until they are ready

to fall apart. Then as a friend of mine put it the other day, "Since the talks we don't have to be bothered with any loud-talking actors in the hotels and cafes, and the weary that the cafes and hotels won't get their money are no more."

So from now on, actors, be more considerate of others in public who are not interested in your affairs or show business, and, managers, don't look on the customers as saps and expect them to stand for just anything.
BILL (HAP) HOLMES.
Okemah, Okla.

We don't agree with either Mr. Holmes or his friend, as far as performers are concerned. What could be more ridiculous than to offer such a reason for the decline of the theater? As for the managers—there is some truth in the writer's statement of their attitude toward the public.—Ed.

The Right Spirit

Editor The Billboard:
The recently published comments in The Billboard on Chamber of Commerce action in the encouragement of a revival of traveling theatrical attractions, the possible benefits of an interest manifested by Chambers of Commerce and newspaper publishers in cities throughout the entire United States, and the splendid editorial in The Billboard on the subject was such a combination of appeals to all readers interested in the return of road shows that some move to boost the movement seized a duty.

The writer, who has been closely identified with Savannah's amusements and their advertising since 1928, promptly clipped The Billboard editorial, The Denver Post article and "The Open Forum" letter, and with a personal letter calling attention to the records of the advertising done by the writer, for the Savannah Theater, from 1928 to 1929. Inclusive, showing that during that period from 80 to 125 road shows played the Savannah Theater each season, and in contrast to that stimulating influence created by the circulation of extra patronage to hotels, restaurants, billposters, newspapers, transfer companies and merchants generally. The alarming fact must be faced that the Savannah Theater did not have a single road show during 1929. This data was sent to Col. E. George Butler, President of Savannah Chamber of Commerce.

I have before me an annual report of the theater posting done by Bernard Advertising Service, for Savannah Theater in 1929, showing that from August 17, 1929, to April 12, 1930, there were 17 road shows for appearance in the Savannah Theater, and among them such sterling attractions as "Granarak", "The Wolf", Louis James, David Warfield, "The Lion and the Mouse", Frial Scheff, Richard Carl, Mrs. Fiedler, Richards & Fringle's Minstrels, "45 Minutes From Broadway", Marie Cahill and others of equal prominence. In 1929 the citizens of Savannah have had opportunity to hear the Marine Band (under the direction and to see a George White show, both at Municipal Auditorium, that was the only possible opportunity to get a mere taste of the ample enjoyment afforded the population of this Southern city in 1929.
Savannah, Ga. CHARLES BEURNARD.

The above letter reflects the right spirit. If more persons interested in bringing back touring attractions to their rightful place in the amusement world would point out the true facts to their local Chamber of Commerce the movement would not be long in getting results. Traveling attractions have a logical, dollars and cents, business argument for the local merchant. If the Chambers of Commerce of the United States can be interested in the movement, and there is every reason why they should be, the legitimate theater and vaudeville will come back in a hurry.—Ed.

Cut the Bunk

Editor The Billboard:
In less than three years, unless quick changes are made, the stage will be a thing of the past, except for laboratory theaters and possibly a few vaudeville circuits. The "talker" have killed the stage just the same as signals did away with the traffic cop; the auto, the horse, the radio, the plane and the motor, and also as syndicates have killed local feature writers and local cartoonists. There are enough unemployed, trained theatrical people in this town to start a circus. Most any day you run into some Broadway producer, actors of all kinds, musicians, directors and writers, all consoling themselves by entering strange fields.
Every time a merger is made the staffs are cut in half, trained men are left out, a complete shakeup and outsiders from other lines are brought in. Now we have a new wave. Why not have a personnel man traveling over the circuit making closer employee contacts promoting and keeping trained men from joining opposition circuits.
If theaters in the past played and paid for

vaudeville, presentations, prologs, feature and comedy pictures, newstars, stagehands, musicians and large house staffs, making money with seats at 50 and 60 cents, why can't they do it now?

Many people say the shows are poor. It is impossible for an actor to do good work when he plays four and five shows a day. A couple of years at that rate finds most of 'em eating pills at a sanatorium. The trouble with the dinner table could be entirely because of poor patronage. We must not forget that eight acts twice a day built a fortune for the additimers, and received seats played a big factor.

Many of the acts were criticized the way they advertise the prices it is needless to say there would be a public demand for flesh and blood stuff. Most managers pay up the picture and stick the actors' photos in the backstage entrance.

House service is another bad thing. I've been in most every important theater in New York State from the smallest to the largest and with the exception of one or two the service is poor, often harsh and discourteous.

"Yeast Cake" publicity is one of the greatest destroyers of good will. Every year at this time the producers, etc., start blowing bubbles and tell fairy stories about what they intend to do. All words and no action. If the bank stories were verified and published and only truthful statements printed, people would stop dreaming and face a bad year with determination to win.

If the people were deprived of Monday shows they would attend with greater enthusiasm on the other days of the week. All enterprises have a day of rest and as Monday is poor money and all passes why not close up? People appreciate things more when they can't have them continually.
Yours for a "theater revival year."
Hochester, N. Y. WILLIAM A. WENNER.

We do not hold the viewpoint that the legitimate theater and vaudeville will be dead in three years. In fact, we believe that in three years all in-the-flesh attractions will be in a far stronger position than they are at the present time. We agree with most of the other points made by Mr. Wenner.—Ed.

Bookers to Blame

Editor The Billboard:

Who is to blame for the present conditions in vaudeville? The managers or the bookers? Surely it's not the actors. The main trouble must be in the booking office. There is an out-of-town theater management and the inside light between the bookers, managers and agents. The actors are here and willing to work for almost any price their agents can get for them and the actors are willing to pay big commissions to the ones who get them the work. This is what the booking managers are trying to do away with, but then this is supposed to be a free country and the actors and the actors are willing to accept large commissions will be forthcoming to the latter, in one form or another, and that is nobody's business but their own. But as soon as the booking managers get wind that a new agent or booker is getting the prosperous more so than they think they ought to, right away they get jealous and there is a shakeup which only results in getting newer and inexperienced men in the business.

The booking managers pay more attention and waste more of their valuable time trying to keep the other fellow from making money when they really ought to spend their time routing up the acts and building up the stock which will do more good for them.

And now we will see what the managers and agents are doing for the betterment of vaudeville. Are they doing anything? No. A lot of them get sore when the word vaudeville is mentioned. Take the little independent theater managers for instance, they will not even sign a contract, in many cases, with the booking office to furnish them with acts, and when they do it's only on a week-to-week proposition. They are under the impression that they can get better results by switching from one office to another, which, of course, keeps the office wide awake for the best talent available for the money. The office will book in a crackerjack show for one week, and the next week the manager standard is so high that the booking office changes office, that way he gets another good show, but these super-talent shows are bound to dwindle down soon. It is only natural that the theater patrons should look forward for a better show each week, but this cannot be done by this booking method for any length of time, so the patrons in turn began to lose interest and look for some other recreation.

If the theater managers would sign their houses over to one certain established booking office for a period of from one or more years, then the booking office could build its shows so that each week's program would be as good or better than the previous one. This would also relieve the worry on all sides. It would be better for the theaters, better for the booking office and wonderful for the actors.

But then again, the theater managers would all join in the chorus. Why are there so many new inventions popping up about every month, we couldn't sign up for that long a period. This is all very true, but if all the theaters were signed up these different things would have to wait their turn, and the public wouldn't be fed up on amusement like it is now. It won't be long, at the rate this business is going, before the public will expect everything there is in the amusement world to be ticked at the price of 15 cents and front-row seat at that. What theater will ever survive that? Actors used to look forward to their long route and know what theater they would play six months in advance. Now they have to wait their turn and from day to day on the heat of time they don't know where they are at; not even the booking office knows where they stand half of the time. That's not show business. Why, then, do we have the theaters for? They know the business better than that. They hold their hats in the fall, but books all the acts and amusements during the previous winter and spring. WILLIAMS & BERNICE.
En route.

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ATTENTION—ROADHOUSES, INNS, CABA-RETTA, Ballrooms or anything. Six-man Band, plenty of doubles. We play them modern, copy, heavy rhythm, hot, sweet, plenty singing, instrumental novelties, feature entertaining bits. Carry drop. Two changes continues. Price within reach of any promoter who pays off. Closing six months contract January 5. Write for particulars. DAVIS ORCHESTRA, 1362 White St., Toledo, O.

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AT LIBERTY—A-1 TRUMPET, TROMBONE, Euphonium, Circus, concert band, theatre, dance, dramatic. Experienced all lines. Address ROBT. DALZIEL, What Cheer, Ia. 3625

TRUMPET—MODERN LEAD STYLE, sweet singer. APT, 561, Clifford Hotel, Detroit. 3615

A-1 ALTO SAX, SOPRANO CLARINET AND Alto Clarinet. Union. Good tone on all instruments. Hotel, dance, concert or presentation. Location only. MUSICIAN, 119 Irving St., Toledo, O. 3625

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A COMPETENT CLARINETIST, DOUBLING Alto Sax. Open for engagement. What have you? WILLIAM SUND, 623 Main St., Wilmette, Ill. 3615

ALTO SAX AND TROMBONE AT LIBERTY January 15th. Both get good tone and read well; solos hot. Young, good appearance, union; references, arrange. Sax 60-65; trombone, Soprano and Clarinet. Gold outfit. Experienced dance, presentation and hotel. Not broke. Sing. Have good ear and will go anywhere for reliable. South preferred. Will separate. Answer all offers. Wire quick. FRANK PECK, 421 Oranby St., Norfolk, Va. 3615

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AT LIBERTY—TROMBONE, EXPERIENCED in concert and dance line. Right reader, age 22. Will accept anything reliable. Union. ANDREW M. PLACENTE, 405 Blackhawk St., Chicago. 3615

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BANJOIST, DOUBLING TENOR GUITAR—Can read or fake. Union, young, sober and experienced. Will answer all letters. Write B. LEONARD, Berger Bldg., Room 7, Fremont, Ohio. 3615

BB SOUSAPHONE—AGE 29, EXPERIENCE dance, presentation, sympathy, band, ensemble. Cut stuff or no notice. Union. Address PHIL FARRISH, 111 So. Ninth St., Baginaw, Mich. 3615

BB SOUSAPHONE, YOUNG, NEAT, UNION, Satisfaction or no notice. Dance location preferred. 1908 STERLING AVE., Elkhart, Ind. 3615

CELLO (PIANO-ACCORDION), SAXOPHONE. Large orchestra experience on Cello and Sax. Feature attractive ballads on Accordion. Union. Write MUSICIAN, 2115 East Anchor St., Philadelphia, Pa. 3615

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EXPERIENCED THOMBONE—THEATRES, concert bands and troupes. Married, age 22. Will locate anywhere. Must be in line. References. W. H. BENSON, 2335 Lee Street, Dallas, Tex. 3625

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GOOD ALTO SAX, DOUBLING BARITONE and Clarinet, wants to locate. Use music on side. Experienced dance and concert. Young, married. Industrial leaders or dance bands who can furnish day job, wire. SAXOPHONIST, Box 12, Goshen, Va. 3615

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ORGANIST-PIANIST DESIRES POSITION—Tympani, Chimes and Bells. P14, stage and dance experience. Age 21, good appearance and reliable. "SKEET" DAVIS, 222 N. 16th St., E. Cedar Rapids, Ia. 3615

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TROMBONIST—BEAUTIFUL TONE, CUT everything, concert to modern hot; also play Tenor Banjo; arrange. Age 22, union, refined. R. W. FITCH, 22 Gladstone Ave., St. Thomas, Ont. 3625

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TRUMPET—SIGHT READER, GOOD TONE. All lines. Location preferred. **TRUMPET**, 1420 19th St., Altoona, Pa. 125

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A-1 ROUTINE VIOLINIST desires position in theatre, hotel, radio, Vitaphone or dance orchestra. **Am. League** with good, pleasing, congenial personality. Well experienced in all lines of the business. Have tutored, and will go anywhere that has steady employment. **VIOLINIST**, 274 East 138th St., New York City.

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ERIC WAYNE at LIBERTY—Drums and voice. Modern. Voca. Soloist with some of the best. Ballad or rhythm tunes. Eight years' experience. Age 23. Wire or write 568 Iowa Ave., Chickasha, Okla.

FAST ALTO OR TENOR SAX. doubling Clarinet and Soprano. Modern, hot, good tone, read; like second and third harmonics. Young. Experienced in cabaret, broadcasting, ballrooms, presentation and hotel. State all in first. Please don't misrepresent I don't. Wire or write **HARRY WELLS**, 211 South Yuma St., Denver, Colo.

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Is WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25¢)
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THE WILLARDS' ATTRACTIONS—Clean, Classy Circus Acts for your event that never fail to satisfy. Home address, 280 Sturgis St., St. Paul, Minn. 125

FLYING FISHER'S CIRCUS ATTRACTIONS. Now booking nineteen thirty season. Parks, Fairs, Celebrations. **CHARLES FISHER**, Manager, Bloomington, Ill. 125

ERMA BARLOW'S CIRCUS REVUE AND FREE Attractions for indoor circuses, parks, fairs, etc., featuring Kwatax Duo, lady and gent. Head-to-head balancing on glass bottles, edge of plate glass, head walking. Sensational head slide, the only act of its kind; a European thriller. We can furnish you from 4 to 12 acts; entire company consists of 14 people and 7 animals. Can divide in three units, each unit motorized. "Something different" is what you look at our list and illustrations, and it is different in its originality and variety of sensational comedy animal and musical features. Different because we offer such a unique and clever program at such a reasonable price. Our success is built on our past reputation. A solid foundation of 100% satisfaction. Address **ERMA BARLOW'S FAMOUS CIRCUS REVUE**, South Midland, Ind.

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AERIAL AND COMEDY Grouched Acts—Lady and gent. Booking fairs, celebrations, nineteen thirty season. Literature reference. Satisfaction guaranteed. **HERT NEW**, 2737 East Jefferson, Detroit, Mich. 125

AT LIBERTY—Hube and Two White Colours. With a real entertainment for parks, fairs, vaudeville or indoor or outdoor, on ground or platform. Write or wire **GEO. POPLOV**, Delphi, Ind.

MR. SECRETARY—Just think this over. You can buy ten high-class acts for 1930 which give you a complete program represented by youth, pep and ability. Also leading for indoor events in territory. All mail General Deliveries, Wichita, Kan. **RAY BROS' FINE CIRCUS**. 125

WHOOPEE COMMITTEES—Look who's here. The Morris Troupe, presenting a combination of ten (10) high-class Circus Acts. Five (5) Performers. A complete program consisting youth, pep and class. Double Balancing Trapeze Act, Perch Act, Jargo, Clown Act, Coonstering Act, Swinging Ladder Act, Single Trapeze Act, Fast Thru-the-Air Acrobatic Act, Blue-Wire Act, and the Original Morris Troupe in their first five (5) people Straight Acrobatic Act. We are able capable of staging your entire performance. Write for open card, literature, prices, information, etc., that you might be interested in for your coming event. **THE MORRIS TROUPE**, Will O. Morris, Manager, 215 Pratt St., Jeffersonville, Ind. 125

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PIANO PLAYERS
So WORD, CASH (First Line Large Black Type)
Is WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Black Type)
Is WORD, CASH (Small Type) (No Ad Less Than 25¢)
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EXPERIENCED ORCHESTRA PIAN-ist at liberty January 19. Union, references. **HARRY MACDONALD**, Y. M. C. A., Sioux City, Ia.

PIANIST-ORGANIST DESIRES POSI-tion. Concert, dance. Union; varied experience. Go anywhere. Best references. Address **H. BROWN**, Box 44, Haverhill, Ky.

PIANO PLAYER, ENTERTAINER. arranger, at liberty. Union. Stage or dance. Write or wire best. **CHARLEY LUKE**, Remont, Louisville, Ky.

RHYTHM PIANIST — ARRANGE, all essentials. Dance or vaudeville pit. Young, single. **PIANIST**, 1206 E. Pontiac St., Fort Wayne, Ind.

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CLEVER PIANIST with library. Direct and handle orchestra or solo. Also furnish clever Juvenile Leader Man with singing voice. **HARRY MOULTON**, Box 205, Vinchona, Ind.

PIANO LEADER at liberty February 2 second Vitaphone. Picture, combination, vaudeville, presentation, hotel. Good library. Experienced; references; sober; reliable. **FRANK BOJONES**, Majestic Theatre, Seymour, Ind. 125

PIANIST at liberty—29 years old, university schooling, a member A. P. of M. Have had 25 years' experience in large dance orchestras. Arrange, furnish good references. Also experienced in music store work of all kinds. I would be interested in a good position of that nature with plenty of club engagements, or with a good combination anywhere. Address **BOX C-3**, this board, Cincinnati, O. 125

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AT LIBERTY AFTER JANUARY 31—Hawaiian Steel and Standard Guitar Player. Singer. Would like to team up, or what have you? Write **GUITARIST**, care Billboard, St. Louis.

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Is WORD, CASH (First Line and Name Black Type)
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SELL CHANGEABLE SIGNS TO stores. 3 colors, 6 lines, size 14x24; costs 60c, sells for \$1.50. Two sample Signs, postpaid, \$1.00. Particulars free. **NATIONAL SIGN SYSTEM**, 215 S. Broadway, St. Louis, Mo. 125

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SELL KOEHLER'S FLASHY SIGNS—Want quick money? \$3.50 brings 100 wonderful proven sellers. **KOEHLER'S**, Fourth and Morgan, St. Louis, Mo. 125

SILK EMBROIDERED SCARF—OUR "Hot-Spot" Sales Number at \$3.00 per dozen "knocks 'em cold." Direct from manufacturer. Send \$1.00 for sample. Money-back guarantee. **HILDEBRAND EMBROIDERY CO.**, 334 North Ave., Chicago. 125

SOMETHING NEW—WHOLESALE. New item just out. Sample 10c. Factory price list. **KENAN'S RUBBER SERVICE CO.**, 151 Orchard, Elizabeth, N. J.

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UP TO \$75 WEEKLY TAKING OR-ders for Berg Strapper. Part or full time. Almost 500% profit. Free sample offer. Dept. HC-31, **BERG BROS. MFG. CO.**, 4520 North Ave., Chicago. 125

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.**, 3231 Archer, Chicago.

Annual Ticket Scalping Bogy

EDWARD HOPE conducts a week-day "colyum" on the editorial page of *The New York Herald-Tribune*. On New Year's Day, Mr. Hope prophesied that 1930 would see—as did 1929, 1928, 1927 and so back—the theatrical producers forming a league against ticket speculators. On January 2, the front page of *The Herald-Tribune* carried this headline: "Ticket Scalping Curb Planned by Stage Producers."

If it were not for the tremendous "floating" patronage at New York theaters, this worthy crusade might attain some measure of success. It would not be difficult to secure the co-operative boycotting of native theatergoers, but the out-of-town couple in New York for a week-end has no facilities for reserving tickets. They must be purchased at a few hours' notice, and the shorter the time the higher the price.

Then, too, the speculators perform the part of underwriters for the producers. They purchase in advance vast blocks of seats, which, while they may discourage patronage at the "bits", serve to minimize the loss in event of a "flop". Thus the perennial pretenses of indignation. Thus the perennial alarms and excursions. And thus the perennial bamboozlement of the public, which will continue to pay \$15 for a \$5.50 seat at a 50-cent show.—*The News-Leader*, Richmond, Va.

AT LIBERTY—THE HILTONS. LADY DOES straight or comedy in acts; sing ballads and character songs; plays Cornet, Violin, Uke, Concertina, double Piano; does black-face act, dances, monologue. Gent does straight and comedy juggling, straight and comedy magic, club swinging, Jew monolog, dancing, straight or comedy in acts. We do doubles. 2652 N. Howard St., Philadelphia, Pa.

VAUTELLE'S ANIMAL CIRCUS, DOGS AND Cats for vaudeville, in and outdoor fairs, Southern tent show or carnival. Two acts. Salary or commission. Address **General Delivery**, Peoria, Ill. 125

MUSICAL COMEDY TEAM—Join our wife. Main Products: Comedian. Plenty sure-fire scripts, hits and openings, also General Business line parts. Characters, Straight, Comedy, Black, Dutch, Robe, etc. Lady, Impassive or Soubrette. Both lead numbers, do double and single bookings, singing, talking, string-instrument specialties. Can and will dress all parts cast. Have car. Also have plenty chorus wardrobe, some scenery. Would be interested in stock date where I furnish everything complete. Wire or write your best lead for team that can cut it. **MUSICAL COMEDY TEAM**, 419 Barker St., Wellington, O. Phone: 21-W.

REAL VAUDEVILLE BANJOIST—Comedy Solo. 6c. Bokum songs and dance numbers. One feature made smart. Thoro all-round med. performer. Black, Irish, Straight, Eccentric, etc. Plenty changes. Know the acts. Also play legitimate parts. Fetch several items. Up on platform stuff. Might consider musical or pitch partner with car. **JAMES GAY**, Flama Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

COMMERCIAL

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YOU ARE WANTED TO RESILVER Mirrors at home. Profitable business...

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FOR SALE—NEW GOODS 10 CENTS A WORD—MINIMUM 10 WORDS. CASH WITH COPY.

POP CORN MACHINES — LONG EAKINS CO., 1974 High St., Springfield, O.

BRAND-NEW 5c NO-VALUE Checks, \$7.50 per 1,000; 25c No-Value Checks, \$12.50 per 1,000; 50c No-Value Checks, \$25.00 per 1,000. Send order, balance C. O. D. Quick service on all kinds of Vending Machines for Western New York. Get my prices and compare. R. GOODBODY, 72 VanDerburgh, Rochester, N. Y.

JR. 4-MOULD SUGAR PUFF WAF- 5c Trunk (new), \$62.50 complete. BOX C-9, Billboard, Cincinnati, O.

NEW MODEL CITY FOR \$3,000 — Write KING, Box 109, Zanesville, O.

NOVELTY INDIAN BEAD RINGS, Sample Ring for 25 cents. Head Workers' Beads and Jewels. Lowest prices. Address JOSEPH KEEN, Box 53, Rugby, Brooklyn, N. Y.

NUMBERED BALL GUM, BEST quality gum, clear tickets, best workman- ship. Full count 1,200 balls, \$6.00 set; one set free with every ten set order. Third cash per order, balance C. O. D. Quick service on all kinds of Vending Machines for Western New York. Get my prices and compare. R. GOODBODY, 72 VanDerburgh, Rochester, N. Y.

OPERATORS, LOOK! NEW LUCKY Boy Marble Vendors, complete with 700 marbles, \$15.00; it sells 2, 3 and 5-cent mar- bles for one cent. New low prices on Sample Case, \$29.00; lots of 5 Cases, \$37.00; packed 10,000 marbles per case. Samples free. Send your order in today. FENN NOVELTY SALES CO., 25 N. 26th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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A. B. T. TARGETS, \$9.00; GOTTLIEB Grip Tester, \$7.00; Jennings Targets, \$6.00; 1-2-3 Gum Machines at \$3.00 and \$3.50; Blue- bird Peanut Vendors, \$3.50; 5c Numbered Ball Machines, \$4.50; Tryskills, \$4.50. SOUTHERN AUTOMATIC SALES CO., 144 5th St., Louis- ville, Ky.

AUTOMATIC FISHPODS AND Ball Casters, any lengths, 20% off if bought in bulk. Write for price and one Catalogue free. AUTOMATIC FISHPOD CO., 268 Langdon, Toledo, O.

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CRISPETTE MACHINE — LONG Eakins, complete, first-class, \$110. NORTH- SIDE CO., 1206 Fifth, Des Moines, Ia.

CLEARANCE SALE — 25 MILLS 5c Side Vendors, 100,000 up, \$25.00 each; 75 Mills 5c Front Vendors, 100,000 up, \$45.00 each; 18 Mills 5c Back Best Side Vendors, 100,000 up, \$48.50 each; 15 Mills 25c Jack Pot Bells, 110,000 up, \$55.00 each; 4 Mills 25c Partisans, slightly used, \$14.50 each; 3 Mills 5c Partisans, \$15.00 each; 150 Yale Tumbler Locks, keyed alike, \$1.00 each; 4 A. B. 7c 5c Cards, Hunters, with registers, \$19.50 each; 10 1c Indoor Baseball Machines, \$4.00 each; 20 B. & M. Vendors, 1c, 5c, 10c, \$3.00 up, \$18.50 each. Ball Gum, 15c per hundred; Case of 5,000 Balls, \$7.00. Machines thoroughly overhauled; like new. Send money order for one-fourth balance C. O. D. DEAN NOVELTY COMPANY, Tulsa, Okla.

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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. If you are a responsible operator here is your opportunity to control a big and profitable business on a profit-sharing basis. The machines we will furnish you are the best money makers on the market. Write for full details. POSTAL CONFECTION COMPANY, 2037 W. Charleston St., Chicago.

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PINBOARD TARGET PRACTICE MA- chines, 1c play, brand new, Mills style, \$7.50. Limited stock. SERVICE COIN MACHINE CO., 2037 Charleston St., Chicago, Ill.

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TWENTY A. B. T. PENNY SCORE Pool Tables, look and work like new. Price Third Hand, 10c. Fourth Hand, 5c. Send with order, or will trade. Address J. J. SPEARS, 119 Firwood Avenue, Raleigh, N. C.

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5c JACK POT MACHINES—BRAND- new Reserve Jack Pot, \$18.00 each. Stock of 2,000 machines, purchased new. Territory closed. Price in less than actual cost. Send cash with order for immediate delivery. SERVICE COIN MACHINE CO., 2037 West Charleston St., Chicago, Ill.

3 WASHINGTON PENNY WEIGHING Scales, painted light blue, Mirror front base, metal rest, beautiful appearance, A-1 condition, nice enough for any location. Bargain, \$35.00 each; \$100.00 for lot. 25 A. B. T. 5-shot for 1c Pistol Machines, painted light blue, clean, beautiful appearance, ready for operation, sample \$15.00; lots five, \$12.50 each; or will exchange for Prize Fighters, Golf Games or Gatter (Rabbit) Bowling Alleys. KLOTZ SALES, 952 N. Highland Ave., At- lanta, Ga.

25 HUSKY GRIP MACHINES—GOOD as new. Best cash offer buys them. Leav- ing this territory. A. J. FLAKR, 207 1/2 Jack- son St., Dallas, Tex.

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.

1929 BALL GUM BABY VENDERS— Plays 4 colors. Standard fruit reels. Cost \$27.50. Never used. Must dispose of quickly. \$20 each. CIGAR STORES NOVELTY CO., Peoria, Ill.

\$1.45—CHICAGO, RICHARDSON AND Winston Rink Roller Bearing Skate, good skate. We buy or sell them. WEIL'S CURI- OSITY SHOP, 20 South Second St., Philadel- phia, Pa.

HELP WANTED

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ALLIGATOR FARM SIDE-SHOW —Party to manage on percentage. Must drive Ford truck. JAMES BARBER, Kirkland, Wash. Route 1.

ENTERTAINING DRUMMER, SING- ing Banjoist, Advance Man to book Saxo- phone Sextette, orchestra, vaudeville and dances. Wire MARIUS NYGAARD, Stephens, Ark.

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TUMBLER — AMATEUR CONSID- ered to learn adagio. Send description. SHELLEY, care Billboard, 1500 Broadway, New York.

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AGENTS—SELLING NEW AND RE- built Instruments. For particulars write JENKINS, Decatur, Ill.

WANTED — THREE GIRL MUSI- cians for orchestra. Hot Trumpet, Trom- bone and Banjo. Preference given those dou- bling other instruments. Rush particulars and photo. EGLESTON ENTERTAINMENT SERVICE, INC., 542 Meridian St., Indian- apolis, Ind.

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HYPNOTISM — INSTANTANEOUS method. Send for this amazing new method. Guaranteed. \$2.00. DR. Q. HYPNOTIST, 22 Wick St., Buffalo, N. Y.

LEARN VENTRILOQUISM BY MAIL. Small cost. 2c stamp brings particulars. GEO. W. SMITH, 125 North Jefferson, Room B-303, Peoria, Ill.

SUPER STRENGTH EXPOSED — Tear a deck of cards, also a heavy three- inch paper book, in half with the bare hands. Complete instructions. Send 25c book of 2c stamps, postpaid. EISERT BROTHERS, 213 Beach 81 St., Rockaway Beach, N. Y.

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Strait-Jacket, fine condition. WELLS'S
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CANVASSING STORES I MAKE \$40
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BALLROOM GRAND PIANO, \$185.00.
Excellent condition. GUY HALLOCK,
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Schwitzer, 1847. Write CHAS. MARKHAM,
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breakable Metal Clarinet and Saxophone
Needs. The only playable metal clarinet and
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medium stiff, medium, medium soft and soft.
Price each, E and B Clarinet, \$1.75; Soprano
Saxophone, \$1.80; E Alto Saxophone, \$2.50; C
Melody Saxophone, \$2.25; B Tenor Saxophone,
\$2.25. Sold only for cash or C. O. D. LYNN'S
PATENT METAL REED, 1810 Fifth Ave.,
Beaver Falls, Pa.

WURLITZER BAND ORGAN, STYLE
125. Bargain! A-1 condition. BOX C-9,
Billboard, Cincinnati, O. feb

YORK TRUMPET, SILVERPLATED,
rebuild, \$37.50. K. PICKETT, Box 43,
Decatur, Ill.

\$15.00—VALVE BRASS TROMBONE,
fine tone, with leather case. Thousand
other Musical Instruments. Send free list.
WELLS'S CURIOSITY SHOP, 20 South Second
St., Philadelphia, Pa.

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NOTICE—WILL THOS. H. NOLAN
please communicate with his wife, MRS.
LATTIE NOLAN, 51 Bellevue Apts., Dayton,
Ohio.

PARTNERS WANTED FOR
ACTS

(NO INVESTMENT)
10 CENTS A WORD—MINIMUM 10 WORDS.
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LADY—40 YEARS OLD. LEARN TO
work dog and pony act. BOX C-13, Bill-
board, Cincinnati.

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INVENTIONS COMMERCIALIZED—
Patented or unpatented. Write ADAM
FISHER MFG. CO., 553 Enright, St. Louis,
Mo. feb

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BUSINESS STATIONERY—LARGEST
line, highest quality, quickest delivery, big-
gest commissions, liberal bonuses, free copy-
righted cuts every business. Experience un-
necessary. Instructions and samples free.
DAVID LONEY PRESS, 112 S. Hamilton,
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DON'T BURN YOUR HANDS RE-
moving clinkers from your furnace. Get a
Lundy Assy Clinker Tong at your dealer's or
send \$1.25 prepaid direct. Salesmen wanted.
For particulars write HOUSEHOLD UTILITIES
MFG. CO., 112 Glenwood Road, Wayne, Mich.

EARN A YEAR'S PAY EVERY
month; others do; you can. NEON ELEC-
TRIC SIGNS, Dept. M, 3912 N. Western Ave.,
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EXPERIENCED VIOLIN SALESMAN.
MIAMI VALLEY CONSERVATORY OF
MUSIC, Dayton, O.

READY! BIG NEW LINE SELF-
selling Counter Cards. Enormous profits.
Quick repeats. Merchants buy instantly.
STYERLING CO., T3, Baltimore, Md. feb

SALEBOARD SALESMEN—UP TO
\$15,000 yearly. New line. All fast sellers.
Lowest prices. Full commission on repeat
business. Catalog free. FURITAN NOVELTY,
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SALESMEN—WONDERFUL SIDE-
line, 50% commission paid daily. Sells all
merchandise. Pocket outfit free. WILLENS
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SELL NOTHING—EARN UP TO \$170
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amazing new plan. Salesmen cleaning up.
No one invests a penny. We even pay express
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Big season now here. Full commission ready
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Molders, simple automatic action, quickly
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builders, dealers. Write for exclusive terri-
tory proposition. KNOWLSON-STEVEN-
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Motorized Circus. Tents, 49 with 24 middle;
Push Pole, 50 with 26 middle; Bale Ring,
Seats, Trucks, Trailer, Cages, Trained Poodle,
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LAND SHOW, care Billboard, Kansas City,
Mo.

BICYCLE SKATES, 20 INCH
wheels, 35 inches over all. Roller Skate
Type. Good condition. \$7.50. Cheap. BAR-
GAIN STORE, De Soto, Mo.

BIG FERRIS WHEEL—FINE ASSET
to any park. Eighty feet high, twenty cars,
capacity eighty. Big flash, splendidly il-
luminated. Need space for crowds. Cost Six-
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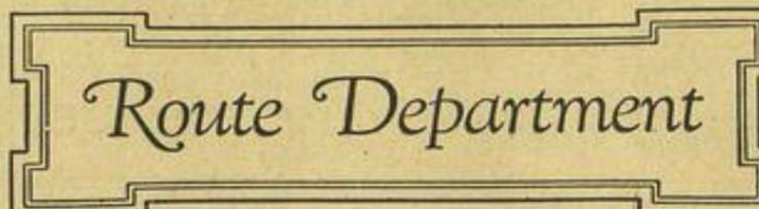
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Donahue, Red, & Pat (Central) Jersey City. Doney, Kitty (Orph.) New Orleans. Dooley, Jed (Riverside) New York. Doro, Grace (Princess) Nashville, Tenn.

Down Home (State) Memphis. Downs, Johnny (Proctor) Troy, N. Y. Drapes (Fox) Detroit. Dream Street (State) Houston, Tex. Dresden China Unit (Capitol) Atlanta, Ga. Duncan, Danny, Co. (Albee) Cincinnati. Duponts, The (Midland) Kansas City. Durkin, Junior (Imperial) Montreal. Dyas, Zoe, Co. (Enright) Pittsburgh. DeRue, Frank (Englewood) Chicago.

Eaton, Ewing (Franklin) New York. Elme, Grace & Marie (State) Syracuse, N. Y. Emmey's, Carlton, Pats (Pitkin) Brooklyn. Eno Troupe (Keith-Albee) Boston. Erie, Broadway (Seventh St.) Minneapolis. Estes, Mill (Capitol) New York. Evans & Adams (125th St.) New York. Evans & Wolf (88th St.) New York. Exposition Four (Fabian) Hoboken, N. J.

Fagin, Foster & Co. (Pal.) New York. Falls, Reading & Boyce (Rialto) Joliet, Ill. Falls, Archie & Gertie (State) Norfolk, Va. Farrell, Billy, Co. (Central) Jersey City, N. J. Fawcett & Van (Loew's Victory) Evansville, Ind. Fearless Flyers, Five (Circus) Vera Cruz, Mexico, 18-25. Fejer, Joe, & Orch. (Orph.) New York. Feltz & Marie (Capitol) Windsor, Can. Felder-Harriet Co. (Lincoln Sq.) New York. Fisher & Hurst (Premier) Brooklyn. Flashlights (Loew) London, Can. Flippin, J. C. (Orph.) Omaha.

Foley & Lature (Prospect) Brooklyn. Folsom, Bobby (Riverside) New York. Fortunello & Cirillino (Pitkin) Brooklyn. Foster Troupe (Stanley) Pittsburgh. Francis & Wally (Loew) Montreal. Frankel & Danley (Princess) Nashville, Tenn. Frasers, Ernie (Pal.) New York. Freda & Palace (Main St.) Kansas City. Freed, Joe, Co. (Loew's Victory) Evansville, Ind.

Frigama, Triste (Midland) Kansas City. Friscoe, Signor, & Orch. (Midland) Kansas City. Fulton & Parker (Orph.) Tacoma, Wash. Pyffe, Will (Pal.) New York.

Gaby, Frank (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 18-24. Gail, Lee, Ensemble (Orph.) Oklahoma City. Gallant & Sister (Victoria) New York. Galvin, Don (54th St.) New York. Gardenz Idea (Fox-Pal.) New Haven, Conn. Garr, Eddie, Co. (Lincoln) Union City, N. J. Gaylor & Byron (Orph.) Tacoma, Wash. Ghezze, Lee (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y. Gieradorf Sisters, Three (Stanley) Pittsburgh. Gifford & Gresham (Perry) Elm, Pa. Gilette, Bob & Lucy (Bedford) Brooklyn. Girsch, Chas. & Lil (Loew) Canton, O. Glason, Buster (Pal.) Brooklyn.

Glass & Jenkins (Capitol) Union Hill, N. J. Gobs of Joy (Orph.) Boston. Gold & Ray (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y. Goman, Bee & Ray, Revue (Perry) Erie, Pa. Gomez & Winona (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y. Gordon & King (Loew's) Baltimore. Gordon's Dogs (Stanley) Pittsburgh. Goss & Barrows (Orph.) Denver. Granes, Jean, Co. (Rochester) Rochester, N. Y. Green, Cora (Fordham) New York. Greenwell, Elsie, & Boys (Orph.) Memphis. Grinth, Edith, Co. (Orph.) Des Moines, Ia. Groth, Wm. (86th St.) New York.

Haines, Nat Chick, Co. (Loew) Akron, O.

Hale, Joe & Willie (Stanley) Utica, N. Y. Hall, Al, K. (Maj.) Dallas, Tex. Hall, Bob (Hitt) Elizabeth, N. J. Hall & Ermaline (Orph.) Oklahoma City. Hanley, Eddie, Co. (Delaney St.) New York. Hanley, Jack (Orph.) Madison, Wis. Harn & Ne (125th St.) New York. Harmony Girls (105th St.) Cleveland. Hartman, Swan & Lucile (Keith) Flushing, N. Y.

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Henning, Pat, Co. (Pal.) Newark, N. J. Henshaw, Bobby, Co. (Fairmount) New York. Herber, Geraldine & Victoria (Riverside) Manhattan. Herman, Geo. (Proctor) Albany, N. Y. Herman, Herr & Co. (Prospect) Brooklyn. Herman & O'Brien (Bay Ridge) Brooklyn. Hewitt & Hall (Plaza) Corona, N. Y. Hiett, Ernest (Capitol) Trenton, N. J. Hibbit & Hartman (Plaza) Corona, N. Y. Higgins, Willis, & Girls (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.

Higgins, Peter (Proctor) White Plains, N. Y. High Flyers, Five (Iowa) Cedar Rapids, Ia. High Bulles (Hipp.) New York. Hines, Harry (Lyric) Indianapolis. Hoffman, Lloyd (Loew) Pittsburgh. Holly (Enright) Pittsburgh. Hollywood Studio Girls (Fox-Pal.) Worcester, Mass.

Holmes, Harry (Orph.) Denver. Holt, Lou (Valencia) Jamaica, N. Y. Honey Family (Georgia) Atlanta. Honey, Vic, Trio (Albee) Providence. Hoop, Bob, Co. (Main St.) Kansas City. House, Billy, Co. (Albee) Brooklyn. Howard, Clara (Keith) Syracuse, N. Y. Howard & Newton (Pal.) St. Paul. Howard's Pomies (Orph.) Spokane, Wash. Howard, Ted (Bedford) Brooklyn. Hoyt, Rosita, Co. (Fairmount) New York. Hubert, Fritz & Jean (Golden Gate) San Francisco.

Huling, Ray, & Seal (Orph.) Oklahoma City. Hunt, Mildred (Orph.) Salt Lake City. Hunter, George (Keith) Grand Rapids, Mich. Hyde, Alex. & Modern Maidens (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y. Hyde & Barrrel (Orph.) New York.

Imhoff, Roger (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.; (Hipp.) Buffalo 18-24. Ingenuos (Mastbaum) Philadelphia. International Rhythm (Pal.) Peoria, Ill. Irving, Lester, Trio (Pal.) Rochester, N. Y.

Jacks, Four, & Girls (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y. Jackson, Joe (86th St.) New York. Jackson, Kelly & Co. (Capitol) Trenton, N. J. Jans & Walsen (Oriental) Brooklyn. Jarvis & Harrison (Pal.) Cleveland. Jazz Buccaneers (Fox) Washington. Jazz Chunderelapit (Hartford) Conn. Jerome & Evelyn (Natl.) Richmond, Va. Jerome & Gray (103th St.) Cleveland. Jim, the Bear (Proctor) Troy, N. Y. Joyce, Teddy (Kings) Brooklyn. Jung & Hroy (Central) Jersey City, N. J. Junior Polies (Stanley) Utica, N. Y.

Kahne, Harry (Loew) Montreal. Kansasans Troupe (Met.) Brooklyn. Kane & Ellis (Proctor) White Plains, N. Y. Karol Bros. (Fairmount) New York. Kaufman, Ada, Girls (Proctor) White Plains, N. Y. Kay, Hugh, Stan (Carolina) Charlotte, N. C. Kaye & Bayre (Paradise) Bronx, N. Y. Kelly, Henry J. (Hitt) Birmingham, Ala. Kelly, Walter, C. (Grand) New York. Kelso Bros. (Hill St.) Los Angeles. Kemper, Chas., Co. (Fabian) Hoboken, N. J. Kerr & Ensign (Maj.) Dallas, Tex. Kikuta Japs. (Proctor) Troy, N. Y. King & McIslyre (Royal) New York. Kitchen Pirate (Jefferson) New York. Kramer & Boyle (Keith) Syracuse, N. Y.

THE DUTTON CIRCUS ATTRACTIONS MAKING AND HOLDING FRIENDS. Home Address, Harroeta, Va.

LaCrosse, Jean (Bushwick) Brooklyn.
 LeMar & Boice (Met.) San Antonio, Tex.
 LaSalle & Mack (Orph.) Oakland, Calif.
 Lamores, Three (Lincoln) Union City, N. J.
 Lang, Sandy, Co. (Pal.) Cleveland.
 Lashford, Myra (Lincoln) Union City, N. J.
 Laurie, Jr., Joe (Midland) Kansas City.
 LeGros, The (Orph.) Memphis.
 LeVan & Bernie (Orph.) New York.
 Lee, Jans & Katherine (State) Norfolk, Va.
 Lehr, Raynor, Co. (Proctor) White Plains, N. Y.
 Leichter, Fred, Co. (Pal.) Newark, N. J.
 Leonard, Eddie, Co. (Met.) Brooklyn.
 Levere, Florrie (Orph.) Oakland, Calif.
 Lewis, Flo (Orph.) Salt Lake City.
 Lewis, Maxine (Pal.) New York.
 Lewis, Ted, & Oech, (Kennebec) Brooklyn.
 Lizeed Arabs (Keith) Ottawa, Can.
 Lillies, Six White (Capitol) New York.
 Living Jewels (Broadway) New York.
 Lockett & Page Co. (Gates Ave.) Brooklyn.
 Lonesome Club (Orph.) Memphis.
 Louvan Trio (Delaney St.) New York.
 Lovejoy Dancers (Keith) Syracuse, N. Y.
 Lucas, Al, Dogs (New York).
 Lucas, Jimmy (Bedford) Brooklyn.
 Lucky Boys, Six (Loew) Akron, O.
 Lyon, Carr (Orph.) Waco, Tex.
 Lyons, George (Boulevard) New York.
 Lytel & Pant (Met.) San Antonio, Tex.

Princess Pat (Met.) Houston, Tex.
 Prichard, Ann, & Boys (State) Norfolk, Va.
 Q
 Questelle, May (Madison) Brooklyn.
 R
 Rabold, Ralph (Becky Square) Boston.
 Rah Rah Girls, Three (Midland) Kansas City.
 Ralston, Esther (Met.) Newark, N. J.
 Rangers, The (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
 Rankin, Jean, & Blue Belles (Jefferson) New York.
 Ray & Harrison (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
 Ray, Ellis & LaRue (Fox-Pal.) Waterbury, Conn.
 Raymond & Caverly (Loew) Akron, O.
 Reat, Betty, & Bros. (Lincoln Sq.) New York.
 Reed & Lavere (Piazza) Corona, N. Y.
 Reeves, Birdie (Loew's Victory) Evansville, Ind.
 Regal, Henry & Cecil (Central) Jersey City, N. J.
 Regan, Jos. Co. (Coleman) Miami, Okla.
 Reiser & Renner (Capitol) New York.
 Restale Bros. (Grand) Calgary, Can.
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 Rich & Hart (Franklin) New York.
 Rich, Irene, Co. (Main St.) Kansas City.
 Richardson, Florence (Keith) Youngstown, O.
 Ripley, Robert L. (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Roberts, Joe (Orph.) Memphis.
 Roberts & Bennett (Victoria) New York.
 Robinson, Bill (Pal.) St. Paul.
 Robinson & Pierce (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Rogers, Roy (Albee) Providence.
 Rogers & Wynne (Oriental) Brooklyn.
 Romaine, Homer (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Romaine, Tom & Ray (Lincoln) Union City, N. J.
 Ross's Midgets (Pal.) Rockford, Ill.
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 Ross, Ruth, (State St.) New York.
 Ruddell & Donegan (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.
 Ruggles, Chas. (Coleman) New York.
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 White & Manning (Hipp.) Buffalo; (Hipp.) Toronto 18-24.
 Wilbar, Keith (Bedford) Brooklyn.
 Wilkins, Marion (Carolina) Charlotte, N. C.
 Williams, Herb (65th St.) New York.
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 Wilson, Toby, Co. (Jefferson) New York.
 Wilson Bros. (Natl.) New York.
 Wilson, Frank (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Wilson, Kettle & Betty (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 18-24.
 Wilson & Dobson (Hamilton) New York.
 Wilson & Irene (Hamilton) New York.
 Wilson & Murphy (Pal.) Rockford, Ill.
 Witton & Weber (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wood, Geo., Co. (Royal) New York.
 Wood, Britt (Orph.) Oklahoma City.
 Woodruff, Charlotte (New York) Jersey City, N. J.
 Wright, Louis, Co. (Albee) Akron, O.
 Wright, Douglas, Co. (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wye, Mr. (Fox) Philadelphia.
 Wyke & Young (Riverside) Milwaukee.
 Wynne, May & Sonny (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wyse, Jr., Ross, Co. (State) Houston, Tex.

Rio Brothers (Michigan) Detroit.
 Roberts, Winley (Met.) Chicago.
 Ross & Edwards (Met.) Boston.
 Russell, Yvette (Met.) Boston.
 Savelly, Harry (Chicago) Chicago.
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 Semen, Adeline (State) Cleveland.
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 White Gips (Broadway) Newark.
 Williams Sisters (Indiana) Indianapolis.
 Wisner Sisters (Paramount) Des Moines.
 Withers, Charles (Stanley) Jersey City.
 Wonder, Tommy (Stanley) Jersey City.
 Zastro & White Revue (Paramount) Des Moines.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL

After Dark; (Shubert Radio) St. Louis 13-18.
 Animals Crackers; (Grand) Chicago.
 Baby in Toyland; (Shubert) Newark, N. J. 13-18.
 Bambina; (Curran) San Francisco 12-18.
 Bird in Hand; (Harris) Chicago.
 Blossom Time; (Royal Alexandra) Toronto, 18-18.
 Brothers; (American) St. Louis 13-18; (Wilson) Detroit 20-25.
 Carroll, Earl, Vanities; (Erlanger) Chicago.
 Connecticut Yankee; (Hartman) Columbus, O. 15.
 15; (Brown) Louisville 16-18; Nashville, Tenn. 20 (Auditorium) Memphis 23-25.
 Chicago-Bouris; (Mason) Los Angeles 13-18.
 Colbourne, Maurice, Co.; Aberdeen, Wash. 15-16; Portland, Ore., 17-18; Vancouver, Can. 20-22.
 Dead Old England; (Adelphi) Philadelphia.
 Diamond Lil; (Chester) Philadelphia.
 Dracula; (Lyceum) Rochester, N. Y. 13-18.
 Escapade; (Walnut Street) Philadelphia 13-18.
 Even in Egypt; (Werba's Flatbush) Brooklyn 13-18.
 Follow Thru; (Shubert) Kansas City 13-18.
 Follow Thru; (Hartman) Columbus, O. 20-25.
 Follow Thru; (Maryland) Baltimore 13-18.
 Fortune Teller; (Met.) Brooklyn 13-18.
 Gambling; (Natl.) Washington 13-18.
 Hamper, Genevieve, Co., Herman Lewis, mgr. Youngstown, O., 15-18; (Hanna) Cleveland 20-25.
 Hot Chocolates; (Tremont) Boston.
 House of Fear; (Plymouth) Boston.
 Illegal Practice; (Playhouse) Chicago.
 Madame Shochout; (Harris) Chicago.
 Jenny; (Poli) Washington 13-18.
 Juss Sues; (Broad Street) Newark, N. J. 13-18.
 Journey's End; (Lyric) Philadelphia.
 Journey's End; (Met.) Minneapolis 16-18.
 Kismet; (Harris) Los Angeles 15-18.
 June Moon; (Belwyn) Chicago.
 Lander, Sir Harry; Houston, Tex., 15.
 Leiber, Frits, Co.; (Civic) Chicago.
 Leslie, Lew, Blackbirds; (Adelphi) Chicago. Le. Gay; (Bivd.) Jackson Heights, N. Y. 13-18.
 Little Accident; (Windsor) Bronx, New York 13-18; (Plymouth) Boston 20-25.
 Love Deal; (Shubert) Kansas City 20-25.
 Love Deal; (Gass) Detroit 13-18.
 Miracle, The; (Auditorium) Omaha, Neb. 17-18.
 Feb. 1.
 Mlle. Modiste; (Met.) Boston.
 Mother Goose; (His Majesty's) Montreal, Can. 13-18.
 Naughty Marietta; (Keith) Philadelphia.
 No Moon; (Forrest) Philadelphia.
 New Moon; (Davidson) Milwaukee 13-18; (Shubert) Cincinnati 20-25.
 Night in Venice; (Shubert) Cincinnati 13-18.
 Nina Rosa; (Great Northern) Chicago.
 O. Sunnyside; (Mayson) Los Angeles 15-18.
 Padlock of 1925; (George) (Witka's) Vicksburg, Miss. 15; Jackson 16; Greenville 17; Clarkdale 18.
 Papa Juan; (Broad) Philadelphia.
 Pleasure Bound; (Shubert) Boston.
 Porry; (Went) (Harris) N. Y., 13-18; (Garrick) Philadelphia 25-25.
 Pygmalion; (Hollis) Boston.
 Queen Was in the Parlor; (Garrick) Chicago. R. U. 2.; (Studebaker) Chicago.
 Recapture; (Apollo) Atlantic City 13-18.
 Robin Hood; (Shubert) Philadelphia.
 Sari; (Garrick) Philadelphia 13-18.
 Sherlock Holmes; (Ford) Baltimore 13-18.
 Show Boat; (Illinois) Chicago until Jan. 18; (American) St. Louis 20-25.
 Strange Interlude; (Blackstone) Chicago.
 Stratford-Upon-Avon Festival Co.; (Belasco) Los Angeles 13-18.
 Street Scener; (Apollo) Chicago.
 Theater Guild Co.; (Pabst) Milwaukee 13-18.
 Vagabond King; (Natl.) Washington 20-25.
 Whoopie; (Wilson) Detroit 13-18.

M. P. PRESENTATIONS

McCormick, Frank, & Hand (Gards) New London, Conn.
 McFarland, Cliff & Helene (Delaney St.) New York.
 McInerney Owen (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.
 McMillan & Sarah (Met.) San Antonio, Tex.
 McMannus & Hickey (Premier) Brooklyn.
 Magley, Guy & Pearl (Coliseum) New York.
 Madge & Ray (Imperial) Montreal, Can.
 Main, Billy, Co. (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y.
 Manahan, Tommy, Co. (Princess) Nashville, Tenn.
 Mandell, Wm. & Joe (Orph.) Vancouver, Can.
 Mangan Troupe (First St.) New York.
 Margus, Edna (Genevieve) Des Moines, Ia.
 Marguerite & Gid (Loew) Washington.
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 Mariners, Seven (Riverside) New York.
 Marston & Lassinin (Loew) Montreal.
 Martin & Edna (State) Des Moines, Ia.
 Martinetti & Crow (Jefferson) New York.
 Marty & Nancy (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Marvellone (State-Lake) Chicago.
 Maryland Collegians (105th St.) Cleveland.
 Max & Geng (Loew) Cedar Rapids, Ia.
 Maxwell, James (Loew) Washington.
 May, Bobby (Albee) Brooklyn.
 May, Marty (Pal.) Akron, O.; (Keith) Youngstown 18-24.
 Medley & Dupree (Grand) Calgary, Can.
 Melino & Davis (Proctor) Troy, N. Y.
 Melvin Bros., Three (State) Newark, N. J.
 Mendi, Joe (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Mercedes (Proctor) Schenectady, N. Y.
 Metropolitan Singers (Delaney St.) New York.
 Meyer, The (Orph.) Madison, Wis.
 Meyers, Lubov & Rice (Met.) Brooklyn.
 Mijares (Albee) Cincinnati.
 Mills & Shea (Loew) Jersey City, N. J.
 Minetti, Eddie, Co. (Hipp.) Jersey City.
 Moffatt, Glad (Hipp.) Toronto.
 Moran & Carmo (Bushwick) Brooklyn.
 Money is Money (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Montgomery, Marshall (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Moore, Gene & Myrtle (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.
 Moran, Warner & Margie (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Moran, Y.
 Morgan, Jim & Betty (Loew's 46th St.) Brooklyn.
 Morlarity & Burns (Stanley) Pittsburgh.
 Morrell, Margaret, Co. (Orph.) New Orleans.

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 Maxwell, James (Loew) Washington.
 May, Bobby (Albee) Brooklyn.
 May, Marty (Pal.) Akron, O.; (Keith) Youngstown 18-24.
 Medley & Dupree (Grand) Calgary, Can.
 Melino & Davis (Proctor) Troy, N. Y.
 Melvin Bros., Three (State) Newark, N. J.
 Mendi, Joe (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Mercedes (Proctor) Schenectady, N. Y.
 Metropolitan Singers (Delaney St.) New York.
 Meyer, The (Orph.) Madison, Wis.
 Meyers, Lubov & Rice (Met.) Brooklyn.
 Mijares (Albee) Cincinnati.
 Mills & Shea (Loew) Jersey City, N. J.
 Minetti, Eddie, Co. (Hipp.) Jersey City.
 Moffatt, Glad (Hipp.) Toronto.
 Moran & Carmo (Bushwick) Brooklyn.
 Money is Money (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Montgomery, Marshall (Proctor) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Moore, Gene & Myrtle (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.
 Moran, Warner & Margie (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Moran, Y.
 Morgan, Jim & Betty (Loew's 46th St.) Brooklyn.
 Morlarity & Burns (Stanley) Pittsburgh.
 Morrell, Margaret, Co. (Orph.) New Orleans.

Princess Pat (Met.) Houston, Tex.
 Prichard, Ann, & Boys (State) Norfolk, Va.
 Q
 Questelle, May (Madison) Brooklyn.
 R
 Rabold, Ralph (Becky Square) Boston.
 Rah Rah Girls, Three (Midland) Kansas City.
 Ralston, Esther (Met.) Newark, N. J.
 Rangers, The (Proctor) Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
 Rankin, Jean, & Blue Belles (Jefferson) New York.
 Ray & Harrison (Orph.) Portland, Ore.
 Ray, Ellis & LaRue (Fox-Pal.) Waterbury, Conn.
 Raymond & Caverly (Loew) Akron, O.
 Reat, Betty, & Bros. (Lincoln Sq.) New York.
 Reed & Lavere (Piazza) Corona, N. Y.
 Reeves, Birdie (Loew's Victory) Evansville, Ind.
 Regal, Henry & Cecil (Central) Jersey City, N. J.
 Regan, Jos. Co. (Coleman) Miami, Okla.
 Reiser & Renner (Capitol) New York.
 Restale Bros. (Grand) Calgary, Can.
 Reynolds & White (Loew) Akron, O.
 Rhoads, in Silk (Hipp.) New York.
 Rhythm & Taps (Proctor) Schenectady, N. Y.
 Rich, Larry, & Friends (Franklin) New York.
 Rich & Hart (Franklin) New York.
 Rich, Irene, Co. (Main St.) Kansas City.
 Richardson, Florence (Keith) Youngstown, O.
 Ripley, Robert L. (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Roberts, Joe (Orph.) Memphis.
 Roberts & Bennett (Victoria) New York.
 Robinson, Bill (Pal.) St. Paul.
 Robinson & Pierce (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Rogers, Roy (Albee) Providence.
 Rogers & Wynne (Oriental) Brooklyn.
 Romaine, Homer (Willard) Woodhaven, N. Y.
 Romaine, Tom & Ray (Lincoln) Union City, N. J.
 Ross's Midgets (Pal.) Rockford, Ill.
 Ross & May, Co. (State) New York.
 Ross, Ruth, (State St.) New York.
 Ruddell & Donegan (Proctor) Albany, N. Y.
 Ruggles, Chas. (Coleman) New York.
 Ruiz & Honita Co. (Hipp.) New York.
 Runaway Trio (Kings) New York.
 Russell, Janet, Co. (Natl.) New York.
 Russian Art Circus (105th St.) Cleveland.
 Ryan Sisters (Carolina) Charlotte, N. C.

Walsh & Ellis (Perry) Erie, Pa.
 Walton, Bert, Co. (Jefferson) New York.
 Weaver Bros. (Albee) Providence.
 Wells & Four Fays (State) Jersey City.
 West, Willie & McKinly (Hipp.) New York.
 Wheeler & Mason (Orph.) Waco, Tex.
 White & Co. (Natl.) New York.
 White & Manning (Hipp.) Buffalo; (Hipp.) Toronto 18-24.
 Wilbar, Keith (Bedford) Brooklyn.
 Wilkins, Marion (Carolina) Charlotte, N. C.
 Williams, Herb (65th St.) New York.
 Williams & Delaney (Proctor) New Rochelle, N. Y.
 Wilson, Toby, Co. (Jefferson) New York.
 Wilson Bros. (Natl.) New York.
 Wilson, Frank (Loew) Yonkers, N. Y.
 Wilson, Kettle & Betty (Hipp.) Toronto; (Imperial) Montreal 18-24.
 Wilson & Dobson (Hamilton) New York.
 Wilson & Irene (Hamilton) New York.
 Wilson & Murphy (Pal.) Rockford, Ill.
 Witton & Weber (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wood, Geo., Co. (Royal) New York.
 Wood, Britt (Orph.) Oklahoma City.
 Woodruff, Charlotte (New York) Jersey City, N. J.
 Wright, Louis, Co. (Albee) Akron, O.
 Wright, Douglas, Co. (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wye, Mr. (Fox) Philadelphia.
 Wyke & Young (Riverside) Milwaukee.
 Wynne, May & Sonny (Keith-Albee) Boston.
 Wyse, Jr., Ross, Co. (State) Houston, Tex.

Rio Brothers (Michigan) Detroit.
 Roberts, Winley (Met.) Chicago.
 Ross & Edwards (Met.) Boston.
 Russell, Yvette (Met.) Boston.
 Savelly, Harry (Chicago) Chicago.
 Schickel's Marionettes (Paramount) Toledo.
 Scott, Sunny (Paramount) Des Moines.
 Semen, Adeline (State) Cleveland.
 Serova Ballet (Sun Int.) (Pal.) Dallas.
 Serova Ballet (Shanghai Jesters) (Indiana) Indianapolis.
 Seven Snop (Uptown) Chicago.
 Serel, Felicia, Daisy Beate (Pal.) Dallas.
 Stanton, Val & Ernie (Paramount) Omaha.
 Streets of Bombay (Paramount) Brooklyn.
 Taylor, Irene (Chicago) Chicago.
 They're Off (State) Cleveland.
 Tiffany Tivoli (Tivoli) Chicago.
 Variety Four (Stranford) Newark.
 Vestoff (Michigan) Detroit.
 Walton, Jans & Joane (Tivoli) Chicago.
 Ward Sisters (Stanley) Jersey City.
 White Gips (Broadway) Newark.
 Williams Sisters (Indiana) Indianapolis.
 Wisner Sisters (Paramount) Des Moines.
 Withers, Charles (Stanley) Jersey City.
 Wonder, Tommy (Stanley) Jersey City.
 Zastro & White Revue (Paramount) Des Moines.

MUTUAL BURLESQUE

Bare Facts; (Lyric) Bridgeport, Conn. 13-18; (Fox) Jamaica, N. Y., 20-25.
 Best Show in Town; (Apollo) New York 12-18; (Grove) New York 20-25.
 Blue Revue; (Grove) week 13-18; (Irving Place) New York 18-25.
 Bohemians; Open week 13-18; (Gayety) Boston 20-25.
 Beverly Burlesques; (Empress) Chicago 12-18; (Gayety) Detroit 20-25.
 Broadway Scandals; (Irving Place) New York 13-18; (Empire) Newark, N. J., 20-25.
 Burlesque Revue; (Columbia) Cleveland 13-18; (Gayety) Buffalo 20-25.
 (Gayety) Detroit 20-25.
 Cactus Jack; (Emp.) Albany, N. Y., 13-18; (Piazza) Worcester, Mass., 20-25.
 Daisy Della; (Colonial) Utica, N. Y., 13-18; open week 20-25.
 Dimpled Darlings; (Gayety) Washington 13-18; (Lansbury) Detroit 20-25.
 Flapper Follies; (Lyric) Dayton, O., 13-18; (Empress

Circus and Side Show

Conducted by CHAS. WIRTH—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Fine Show At Olympia

**Bertram Mills' Circus
clicks in London — will
run until January 23**

The opening of Bertram Mills' Olympia Circus is always a red-letter day for Londoners, and December 20, the opening day this winter, was no exception to this rule. For the 10th year in succession the opening was performed by the Lord Mayor of the city of London, attended by his sheriffs in state. When the writer, Thomas H. Legge, mentions the fact that previous to the occupancy of Olympia by Mills there had been only six circuses at Olympia since 1885, *The Billboard* will realize that Mills has, by sheer hard work, a genius for discovering talent, and having discovered it, to present it in such a manner that all London wants to see it, built up a reputation as one of the most successful circus promoters this side.

For the last two years Mills has been ably assisted in the business by his sons, Cyril and Bernard. This has enabled him this year to launch another show on Olympia lines at the City Hall, Manchester, the season opening there December 21, for four weeks, with a program consisting of star numbers that have been the great attraction at Olympia in recent years.

At the Olympia this year Mills has put on a most distinctive program. Mills' Millimetre Girls are a show on their own. St. Hilda's band opens the show with a fine musical offering; then comes the grand parade of the circus artistes and animals. The program continues with the Poodles and George Hanneford act; the Baker Boys, England's famous boy jockeys; Long Tack Sam's Chinese Revue; the Ghezzi Brothers; some of the 50 new Liberty horses, presented by Ernest Schumann; the Musical Andrews, funmakers galore; the Flacoris, Collins, Kiewning, Welson and Balzers Troupe, in an aerial spectacle; Remos Lilliputs, acrobats; St. Hilda's band; equinal potpourri, by Ibsi Neb Nassah; Alfred Jackson's 16 Lancashire Lassies; Brown and La Hart, roller skaters; the Millimetre Girls and their pony trot; Charlie Bivels; the serpentine horse; the Four Bronettes, comedy act; Vasconcellos, the equine wizard, and Ade's Nelson's baby elephants.

The joys are headed by that veteran, Whimsical Walker, supported by Joe Craston, Ralph Gerbola, Leo Gerbola, George Footitt, Harry Footitt, Walter Corty and Rolly Paul.

The equestrian director is Willy Schumann; general manager, Capt. J. Russell, Pickering, M. B. E.; manager fun fair, Clyde Ingalls, and ringmaster, Frank Foister.

In such an evenly balanced program it is difficult to "star" any act. The aerial acts are splendid, and Schumann's liberty horses went over big. The whole press is unanimous in proclaiming this as one of the finest shows Mills has produced. The show closes January 23.

Reiger in Binghamton, N. Y.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Lucius W. Reiger, many years ago a trumpeter on the Leon W. Waahburn and other of the old-time smaller shows, is living here. He has been out of the show business for 25 years and is now connected with the New York State Highway Department.

Big Sunday Crowds At Ketrow Quarters

The Ketrow Bros.' Circus has a fine place to winter, at Chester, Va., which is on the main highway between New York and Miami, Fla. Tourists stop at the show's zoo, which is the big attraction. The small animals are near the highway and the lions and elephants are back in a pipe grove. The store-filling station and cottages are doing good business. Sundays are the big visiting days at the quarters.

Recent show visitors were Jimmy Gallagher, banner man for the Downie Bros. Circus, en route to Florida; Carl Kennedy, manager of the Acme Tent Company, Ft. Worth, Tex.; Lieut. A. H. Mettee, parachute jumper, and J. O. Murphy, old-time singing clown.

Russell Alexandria has charge of the filling station and Harry Marks takes care of the animals. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ketrow are in Chicago for the winter. Manager William Ketrow expects to spend February in Florida.

CUBAN MACK and wife closed recently with Bryan's Coney Island Circus after a five-week engagement. They will be with the Robbins Bros.' Circus this season.

The Coopers To Return To Field of White Tops

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 11.—Al H. Cooper will again be connected with a circus this season after having been off the road last year. He was legal adjuster for E. H. Jones' Cole & Rogers Circus seasons of 1926-27-28. He was in business here last year and disposed of it last week.

Cooper will leave for Hot Springs, Ark., about January 20, accompanied by his wife, and will remain there until the season opens. Mrs. Cooper will again be seen under the white tops, doing aerial and contortion numbers.

I. A. B. P. & B., Local No. 74

LANCASTER, Pa., Jan. 11.—At a recent meeting of I. A. B. P. & B., Local No. 74, the following were elected for this year: Thomas J. Gochart, president; Harry Rutter, secretary-treasurer; Harry Goodhart, business agent; John Royer, Kenneth Small and John Small, trustees; Elmer Mehaffey, outside guard; Henry Mahler, inside guard; Nick Nary, sergeant-at-arms. Meetings are held the first Monday in the month.

Sawdust and Spangles

By CHARLES WIRTH

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

WITH the passing of the year 1929 our thoughts reflect on what of consequence happened in the realm of white tops. One thing in particular strikes us as the outstanding event of that year, the largest circus deal ever pulled off—the purchase of the American Circus Corporation (Sells-Floto, Hagenbeck-Wallace, John Robinson, Sparks and Al G. Barnes) by the last of the Ringling Brothers—John.

The show world was startled when not so many months ago the American Circus Corporation, which then owned the Floto, Hagenbeck and Robinson circuses, put over deals that landed for it the Sparks and Barnes shows. That in itself was an important deal in this field, but the Ringling transaction was one of gigantic proportions. It created talk and the press throughout the country gave considerable space to it in both the news and editorial columns.

In acquiring these shows one considers whether or not John Ringling has curialed for himself a flock of worries. It is a big job in itself to own and look after the largest circus in the world, but one must realize that he now has a sextet of circus organizations on his hands. And in addition he will, no doubt, have a circus unit or two to play the fairs as a grandstand attraction. The Ringling name will surely be more in the limelight than ever. We all know that Ringling is a big man, a power in other fields as well as the circus, and we have no hesitancy in saying that his newly acquired shows will run in just as efficient a manner as has his Big Show. Just how all this will be managed we do not know, but a man of Ringling's caliber will have under him a very capable crew of lieutenants to carry out his policies. Nevertheless, we cannot help wondering if he will keep in personal touch with each of the circuses. If he does, goch, how he will travel!

'Tis true that Ringling did not buy up ALL opposition. He still has the Miller Bros.' 101 Ranch Wild West, Fred Buobman's Robbins Bros.' Circus and the Christy Bros.' Circus to reckon with. It will be necessary for him to do some tall maneuvering to keep his many shows out of the paths of this trio, which are among the leaders in the field.

On second thought, however, the aforementioned paragraph might be reversed and it may be that the 101 Ranch et al. will have to juggle their routes to keep out of the towns or path of the Ringling shows. Anyway you look at it, the Ringling and the other circuses are almost certain to cross the path of one another more than once the coming season. And what battles there will be. Everybody connected with the organizations herein mentioned will have to be on their toes and up and doing when opposition comes along.

If a show has as one of its features a historical pageant, let it be historically correct. It will receive the support of the schools and with the support of the schools will come the patronage of the children, who, in most cases, will be accompanied by their parents. All of which, of course, adds to the box-office receipts. Do not just name your pageant after some historical event and give only a regular entree parade. Get down to facts, elaborate on your offering, make it stand out. Have it really historical and it will be educational as well as spectacular.

Four Weeks Under Shrine

**Robinson arranges to open
circus at Minneapolis Jan.
27—many big acts booked**

John G. Robinson has a route of four weeks booked for his Shrine indoor circus, and expects to close a deal for the fifth week shortly. The route will begin at the Auditorium, Minneapolis, week of January 27. The show there will be in charge of Dennis Curtis. The following week will be played at the Auditorium, St. Paul, where Curtis will also be in charge. Unless another week is booked to follow St. Paul, and for which Robinson is now dickering, the show will jump to the Taft Auditorium, Cincinnati, for the week of February 24, and from there to the Armory, Louisville, for the following week. Both at Cincinnati and Louisville the show will be in charge of Robinson, and with few exceptions it will be the same performance at each of the four (probably five) stands.

Robinson promises the greatest Shrine circus that he has ever had under his wing. Practically all of the features have been engaged, these including Tiebor's Seals; Reiffenach Troupe, statutory and riding act; Neiss Family, sensational high wire; Siegrist-Silbon Troupe, aerial act; Nelson Family, acrobats; Great Schubert, aerial contortion act; Prince Hoshi, wire slide; Robinson's Military Elephants; Curtis' Dogs, Ponies and Mules, and Frank Stout's High School and Educated Horses. In clown alley there will be several prominent jocks, these including Frank Stout, Shorty Flemm, and Lester, Bell and Griffith.

Johnston With Wheeler

James S. Johnston, magician and illusionist, will be with Al F. Wheeler's New Model Shows, presenting a big magic act and doing the inside lecturing in the Annex. Other features engaged for this department to date are Prince Rex, the wonder dog; Miss Arden's trained cockatoos, Grace Holman, girl with a thousand lives, and Chief White Eagle's Indian Village.

Northern States Adv. Assn. To Convene in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—The 40th annual convention of the Outdoor Advertising Association of the Northern States (Minnesota, North and South Dakota) will be held at the Nicollet Hotel here February 4 and 5.

Problems affecting the industry will be discussed and the development of business for the outdoor plants will occupy considerable of the program. A number of prominent advertising specialists are expected to be in attendance. D. V. Daigneau is secretary-treasurer of the association.

Troupers at Hot Springs

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Jan. 11.—Among the troupers here are Henry (Apples) Welch, Dave McKay, Red Cole, Bob Marler, Jack Lynch, Ben Levine, John Kittleson, Jim Albanese, "Bay Rum" Smith, Tom Crum, "Boonville" Miller, Billy Cronin, George Cutshall and Slim Shannon. Harvey Beach passed thru on his way to Long Beach, Calif., to take charge of a whale show that leaves there February 1.

With the Circus Fans

By JOHN R. SHEPARD
609 Fulton St., Chicago
Secretary C. F. A.

CIRCUS FANS Harry D. Baugh and Charles Lauterbach, Jr., of Petersburg, Va., enjoyed a visit from Pan J. N. Cover and son, John H. The Covers reside in Meyersdale, Pa.

CHARLES BERNARD, CFA, of Riverside Place, Savannah, Ga., would like the address of the sister of Henry W. Link. Link died in a Chicago hospital last October and was for two score years a general agent.

THE MEMBERS of James A. Bailey Top, of California, presented their chairman, James V. Chloupek, of Oakland, with an engraved pen-and-pencil set, with stand, as a Christmas gift.

WORD HAS REACHED us of the passing of our member, Harry F. Mangan, manager of Hotel Davenport, Davenport, Ia.

CIRCUS FANS visiting in the vicinity of Gloucester, Mass., should not fail to see the wonderful collection of circus pictures adorning the shop of Frank Littlefield, 115 Washington street. He is State secretary of the CFA.

FRANK PORTILLO, CFA, of 1808 Belmont street, Washington, D. C., sent out a New Year's greeting card in the shape of a group of some 12 different circus photos in one.

FRED L. GAY, a former clown, confined in the sanitarium at Northville, Mich., wishes to thank the many members of the CFA who mailed him remembrances at Christmas time.

NEW MEMBERS received since last reported in *The Billboard* are Frank H. Beshoar, 5 Cedar avenue, Danville, Ill.; F. W. Harbank, 115 N. Westlawn street, Decatur, Ill.; Arthur S. Mann, 843 S. Greenwood avenue, Kankakee, Ill.; Walter J. Lang, 1567 S. Kentucky avenue, Evansville, Ind.; Robert B. Gable, Hollidaysburg, Pa.; Winnifred Coster, 1509 W. Robinson street, Knoxville, Ill.; Manson L. Reichert, Water and Pine streets, Evansville, Ind.; F. H. Green, 564 Linn street, Peoria, Ill.; Wm. H. Muehlaupt, 743 36th street, Des Moines, Ia.; Karl L. King, Fort Dodge, Ia.; Hiram A. Lewis, Jr., 5658 Dorchester avenue, Chicago; Sam Whittlemore, 425 Riverside avenue, Spokane, Wash.; George O. Nail, 1 North Sixth street, Clarion, Pa.; G. W. Meyers, 783 Union Station, Chicago; Jas. M. McNamara, 4621 Grand avenue, Des Moines, Ia.; and Frederick C. Hubble, 2701 Grand avenue, Des Moines, Ia.

R. M. HARVEY, general agent of the 101 Ranch Show, called on President Wagner January 4 and handed him some buffalo steak, a remembrance from Colonel Zack Miller.

COLONEL JAMES M. McNAMARA, CFA of Des Moines, Ia., has a hobby of distributing silver dollars among the newsboys of that city every Christmas season. He distributes them personally from an automobile going thru the streets. It has been his custom for some 30 years.

JOE W. TAGGART, Charter CFA of Rockford, Ill., has one of the largest, finest and most complete miniature circuses ever constructed. Every piece in this outfit is complete in every detail. There are 20 perfect tents, true to the big ones in every respect, and Joe has over 65 magnificent wagons of every description. A separate electric light plant of miniature design furnishes the illumination for his display. He has been 18 years in building it.

A. H. HUTCHINSON, CFA, formerly of New Bethlehem, Pa., is now located at 257 North street, Harrisburg, Pa.

WILLIAM L. MONTAGUE, CFA of West Hartford, Conn., has a collection of 33 model elephants.

THE CHICAGO Davenport Tent resumed its weekly luncheons January 8. Talks were made by Chairman Clint Beery, W. G. Wagner, I. K. Pond, F. W. McIntosh and W. B. Naylor.

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Driver Brothers, Inc.
500-506 So. Green St., Chicago, Illinois
TELEPHONE **Monroe 0400** ALL DEPARTMENTS.
SHOW TENTS **PICTORIAL BANNERS**
GABLE END CONCESSION TENT, 18 feet wide across the front, 10 feet deep, 2 ft. 6 in. pitch. Top 12-in. D. F. Cloth Deck, 10-ft. Siderwall, 18-in. D. F. Cloth Deck; 8-ft. Awning; 3-ft. 4-in. Counter Curtain, fancy painted stripe. Complete with Chasing Bag and Storm Gaps. Used three (3) weeks. Practically new. **\$59.00**
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BILLPOSTERS, LITHOGRAPHERS AND BANNERMEN
WANTED FOR THE
HAGENBECK-WALLACE CIRCUS
Address J. C. Donahue, 6928 South Oakley Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—DOWNIE BROS.' CIRCUS—WANTED
—FIFTH SUCCESSFUL SEASON—
THE LARGEST AND FINEST EQUIPPED MOTOR CIRCUS IN THE WORLD.
FOR THE BIG SHOW—Riders with their own stock. Those with their own trucks preferred. First-class Novelty Big Show Acts of all kinds. Clowns, etc. Musicians for Big Show Band. Address **RODNEY HARRIS**, Box 97, Longwood, Fla. WANT Drummer who can and will play Xylophone. Female Impersonator to work come-in.
FOR SIDE SHOW—Colored Band Leader. Musicians and Minstrel People. Good Freaks and Novelty Acts. Fire Eater, Sword Swallower, Scotch Band, Punch and Magic, Ventriloquist and Inside Lecturer. Ticket Sellers and Dancers. No peddling allowed.
FOR THE ADVANCE—Billposters, Lithographers and Programmers. Address **CLYDE WILLARD**, Car Manager, care Show.
Side-Show Manager, experienced Circus Treasurer and Big-Show Ticket Seller. Prefer one who can take dictation. Press Agent back with show to handle Reserved Seat and Concert Tickets.
WANT for winter quarters, immediately, good Woodworker and Truck Body Builder. Experienced Circus Painter and Decorator. Man to break and take care of Elephants. State lowest salary. In first letter. Having purchased the Gentry Bros.' Circus Animals, we have for sale Lions, Leopards, Black Bear, Polar Bear, Monkeys, etc., at bargain prices. Tents—40x100 Side Show Tent; 30x30 Horse Tent; 20x30 Dressing Room Tent with 9-ft. sidewalk. People with their own trucks preferred. WANT three good Chevrolet Truck Mechanics. WANT sober, experienced Contracting Agent who can drive car. Address **DOWNIE BROS.' CIRCUS**, Havre de Grace, Md.

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EDWARD R. LITSINGER, Pres.
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Many Circus Men At Ellis Funeral

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The funeral of A. Ellis, canvasser, better known as Baldy Reilly, held last Saturday, was attended by a large number of circus men. Ellis was one of the oldtimers, well known and well liked among the people of the white tops. Services were held at the Hursen chapel and at Showmen's Rest, where the body was laid to rest. Fred G. Johnson, chaplain of the Showmen's League, officiated at the grave, and Vella Cook, vocalist, of Station WLS, sang.

Among those who attended the funeral were Chas. McCurren, Chas. Martin, W. H. VanHoesen, Jack Burrell, Gabe Foto, Jay Smith, R. Stone, J. Gunningham, W. P. Goode, Joe Kane, C. E. Roberts, H. W. Watts, Ernie Naaty, P. Fisher, J. H. Patterson, T. Harper, Dick Hankinson, P. Rogers, R. A. Josselyn, Edw. Matthias; Joe Stretzbich, secretary Showmen's League; Charles Hall, Rolf Lane, Baldy Miller and C. N. Martin.

Curtis Buys Ponies

CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—Denny Curtis, showman, was here with his wife during the holidays and purchased several

trained ponies from Howard Peters. Curtis expects to use the newly acquired stock for the first time at several Eastern horse shows which he is reported to have under contract. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis were guests of Peters.

George Meighan Talks To Canadian R. R. Men

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—George Meighan, general representative of the Ringling interests, left Friday for New York City and from there was to go to Montreal, where on Monday night, January 13, he will address the Canadian Railroad Club.

Meighan will tell the railroad executives of the handling of circus moves, a subject on which he probably is better informed than any other man in the country.

TOM HOWARD, Jew comic of the Sells-Floto Circus, has been in Anderson, Ind., managing the opening and handling the press and advertising of the Paramount Roof Ballroom, atop the Paramount Theater, that city. From there he went to Philadelphia on a business trip and then will go to Chicago. His wife states she will not troupe this season, but Tom says that she will be on hand when the curtain goes up.

Christy Circus Is Getting Busy

HOUSTON, Tex., Jan. 11.—Active training has commenced at the winter quarters here of the Christy Bros.' Shows. Merritt Below is busy breaking in new horse and goat acts and Joe Stokes has the steel arena up and is working with the cat animals. Ray O'Wesney arrived back in quarters New Year's day from Philadelphia, where he had the reindeer working for the Warner Bros.' picture houses in that city during the holidays, making appearances with Santa Claus throughout the city and neighborhood houses. He will remain in quarters and shortly begin active work. His wife, Lola, is expected from St. Louis shortly.

New Year's morning a female camel was born and is doing well. Hank Ellis and Charles Nelson are making good progress on the parade wagons and several are now ready for the painters. Work in this department will commence the first of February. The new steel elephant car has arrived and has been switched onto the show's private track inside the quarters. Harold Christy is in charge and is kept busy looking after the various departments and planning the work. Mrs. Christy spends most of her time at the Baptist Hospital in Houston and the condition of G. W. continues to improve. It is hoped that he can be moved out to the quarters the last of the month.

GOLDIA HAMPTON, who has been waiter on the 101 Ranch, Hagenbeck-Wallace, John Robinson, Gentry Bros., Walter L. Main, Cole Bros. and the Sparks shows, is now head waiter at the Hotel Benson, Ragland, Ala. He again will be with a circus this season.

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Send for Catalog and Second-Hand List
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WANTS
WILD WEST PEOPLE with their Trucks and Horses. Colored Side-Show Band. Few more White Musicians. CAN PLACE Ball Rack, Pitchman and Mnt. also a few Billposters. Letter write **ROY ROBERTS**, care Circus. Address **SHELL BROS.' CIRCUS**, Hynes, Calif.

Wanted CANDY BUTCHERS
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Must drive gear-shift trucks. Write to
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Acrobat At Liberty

Truemanter on Peis Cornelia Troupe in 1928 and 1927. Will join any acrobatic troupe. Hey, 17 years, no parents, no home.

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Care Billboard, Cincinnati, O.

FOR SALE
1 Snow-White Pony, 48 in. tall, \$100; 2 Spotted HICKLAND MULLEN, 46-in., \$75 Each. Address **PONY FARM**, Cortland, O.

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Under the Marquee

MERLE KAYE, clown, is putting in the winter in Los Angeles.

ROX FIBER will be with the Barnett Bros.' Circus this season, in the concession department.

WESLEY LAPEARL will soon leave Bethlehem, Pa., for Texas, where he will open with a snake show in March.

DR. B. H. LOUNSBERRY, official physician of the Robbins Bros.' Circus, is spending some time in Chicago.

ROBERT G. WING'S show this season will be known as Wing's King Edward Circus Side Show.

JAKE FELDMAN and Jimmy Baker, both with the Downie Bros.' Circus the last two seasons, are at Jacksonville, Fla., and will soon play fairs in that State.

JOSEPH KERWIN, formerly of the Christy Bros.' Circus, left Mt. Vernon, Ind., the first of the year to spend the rest of the winter in St. Louis.

SORG. BOYER, calliope player with the John Robinson Circus the last two seasons, is now with Hitner's Cotton Blossom Showboat.

JOE THAYER spent New Year's Day with his friend, John T. Benson, at his animal farm at Nabuss, N. H. Thayer is located at Lynn, Mass., for the winter.

O. R. (OLD RED) LAUGHLIN, an agent from 1905 to 1917, has a cafe in Greensburg, Ind. He always has *The Billboard* on the counter.

W. E. GOODENOUGH, clown of the Sells-Floto Circus, and his wife, Jessie, trainer of high-school horses, are wintering in San Francisco.

THELMA MANN, formerly with the Hagenbeck-Wallace and John Robinson circuses, is on the road with the Social Maids Company.

MR. AND MRS. FELIX MORALES celebrated their first wedding anniversary with a party January 4 at the San Pedro, Mexico, Club.

A. L. EISENBERG has sent word from Indianapolis that he is not leaving for South America as mentioned in last week's issue.

GEORGE PARENTO, novelty acrobat and equilibrist, is one of the feature acts with Hermann's Vaudeville Show which opened in Nova Scotia, Can., January 13.

J. W. ETHRIDGE, of Hopkinsville, Ky., writes that he has not been in Mississippi and does not intend to go to New Orleans as previously mentioned.

PHIL KING, stilt walker, recently returned to Chicago from Cleveland, where he spent the holidays. King will play a few indoor engagements before the circus season opens.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMSON will have charge of the property department of the Moslem Shrine Circus in Detroit next month. This will be his fourth year with the show.

THE DOLLAR BROS.' Circus Attrac-

Futile Effort To Pull Fast One on Zack Miller

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 11.—When R. M. Harvey and Zack T. Miller, of the 101 Ranch Show, were having lunch together last week in Ponca City, Okla., Miller received a wire from Kansas City requesting \$100 immediately by wire. The telegram was signed "R. M. Harvey". Detectives were immediately stationed in the Western Union office here and the party taken into custody when he called for the message. The party entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced to 60 days.

Due to the fact that upon investigation Harvey found this to be the first offense, he refused to mention the name for publication, but did say the person is a well-known candy butcher.

La Rue & Renfrow

CIRCUS DE LUXE

Want for Long Season Opening About May 15

WANT A-1 General Agent and Contractor with car. Don Francis, write. Acts for Big Show that do two or more Acts. Ground and Wire Acts. First Comedy Acts. Clowns that do Specialties. Horse or Cowen Cop to work come in real dog. Pony and Hocking Mule Act with truck. Want to hear from Prima Donna with real voice. Calliope Player. CAN PLACE small clean, up-to-date Side Show with Banner Line, or real Ten-in-One Show. Wild West Performers with stock and truck for Concert. Candy Package Man and Butcher who drive trucks. WANT Man and Wife to run Lunch Stand. Want to hear from real Cook who has mastered show experience. Experienced Seat Man. People with house cars preferred. If touring car must have sleeping tent. People in all departments write.

F. RENFROW, Manager, Villa Park, Ill.

WANTED FOR EXHIBITION ABROAD

HALF-MAN, HALF-WOMAN

Or other first-class Novelty that can take money. State all first letter—when at liberty, best terms for 2, 6, 9 or 12-month contract. Write

WILLIAM HENRY, 103 Clark St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Phone: Main 2649.

tions, under the direction of Max Landsburg, will soon begin their top year. Seven trucks will be loaded with top and promotion booths material.

E. W. ADAMS, ticket seller of the John Robinson Circus, is holding down the night clerk's job at the Lamar Hotel in Yazoo City, Miss. He will be back with the show in the spring.

JIMMY DAVISON, comedy acrobat, is spending the winter in Richmond, Va., until the circus season opens. He will again be with the Sells-Floto Circus, making five seasons with that show.

PRINCE ELMER, who was at the Loop Theater, Detroit, as an added attraction, is now at the Broadway-Strand there. It is the second winter that he has been at these houses.

E. DEACON ALBRIGHT and Karl K. Knecht were seen greeting the folks with Ray Bryndon's Museum in Evansville, Ind. Mark Albright, of the Cole Bros.' Circus, and Deacon will soon visit in Louisville and Cincinnati for several weeks.

JOCKEY DAY, who recently closed with the LaMont Bros.' Show, came direct from Dallas, Tex., to Cincinnati, where he will spend the rest of the winter at the home of his sister. States that he had a fair season.

AMONG THOSE who will be on the advance of the Sells-Floto Circus are V. A. Williams, car manager; O. T. Barker, lithographer; O. Corkrum, bannerman; J. Holly, banner squarer, and Ed Johnson, press agent.

WORKMEN have begun to rebuild and repair the many wagons and cages of the Al G. Barnes Circus at Baldwin Park, Calif. New woodworking machinery and equipment for the machine shop have been purchased.

FRANK W. CREAMER, who is at the Memphis, Tenn., Zoo, is breaking domestic animal acts, also two elephants, to be used in a free circus program, given once a day and twice on Sunday. Superintendent Melroy, of the zoo department, is sponsoring the idea.

THE ST. JOHN TRIO, novelty hand-balancing act, last season with the Gentry Bros.' Circus, was in Seattle, Wash., Christmas week, playing an indoor show for Al W. Copeland. New Year's week they were in Portland, Ore. They expect to return to Los Angeles at an early date.

DR. WILLIAM J. SOUTHEY, veterinary surgeon of Bridgeport, Conn., has left for Sarasota, Fla., to join the Ringling-Barnum Circus for his annual job of helping the circus animals to keep in pink of condition. When the circus goes on the road in the spring Dr. Southey will return to his home.

SHOWFOLK at the 101 Ranch at Marland, Okla., include Alice and P. Sutton, Don Truvelier, Claude Cooksey, Bennie, Red Woods, Marie and Jack Brown, Myrtle V. Shrier, Selma Zimmerman, Fred (Kirby) Smedley, Jack Brown, chief of cowboys, Mary and Cotton Cardinal, June and Sam Sergle and Rose Herlin are keeping house at Marland. Ty O. Manning and wife have returned from a brief vacation. Doc Eversole is on the ranch.

H. D. CARNEY, circus and minstrel agent, writes that he has quit the show business. He is now in the outdoor advertising field, recently taking over the

Shreveport, La., Display Sign System, which is now known as the Texas-Display and Bulletin System. Carney says that the Knight Troupe of acrobats and wire walkers, last year with the Christy Bros.' Circus, will be with one of the Ringling shows this season.

FLOYD KING and Al Clarkson are busily engaged on an advertising proposition that keeps them hoppedoching in and out of Chicago.

EDWIN F. GREEN, formerly with the Sparks Circus, is in Milwaukee building some novel walkarounds for the coming season. He says he witnessed the accident of Albert Nohwald, member of the Seven Nelsons, which occurred at the Riverside Theater, that city, Christmas Day. Green visited him several times while he was in the hospital. He has fully recovered and rejoined the Nelsons.

RAY GLAUM, who has been with various circuses, writes: "En route from Jacksonville, Fla., to Louisville, Ky., with my sister and nephew in my sister's car, we met with an accident near Bowling Green, Ky., when the steering wheel became locked. Lou Walton was also with us. The car crashed into a telegraph pole and sister sustained a bad gash on the head. Walton had his nose broken and has a fracture of the forehead. I escaped with cuts and bruises on the body. All were taken to the City Hospital at Bowling Green. My nephew and I were permitted to leave the hospital, but Walton and sister will be there for several more days."

MRS. BESSIE GUNN, who was injured while on Robbins Bros.' Circus, wishes to thank friends for their holiday greetings, and the following for their gifts: Mrs. Tom Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Wheelock, Mrs. Mabel Casey, Mrs. Nellie Weber, Minnie Citizen, Harry Altschuler, Mrs. Walter Stanley, Mrs. Art Brainard, Mrs. Noble C. Fairly and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Heart of America Showman's Club in making her a member of their organization, and especially Mrs. Nellie Weber for accompanying her to Mayo Bros.' Hospital at Rochester, Minn.

JENNIE ZERADO, for many years of Les Zerados, double-trapeze act, writes: "In the January issue of *The Atlantic Monthly* appears an article written by me, entitled *Thrills*. It is a brief account of some experiences of mine during the many years I was a trapeze performer. In July, 1927, I was badly injured in a traffic accident on the Columbia River Highway and permanently injured so that I can never perform again. I was on my way to join the Al G. Barnes Circus. I was at various times with many of the large shows. From 1921 to 1925 was with the Ringling-Barnum Circus. Was also nearly four years in South America with Shipp & Feituss."

Kansas City Notes

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 11.—Charles J. Nicholas, chief steward of the Dollar Steamship Lines, and brother of Joe H. Nicholas, of the Robbins Bros.' Circus, was in the city recently to spend a few days with his brother. This was their first meeting in 16 years. Chas. J. was en route from San Francisco to New York.

George Werner, assistant boss canvasser of the Downie Bros.' Circus, was a caller at *The Billboard* office. He was passing thru, en route from Ft. Worth to St. Louis, then Hot Springs.

Circus Pickups

By FLETCHER SMITH

HOUSTON, Tex., Jan. 11.—The museum on Main street which has been successfully operated for several weeks by "Mack" Foster is now in charge of Harry Poole, who has closed the winter season of his carnival which has been exhibiting on the lots around Houston. "Mack" has moved to Beaumont, where he will operate a museum.

Louis Kruschke, who has been stopping at the Woods Hotel this winter, has left for Los Angeles, where he will spend the time till spring. He was accompanied by Ralph Krocmer, better known as "Elephant" Ralph. E. A. Leonard, who has had a toy concession at the Munn department store thru the holidays, has also left with his two little children and will locate on the Pacific Coast for the rest of the winter.

Harry Dalvine has finally made up his mind to retire from the circus business, at least for the present, and was busy last week packing his household goods and shipping them to Beaumont. With his wife and Master Harry they are now located on Sabine street and Harry has entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Car Company in the electrical department and of which the former trouper B. C. McDonald, is the superintendent.

Harry Sells, last season superintendent of canvas with the Christy Shows, has returned here after an extended auto trip thru the North. His wife, nee Grace Brown, is in Kansas City where she has been working in vaudeville.

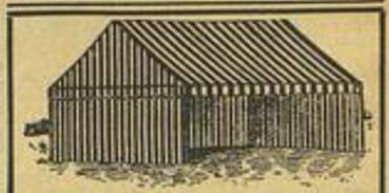
His many friends in the circus business will be sorry to learn of the illness of E. C. Knapp, Circus Fan and paint salesman, located in San Antonio. He is now convalescing.

A recent visitor here, where he entertained Ray O'Wesney and the writer at dinner, was Maury Maverick, of San Antonio, vice-president of the Molly Bailey Tent of Circus Pains. He has just returned from a visit to his sister in Monterey, Mexico, and had a visit with Alfred Cadona, Lillian Letzler and other members of the Cadona Circus.

Friends in Houston learn that Pete Marido has made up his mind to retire from the circus business, temporarily at least, and with his brother is operating successfully a hotel near Detroit.

Ray O'Wesney is now making daily visits to the winter quarters of the Christy Shows and will be joined shortly by his wife, Lola, who is coming from St. Louis.

The reindeers, which were at Philadelphia during the holidays, have been received at the quarters of the Christy Shows here. One of them caught cold (See CIRCUS PICKUPS on page 70)



This Concession Tent Only \$35!

F. O. B. Fort Smith.

Here's the very Tent for your racket. Size 8x14 feet. Made of 8-oz. Double Filled Khaki, or 8-oz. Tan and White Striped Material. Has 10-ft. Center and 7-ft. Side Wall, 4-ft. Awnings and 3-ft. Baby Cloth across the 14-ft. front. This is a bargain—only \$35.00, F. O. B. Ft. Smith, Ark.

ALSO HAVE SOME VERY CHEAP SIDE WALL MADE OF SALVAGE KHAKI DUCK. MAY WE QUOTE?

LET US KNOW YOUR TENT NEEDS OR DESIRES, WRITE TUCKER, THE TENT MAKER

TUCKER DUCK AND RUBBER CO. Dept. F. FT. SMITH, ARK.



NEXT MONDAY, at Frisco, the annual R. A. of A. meetings begin.

DONT FAIL TO READ the "point-ward" article at the close of the Corral columns this issue.

DAKOTA RED, cowboy clown, and his trick mule, Maud, are wintering in or near Winslow, Ariz. Red is making ready for the coming season.

BUD WEAVER, contestant, is putting in this winter breaking polo ponies at J. A. Vicker's polo ranch at Wichita, Kan., but will be among the rodeo hands next summer.

PARIS WILLIAMS, well-known trick rider, wife of George Williams, who has been critically ill at her home in North Hollywood, Calif., with flu and pleurisy, is recovering, it is reported.

TEX AUSTIN is still at the Hotel Ambassador, Chicago, unable to leave his room, but is gradually improving, and Mrs. Austin informed *The Billboard* that it won't be long before the rodeo impresario will be his old self again.

ART ACORD is another of the contest field who has climbed into favor of the movie fans. Art, when opportunity permits, greatly enjoys fraternizing among his old friends of the Southwestern States.

GUY WEADICK recently returned home to Calgary, Alta., Can., after spending Christmas with Mrs. Weadick's (Flores La Due) father, and at last report was planning to attend the Rodeo Association meeting in San Francisco, if at all possible for him to get away from duties at his ranch and in Calgary.

REPORT HAS IT that Mrs. "Dakota Max" Sanders will be back with Dodson's World's Fair Shows the coming season, with which the late "Dakota Max" had his Wild West Show last season. The report did not state if Mrs. Sanders will continue her deceased husband's attraction with the Dodson company.

DOLLARD NOT KILLED. A report was received by *The Corral* after the last issue of *The Billboard* was off the press, stating that there had been some mixup in names and that John (Jack) Dollard was not killed in an auto truck accident near Hollywood, Calif., December 30. Jack's friends will be pleased to learn that he is still among the living.

"SHAKE A LEG", you Wild West show people and contest workers, and let's hear from you—where you're located this winter, etc. A few lines on one of Uncle Sam's postal cards would be fine and dandy. Let's have a whole lot of short mentions of folks each issue of this publication. The more the merrier, and the more interesting *The Corral* columns will be. Now, hop to it, each o' ye!

JACK KNAPP, while visiting in Vancouver, B. C., recently, was questioned by the chief of the fire department if Jack knew where he (the chief) could locate Tommy Kirnan. The chief said he was figuring on resigning, and he thought Tommy would be just the man for his place, since he demonstrated his ability one time in Vancouver of handling the hose expertly. Ask Tommy. He knows.

FROM PENDLETON, Ore.—At the annual meeting of the stockholders of Happy Canyon Roundup night show all officers were re-elected for 1930—Philo Rounds, president; Rudy Moller, vice-president and business manager; George Baer, secretary; Elmer Storie, grounds; Glenn Storie, Indians; Finis Kirkpatrick, games; Bert Jerard, music; E. C. Olsen, dances; Fred Donert, policing and seating, and D. Hobart, bank.

FROM PITTSBURGH, Pa.—With Bud Carzell working his nifty act at the Stanley Theater recently and Frank Gusky (Little Lizze) wintering here, working at Danceland, each visited the other at the respective places of entertainment and held talks of by-gone days. A friend of both boys grabbed the following "do you remember?" from the gabfest smoke: When Frank Gusky got bucked off of "Billy Hell" on the 101 Ranch, at the trout? When, in Dallas, Tex., Homer Wilson bulldogged a steer and had his new suit of clothes torn off? When Red Sublette and Frank Gusky clowning for Col. Zack Mulhall at Comanche, Okla.? When Paddy Ryan and George and Bob Askins and Gusky

went to the Miles City Roundup together and "cleaned up"? When "Hamburger Bill" bucked Frank Gusky off, and Frank hung a stirrup, and Milt Hinkle dogged the horse? When Johnny Hays, Kise Eads, Bob Milton, Toots Ayres, "Dutch" Sidel, Gusky and the late Montana Jack Ray broke horses at Fort Keogh?

EDNA L. SHAW writes from Hollywood, Calif., that an interesting rodeo which attracted a large crowd was staged New Year's Day in San Jacinto, Calif., by Jack Case, of Palms Springs, and Al Duncan, of San Jacinto. Most of the contestants and performers came from Hollywood and Los Angeles. Winners in the bulldogging were Harry Drackert, 12-1-5 seconds; Jack Case, 13-2-3; George Williams, 26. Buff Jones, well-known trick rider and roper, made the fine time of 14 seconds in roping his calf. Hugh Strickland, Bob St. Marys, Jay Wilsey, Everett Wheatap and others contested. Bonnie Grey jumped her horse, "King Tut", over a touring car. Sammy Garrett, Jack Knapp, Drew Stanfield and Bonnie Grey did the trick riding. Jack Knapp clowning the arena, and Ed Wright the track. Mabel Strickland gave an exhibition steer ride, and Jay Wilsey made an exhibition ride on a bull. The latter and Knapp made personal appearances at the new Spanish Sabota Theater in San Jacinto. Wilsey is one of the better known of Western film stars. Tex Sherman was announcer.

FROM HOLLYWOOD, CALIF. — Roy Baker and Bob Anderson are planning to hold their fifth annual spring rodeo at the Roy Baker Ranch at Saugus, Calif., in April, according to a statement from Baker. The Baker Rodeo has grown to one of the biggest in the country, and noted contestants enter from all parts of the country. With Hollywood, Los Angeles, Burbank, Newhall and other towns in Southern California, the home of such well-known stars of rodeos as Hugh and Mabel Strickland, Rose Smith, Hank Potts, Lloyd Saunders, Jack Knapp, Buff Jones, Bonnie Grey, Kenneth Cooper, Jay Wilsey, Sammy Garrett, C. R. Williams, Abe Lefton, "Big-Boy" Williams, Buddy Sterling, Gordon Jones, Ed and Tillie Bowman, Hank and Tom McFarland, Buster Guelick, Andrew Jauregui, Paris and George Williams, Vera McGinnis and others, the Baker Rodeo promoters do not need to go far from home for their riders, ropers, clowns, announcers and others necessary to stage their event. However it attracts others, and the roster of contestants runs big. Harry Drackert, of Montana, and Pete Genant, of Shellville, Calif., bronk riders and bulldoggers, wintering in Hollywood for picture work, will be among the non-residents to contest at the Baker Rodeo. —EDNA L. SHAW.

FROM one of the cowgirl contestants of the West: "I have read and heard quite a bit about eliminating lady bronk riding at some of the coming season's rodeos. Can't the Rodeo Association do something about this? Don't spoil this sport by cutting out the cowgirls. There are more and better girl bronk riders now than ever before, and there will be many promising girls to ride bronks this year. Give them a chance! Let them ride at all the contests. Little has been said to keep this event alive. I think the association can do something to make lady bronk riding a bigger and better event in 1930. Stand by your cowgirls—you have some good ones in the business now! The world is looking forward to the 'champion cowgirls'. Don't forget them at the coming meeting in San Francisco, January 27! Place them in classes, like you do the cowboys, and have all the cowgirls members of the association (if individual cowboys and cowgirls are eligible for membership), and let's have more contests for them. With 'elimination' they would have to contract to ride bronks. Some of you rodeo managers, think this over, and don't forget it at your meeting. Let it be a matter to be brought up at the business sessions of the meeting. I am

The Corral

Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

an old-time cowgirl and have served my time in the saddle and at riding bronks. Long live the contesting cowgirl and especially the cowgirl bronk rider!"

The Rodeo Association of America will hold its annual meeting at the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco, next Monday and Tuesday.

Record attendance expected of contest committees.

Every legitimate cowboy contest should be presented at that meeting.

Now is the time to prepare your suggestions for the betterment of the business, and present them at the meeting.

At that meeting all dates possible for the coming season should be announced.

Every effort should be made to have as little confliction in dates as possible.

Each committee knows its own local conditions. Many good suggestions should be brought forth at the meeting that will result in good for all.

Petty jealousies should be discarded. "In unity there is strength." Get together and work together in an open, honest way for the good of the business in general, and each individual contest will benefit in the long run.

BELOW WILL BE FOUND the names of the winners of point awards issued (never before published) by the R. A. A., according to the records in the office of the secretary, Fred McCargar, Salinas, Calif., who states, however, that he would like to have the cowboys check up this recording, and if there are any errors he would appreciate having them prior to January 27, at the meeting of the Rodeo Association of America, which will be held at the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco:

Points, 850, Earle Thode; 800, Perry Ivory; 775, Norman Cowan; 575, John Schneider; 537-1-2, Gene Ross; 550, Everett Bowman; 475, Leonard Ward; 412-1-2, Kenneth Cooper; 400, Lloyd Saunders and Dick Shelton; 387-1-2, Ray Bartram; 375, Charles Maggini; 350, Breezy Cox and Pete Knight; 325, Frank Smith; 300, Fay Adams; 275, John Slater and Smoky Snyder; 250, Ike Rude and Rube Roberts; 225, Arthur Beloit, Turk Greenough, Ervin Collins, Sam Howe and Buck Lucas; 212-1-2, John Drayer; 200, John Jordan, Gray Zumalt, Tex Slocum and Floyd Stillings; 175, Herb Myers, Al Garrett, Ambrose Walker, Richard Merchant and Rufus Ingersoll; 150, Bill Clark, Oscar Warren, Looney Rooney, John Aranciba and Jimmy Nesbitt; 137-1-2, Bib Sirdenick and Jim Irwin; 125, Claude Humphreys, Len Smith, Chick Harnon, Pat McCarthy and Fern Hubbard; 112-1-2, Alvin Gordon; 100, Carl Arnold, Harry Knight, M. Valdez, C. Biscarro, Pinky Burns, Cheyenne Kiser, Irby Mundy, Herm Venable, William Lockie, Sam Grover, Hank Smith, Darrell Dorris, Hubert Dorris, Frank Sharp, Shorty Ricker, C. Barrett, J. Mattos, Clay Carr, Jack Kersher, George Bowman, Jack Rick, Fred Lowry, Red Thompson, Newton Strike, Mike Hastings, Jim Massey, Mac Bethune; 75, Jake McClure, Bob Crosby, Andy Sauragee, Kenneth Ragan, Ed Henderson, Lee Roathe, Jack Millerick, A. G. Shriver, Owen Crosby, Manney Knori, Bigger Red, Pete Foster, Eddie Curtis, Grady Wilson, Cuff Burrell, McKinley Maggert, Lewis Simms, Andrew Asher, Harry Drackert, Bob Rabern, Walter Drackert, Walter Haythorne, John Ojeda, Jack Cash, Rollin Williams, George Barnes, Cleo O'Farrell, Bert Weems, Homer Roark, Ed Bowman, Pat Woods, Howard Tegland, Eddie Smith, Clifford Gardner, Pete Genant, Chuck Arnold, Don Wright, J. M. McCowell; 62-1-2, Ted McCrorey, Jack Tracy, Buck Turner; 50, Andy Gauregay, C. R. Williams, Glen Cornelius, Jesse Stahl, Bud Byrd, Buck Richardson, Al Gomez, Jack Cronin, Jack Costa, Tommy Cavanaugh, A. P. Lilly, Patty Ryan, Stanley Brockway, Slim Gates, G. B. Hartman, Arthur Russell, Ed Ivory, Blondy Johnson, Jack McClure, Toots Ayers, Shorty Williamson, R. R. Roof, Steve Shannon, Gene Kennedy, Lou Charlton, Skeeter Bill Robbins, Bob Askin, Dick Truitt, Harold Neptune, Hilary Barnes, Roy Quick,

Chuck Wilson, Guy Cash, Morris Weidman, John Bowman, Dave Hart, Fred Lauffer, Billy Wilkinson, Jack Casey, Dave Shipp, Archie Campbell, Lester Stovell; 37-1-2, Buck Brady, Sen Cox, Floyd White; 25, Homer Ward, Joe Edwards, Bill Sawyer, Earl Mitchell, Jack Davis, Carl M. Martin, Joe Mendoza, A. Mendoza, Andy Baker, Charles Russell, Clarence Chance, Charles Demick, George Brown, Hub Keenan, A. Ordway, Al Foster, Al Shephard, Gus Conrad, Louis Adams, Harry Williams, Chester Byers, Pat Sanford, Tex Palmer, Loyd Rhodes, Ed Wright, A. McKenzia, Ray Kane; 12-1-2, Shorty Monchinnia.

Bull or Steer Riding — Points, 300, John Schneider; 200, Smoky Snyder; 200, Perry Ivory; 162-1-3, Kenneth Cooper; 112-1-2, R. Bartram; 100, C. Biscarro, Frank Sharp; 75, Lee Roath, Buck Edwards, Looney Rooney; 50, Jimmie Short, Al Gomez, Arthur Russell, Ed Curtis, Steve Shannon, Jonas DeArmond; 87-1-2, Norman Cowan; 62-1-2, Shorty Monchinnia; 25, Al Foster.

Steer Decorating or Bulldogging — Points, 275, Gene Ross; 250, Leonard Ward; 225, Dick Shelton; 200, Earl Thode, Perry Ivory, Norman Cowan; 175, Rube Roberts; 150, Lloyd Saunders; 137-1-2, Jim Irwin, John Drayer; 125, Everett Bowman, Buck Lucas; 100, Oral Zumalt, Sam Grover, Cheyenne Kiser, John Aranciba, Farvin Collins, Red Thompson, Mike Hastings, Newton Strike, Frank Smith, Fern Hubbard, Jim Murray, Ray Bartram; 75, Grady Wilson, Bigger Red, Breezy Cox, John Drayer, Ed Hess, Harry Drackert, Ted McCrorey, Kenneth Cooper, Bert Weems, Homer Roark, Chick Harnon, Clifford Gardner, Don Wright, John Maggert; 50, Ervin Collins, Slandy Brockway, Patty Ryan, Jack Coate, Gene Kennedy, Jack Kersher, Jim Nesbitt, Jack McClure, Morris Weidman, John Bowman, Buck Turner, Jack Casey, Archie Campbell; 25, Buck Brady, Jack Davis, Clarence Chance, Guy Cash, Tex Palmer, Loyd Rhodes, Ed Wright.

Single Steer Roping — Points, 200, Charles Maggini; 100, Fay Adams, Sam Howe, George Bowman, Fred Lowry, Norman Cowan; 75, Claude Humphries, A. G. Shriver, Oscar Warren, J. Ojeda, Rollin Williams, Lloyd Sanders, Floyd White; 50, Glenn Cornelius, Jack Cronin, John Aranciba, R. R. Roof, Lou Charlton, Dick Truitt, Sen Cox; 25, Cal Brennan, Andy Baker, Al Shephard, Everett Bowman.

Team Roping — Points, 225, Charles Maggini; 175, Ambrose Walker; 175, Arthur Beloit; 150, Norman Cowan; 150, Bill Clark; 100, Carl Arnold, Leonard Ward, Darrell Dorris, Hubert Dorris, C. Barrett, J. Mattos, Jack Rick; 75, Ike Rude, Kenneth Ragan, Ed Henderson, Cuff Burrell, Lewis Simms, Andrew Asher, C. Williamson, George Barnes, Cleo O'Farrell; 50, Fay Adams, Andy Gauregay, Bud Byrd, Buck Richardson, G. B. Hartman, Hank Smith, Ed Ivory, Claude Humphries, Skeeter Bill Robbins; 25, Jake McClure, Bob Crosby, Joe Mendoza, A. Mendoza, Charles Demick, George Brown, Al Ordway, Oscar Warren.

Bronk Riding—Points, 450, Earl Thode; 400, Perry Ivory; 350, Pete Knight; 275, Gene Ross, John Slater; 225, Turk Greenough; 200, John Jordan, Ray Bartram, Tex Slocum, Floyd Stillings; 175, John Schneider, Breezy Cox, Al Garrett; 150, Len Smith; 125, Leonard Ward, Frank Smith, Pat McCarthy, K. Cooper; 100, Harry Knight, Herm Venable, Dick Shelton, Buck Lucas, Jimmie Nesbitt; 75, Andy Gauregay, Pete Foster, Owen Crosby, McKinley Mitchell, Bob Rabern, Pinky Burns, Ervin Collins, Pat Woods, Looney Rooney, Pete Genant, Chuck Arnold; 50, C. R. Williams, Jesse Stahl, Alvin Gordon, Chick Harnon, Bill Sawyer, Charles Maggini, Hank Smith, Harold Neptune, Sam Howe, Chuck Wilson, Jonas DeArmond, Dave Hart, Dave Shipp; 62-1-2, Jack Tracy, Alvin Gordon; 25, Eddie Curtis, Earl Mitchell, Charles Russell, Hank Keenan, Gus Conrad, Shorty Ricker, Louis Adams, Guy Cash, Pat Sanford, Fern Hubbard.

Calf Roping—Points, 400, Everett Bowman; 300, Earl Thode; 175, Rufus Ingersoll; 175, Herb Myers; 175, Richard Merchant; 150, Fay Adams; 100, M. Valdez, Oral Zumalt, William Lockie, Breezy Cox, Irby Mundy, Jack McClure, Lloyd Saunders, Mac Bethune; 75, Muni Knori, Walter Haythorne, Ed Bowman, Howard Tegland, Rube Roberts, Eddie Smith, Dick Shelton, Sam Howe, Turk Greenough, J. M. McCowell; 50, Arthur Beloit, Oscar Warren, Jack Millerick, Slim Gates, A. P. Lilly, Tommy Cavanaugh, Toots Ayers, Bob Crosby, Hilary Barnes, Roy Quick, Fred Lauffer, Tex Slocum, Lester Stovell; 25, Homer Ward, Joe Edwards, Pinky Burns, Carl Martin, Shorty Ricker, Harry Williams, Chester Byers.

Fairs and Expositions

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O

Officers of Wisconsin Assn. of Fairs Re-Elected

Thirty fairs represented at annual meeting in Milwaukee—talks arouse much valuable discussion—many ideas brought out by group meetings—300 at banquet

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 11.—Not as many fairs were represented at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Fairs this week as was anticipated by the large number of early arrivals Monday. Only about 30 fairs were represented. Nevertheless, the meetings held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Schroeder Hotel were well attended and successful, the talks given arousing much valuable discussion. The group meetings of the presidents, secretaries and treasurers were the means of bringing out many ideas that should prove of value, and those who participated were well pleased with the results.

In the election of officers that closed the meeting, there was an upset in expectations, the old officers being re-elected. It had been anticipated that Ora P. Taylor, vice-president of Elkhorn, would be moved up to the presidency, altho Taylor had expressed himself as not desiring the office when he was elected to the vice-presidency. Both Taylor and Putnam are very popular with the membership. Putnam has done much constructive work for the association.

In presenting his annual address President A. L. Putnam labored under a handicap, his prepared notes having been stolen from his room along with other papers pertaining to fair association matters. The president complimented the association upon the excellent attendance at the opening session, more than 75 fair men and many attractions people being present. He also remarked upon the fact that the various fairs are recognizing the wisdom of sending more than one delegate to the annual meeting and that this should result in getting much more value out of the meeting than would be the case if but one man from each fair attended. On opening roll call the Elkhorn Fair reported 12 delegates, and several associations were represented by four or five.

President's Address

President Putnam touched briefly upon a number of vital fair problems. "We are all working for one cause," he said, "the betterment of the fairs. Are we as fair men giving the public the sort of exposition that will give the greatest educational value? Many fairs are recognizing the value of some of the old features of other years. Spelling bees have been revived at a number of Wisconsin fairs and have not only proved their value as an educational factor but have actually been responsible for an increase in attendance. Both county and district spelling bees were held last year and proved popular in every instance. Every fair requires amusement features, but the program should be well balanced, not neglecting educational features."

The budget system, a topic that recurs perennially, came in for discussion by the president. "It deserves more attention from fair men," said President Putnam. "It is an easy matter to go back over the books for five or six years, strike an average of expenditures and receipts, and from that devise a budget system that will help the fair to show a profit. With a budget system the directors will take more interest in the fair. You have them on record for expenditures in the various departments. Eventually you will arrive at an average that will be a great aid in keeping within your means."

Revision of premium lists was urged. "Exhibitors are always seeking an increase" (See WISCONSIN FAIRS on page 64)

Rochester Sets Dates

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Dates of the annual Rochester Exposition and Horse Show have been announced as September 1 to 6. Labor Day will be the opener.



A. L. PUTNAM, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., who has been re-elected president of the Wisconsin Association of Fairs.

Fair Breaks and Fair Shakes

By AL HARTMANN

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

SOME secretaries are of the opinion that they are not getting a "fair shake" and have come to this column in the hope of obtaining a "fair-break". There seems to be a degree of dissatisfaction in the ranks of members of some State and district fair associations over methods used in the nomination and election of officers at winter meetings. In the last month we have heard of a few instances of that kind. The complaining ones put up the argument that nomination should be "from the floor"—that there should be more than one candidate for each office, and that every delegate to the meeting should have a voice in the matter of nomination and election. In other words, that there should be rivalry, even if of a friendly nature, and thereby instill a greater interest in the business sessions of the delegates.

It is argued that every delegate should be entitled to a vote for the man he thinks best qualified for office—that same right which Uncle Sam grants him for exercising in the election of city, county, State and national government executives.

The complainants, in the instances we have in mind, say that it is not a case of being opposed to the present officers of their respective associations, but purely a matter of policy, and at the same time, as stated above, creating greater interest in the business sessions of the fair organizations.

It strikes us that the dissatisfaction voiced is justified. We believe that those associations which follow the old plan of "appointing a nominating committee, the committee in turn selecting but one candidate for each office, someone making a motion that they be elected, another one seconding it and all in favor saying aye", would make a wise move by amending their by-laws so that it would be a case of "the best man wins". One thing sure, it would create a greater interest in the sessions on the part of those present, and there would be the possibility of an increased number of delegates.

The budget system, there's no denying, has been the lifesaver of many a fair. If any fairs have tried it out and found it unsuccessful the only reason in our mind for its failure was "not sticking to the budget". The sooner those fairs not yet operating on the budget plan, and even the ones which have attempted it and failed, fall into line the sooner will they come to a realization of their past weakness.

From George Harman, secretary of the Jefferson County Fair Association, Valley Falls, Kan., and also secretary of the State Association of Kansas Fairs, comes a "fair break" for The Billboard. Here 'ts: "I think all fair secretaries should be on the mailing list of The Billboard, for it seems to me no other publication is as valuable to the fair secretary as is The Billboard. In my capacity as secretary of the State Association I have impressed on the secretaries the value of this publication to them and have suggested that they have the fair board pay the subscription price." Mighty fine of you, George. Mebbe secretaries of other State and district associations will do likewise.

Toronto Again Is Big Winner

Canadian Exhibition operating surplus \$326,780—total revenue \$1,196,145

TORONTO, Jan. 11.—Figures of the Canadian National Exhibition for the last year have just been made known by the directors. The total revenue amounted to \$1,196,145.28 and the total operating expenses \$869,760.35, leaving an operating surplus for the year of \$326,780.35. The operating surplus compares favorably with that of \$328,157.35 realized in 1928, the exhibition's Golden Jubilee year, when the attendance went above the 2,000,000 mark.

The city of Toronto has received a check from the exhibition association for \$116,256.70, and the remaining money has been spent on additions to plant and improvement and for debt charges, etc. There has been \$58,824.05 spent on plant and equipment, \$10,855.34 on new lavatories and at the Manufacturers' Building, and ground improvements, \$2,222.50.

The city has received the following amounts: Purefood building debt charges, \$21,955; engineering and electrical building debt charges, \$48,000; automotive building debt charges, \$54,666.67; and water rates and coliseum rentals, \$14,000. In addition is the check for \$116,256.70 mentioned above.

Officers of Missouri State Fair Re-Elected

SEDALIA, Mo., Jan. 11.—W. D. Smith was re-elected to serve his ninth consecutive term as secretary of the Missouri State Fair at the annual meeting of the fair board, held in the Administration Building on the fairgrounds this week.

W. E. Leach, of St. Louis was re-elected president of the Missouri State Fair Board for a third consecutive time. J. W. Head, of Palmyra, was re-elected vice-president, and C. H. Bothwell, of Sedalia, was re-elected treasurer.

The dates for Missouri's 30th annual State exhibition were set for August 16-23. A premier showing of resources is anticipated, as the amount of premiums and specials offered to exhibitors was fixed at \$75,000.

Secretary Smith also is holding the office of secretary of the Middle West Fair Circuit this year, his selection for this office having been made at a recent meeting of circuit members in Chicago. The Middle West Circuit membership is composed of 12 large fairs and expositions, including the Missouri State Fair.

Reading Fair Elects; Dates Set for Sept. 9-13

READING, Pa., Jan. 11.—The Agricultural and Horticultural Association of Berks County, which sponsors the Reading Fair, held its annual meeting last Saturday and elected 19 directors to serve for the year 1930. The following officers were elected: President, A. S. Deysher; first vice-president, George M. Luft; second vice-president, Chester W. Brumbach; secretary, Charles W. Swoyer; assistant secretary, Paul H. Eyster; and treasurer, T. M. Keppelman.

The dates of the Reading Fair are September 9 to 13. Preparations are now being made. Secretary Swoyer states, for a bigger and better fair.

Fine Program For Ohio Fairs

Many important topics on agenda—two governors to make speeches at banquet

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 11.—Judging by the program arranged for the annual meeting of the Department of Agriculture of Ohio and Ohio Fair Managers' Association, to be held jointly at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel here January 15 to 17, inclusive, it is going to be one of the most enthusiastic State gatherings of fair officials in the country. The speeches and topics to be discussed promise to be the most helpful in the history of the Ohio association. There will be group conferences on speed and concessions and privileges, separate meetings for fair secretaries, fair presidents and fair treasurers, a joint meeting of the State Board of Agriculture and Ohio Fair Managers' Association and closing with a general meeting of the association by itself. Two governors will speak at the banquet—Hon. Myers Y. Cooper of Ohio and Hon. Fred W. Green of Michigan. The complete program follows:

Group Meetings

Wednesday evening, January 15, 8 o'clock, Room of Mirrors, Speed Conference, discussing proper classification of horses, record of winnings, one parent trotting association, claiming races, running races, night racing, etc. H. W. Schindler, Celina, presiding; H. H. Petty, Urbana, secretary. Open discussion led by J. J. Mooney, Detroit, Mich., and Fremont, O. Wednesday evening, January 15, 8 o'clock, Mezzanine Floor, Parlor, Concessions and Privileges Conference. Subjects: Is the character of the concessionaire of more importance than the value of his product? Is the concessionaire getting a square deal? H. D. Urnston, Hamilton, president; W. A. Marker, Van Wert, secretary.

Fair Secretaries' Conference

Thursday, January 16, 10 to 12 a.m., Mezzanine Floor; Ed S. Wilson, Canton, presiding; LaMar P. Wilson, London, secretary. Suggested topics for discussion: 1—The fairs that have been slipping—is it on account of bad weather, mismanagement, faulty advertising, politics, lack of co-operation from county officials, or is it just a natural condition that exists which cannot be avoided? 2—When did you revise your premium lists? Should same be revised every year? 3—What is the biggest drawing card at your fair? 4—Should the secretary generally supervise the various departments and activities of the fair? 5—If your fair is a success, who gets the credit? If your fair is a failure, who gets the blame? 6—Does the use of cheap letterheads and premium books give the fair a black eye? 7—General discussion for the good of the fair. Appoint one member for resolutions committee.

Fair Presidents' Conference

Thursday, January 16, 10 to 12 a.m., Mezzanine Floor; C. M. Austin, Xenia, presiding; W. R. Cravy, Painesville, secretary. Suggested topics for discussion: 1—How do you keep the public informed as to the plans and program of the coming fair? 2—Should fair publicity be used during the whole year before the fair, and if so, how? 3—How do you keep the fair-board members pepped up and working for a bigger and better fair? 4—Is it the duty of the president to personally see to it that each board member does not fall down on the duties assigned him? 5—What department of the fair is the weakest? 6—What new features have you added, what old features have you dropped in the past few years? 7—What new innovation can you add to the fair to attract the farmers? 8—Should fair-board members receive passes? General discussion. Appoint one member for resolutions committee.

Fair Treasurers' Conference

Thursday, January 16, 10 to 12 a.m., Parlor; E. E. Vance, Ansonia, president; W. C. Mooney, Woodfield, secretary. Suggested topics for discussion: 1—Do you

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budget your fair? 2—Whose duty is it to prepare the tentative budgets? 3—Do you protect the receipts by insurance? 4—Do you take out liability and rain insurance? 5—What system do you use in checking up tickets sold or unsold? 6—Do you make one person responsible for the issuing and checking up of all tickets? 7—Do you pay the premiums and other expenditures by check? 8—Who of the officers signs all checks issued? General discussion. Appoint one member for resolutions committee.

Joint Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 1:30 to 5:15 p.m.; Judge I. L. Holderman, president Ohio Fair Managers' Association, presiding. 1:30 to 1:50, reading of minutes, roll call, presentation of reports for State Department of Agriculture; Don A. Detrick, executive secretary; Helen S. Maher, recording secretary; H. H. Petty, treasurer. 1:50 to 2:15, report of president, treasurer's report, appointment of committee on resolutions. 2:15 to 2:45, How To Make the Fairs More Educational, and Co-Operation of Public Schools With the Fair; J. L. Clifton, State Director of Education; C. W. Plesinger, superintendent Montgomery County Schools; L. C. Dick, superintendent Madison County Schools. 2:45 to 3:05, Our 1929 State Fair and Some Suggestions for 1930, and Helpful Suggestions for County Fairs; Perry L. Green, director of agriculture; C. E. Rowland, assistant director of agriculture. 3:05 to 3:15, How To Organize a Junior Fair and Its Value to the Senior Fair; O. E. Ashbrook, in charge of Junior Fair, Ohio State Fair; C. C. Caldwell, club leader, Dayton. 3:15 to 3:35, What About Passes to Fair-Board Members? L. B. Palmer, Columbus, member State Board of Agriculture; Charles J. Gray, Painesville. 3:35 to 3:55, New Activities of Women in Fair Work; Mrs. William J. Pontius, Canton, member State Board of Agriculture; Mrs. Hamilton Shafer, Dayton; Mrs. Charles Gray, Painesville. 3:55 to 4:15, The Value of Fairs to Boys and Girls' Club and Vocational Agricultural Work; W. H. Palmer, Columbus, State club leader; Ray Pife, Columbus, supervisor, Agricultural Educational Service. 4:15 to 4:45, Are the Fairs Receiving Sufficient State and County Aid? H. E. Marsden, Lisbon; G. L. Rakestraw, Tiffin; W. B. Richmond, Elyria.

Banquet

Ballroom, January 16, 7 p.m.; It Is Fair Weather When Fair Men Get Together. Judge Holderman introduces Hon. A. P. Sandies, toastmaster; Hon. Fred W. Greene, Governor of Michigan—subject, The Farm Problems; Hon. Myers

Y. Cooper, Governor of Ohio and Honorary President of the Ohio Fair Managers' Association—subject, State of Ohio; Hon. Roscoe W. McCullough, U. S. Senator from Ohio—subject, Farm Relief; High Diamond, humorist, Gallon, O.; presentation of flag to 100 per cent attendance fair. Entertainment provided by Red Arrow Quartet, compliments of Pennsylvania Railroad Company; the Barnes-Carruthers Association and the Gus Sun Booking Exchange. Favors and decorations by the Gordon Fireworks Company; badges by E. L. Huffman & Son.

General Conference

Friday, January 17, 9:15 a.m. to 9:25, How To Create Greater Industrial Interest in Fairs; Fred L. Schoenberger, Columbus, secretary of Dairy Products Association; Walter Gahn, Portsmouth; John D. Hayes, St. Clairsville. 9:25 to 9:45, Some Suggestions From Farm Bureaus and Granges on How To Improve Fairs; Murray Lincoln, secretary, State Farm Bureau; Walter Kirk, president, State Grange. 9:45 to 10, How Can We Attract More People to the Fair? H. A. Shipley, Dresden; W. W. Montgomery, Washington, O. H.; Loyd Dye, Mt. Gilead. 10 to 10:15, What Unnecessary Expenses Are Incurred Which Could Be Eliminated? Jay W. Haller, Bucyrus; John H. Lowery, Napoleon; Max Phillips, Norwalk. 10:15 to 10:30, How Can We Improve Night Fairs? and What About Harness and Running Races at Night? H. H. Petty, Urbana; D. L. Sampson, Cincinnati; H. B. Goddard, Marietta; C. A. Hoehenedel, Fremont. 10:30 to 10:40, How Can We Obtain State Highway Exhibits? Robert N. Wald, director, State Highway Department. 10:40 to 10:50, Greater Publicity for Fairs; Fred Terry, L. G. Duffy, John C. Bauer. 10:50 to 11:05, Keeping the Record Clear, Joseph T. Tracy, State auditor; Erskine R. Hayes, Wilmington. 11:05 to 11:15, What New Fair Legislation Do We Need? A. H. Morton, Eaton; Carl Carpenter, Attica; F. M. Plank, Medina. 11:15 to 11:30, Are We Ready for a Full-Time, State-Wide Secretary, and if So, What Should Be His Duties and What Benefits Could We Derive? Open discussion led by C. W. Kline, Troy. 11:30 to 11:45, Who Owns Your Fair? W. H. Tobias, Gilboa; W. T. McClenaghan, Lancaster; C. E. Dirlam, Wellington.

Reception for Ladies

Mrs. Myers Y. Cooper, wife of Governor Cooper, will receive the ladies attending the meeting at a reception to be given in their honor at the Governor's Mansion, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, January 16.

New Method For Voting

Hagerstown, Md., Fair adopts amendment to fix date for nominations

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Jan. 11.—An important feature of the annual meeting and election of officers of the Hagerstown Fair Association at the fair board office in the First National Bank Building here last Saturday was an amendment to the by-laws making it mandatory that a day be fixed for the purpose of nominating a ticket for officers and directors and that a notice be inserted in a Hagerstown paper at least once a week for two successive weeks prior to the day set for nominations, and the names then nominated shall constitute the official ballot, and they and none other shall be voted for and counted at the regular annual election. The amendment was approved by a vote of 104 for, and 49 against.

In the election, at which a total of 235 votes were cast, Robert L. Hartle defeated J. Edward Cochran for the post of corresponding secretary in the only contest for officers. The officers re-elected were Harry E. Bester, president; Andrew K. Coffman, vice-president; Charles W. Wolf, recording secretary, and Thompson A. Brown, treasurer. Bester and Coffman are members of the Circus Fans' Association. Old directors re-elected were William Cunningham, Isaac Ankney, Simon Downey, Thomas L. Smith, J. Kieffer Funk, J. Forney Young and Walter D. Wilson. The new directors are Charles H. Ritshart, Charles E. Cushman and James T. Wolfe, defeating E. Aldine Lakin and George B. McC-Wolf. There was one vacancy on the board caused by the resignation of Elmer A. Corderman.

A resolution authorizing the fair association to issue 300 more shares of stock, already authorized but unissued, was defeated.

The financial statement of receipts and expenditures for the year was submitted by Treasurer Thompson A. Brown. Receipts for the year, which included the sum of \$15,237.50 borrowed from the bank, were \$48,950.19, with total disbursements of \$47,741.40, leaving a balance of \$1,208.79. Due to the heavy rain during fair week, the gate and grandstand receipts were cut to \$13,947.03, and receipts from concessions amounted to only \$7,830.82. The pari-mutuel machines brought in \$7,486.80 and rent of grounds \$675.

In the disbursement account, improvements and repairs cost \$5,703.35; pari-mutuel machines, \$5,000; racing purses, \$8,975; grand-stand attractions, \$2,500; music, \$846; poultry premiums, \$1,302.21; horse show, \$636.20; taxes, \$957.51; household premiums, \$1,076.79; clerk and guard payroll, \$2,381.98; live-stock department, \$4,073, and insurance, \$1,678.22.

Two More for Young

Ernie Young last week contracted to present his revue at the Juneau County Fair at Mauston, Wis., and Washington County Fair at West Bend, Wis. As to the popularity of revues, Young says: "We have booked more revues at the present time than we have done for the last five years."

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N. C. Fairs Set Meeting Dates

Second annual gathering to be held at Raleigh Jan. 20-21—program arranged

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 11.—The second annual meeting of the North Carolina Association of Fairs is to be held at the Hotel Sir Walter here Monday and Tuesday, January 20 and 21. There are 25 fairs in the State represented in the association, the officers of which consist of Dr. T. N. Spencer, Concord, president; Dr. J. S. Dorton, Shelby, vice-president; Garland Daniel, Greensboro, vice-president; R. M. Jackson, Fayetteville, vice-president; W. H. Dall, Jr., Greenville, vice-president, and T. B. Smith, Raleigh, secretary-treasurer.

The official program follows: 10 a. m. to 1 p. m., Monday, January 20—Call to order by the president, roll call, reading of minutes, announcement of fair dates, legislative, membership and grievance committees, address of welcome by Mayor E. E. Culbreth, with response by Plato Collins, secretary Kinston Fair, Kinston; The North Carolina State Fair, T. S. White, president North Carolina State Fair, Hertford; Trot Along and Pace Along, W. H. Gocher, secretary National Trotting Association, Hartford, Conn.; Greetings From Virginia Association of Fairs, C. B. Ralston, secretary-treasurer Virginia Association of Fairs, Staunton, Va.; Advertising as a Medium of Profit to Fairs, A. E. Leatherman, Philadelphia.

Monday afternoon, 2:30 to 4:30: Report of committees: The Part That Live Stock Should Play in Building a Fair, A. C. Kimrey, Extension Dairyman, North Carolina State College, Raleigh; The Fair as an Important Factor in Developing Agriculture, Dr. Clarence Poe, editor The Progressive Farmer, Raleigh; The Annual Fair or Exposition—Its Functions and Values, Col. H. B. Watkins, president Virginia Association of Fairs, Danville, Va.; State Appropriations to Agricultural Fairs, Paul V. Moore, secretary South Carolina State Fair, Columbia, S. C., and an address by Dr. E. C. Brooks, president North Carolina State College, Raleigh. Then will follow the business session, including the president's report, report of secretary-treasurer, report of standing and special committees, unfinished business, new business, election of officers, adjournment and meeting of board of directors.

On Monday evening, at 7 o'clock, there will be a dinner in the banquet hall of the Hotel Sir Walter for association members and guests. Albert L. Cox, Raleigh, will be master of ceremonies, and an address will be made by Hon. A. J. Maxwell, Commissioner of Revenue of North Carolina, Raleigh. An entertainment will be given by vaudeville acts thru the courtesy of a number of booking agents. Gertrude J. Van Delino, of Cervone's Band, will be soloist.

Tuesday, January 21, has been set aside for carnival, free act, fireworks and other fair-interests people to transact their business with the secretaries. Fair circuit and group meetings may be called on this day if need be.

New York Association To Meet February 18

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 11.—The annual convention of the New York State Association of County and Town Agricultural Societies will be held at the Ten Eyck Hotel here Tuesday, February 18. There will be morning and afternoon sessions, closing with a dinner at night.

The officers of the association consist of Irving W. Wiswall, Ballston Spa, president; Albert E. Brown, Batavia, first vice-president; Oscar W. Ehrhorn, New York City, second vice-president; G. W. Harrison, Albany, secretary, and Wm. E. Pearson, Ithaca, treasurer.

Central Wisconsin Fair Circuit Meets

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 11. — Officers and directors of the Central Wisconsin Fair Circuit held their annual meeting Tues-

Fair Meetin

Vermont Agricultural Fairs Association, January 14-15, Hotel Vermont, Burlington. G. W. Rublee, secretary, Enosburg 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. P. 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, St. Nicholas Hotel, Springfield. Stillman J. Standard, secretary, Springfield, Ill.

West Virginia Association of Fairs, January 16-17, Ruffner Hotel, Charleston. Mrs. Bert H. Swartz, secretary, Wheeling, W. Va.

Western Canada Association of Exhibitions and Western Fairs Association, January 20-23, Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg. S. W. Johns, secretary, Saskatoon, Sask., Can.

North Carolina Association of Fairs, January 20-21, Hotel Sir Walter, Raleigh. N. C. T. B. Smith, secretary, Raleigh, N. C.

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.

South Carolina Association of Fairs, January 23-24, Jefferson Hotel, Columbia. J. A. Mitchell, secretary, Anderson, S. C.

State Association of North Dakota Fairs, January 24-25, Hotel Dakota, Grand Forks. Sam F. Crabbe, secretary, Fargo, N. D.

Louisiana Association of Fairs, January 24-25, Eunice. R. S. Vickers, secretary, Donaldsonville, La.

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.

Texas Association of Fairs, January 31-February 1, Adolphus Hotel, Dallas. Jerry W. Debenport, secretary, Childress, Tex.

Association of Tennessee Fairs, February 4-5, Andrew Jackson Hotel, Knoxville. W. F. Barry, secretary, Jackson, Tenn.

Association of Georgia Fairs, February 6-7, Baldwin Hotel, Milledgeville, Ga. E. Ross Jordan, secretary, Macon, Ga.

Arkansas Federation of Fairs, February 7, Marion Hotel, Little Rock. W. Homer Pigg, secretary-treasurer, Hope, Ark.

Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs, Eastern Division, February 12-13, Adelphi Hotel, Philadelphia. J. F. Seldomridge, secretary, Lancaster, Pa.

New York State Association of County and Town Agricultural Societies, February 18, Ten Eyck Hotel, Albany. G. W. Harrison, secretary, Albany, N. Y.

STATE ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES—Send in your winter meeting dates. Many inquiries are already being made for them by interested persons.

day at the Schroeder Hotel, set dates, elected officers and transacted other circuit business. Dr. G. A. Mills, of Wausau, was re-elected president, and R. E. Williams, of Marshfield, secretary. Present at the meeting were Dr. Mills, Williams, A. E. Cox, C. S. Van Auken and S. E. Marcott.

Dates chosen were as follows: Wausau, August 19-21; Merrill, August 27-29; Marshfield, September 1-5; Chippewa Falls, September 9-11; La Crosse, September 16-21; Viroqua, September 22-25.

All Members of Indiana Board Are Re-Elected

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—The annual delegate conference of the Indiana Board of Agriculture was held at the House of Representatives, State House, Wednesday. All members of the board whose terms expired that day were re-elected. They are as follows:

S. W. Taylor, Booneville; Guy Cantwell, Gosport; R. C. Jenkins, Orleans; E. D. Logsdon, Indianapolis; W. W. Wilson, Muncie; Thomas Grant, Lowell; U. C. Brouse, Kendallville; Levi P. Moore, Rochester.

In the reorganization of the board Brouse was elected president; C. Y. Foster, Carmel, vice-president, and E. J. Parker was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

The executive and finance committee for the coming year consists of Brouse and Barker by virtue of their office, and Grant, Wilson and O. L. Reddish by appointment of the president.

The directors of the various departments are as follows: S. W. Taylor, Coliseum; Guy Cantwell, gates; R. C. Jenkins, cattle; Roy E. Graham, parking and police; O. L. Reddish, swine; Russell East, agriculture; E. D. Logsdon, horses; W. W. Wilson, sheep; C. Y. Foster, concessions; Thomas Grant, woman's building; E. S. Priddy, grand stand and horseshoe pitching; Levi P. Moore, publicity; John R. Nash, speed; Austin H. Sheets, poultry; J. E. Green, amusements.

Addresses at the meeting were made by Governor Harry G. Leslie and Logsdon. Secretary-Treasurer Barker read his annual report, which, in part, follows:

"This is my fifth annual report and each year the net profit has exceeded the previous year. This was accomplished at the 1929 fair in spite of a slight decrease in attendance. We attribute this financial success to a strict adherence to the budget which was allotted to each department and increased revenue from the concession department and the increase of exhibit in live stock, necessitating more exhibitor tickets and an increase from stall rental.

"The profit from the 1929 fair is a little in excess of 1928, which was our high mark up to that date. The Indiana State Fair holds a unique position in the fact it offers something over \$20,000 more in premiums than any other fair in the United States. The total in 1929 was \$171,745. We feel that aside from the financial part the 1929 fair was the best fair ever held by the Indiana Board of Agriculture. Every department was very complete in itself.

"The one outstanding feature was the holding of the National Swine Show in connection with the fair, which proved very satisfactory to all concerned and was a real educational feature. Every other department of live stock and poultry showed decided increased entries. However, the one big feature which has rapidly developed and is of paramount educational value is the various departments of Boys and Girls' 4-H Club work. This work has trebled in recent years until today it is about to crowd out our adult classes in some departments.

"We were disappointed in not securing assistance from the last legislature to build a much-needed grand stand, but it is impossible for us to do this without its assistance.

"The maintenance of the fairground plant is becoming enormous when you take into consideration the general repair and upkeep of roofs, painting, etc., on all the buildings.

"We have a well-outlined improvement plan for this year which will be definitely decided upon within the next few days.

"Some new features should be added to our prize list this year and I refer particularly to a Dairy Products Show, since Indiana is fast becoming a prominent dairy State; also a commercial cattle exhibit. Arrangements have already been made for holding the 1930 National Swine Show in connection with the Indiana State Fair again.

"We have handled during the year over \$568,000 and all bills are paid and our accounts receivable are only about \$500 and we start the new year with a balance of \$85,572.71. During the year we have retired \$50,000 of our bond issue and paid \$36,250 interest on the bonds."

The financial report, January 1 to December 31, 1929, submitted by Barker showed total fair receipts of \$305,980.81 and disbursements of \$276,533.16. A profit on the 1929 fair of \$29,447.45. The board on December 31, 1929, had a balance of \$75,086.99 on hand.

Fair "Grounds"

HONORABLE Harry D. Wilson, commissioner of agriculture and president of the Louisiana Association of Fairs, Baton Rouge, on January 10 mailed a letter to Louisiana fair officials, L. S. U. extension workers, county agents, railroad agricultural agents, fair concession and gladway folks, inviting them to attend the winter meeting of the association to be held at Eunice, Friday and Saturday, January 24 and 25. "If you have any constructive suggestions to make or if you think of something that will make our fairs bigger and better, let me hear from you," the letter reads. The first session of the meeting will begin at 1 p. m. There will be the usual banquet on the night of the second day at 7 o'clock.

C. B. RALSTON deserves a word of praise for the handsome program gotten up for the 13th annual meeting of the Virginia Association of Fairs held the early part of this week at Richmond. It is printed in two colors, red and green, on a heavy stock of rough-finish paper, 7 3/4x10 inches.

DR. ANDREW M. SOULE, president of the Georgia State College of Agriculture, at Athens, Ga., will be one of the principal speakers at the annual convention of the association of Georgia Fairs, to be held in Milledgeville February 6-7. Dr. Soule's subject will be Greater Opportunities for the Rural Boys and Girls and will be delivered on the afternoon of February 6.

SECRETARY R. R. SOMERVILLE of the Southwest Washington Fair Association, Chehalis, Wash., announces that contracts have been let for erection of a building to cost \$5,000 to house the exhibits of the 4-H Club workers.

AN ORGANIZATION committee, representing practically every town and township in Plymouth County, Ia., has been formed to arrange plans for a fair next fall at Le Mars, Ia. Albert Lundgren is president of the committee, and Harry Cannon, secretary.

A REPORT from the Gardner Fair Association, Gardner, Mass., says that at a recent meeting of the directors a report of "no funds" was made, but that arrangements would soon be made to raise funds to cover the loss of the 1929 fair.

THE EASTERN States Exposition, Springfield, Mass., is on the job early with its advertising matter. A card headed, "remember the dates", showing September in calendar style, with the exposition dates, 14 to 20, in a color different from the rest of the printing, was sent out last week in great number.

TAKING in surrounding counties, the Calhoun County Fair, at Anniston, Ala., this year will be known as the Northeast Alabama Fair. Manager J. T. Coleman is already at work on next fall's event. The Anniston Star of January 3 gave the fair almost a half-column editorial on its extension of scope and early activities.

THE STOCKHOLDERS of the Macoupin County Fair Association, Carlinville, Ill., held a meeting January 2 to decide how to meet the indebtedness of the association. The association is in debt to the extent of \$4,000, and proposed plans include propositions to sell, mortgage or reorganize. Another meeting was slated for January 15.

P. T. STRIEDER, general manager of the Florida State Fair, Tampa, has returned to his office to direct the activities of the 1930 fair, after a week's illness at his home. His ailment was intestinal trouble.

THE FREEBORN County Fair, Albert Lea, Minn., will be continued, it was decided by the sponsoring association at a recent meeting. Four new directors, G. O. Lattin, Alfred Berglund, Andrew Hanson and Albert Ruble, will work with the county commissioners in an effort to place the fair on a self-sustaining basis.

WORK toward the 1930 Wisconsin State Fair, Madison, has already been started. The educational department of the fair will aim this year to present the "Wisconsin Idea in Education". Forty thousand square feet of building space will be utilized to show the work of all schools, from the elementary grades to the university.

Taylor Heads Indiana Fairs

Annual meeting at Indianapolis is well attended — Bacon and Halleck speak

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—With more than three dozen fairs in the State represented, the Indiana Association of County and District Fairs held its annual meeting at the Claypool Hotel here Tuesday. There are 45 fairs in the organization, and the fair delegates numbered approximately 70. Attractions people, carnival amusement representatives and supply folk seemed to be out in greater force than at any previous meeting of the Indiana association. The main features of the meeting were the speeches made by C. A. Halleck, district prosecutor and secretary of the Jasper County Fair, Rensselaer, and M. E. (Pat) Bacon, secretary-manager of the Mississippi Valley Fair and Exposition, Davenport, Ia., who was a specially invited guest; a discussion of the county-aid State fair law, the election of officers, and a humorous, altho at times serious, discussion on the method of nomination and election of officers, with J. A. Terry, secretary of the Laporte County Fair, Laporte, as the instigator. The election resulted as follows: President, C. H. Taylor, secretary Boonville Fair Association, Boonville, vice-president of the State organization last year; vice-president, C. A. Halleck, and secretary-treasurer, E. J. Barker, this making his fourth term in that capacity.

J. H. Clausen, Crown Point, president of the Indiana association in 1929, was sick and unable to be present, so the meeting was called to order at 10 a. m. by Vice-President Taylor, with Barker at his side. Following roll call and reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, Treasurer Barker read his report, which showed the total receipts, including the 1929 balance, to be \$430.38, and total disbursements \$149.99, leaving a balance of \$280.39 on hand at the present time. This amount is not inclusive of money from banquet tickets at the previous year's meeting. Appointment of committees was next in order, and under the subject of unfinished business Guy Cantwell, secretary of the Spencer County Fair Association, Gosport, and chairman of the legislative committee, explained the committee's activities regarding the new bill for county fair aid. After considerable discussion a motion was made and seconded that the legislative committee continue its efforts to have the present law changed. Nothing was reported under new business except that a letter was read from Stillman J. Stannard, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs, relative to the forming of a national association of county fairs and asking that the Indiana association send a representative to the meeting at Springfield, Ill., next week. It was the decision of the meeting not to send a delegate.

Halleck Speaks

Halleck then took the floor with an address on *How To Make a County Fair Pay*, a topic in which every fair secretary is greatly interested. Halleck, a great believer in interchange of ideas, spoke about not only his own fair at Rensselaer but of general observations. It was his opinion that every fair should have a budget system—spend so much on each department and stick to the budget, not let anybody "run away with you". He urged all to get up a set of intelligent specifications for work to be done around the fairgrounds. At Rensselaer, he said, they have a sanitary system which proved to be highly satisfactory, and he offered to loan the plans, etc., to any fair secretary interested. As to advertising, he advised not to specify the size when sending an advertisement to newspapers in surrounding towns. After citing an instance or two he said he found you get more space when you don't mention the size. Send the money for advertising right with the copy and instruct the newspapers to give you whatever space that money pays for, he said. Press matter about the fair should also accompany the advertising copy and money, he declared, as papers in surrounding towns are always glad to use news about the fair. He said he found the method of

having tack cards printed at home instead of sending the work out of town more beneficial—that it helps to get more publicity in the local papers. At Rensselaer, he said, the co-operation given the fair cannot be matched by any other association, all getting in back of the fair and, most important of all, the work being done gratuitously. He urged establishing the fair in the county as a tradition. The Jasper County Fair, at Rensselaer, has been in existence five years. Two years ago when he took the secretaryship it owed \$3,000. Last year, he said, it finished with a big balance for its size. When fairs lose or are in debt, he said, don't cut out the entertainment program—something that people look for. Engage good free acts, clean shows and good carnivals and see that everything is run straight, he urged in closing his remarks, and place in reserve a fund for operating the fair the same as is being done by the Jasper County Fair. The speech was received with much applause. Free attractions people were next introduced, following which came adjournment of the morning session.

Bacon Makes Address

The afternoon session got under way around 2 o'clock with a constructive and instructive speech by M. E. (Pat) Bacon entitled *Selling a Fair to the Community*. He talked on fair problems in general and how they sell the Mississippi Valley Fair and Exposition at Davenport, Ia. Out in Iowa, he said, they have established one of the greatest forms of advertising, Children's Day, when children 14 years or under are admitted free to the grounds and charged only 5 cents admission to the grand-stand and midway shows. The tickets are distributed to children in 11 counties, and in case any children lose them they are admitted at the gate for the price of 5 cents. He explained the various functions of the fair and stressed upon the importance of the amusement program as part of a fair. He agreed with Halleck that the budget system is absolutely essential for fairs wanting to keep in business. Immoral showmen, he said, should be driven from the fairgrounds, and every secretary in the State should be notified about the tactics. He was also given a big hand.

An open discussion on advance sale of season tickets and three and five-day fairs was then participated in by several delegates. An entertainment, unprogrammed, followed, presented by V. V. Swartz, secretary of the Elkhart County Fair, Goshen. A routine of acrobatic feats was cleverly executed by the Radke Sisters, Betty, 6; Doris, 8, and Arley, 16, of Swartz's home town, to much applause. Sam Moulton appeared at the piano.

Election Methods Criticized

The resolutions committee had but little to report. A motion was made and passed that last year's resolution for county aid be reaffirmed. The nominating committee then reported the nomination of officers, and after motion was made and seconded that the candidates be elected James Terry took the floor with an argument that nomination should be from the floor. A discussion, both serious and humorous, was indulged in by a few of the delegates, but no action for amending the by-laws was taken. P. J. Claypool, of the Muncie Fair Association, Muncie, then made a motion, which was seconded and passed, that a committee of three members of the Indiana association be appointed to co-operate with a committee of three to be appointed by the Indiana Board of Agriculture for the betterment of fair conditions in the State. Claypool, H. C. Van Way, secretary of the Shelbyville County Joint Agricultural Society, and Halleck were the ones named to represent the Indiana Fair Association.

A rising vote of thanks was given Bacon and Halleck for their speeches, and a motion was passed calling for a letter to be sent to Clausen expressing regret on his not being able to be present at the meeting and hoping for a speedy recovery. The meeting then adjourned.

Banquet Held

A banquet was held in the Riley Room of the Claypool at 7 o'clock, with approximately 175 in attendance, about the same number as last year. Novelty hats were worn. In the absence of Clausen C. H. Taylor, the new president, acted as toastmaster. Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan of Indianapolis made an address of welcome, and this was followed by a speech by Hon. Harry G. Leslie, governor of Indiana. Another speaker of the evening was George E. Francis, whose subject was *Getting on in the World*. Entertainment was furnished by Mrs. George

E. Francis in vocal solos and by a Mr. Kenler.

Delegates

Among the fair delegates present were J. W. Addleman, Tipton County Agricultural Association, Tipton; Charles Rolland Ade, president, County Fair, Kentland; W. A. Alexander, Rush County Agricultural Society, Rushville; J. L. Babcock, Rochester; William Bass, Shelby County Joint Agricultural Association, Shelbyville; U. C. Brouse, secretary, Noble County Fair, Kendallville; E. J. Barker, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Thorntown; G. W. Beeson, American Legion No. 205, Franklin; I. N. Brown, Johnson County Horticultural and Park Association, Franklin; E. L. Chalfant, Firemen's and Merchants' Association, Hartford City; F. J. Claypool, Muncie Fair Association, Muncie; Guy Cantwell, Spencer County Fair Association, Gosport; S. H. Daugherty, Farmers' and Merchants' Fall Festival Association, Hartford City; E. J. Ellerman, Huntington County Fair, Warren; C. Y. Foeter, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Carmel; Roy Graham, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Columbus; Thomas Grant, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Lowell; J. E. Green, Muncie Fair Association, Muncie; Floyd Garrett, Tippecanoe Fair Association, Battleground; H. G. Hurless, Clinton County Fair, Frankfort; Charles Halleck, Jasper County Fair, Rensselaer; Clarence F. Jamison, secretary, Tippecanoe County Agricultural Association, La Fayette; Perry Johnson, Hamilton Fair Association, Noblesville; W. O. Knisely, Kokomo; C. Kellner, Jasper County Fair, Rensselaer; Levi P. Moore, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Rochester; Arvil H. Miles, Harrison County Agricultural Society, Corydon; G. B. Maple, Farmers' and Merchants' Fall Festival Association, Hartford City; J. E. Murphy, Jasper County Fair, Rensselaer; Clyde F. Morgan, vice-president, Tippecanoe County Agricultural Association, La Fayette; Harry McCabe, Indiana Short-Horn Breeders' Association, Greencastle; Jesse E. McMullen, Rockville; H. S. McCampbell, Park County Fair Association, Marshall; Charles R. Morris, Washington County Fair Association, Salem; S. E. Molter, Newton County Fair Association, Goodland; John R. Nash, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Tipton; H. M. Ninner, Johnson County Fair, Brighton; E. S. Priddy, Warren Fair Association, Warren; Kenton Parkins, Jasper County Fair Association, Rensselaer; O. L. Reddish, Indiana State Fair Association, Waveland; Fred A. Ruf, Lake County Fair Association, Crown Point; R. W. Secret, Farmers' and Merchants' Fall Festival Association, Hartford City; V. V. Swartz, secretary Elkhart County Fair Association, Goshen; A. M. Schuh, Newton County Fair, Kentland; Arthur Thompson, Wabash; F. W. Tison, Johnson County Fair Association, Franklin; J. A. Terry, Laporte County Fair Association, Laporte; Henry Tobin, Jasper County Fair Association, Rensselaer, Ind.; C. H. Taylor, Boonville Fair Association, Boonville; S. W. Taylor, Boonville; H. C. Van Way, Shelby County Joint Agricultural Association, Shelbyville; John Willman, Firemen's and Merchants' Association, Hartford City; F. W. Scholler, adviser, Johnson County Board of Agriculture, Franklin; A. H. Sheets, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Indianapolis; W. L. Rick, Newcastle; W. A. De Poy, secretary Miami County Agricultural Association, Converse; M. Overstreet and G. R. Kemper, Bartholomew Fair Association, Columbus; O. R. Jenkins, secretary County Fair, Osgood; H. H. Parks, president Fair Association, Converse; George W. Beamar, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Indianapolis; G. E. Russel, Indiana Board of Agriculture, Shelbyville; John Forberger, Arthur Hanrahan, W. H. Dittman and James Rigg, Porter County Fair, Valparaiso.

Amusement People

Free-attractions people and others at the meeting included the following: Jack and Grace Champion, Jack Champion's Ensemble; W. J. Clark, Jr., and Hazel Stockdale, John B. Rogers' Producing Company; L. E. Holt, R. F. Smith and A. D. Michaels, The Hudson Fireworks Display Company; D. A. Ross and P. Vitale, Ohio Display Fireworks Company; J. B. Smith, diving horses; Alex. Swindler, Earl Taylor Enterprises; O. K. Stewart, booking independent; Mr. and Mrs. Jack St. Julian Attractions; John G. Robinson, Robinson's Military Elephants; Herman Blumenfeld and Earl Kurtze, Barnes-Carruthers Booking Association; George McCray and J. P. Porchedu, Illinois Fireworks Display Company; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stout, Stout's Circus; Gus Sun, Homer Neer and W. E. Wicker, Gus Sun Booking Exchange (Harry LaPearl was

also on hand, his act being booked thru the Sun office); Earl Newberry, Theatre-Duffield Fireworks Company; O. B. Strohmaier and Kit Carson, E. G. Statts & Company, Inc.; William Brettnits, Donaldson Lithographing Company; Ned C. Smith and K. Garman, Sunset Amusement Company; Al Hatch, the R. H. Armbruster Company, and George H. Dial, Indianapolis Tent & Awning Company (the Armbruster Company recently bought the Indianapolis company, but the latter will be continued under its present name); W. C. Wehrley, Earing Amusement Company; J. C. Weir, J. C. Weir Amusement Company; Sam Solomon, William Solomon and Lew Marcuse, Sol's Liberty Shows; Mel Dodson and John Hoffman, Dodson's World's Fair Shows; J. T. McClellan, J. T. McClellan Shows; W. J. (Doc) O'Brien, Ralph Miller Shows; Jesse H. Cockerell, Jesse H. Cockerell's Shows; L. J. Heth and William Bowen, L. J. Heth Shows; J. C. Simpson, D. D. Murphy Shows; B. S. Binford, Bowling-Binford Company; Glen Miller; Dewey Sanford; O. B. Turney, Buttonless Tire Cover Company; I. Levy and Lessinger, A. & S. Company; May Cody Fleming, Mad Cody Fleming Shows; A. C. Hartmann, The Billboard.

Noticed in the Claypool Hotel lobby during the meeting were Frank Koke-miller, Frank Williams, Charles E. Williams and D. C. McDaniels, all carnival people.

Vermont Fairs' Meeting Program Is Announced

BURLINGTON, Vt., Jan. 11.—The program of the second annual meeting of the Vermont Agricultural Fairs Association to be held at the Hotel Vermont, this city, Wednesday, January 15, was announced this week. The previous day, at the same hotel, there will be the winter meeting of the Northern Vermont Fair Circuit, beginning at 1 p. m.

There are 16 fairs in the Vermont Agricultural Fairs Association. The program will be opened at 10 a. m., January 15, with the annual address of the president, followed by secretary's report, treasurer's report, appointment of committees and general business session.

The afternoon session will get under way at 1:15, as follows: *Gates and Passes*, Will L. Davis, president Rutland Fair, and O. Leo Conary, treasurer Lancaster Fair; *Advertising*, Milton Danziger, assistant general manager Eastern States Exposition, Racine, W. H. Gocher, secretary National Trotting Association; *Congressions*, F. S. Nicholson, secretary Rutland Fair, and M. W. Johnson, secretary Barton Fair; *Boys' and Girls' or 4-H Club Work*, E. L. Ingalls, State Club Leader, *State Aid to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies as Practiced in Massachusetts*, A. W. Lombard, secretary Massachusetts Fair Association; question box, H. A. Mayforth, general manager Champlain Valley Exposition; final business session; election of officers.

President W. Arthur Simpson will preside at the banquet to be held at the Hotel Van Ness at 6:30 p. m. Mayor Jackson will make the address of welcome, and speakers of the evening will include Hon. John E. Weeks, governor of Vermont; Hon. E. H. Jones, commissioner of Agriculture; Dean Hall, University of Vermont; Milton Danziger, C. W. Wilson, superintendent Vermont State Industrial School; W. H. Gocher, and Frank Muzny, horseman. Entertainment will be furnished by various fair booking offices.

Idaho-Utah Meeting This Week

BURLEY, Ida., Jan. 11.—Idaho fair executives will meet in Ogden, Utah, January 15, for an all-day session with Utah fair men, to discuss fair programs for the coming year. It is announced from the office of L. H. Sweetser, secretary of the Idaho State Fair Association, following the Utah meeting the dates for a two-day session of Idaho fair executives will be made public, to be held in some centrally located city of Southern Idaho.

At the Ogden meeting dates will be set for the horse racing circuit of the State and district fairs and some of the larger county fairs. Proposed legislative campaigns will be discussed, including the matter of State financial aid for livestock and agricultural premiums awarded in district and county fairs. Proper arranging of fair dates will be taken up so that attractive amusement features can be placed on nonconflicting circuits.

WISCONSIN FAIRS

(Continued from page 59)

crease in premiums and you will find that this may be remedied by revising the list, discontinuing the payment of premiums on items that are not popular in your territory, or that attract only one or two entries, and increasing the premiums on the staple items. Is it fair to continue a department having but one or two entries yearly?"

Commenting upon the inauguration of group meetings this year, President Putnam suggested that next year similar luncheons for concession and racing groups be held. He complimented the State Department of Agriculture for the splendid co-operation given the fairs of the State. Officers of the association held two legislative meetings with the commissioner of agriculture during the last year, he said, and forestalled some legislation that would have been detrimental to the fairs.

"There have been some acts booked by fairs last year," he said, "that canceled at the last minute, leaving the fairs in a hole. We should get behind some legislation which would permit us to work out a blacklist that would bar such acts from the State."

He urged fair officials to pay strict attention to the concessions on the midway in order that there may be no kickbacks. "The association," he said, "can take full credit for having cleaned up the midway."

Premium Lists Need Revision

George Briggs, of Madison, judge of the department of agriculture, gave a straight-from-the-shoulder talk upon the need of drastic revision of premium lists and better display of exhibits. Every exhibitor should be well rewarded for the exhibits he brings together, he said. However, the matter of educational value of exhibits should not be neglected, and the manner in which many exhibits are displayed at the majority of fairs makes their value extremely negligible. Better labeling of exhibits is needed and there are many other abuses that need correcting. Briggs recommended that in the premium lists the exhibits be numbered consecutively instead of the almost universal plan of starting the first exhibit in each department or class with number one. The present method is extremely cumbersome and confusing, he stated. In the youths' departments he recommends paying premiums on the group plan. For instance, instead of having one first prize, 1 second, etc., have 2 firsts, 4 seconds, 6 thirds and perhaps 15 or 20 fourths. "The boy who wins 20th place feels 20th," he asserted, "when as a matter of fact several exhibits may be so nearly identical as to deserve a much better rating than they are given."

Sam J. Levy, of the Barnes-Carruthers Fair Booking Association, Chicago, was the last speaker of the morning. He made his talk short and interesting, telling some entertaining incidents in his experience as a fair booker. "If you are dealing with a reliable booking firm," Levy concluded, "keep right on with that firm. And don't try to pick your own show. The agent knows the acts and is much more competent to lay out a show than a secretary who has but limited dealings with acts and is familiar with but few of them."

Tuesday's Session

A number of new arrivals were on hand for Tuesday's session, which got under way at 10 o'clock. Wm. F. Henk, commissioner of agriculture and markets, was the first speaker. His talk was brief. He urged that fair men make things as pleasant as possible for the exhibitor, especially the live-stock exhibitor, who is the backbone of the fair. He offered some pertinent suggestions as to how fair officials might co-operate with the exhibitors for best results.

W. W. Clark, of Madison, next spoke on "What's Wrong With Premium Lists?" He, as other speakers had done before him, emphasized the fact that there is need of drastic revision. The greater part of his talk, however, was devoted to exhibits and he showed figures and charts to convince his audience that the average exhibit is extremely ineffective in inducing patrons of the fair to adopt better farm practices. There has been practically no change in exhibits in 20 years, he said, and, altho business houses have changed their window exhibits to conform to progress and keep pace with the times, the fairs have lagged, with the result that they accomplish little toward fostering better farm and home practices. He urged more "project booths" which show results of

good and poor farm practice as a means of getting more value from exhibits.

Herbert M. Knipfel, another commissioner of agriculture and markets, hammered home still more facts concerning premium lists and exhibits, urging enlargement of junior work even if senior work has to be somewhat curtailed. "There should be no radical upset, but a gradual change in exhibits that will result in farmers adopting new and better methods," he declared.

Ethel Rockwell, of Madison, spoke at length on Pageants and Plays, urging fairs to adopt drama and pageantry in their entertainment programs, and giving suggestions as to some of the necessary conditions for the successful handling of such entertainment. One suggestion that did not find a favorable response among the fair men was that during the presentation of plays all other activities—rides, shows, hawking of peanuts, etc., in the vicinity should stop. This, in the view of most of the fair men, would not be feasible.

Paul Hughes, of Ekhnorn, gave the assembly some suggestions on handling use and occupancy insurance on their buildings. In the discussion that followed it was brought out that the fair buildings of Wisconsin are not fairly classified for this insurance. The statement of Hughes that fairground insurance is extremely hazardous and is not sought by the insurance companies was disputed and he was challenged to cite facts to support his contention, but gave none, other than that it was the finding of the insurance companies thru a survey covering the entire country. C. S. Van Auker, prominent Wisconsin secretary, and himself in the insurance business, stated that there had been practically no fairground fires in Wisconsin within recent years. Following Hughes' talk the meeting adjourned for the day.

Following adjournment of the general session Tuesday, the fair presidents, secretaries and treasurers gathered for the group luncheons. As there were but a few treasurers present, they met with the presidents, while the secretaries, of whom there was a large number, formed a separate group. A wide variety of topics was discussed by both groups, and, according to those who participated, many helpful suggestions were brought out and will be utilized in improving next year's fair.

The Banquet

More than 300 persons attended the banquet held Tuesday evening in the grand ballroom of the Schroeder. A splendid repast was served, while excellent music was dispensed by the Hotel Schroeder Orchestra. At the speakers' table President A. L. Putnam presided. His introduction of the speaking program was brief but felicitous. Chas. L. Hill, chairman of the State department of agriculture and markets, took up the topic of premium lists where it had been left off at the morning session, and hammered away with suggestions for revision. He was followed by E. H. Hilker, chairman of the joint finance legislative committee, who gave a resume of the financial legislation, especially as it affects the fairs. Secretary J. F. Malone then introduced Dr. R. P. Shepherd, head of the publicity staff of the Chicago World's Fair, and Dr. Shepherd gave a lucid and sprightly talk on plans for the 1933 event. The last speaker was Lee Ragsdale, Western Union official, who proved himself an excellent entertainer. His humorous relation of the contents of mythical wires kept the diners convulsed with mirth.

The entertainment provided by several bookers was very good, and included the following acts: Grant and Rosalia, dancers, furnished thru the courtesy of the Robinson-Lavilla Attractions, Chicago, and appearing in two separate numbers; Four Weril Sisters, saxophone artists, furnished thru the Strehlow Attractions, Milwaukee; Laverne and Clemons, dancers, thru Royer Bros. Attractions, and the Badger State Male Quartet, popular radio harmonists, thru the Strehlow Attractions, and Archie Royer himself, in comedy acrobatics. Following the acts, an interesting film, showing club work in Clark County, was screened. C. W. Hinck, well-known motor-racing impresario of Minneapolis, acted as announcer and master of ceremonies during the presentation of the entertainment program, and acquitted himself nobly.

Wednesday's Session

The speaking program of Wednesday morning's session was comparatively brief. August Spitzer, of Luxemburg,

offered some pertinent suggestions on race-horse entry fees. He suggested that no entries be accepted without the entrance fee first being paid. It was brought out in the discussion that followed that this is one of the requirements at practically all fairs, but that it seldom is enforced. It was pointed out that in many instances fairs whose dates happen to conflict with others in adjacent territory accept entries without advance entry fee, because of the keen competition to obtain satisfactory horses. A motion was unanimously adopted that the association go on record as recommending that fees for all race entries must be paid by 11 o'clock on the day preceding the race. There also was considerable discussion concerning the practice of keeping horses in a higher time class than that in which they properly belong. This is a condition that has caused trouble for years and appears to be difficult to control. C. S. Van Auker, a director of the American Trotting Association, suggested as a remedy that all money winnings be shown on a horse's certificate in order that the racing secretary may place the horse in its proper class. W. F. Winsor, of Mauston, stated there are more ringers among the horsemen racing today than ever before. Herb Smith, of De Pere; L. B. Winsink, of Plymouth; Taylor O. Brown, of Oshkosh, and several others, took part in the discussion. Out of the welter of suggestions, two motions were made and adopted. One that Dr. Mills, vice-president, and C. S. Van Auker, director, of the American Trotting Association, be appointed deputies, to attend the February meeting of the association in Chicago in an effort to bring about a better understanding regarding classification of horses; the other, by W. F. Winsor, that the association adopt a recommendation that all Wisconsin associations race under American Trotting Association rules, and that entry fees be paid not later than 11 o'clock the day before the race.

George P. Fiedler, of Seymour, spoke briefly upon the need for better exhibits. There was some discussion regarding county aid for fairs, and A. W. Prehn, of Wausau, advocated the passage of a law regulating county levies for fairs. It was agreed that the new board should present the matter at the association's next meeting.

A. W. Kalbus, of the State agricultural department, Madison, gave a brief resume of the 1930 department regulations as they relate to fairs. His report on the midways of Wisconsin fairs was highly complimentary. Not a single complaint regarding fair midways was received in 1929, he said. The department has issued the following suggestions for the conduct of 1930 midways:

"Attention is directed to Section 20.60-11 (d) of the Wisconsin statutes, which provides that fairs claiming State aid must file a statement, verified by oath, that at such fair all gambling devices whatsoever, the sale of intoxicating liquors, and exhibitions of immoral character were prohibited and excluded from the fairgrounds and all adjacent grounds under their authority or control."

"This circular is being sent to fair secretaries with the idea of aiding them in selecting proper games and devices, in order that their claims for State aid may not be successfully challenged. It is our opinion that the following games operated under the conditions named below are permissible, and fairs are directed to permit no others:

1. Group baseball games. This game must be framed in such a way that the players are permitted to throw baseballs into hoppers, the boxes of which are about 3 1/4 inches square inside measurements, and 3 1/4 inches deep. All numbers in the boxes must be visible to all the players. The operators of the game must not be allowed to throw the balls for the players.
2. Nail-driving games.
3. High strikers.
4. Weighing scales.
5. Knife racks, cane racks and hoops, operated with legitimate rings, and where the rings encircle the object played for.
6. Milk bottle games.
7. Doll racks with dolls attached to rack with hinge.
8. Cigaret shooting galleries.
9. Any game for amusement only, where no cash or merchandise prizes are offered, such as the African Dodger, mechanical shooting galleries with proper safeguards, etc.

"In no case should money be offered as prizes, buying back privileges given, or money offered in any way as an inducement. Any games controlled by the operator should not be permitted. Oper-

ators should conduct their business within the space assigned them by the fair association, and in no case should boosters or cappers be permitted.

"High pitch" operators or "auction stores" should not be permitted to operate.

"The soliciting of subscriptions known as 'sheet writing' should be prohibited except in the case of Wisconsin papers who may operate from booths only and without premium inducements of any kind.

"Attention is called to Section 348.351 of the statutes, which defines fortune tellers as vagrants. It is therefore advised that fortune telling in any form whether phrenology, palmistry, etc., be eliminated from the grounds of Wisconsin fairs receiving State aid.

"The policing of fair midways is left with the fair associations. Representatives of this department will merely report conditions to us and recommend the granting or the disallowing of State aid."

Kalbus called attention to the general regulations governing the fairs, among those to which he particularly referred being the following:

"Fairs contemplating making a claim for State aid must submit two copies of a revised premium list to this office before May 1, 1930. These premium lists will be checked and one copy returned with any necessary corrections. If a fair fails to submit a premium list before May 1 it will be assumed that no State aid will be claimed and no application for State aid will be considered at a later date. The law provides that State aid shall be allowed only on premiums approved by the department.

"No entry fees or deductions from money winners will be permitted. Exhibitors may be required to purchase an exhibitor's season ticket at a price not to exceed the price ordinarily charged for season tickets, or an exhibitor's single ticket at not to exceed the cost of one admission per day. The purchase of this ticket will permit the exhibitor to make a reasonable number of entries in all departments. Exhibitors in the Educational and Boys and Girls' Club departments shall not be required to purchase exhibitor's season tickets or single tickets.

"Each fair management should decide definitely whether entries should be limited to exhibits from within the county alone or from a larger territory, but fairs will not be permitted to have two classes, that is, one for local exhibitors and one for non-local exhibitors. Attention is called to the State aid law which limits State aid to premiums paid to exhibitors who are residents of Wisconsin, excepting live-stock exhibitors. In case Wisconsin non-live-stock exhibitors have out-of-the-State addresses, State aid will not be allowed on premiums won unless affidavit is made by the fair secretary that such exhibitors are residents of Wisconsin.

"Not more than two prizes shall be awarded an exhibitor under one prize or lot number. State aid will be allowed accordingly.

"Fairs must indicate exact dates of their fair when submitting premium book, and must promptly advise the department of any change in dates later in the season."

Reports of the secretary-treasurer and the various committees were presented. The resolutions adopted were brief, embodying appreciation of the association to all of those who helped to make the meeting a success. The nominating committee presented the names of 14 members for consideration for the office of director, seven to be elected. Results of the balloting showed the following elected: A. L. Putnam, Chippewa Falls, who received 27 ballots out of a total of 28 cast; J. F. Malone, Beaver Dam; Geo. Fiedler, Seymour; A. W. Kalbus, Milwaukee; Ora P. Taylor, Ekhnorn; A. W. Prehn, Wausau. For seventh place Frank Minchell, of Viroqua, and M. F. Winsor, of Mauston, were tied, receiving 13 votes each. The toss of a coin gave the victory to Minchell. As many of the fair men were anxious to get away on early trains the directors met immediately following their election to choose officers for the ensuing year. After a short session it was announced that the old officers were re-elected. A. L. Putnam continues as president. Ora P. Taylor as vice-president, Malone as secretary.

Delegates

While there was no complete list of those who attended the meeting, the following names were gleaned: Ralph Ammon, Madison; Knute Anderson, Eau Claire; B. G. Alm, Phillips; A. P. Bau-

mann, Chilton; Louis Becker, Wausau; John Richler, Port Washington; Chas. Behm, Shawano; G. W. Bingham, Friendship; Chas. Bantz, Fond du Lac; Thos. C. Rind, Richland Center; G. L. Broadfoot, Mendota; Eddie Booth, Milwaukee; Geo. Briggs, Madison; S. B. Brown, Green Bay; Taylor Brown, Oshkosh; H. C. Buchanan, Superior; M. S. Busch, Milwaukee; E. D. Byrne, West Bend; Julius Cahn, Luxemburg; P. S. Campbell, Superior; F. C. Borchardt, Milwaukee; Louis W. Cattau, Shawano; J. D. Christie, Wausau; W. W. Clark, Madison; A. O. Collettine, Madison; Wm. Creed, Neillsville; Geo. E. DeKeyser, Brussels; J. E. Dickson, Viroqua; John Dittberger, Ringo; J. M. Doesburg, Plymouth; E. M. Doll, Baraboo; Chas. B. Drewry, Marinette; C. M. Dubois, Baraboo; A. R. Feckler, Mondovi; Geo. F. Fiedler, Seymour; E. R. Frederick, Beaver Dam; S. C. French, Galvesville; W. P. Fuller, Westfield; F. J. Gatezman, Wausau; Guerta, De Pere; John Greenwood, Green Bay; G. S. Hales, Cedarburg; H. L. Halsted, Baraboo; Jas. Harris, Jr., Mineral Point; O. C. Helderbaum, Manitowoc; O. C. Henke, Milwaukee; Wm. M. Higgins, Monroe; Chas. L. Hill, Madison; G. M. Holbrook, Delavan; F. W. Ruth, Seymour; John Jameson, Wautoma; T. J. Jensen, Friendship; A. W. Kalbus, Milwaukee; H. A. Kennedy, Iron River; F. P. Kennedy, Three Lakes; J. P. Kennedy, Boscobel; Geo. W. Kiel, Manitowoc; Wm. S. Klaus, De Pere; W. F. Kohl, Antigo; Wallace J. Landry, Neillsville; John Lauterbach, Cedarburg; A. A. Loken, Manitowoc; J. F. Malone, Beaver Dam; S. E. Marcotte, De Pere; W. T. Marriott, Baraboo; John Mathison, Wausau; W. L. Miller, Milwaukee; G. A. Mills, Wausau; P. M. Minshall, Viroqua; F. C. Nelson, Hayward; Harvey A. Nelson, Union Grove; Ed Nemeck, Black River Falls; T. A. Nickodem, Seymour; H. J. Patterson, McFarland; R. L. Pierce, Menomonie; Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Plozman, Eldron; O. O. Potter, Tomah; A. W. Prehn, Wausau; A. L. Putnam, Chippewa Falls; C. C. Randolph, East Troy; Herman Rau, Chilton; F. J. Rehberg, Tomah; L. O. Rehm, Kiel; W. F. Renk, Madison; Leo Richter, Fond du Lac; A. J. Rejck, Weyauwega; Ernest Ringo, Wausau; O. W. Rowlands, Waukesha; D. E. Roy, Milwaukee; B. P. Ruey, Sturgeon Bay; Richard Seim, Union Grove; P. O. Schmoldt, Medford; F. J. Schuette, Cedarburg; Henry W. Schwark, Westfield; Frank Siggleow, McFarland; Clinton Skewes, Union Grove; Herb J. Smith, De Pere; August Spitzer, Luxemburg; C. T. Taylor, Wautoma; Ora Taylor, Elkhorn; Geo. Thieler, Tomahawk; J. P. Thomas, Waukesha; W. A. Tomek, Two Rivers; Geo. Trim, Galvesville; W. A. Upmeyer, Marshfield; C. S. Van Auker and C. S. Van Auker, Jr., La Crosse; Col. F. G. Van Derwede, Antigo; R. B. Vickory, Green Bay; August Watzke, Plymouth; Emil Welk, Rhineland; I. B. Wensink, Plymouth; M. E. Wilding, Neillsville; R. R. Williams, Marshfield; W. F. Winsor, Mauston; R. T. Wiswell, Elkhorn; M. Wittbeck, Marinette; Wm. Witt, Milwaukee; E. E. Wyatt, Tomah; C. E. Yahn, Boscobel; A. H. Zimmerman, Wausau; D. F. Zull, Whitewater; H. W. Chadwick, Everett Kell and Paulus Roth, of Monroe.

Attractions People

A. F. Thaviu and Samuel Thaviu, Thaviu's Band and Revue; Billy W. Williams, Williams & Lee; D. C. Smith and C. F. Frisbie, Kemper-Thomas; Jay E. Gould, Gould Family; Mike Barnes, Sam J. Levy, Sharp Caruthers, Fred Kressmann and Austyn O. Swenson, Barnes-Caruthers Fair Booking Association; Jack Polk and A. Sighebe, Lew Rosenthal Attractions; Mike T. Clark and Dennis E. Howard, S. W. Brundage Shows; Ernie Young and Big Billie Collins, Ernie Young Attractions; Ethel Robinson, Camille Lavilla, Harry B. Hassler, Al Miller, C. Miller, Nellie Vaughn and Don Grant, Robinson-Lavilla Attractions; M. B. Howard, Florence Covery and J. W. Logan, Gus Sun Booking Exchange; Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Hall, concessionaires; Chas. H. Duffield, Frank P. Duffield, A. F. Briese, Mert Gribble and Geo. Kessler, Thearle-Duffield Fireworks Company; R. S. Oakes, C. E. Miller Amusement Enterprise; Edgar I. Schooley, Schooley Productions; Allie T. Wooster, racing attractions; Pauline Skerbeck, Skerbeck's rides; H. E. Boyer, Buttonless Tire Cover Company; C. W. Hinck, Hinck's Motor Derby; Theo. Fish, John B. Rogers Producing Company; Felice Bernardi, Bernardi Shows; J. C. McCaffery, Rubin & Cherry Shows; C. D. Odom, Ringling Bros.; E. E. Smith, E. O. Staats & Co., badges and novelties; Howard and F. B. Merrill, Merrill Bros. & Sister; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Buchanan,

concessionaires; Larry S. Hogan, Wortham's World's Best Shows; August Strehlow, Strehlow Attractions; DeWaldo Attractions; Archie Royer, Royer Bros. Attractions; W. P. Elcheloeder, Regalia Manufacturing Company; F. M. Whitbeck, Bradford & Company, advertising novelties; J. Saunders Gordon and Truman Fraser, Gordon Fireworks Co.; Robert Hughes, rides, shows and concessions; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Strayer, Strayer Amusement Company; Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Surrles, concessionaires; Louis Torti, E. J. McArdell and Julius Wiechert, Wisconsin De Luxe Doll & Dress Company; A. D. Alliger, International Fireworks Company; Mr. and Mrs. Hans Kuchler, concessionaires; E. B. and Leo M. Cimijotti, Cimijotti's Dancing Horses; H. A. Kaarup and John Kaarup, Kaarup Attractions; Myrtle Vinton Bulmer, Vinton & Bulmer Attractions; Col. C. A. Bell, J. F. Dehnert Amusement Company; George V. Adams and Victor Perry, Adams Rodeo Attractions; E. L. Pearson, outdoor showman; W. L. Miller, State's rights pictures; Mike Suddi, concessionaire; Harry Pearson, concessionaire; Otto Henke, Henke Shows; M. G. Bellis, Marathon Novelty Company; F. O. Gregg, human cannonball and autos that pass in the air; R. J. Howard, Howard Radio Company, William Gause, Gause Amusement Company; A. L. Moore, loudspeakers; Carl Stussy, privilege man; Leslie Bodnar, Noah C. Petit and George Hilltonberry, Bodnar Bros.' Shows; Lew Christiansen, Aerial Christiansens; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Engford, motorized circus; Frank E. Hall, Vanderburg Bros. Circus; St. Julian Attractions and A. Stone, Liberty Fireworks Company.

H. A. Green, Stanford-Crowell Co.; H. S. Moeller; Fred Terry; Nat S. Green. The Billboard; Tom Gill, concessionaire; Goldie Cosmore; John Goldberg, concessionaire; Fred Walters, concessionaire; Ethel Devere, entertainer.

Notes

Archie Putnam, Jim Malone and A. W. Prehn made the first page of *The Journal* Monday, that daily running a three-column cut of the three fair notables. And on Tuesday *The News* carried two big pictures in which a number of fair men and attractions agents appeared. We haven't learned whether the publicity was spontaneous or inspired.

F. M. Whitebeck, representing an advertising novelty company, is one of the real old-time troupers. Forty years ago he was a circus performer and has seen many a gangling punk whom he used to work with develop into a brilliant star of the sawdust arena.

The disappearance of A. L. Putnam's grip from his hotel room furnished a first-class mystery that had officials of the hostelry hustling to solve. Archie's grip was purloined from his room by someone evidently bent on securing certain papers. Fortunately the "documents" were safe in Putnam's pocket, but the missing grip contained his annual address and some important fair records that he was sorry to lose. Up to the time of the meeting's adjournment no trace of the grip had been found.

During the introduction of attractions people, Myrtle Vinton Bulmer enlivened the proceedings by giving the assembled fair men a sample of her yodeling.

T. P. Elcheloeder, of the Regalia Mfg. Co., who usually makes the Wisconsin meeting, is ill at his home and his brother, W. P., was on the job in his stead.

Jay Gould, on his first trip to the Wisconsin meeting, had a unique attraction in the Gould family—11 people and all bona fide Goulds. The family travels in a specially built de luxe bus and equipped with all the comforts of home. Some time we hope to obtain a photo of it.

August Strehlow entertained several friends at a wonderful dinner of bear meat with all the trimmings Sunday evening. He had enough meat to supply a small army and was disappointed that more of the boys were unable to partake of his hospitality. And it's a cinch the boys were disappointed when they learned what they had missed.

It revived old memories to see posters announcing Sun Bros.' Circus, which Gus Sun is putting out this year.

The boys have to hand it to Larry Hall and his misus as royal entertainers. Larry is never so happy as when he is surrounded by a bunch of his friends. A loud speaker installed in Ernie

Young's display room by A. L. Moore furnished both music and amusement to everyone who visited the fifth floor. Earl Taylor accidentally demonstrated that he has an excellent radio voice.

Jack Buchanan and Hans Kuchler expect to make a nice piece of money from the refreshment privilege at the Milwaukee Auto Show at the Auditorium next week. Buchanan is in charge of concessions at the auditorium.

Archie Royer, 73 years young, was the spryest attractions man at the meeting, bar none, and at the banquet he did his front flip with an ease that was the envy of every acrobat who witnessed it.

Julius Cahn, the "Count of Luxemburg", hasn't made up his mind whether to spend the remainder of the winter in Florida or California, but the latter seems to have the edge.

Some would-be racketeer tried to hook several of the showmen at the convention, but was promptly squeaked and beat an ignominious retreat.

A. D. Alliger was not the only one who had difficulty securing a room because of the congestion at the Schroeder. Tuesday arrivals found few rooms available.

The nifty cigaret package caps handed out as souvenirs by Louis Torti of the Wisconsin De Luxe Doll & Dress Co. were very much appreciated.

Col. C. A. Bell, general agent of the J. F. Dehnert Amusement Co., invaded Wisconsin territory for the first time and carried off at least half a dozen contracts—Neillsville, Rhineland, Phillips, Medford, Plattville and Seymour.

Pauline Skerbeck, also on her first trip to the Wisconsin association meeting, did very nicely in the way of contracts, securing Friendship, Sturgeon Bay, Ashland, Iron River and Hayward for the Skerbeck rides. Miss Skerbeck's charm and winning personality gained her a host of friends at the convention.

Mert Gribble came down to Milwaukee from a trip to Minneapolis slated over a contract he signed in the Twin City to furnish fireworks in conjunction with the big winter sports carnival to be held January 21.

The Kaarups, father and son, who are well known to many Wisconsin fair patrons thru having played numerous fairs in the Badger State with their rides, were kept busy greeting old friends, and they signed up a goodly number of dates.

Samuel Thaviu signed up the Wisconsin A circuit for Thaviu's Band and Revue. This is his second year on the circuit.

August Strehlow will present six of his acts at the big lumbermen's show, to be held at the Schroeder Hotel in February.

J. Saunders Gordon is furnishing the table decorations for the fair association meetings at Columbus, O.; Lincoln, Neb.; Indianapolis and Kalamazoo.

Haines and Holderman Are Re-Elected Officers

DAYTON, O., Jan. 11.—The Montgomery County Agricultural Association has reorganized, with Ralph C. Haines re-elected as president and Judge L. L. Holderman as secretary, positions which both have held for many years.

Last year the board discontinued night fairs after three years, but a majority of the members expressed themselves as desirous of adding some night features this year, preferably night horse racing. This is to be decided later after estimates of special track lighting, which would be required, are secured.

Secretary Holderman was authorized to represent the local board at the meeting of Ohio Fair Managers at Columbus January 15 to 17.

Lease at Quincy Expires; 1930 Fair Seems Hopeless

QUINCY, ILL., Jan. 11.—Baldwin Park, for three-quarters of a century the local fairgrounds site, and for two years the site of the State fair in the pioneer days, was vacated last week by the Adams County Fair Association upon expiration of the lease upon the tract.

Altho directors of the county fair organization are endeavoring to secure another location for uninterrupted continuance of the fairs, prospects of a 1930 show seem hopeless. Unsatisfactory lease terms, fair officials said, forced them to give up the site. C. C. Mast, secretary of the fair, said that under terms of the lease all permanent improvements remain on the ground. Thomas Baldwin, owner of the grounds, has refused to comment upon the situation.

Northern Fair Circuit Elects

McLAUGHLIN, S. D., Jan. 11.—E. H. Noteboom, of Selby, was elected president of the Northern Fair Circuit at a meeting held in Moberly at which a schedule of fairs for this vicinity was arranged. Dr. E. J. McAllister, Lemmon, was elected secretary-treasurer, and C. A. McCormick, of Faith, vice-president.

The Flanders Carnival Company was given the circuit amusement contract and the Lemmon Legion drum and bugle corps was hired to play at the various fairs except McLaughlin.

Dates for the fairs follow: Selby, July 28, 29 and 30; Leith, July 31, August 1 and 2; Lemmon, August 4, 5 and 6; Faith, August 7, 8 and 9; McLaughlin, August or September (dates pending), and Eureka September 17, 18 and 19.

McLaughlin was not represented at the meeting for the reason that no officers for the ensuing year have been chosen.

Wisconsin Fair Head Under Civil Service

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 11.—The Governor of Wisconsin will have no power to appoint a successor to Fred Borchardt, who recently resigned as secretary of the State fair, it was asserted this week by Charles L. Hill, Herbert M. Knipfel and Wm. F. Renk, State fair commissioners, in attendance at the annual meeting of the Wisconsin Association of Fairs.

According to the commissioners, discontinuance of appointment of a secretary by the Governor is the preliminary move to take the fair out of politics. The post of secretary has been abolished and in its place there has been created a new office, chief of fairs, publicity and State development. The position will be filled thru a civil service examination to be held January 31.

Program Announced For Illinois Meeting

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 11.—The program is all set for the 20th annual meeting of the Illinois Association of Agricultural Fairs, to be held at the St. Nicholas Hotel here January 16 and 17.

The address of welcome at 10 a. m. will be made by J. Emil Smith, mayor of this city, with response by William Hartke, vice-president of the association. At 10:45 there will be roll call, followed by a report of the secretary-treasurer and appointment of committees. At 11 Dr. A. C. Baxter, of this city, will speak on *Apiary Exhibits*, and at 11:45 there will be an introduction of representatives of booking agencies, etc. The afternoon session will begin at 2 o'clock with an address by M. E. (Pat) Bacon, secretary-manager of the Mississippi Valley Fair, Davenport, Ia., entitled *The Fair a Community Asset*, with the remainder of the day's program as follows: At 2:30, *Fair Management*, Governor Green, Ionia, Mich.; 3:15, *Cullinary*, Ethel Van Guilder, home economics teacher, Springfield Senior High School; 3:45, *Interstate Relations of County Fairs*, discussion by delegates from other States, led by William Ryan, of Danville; 4 o'clock, report of committees, business meeting and selection of 1931 meeting place. The annual banquet given to the association by the city of Springfield will take place at 6:30, with entertainment between courses furnished by various booking agents.

On Friday, the second day, there will be an address by Alden Snyder, farm adviser, Hillsboro, Ill., on *F-H Clubs*; 10:15, an address by Clarence F. Buck, director State Department of Agriculture, and at 11, an address by Governor L. L. Emmerson, president of the agriculture fairs association.

The present officers of the association are L. L. Emmerson, president; William Hartke, vice-president, and Stillman J. Starnard, secretary-treasurer. Directors: S. S. Vick, O. K. Baldwin, William Ryan, Jr.; C. C. Mast, J. W. Richardson and William R. Hayes.

A BIG FEATURE of the evening entertainment program at the South Florida Fair, Tampa, will be a fireworks spectacle called *The Festival of Fire and Battle of Fort McHenry*, which will be staged by the Thearle-Duffield Fireworks Company. There also will be such other favorites as *Niagara Falls* and *Fountain of Jewels*.

Kansas Fairs' Best Meeting

22 counties represented—
Aicher chosen president—
music tax is denounced

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 11.—The seventh annual meeting of the State Association of Kansas Fairs, held Tuesday and Wednesday at the Jayhawk Hotel, this city, proved the most successful one in the history of the organization. Approximately two dozen fairs were represented. I. C. Aicher, Hays, last year vice-president, was elected president, succeeding W. R. Barnard, Belleville. Bert Powell, McDonald, vice-president, and George Harman, Valley Falls, secretary-treasurer, were re-elected. It was voted to hold the 1931 meeting at the same hotel.

The meeting was called to order by President Barnard. Following roll call, minutes of the previous meeting, and the secretary-treasurer's annual report, Barnard addressed the organization, using as his subject *Our Kansas Fairs*, in which he impressed upon the fair representatives that in this day and age the automobile, radio, newspapers and telephone play a large part in the success of a fair; that contrary to the belief of most county fair secretaries, 50 miles is not the limit on the area from which to draw the attendance, but the area is the territory served. Statistics of the fairs of 1929 in comparison with 1928 were presented. In this report, an increase was shown in profits, total receipts, and a decrease in the fairs that operated at a loss. Barnard also suggested an early selection of grand stand and midway attractions, explaining the disappointments usually suffered thru late bookings. He then introduced A. L. Sponser, secretary of the State Fair at Hutchinson, whose address, *Bookkeeping Systems and Time of Paying Premiums*, brought to light many things necessary in the keeping of fair books. He stressed the importance of keeping a systematic record of the finances and suggested a uniform system of entry blanks, thereby eliminating the misunderstandings of the exhibitors.

Col. Charles L. Mitchell, director of the Kansas Free Fair, at Topeka, presented a well-delivered address on co-operation of Chambers of Commerce with the fair associations, and urged them to make special effort to impress upon the farmers the necessity of making their homelife more enjoyable for the younger element, and bettering the conditions of farm life. For example, Col. Mitchell referred to the many vacant Eastern farms which he attributes to the neglect of the farmer in the equipment of his home with the necessary luxuries of life. The auto, radio and a home to at least compare with the elaborate barns usually seen around any Kansas farm are necessary to keep the younger generation on the farm.

J. C. Mohler, secretary of the State Board of Agriculture at Topeka, outlined the connecting link of the Board of Agriculture with the Kansas fairs, and in his talk explained that the present-day fair is purely an American institution; quoted history of the origination of the fair in America and told of the first fair of Kansas, held in Leavenworth.

Dr. C. W. McCampbell, director of Animal Husbandry, K. S. A. C., Manhattan, Kan., gave a brief outline of his 20 years' experience with fairs, and at no time swayed from the subject of livestock, which seems to be the particular hobby of Dr. McCampbell. He also stressed upon his audience the importance of the duties of the various superintendents and the laxity usually shown in the selection of superintendents. Another matter of vital importance is to procure the best in exhibits, said McCampbell.

As a guest from a neighbor State, the president presented E. W. Williams, secretary of the Iowa State Association of Fairs, and also secretary of the Manchester, Ia., Fair, who talked on the operation of Iowa fairs, very impressively bringing out the point of having but one fair to the county, and the detraction from the recognized fair in having two or more fairs in the same county. Secretary Williams also impressed upon his audience the necessity of supporting

the State association; outlined the county and State benefits of Iowa, and closed with the statement that it is better to have fewer good fairs than many bad ones.

Banquet on Roof Garden

Williams' address closed the first day of the meeting, whereupon the entire delegation retired to the banquet hall, where the night was given over to "Doc" Burdick, secretary-manager of the Kansas Free Fair, Topeka, whose program included a dinner under the elaborate settings of the Jayhawk Hotel Roof Garden, with a seven-act entertainment program furnished thru the courtesy of Joe Nickell, announcer of Station WIBW. At the conclusion of the dinner and entertainment, the various representatives of the shows and free attractions were introduced and given the opportunity to present to the guests their offerings. This was the first meeting of the association to which show and free attraction people were invited, and officials of the association were exceedingly well pleased with the results.

Second Day's Session

The meeting was continued at 9 a.m. Wednesday, with the report of the Auditing Committee, followed by the report of the Legislative Committee, which follows, in part:

"Your committee appointed at the last annual meeting and given the task of getting thru the legislature, approved by the governor, and printed in the session laws the bill as approved by this meeting has to report that with the assistance of a number of the member fairs, insisting that their senators and representatives give us consideration, we are able to get by with most of the essential parts of the bill.

"As with all legislation, compromise and concession was made. Some were opposed to even the old law and of course some were for our original bill strong, so between the two we got by the final hurdle—the Senate—with a vote of only two against the bill.

"The main part compromised was the maximum aid reduced from \$3,000 to \$2,000, also the petition part in establishing a county-owned and operated free fair was eliminated, but the people may still establish a free fair if desire by majority vote at any regular or special election which the commissioners must call on petition of 25 per cent of the land owners of the county.

"My thanks are especially due fellow members on the committee, Charley Sayre, of Cottonwood Falls, and Dr. Wolf, of Ottawa, without whose encouragement and enthusiastic assistance I am sure we would have failed entirely. They have been only partially paid their expenses and should be awarded more than a vote of thanks by this meeting, to be paid out of the coming year's dues."

Following this report the election of officers was held. The executive committee was appointed by the newly elected president, consisting of, besides the officers, Dr. W. R. Barnard, of Belleville, and E. R. Hoffman, of Abilene. A grievance committee was selected to iron out the difficulties usually encountered between the fair associations and the midway and free attractions. Dr. W. R. Barnard and E. C. Smith, of Pleasanton, were appointed. The Legislative Committee continues as heretofore.

Two members from each congressional district were elected to the board of directors. They were E. J. Woodman, Whitmore, and C. E. Sells, Effingham, first district; second district, E. Lister, Ottawa, and E. C. Smith, Pleasanton; third district, G. B. Wooddell, Winnfield, and W. P. Boyer, Coffeyville; fourth district, J. Eppenger, Burlington, and C. A. Sayre, Cottonwood Falls; fifth district, W. R. Barnard, Belleville, and E. L. Hoffman, Abilene; sixth district, Bert Powell, McDonald, and L. C. Aicher, Hays; seventh district, S. A. Renner, Rush Center, and A. L. Sponser, Hutchinson; eighth district, T. E. Wittum, Caldwell.

At the round-table conference, many subjects of interest pertaining to the management of the various departments of the fair were discussed. Delegates made notes of the suggestions that would be useful in the management of their respective fairs.

E. L. Barrier, State budget director, Topeka, gave a brief talk on the budgeting of fairs. John Redmond, secretary Coffey County Fair, Burlington, spoke on *Music for Outdoor Attractions*. His address caused quite a stir. Labeling the practice of charging a license fee for music rendered on fair programs as a "plain holdup", he read a sweeping indictment against the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, as well as a firm of Topeka attorneys. He

read excerpts from a bulletin, giving the penalties for violation of the copyright act, passed in 1907. He also directed attention to letters sent out by the law firm, threatening legal action against fair associations that failed to pay the required \$25 fee. It was said at the meeting that Kansas was the only State where the fee was required of fair associations. After a thoro discussion, Secretary Harman was instructed to take the matter up with the Attorney-General, and report his decision to the delegates.

Cleve Lane, Specialist Publicity Bureau, Topeka, was unable to attend the meeting, but supplied a manuscript of his proposed talk, in which he pointed out the results that can be obtained from various forms of advertising. An important factor is the newspaper, but the most important of all, the support of the community in which the fair is held, his paper stated.

A resolution was adopted expressing the gratitude of the association to the hotel for the use of the convention hall gratis; to Station WIBW, thru which the program was presented at the banquet, and to the entertainers for their splendid entertainment; to the local newspapers for their liberal space; to the various speakers for their efforts in helping to make this the most successful meeting held by the association, and to *The Billboard* for its many courtesies.

The following counties answered to roll call: Russell, Sherman, Washington, Clay, Nemaha, Marshall, Coffey, Shawnee, Norton, Rush, Jewell, Rooks, Atchison, Barton, Rawlins, Chase, Ford, Reno, Trego, Saline, Stafford, Pottawatomie; also the representatives of the State Fair at Hutchinson and the Kansas Free Fair at Topeka.

Exhibitors, free acts and shows represented were: The Thearle-Duffield Fireworks Company, Radio-Keith-Orpheum Circuit, Barnes - Carruthers Booking Agency, Frederick B. Ingram, John B. Rogers Producing Co., Summer Shows, Wichita Fireworks & Decorating Company, Harper's Attractions, Rhoades Fireworks, Regalia Manufacturing Company, Perkins' Free Acts, W. A. Gibbs' Shows, Brodbeck Bros' Shows, The Lanshaw Players, Barnett-Schuta Shows, J. L. Landes Shows, Tucker's Indoor Circus, McAnally Auto Races, A. B. Conner, with "Queen", the wonder dog; Vernon Bros' Shows, Ole Olsen, Puritan Fireworks Company, The Royal American Shows, and Ted North Players.

Special Days Announced For Florida State Fair

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 11.—Governor Doyle E. Carlton will be the guest of honor and principal speaker on Governor's Day at the Florida State Fair. It is announced by G. B. Lewis, general manager. The program of the various days follows:

Saturday, March 15, Children's Day, Manufacturers' Day, College Day and Fraternal Orders' Day; Monday, March 17, Press Day, Rotary Day and Women's Day; Tuesday, March 18, Colored Activities Day, with a special program in the colored department; Wednesday, March 19, All-Florida Day and Governor's Day; Thursday, March 20, Jacksonville Day and Duval County Day; Friday, March 21, Georgia and Alabama Day, Confederate Veterans' Day, Kiwanis Club Day, Lions' Club Day and Exchange Club Day; Saturday, March 22, Travelers' Day and Everybody's Day.

Considerable speculation on the part of other fairs thruout Florida has been roused by the announcement that a 25-cent gate would prevail at the Jacksonville exhibition and the outcome will be closely watched by the different exhibitions. Following along the line of making the State's exposition the banner in point of attendance, the board of directors has under consideration the "nickel idea", so prevalently successful at the Canadian National Exhibition, of making the entrance fee to the grounds, shows and rides on Children's Day the nominal sum of 5 cents.

A feature of the Florida State Fair will be an industrial and manufacturing exhibit of articles made and distributed in Jacksonville, and for this display an entire building has been designated, with space for more than 100 booths. Nothing will be sold in the "Jacksonville-Made-and-Sold" Building.

The Eighth Annual Dog Show of the Jacksonville Kennel Club will be one of the drawing cards.

The free-act program is being rapidly

Among the Free Acts

BEE KYLE, high diver; Sallardo Troupe, contortionists, and Aerial Earls will be on the free-act program at the Jackson County Fair, Seymour, Ind. Miss Kyle will make her dive thru fire both afternoon and evening, and at the same time will conduct a local diving contest. She appeared at the fair two years ago. The dates of this year's fair are August 25 to 30, inclusive.

TWO BIG German free acts have been engaged for the Central Wisconsin State Fair, Marshfield. They are the Max Thielon Troupe of seven people introducing the latest European springboard feats, and the Six Marinelli Girls, performing Arab pyramid building and acrobatic feats and introducing new European novelties on the Roman ladders. The Thielon act is still in Germany, but will sail for this country in the near future and play vaudeville houses before the outdoor season opens. The Marinelli Girls are playing RKO Time.

THE SCHOOLEY REVUE, *Temptations of 1929*, will be featured at the New York State Fair, Syracuse, which will open Labor Day. This revue will also be featured at the Great Allentown Fair, Allentown, Pa., September 16-20.

HOAGLAND'S Hippodrome Attractions will head the free-act program at the Shenandoah Valley Fair, Staunton, Va., which will be held the week of September 1.

RUSS BERLOI passed thru Kansas City en route to Chicago, where he will frame his high pole act. Berloi announced he will build the highest high pole in existence, standing 140 feet. He will play fairs and parks in the Middle West the coming season.

JIMMY RAGSDALE writes from Tulsa, Okla., that he and his wife are rehearsing a new perch act for fairs. They will be known as the Aerial Fays. Ragsdale also advises that his wife, Thelma Fay, made a hurried trip by plane to Detroit to visit with her mother. At present he is engaged at a flower shop in Tulsa as designer and intends to remain there thruout the winter.

NEVER BEFORE have so many stellar attractions been booked for the free acts in front of the grand stand at the South Florida Fair, Tampa, as those announced by General Manager, P. T. Streider. No less than 35 acts will be offered. The Dutton Attractions, headed by Mrs. Nellie Dutton, of circus fame, will provide many of the best known acts, including among others the Dutton Equestrian Revue, with entire new wardrobe and equipment; the Dutton Comedy Riders, with Myrtle Compton as headliner; Spark Plug and Dan Mitchell, comedy mule number; Mlle. Florence and Company, contortion number; Howard Brothers, comedy acrobatic act; Topsy, the big elephant; Barlos' Dogs, a troupe of 12 trained fox terriers with a high-dive finish; Dan Mitchell, comedian and mimic of Charlie Chaplin; The Nagles will furnish six attractions for the fair, all of which are of the highest class. Mons. Maximo, Ringling-Barnum star, will appear in a solo act featuring his remarkable impersonation of an intoxicated man walking a slack wire; Helen Sube's Seals will offer a water circus; the Steiner Trio will present comedy aerial acts, with knock-about stunts on the bars; Madame Maree and Pals will present an animal comedy circus; The Harrison's, novelty bicycle act; The Pattersons, auto polo and funny Ford; Lewis and Sells, clowns of the Ringling Circus—Sells presenting his educated pig; Cook and Wisel, a new act of sensations and thrills; Sensational Meredith, also in a thrilling act; Iola's Dogs; Cy Compton's Wild West, and "Silver King", the movie dog. Music for the acts will be furnished, as last year, by Merle Evans and his Singing Shows band.

completed, and from the number of inquiries from concessionaires and exhibitors it is indicated that there is confidence in the new general manager, G. B. Lewis, that this year the Florida State Fair will be among the real State fairs of the South.

Fair Elections

ALLENTOWN, Pa.—All officers of the Great Allentown Fair have been re-elected. They are Ed B. School, president; Major M. H. Beary, secretary and manager, and F. Hausman, treasurer.

COBLESKILL, N. Y.—Dan McKenna has been appointed president of the Cobleskill Fair Association. All of the old directors have been re-elected. This year's fair will be held week of September 22.

WALTON, N. Y.—All officers of the Delaware Valley Agricultural Society of this city have been re-elected. The dates for the 1930 fair have been definitely decided upon as August 27-29.

RHINEBECK, N. Y.—Senator J. Griswold Webb has been returned to office as president of the Dutchess County Fair. Benson Frost has been re-elected secretary. The fair proved a big success in 1929, and the budget has been increased for 1930. The week of August 26 has been selected as the date.

SPENCER, Ia.—Officers and directors of the Clay County Fair Association were re-elected at the annual meeting as follows: H. B. Noll, president; R. T. Pullen, vice-president; O. A. Bjornstad, treasurer, and Leo C. Dalley, secretary. The board authorized erection of a new dance pavilion this summer, and further plans for gradual expansion of the fair properties were discussed.

BLUEHILL, Me.—At the 38th annual meeting of the stockholders of the Bluehill Fair the following officers were elected: President, R. V. N. Bliss (fifth term); vice-president, Harry Hinckley; treasurer, M. R. Hinckley, and secretary, E. G. Williams. Directors were re-elected as follows: A. K. Saunders, chairman; Harry Leach, M. Leach, R. D. Hinckley and R. W. Hinckley.

Reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and accepted. The treasurer's report showed all bills paid and a net gain of \$1,558.13 on the 1929 fair, putting the society in the winning class for the last five years.

New bleachers have been erected, and in the last two years more than \$2,000 has been spent in improvements. In addition the grounds have been wired for electricity, thus making the plant one of the best in the State. This year's fair will begin Labor Day and run for three days. Attendance last Labor Day was 7,000. The total for the three days was 13,000.

EUGENE, Ore.—Trouble in the ranks of the Lane County Fair Association was settled when E. U. Lee was elected president to succeed George O. Knowles, who died soon after his election several days ago. Mrs. Mabel Chadwick, around whom the friction centered, was retained as secretary. She was elected when Knowles was chosen president, but those who opposed her claimed the election was illegal. H. C. Wheeler, of Pleasant Hill, was named vice-president of the board, and O. S. Fletcher, Lane County agricultural agent, was named director, taking the place left vacant by Knowles.

CHILTON, Wis.—At the annual meeting of the Calumet County Agricultural Association at the courthouse here, A. P. Baumann was re-elected president; John Doern, vice-president; Herman Rau, secretary, and Edward Bonk, treasurer. The same board of directors was elected, namely: P. J. Egerer, Frank Kloehn, H. J. Duecker, Charles Groeschel, C. J. Peik, John Woelfel and Lawrence Woelfel. This board will meet in the near future to set the dates for the 1930 fair.

According to the report of the treasurer the 1929 fair was a success in every way. Approximately \$5,500 was paid out in premiums of which the State contributed approximately \$4,100.

WARREN, Ill.—At a meeting of the directors of the Union Agricultural Society, officers and directors were elected as follows: W. J. Deam, president; Henry Baumgartner, vice-president; J. P. Carson, treasurer; J. W. Richardson, secretary. Richardson has been secretary of the organization for the last 20 years. The directors are: Dave Hicks, Will Deam, J. P. Carson, Louis Peepoon, Will Holland, Robert Farran, Roy Pillmore, Henry Baumgartner, J. W. Richardson, Charles Levington, Franklin Boone and Frank Redfean. The two latter are

new directors, taking the places of W. J. Sincos and George Peepoon. It was decided to have a night fair again this year. The dates are August 26-29.

SIDNEY, O.—The Shelby County Fair Board has re-elected A. C. Dill, president, and W. A. Darst as secretary. O. W. Hancock has been elected vice-president; B. O. Harman, treasurer. The new members on the board are Homer Kettler, L. D. Allen and Ben O. Dillon. The date for the next Shelby County Fair has been fixed for September 9.

LA PAYETTE, Ind.—I. F. Garrott, State senator from this county, has been elected president of the Tippecanoe County Agricultural Association. Other new officers are: Vice-president, Clyde P. Morgan; secretary, Clarence F. Jamison; treasurer, E. S. Martin; superintendent, Henry Hoefler.

The association voted to continue the county fair along new lines. The dates fixed are August 18 to 22.

North Shows Greater Interest in Tampa Fair

TAMPA, Fla., Jan. 11.—Most encouraging to General Manager P. T. Strieder and other officials of the South Florida Fair, to be held in Tampa January 28 to February 8, inclusive, is the awakened interest in the big exposition shown by Northern exhibitors, of whom there will be a greater number than ever before at the fair this year. Several large, nationally known manufacturing plants and industries have booked space at the South Florida Fair for the 11 days and nights, and the big event will take on more of the nature of a real exposition than ever before in its history.

In addition the government of Germany has taken an entire building and will show in this exhibits from overseas. Italy, which last year had a building as the fair, will be back with another complete exhibit, and Holland will enter the lists for the first time. Twenty-three

Building of a State, County or District Fair

Address made by Hon. W. D. Smith, secretary-manager of the Missouri State Fair, Sedalia, at the banquet and ball of the Heart of America Showman's Club, Coates House, Kansas City, December 31:
We, as secretaries of State, district and county fairs, each have separate and peculiar problems to meet annually.

In the building of a State, district or county fair, there are three vital objects to keep in mind—the educational, financial and amusement features. Any fair that tries to operate without keeping all three of these most important departments intact will, to some degree, fail. Included in the educational features is the mammoth line of exhibits. In preparing an exhibit the producer enjoys his vocation and learns a concrete lesson that could not have been acquired otherwise—returning from the exhibition with renewed determination to produce products of a better quality and to again, the following year, enter into a friendly rivalry with neighbors and friends. The educational features are the basic principles on which the permanency of all fairs, whether county, district or State, are builded.

To this must be added the financial interest. Without a great exhibit of machinery, automobiles, etc., including all of the mechanical labor-saving devices; the places of refreshments that care for the thirst and hunger of the visitors, an exhibition would be incomplete.

The amusement features of an exhibition, regardless of its magnitude, are great factor; in fact, in the smaller fairs and exhibitions amusements are, in many instances, the greatest drawing card. The secretary of any county, district or State fair can build a mammoth exposition if his management can furnish a large sum of money for premiums. The greatest task then upon the secretary is to sell the fair to the citizens of his trade territory.

At the solicitation of a county fair, after the close of the Missouri State Fair this year, the county fair, however, not located in Missouri, I spent a week with the secretary and officials, giving them my experience in the building of fairs.

counties of Florida will be numbered among the exhibitors.

The Thearle-Duffield Fireworks Company will present each night in front of the grand stand, which accommodates more than 12,000 persons, its huge historic spectacle, *The Battle of Fort McHenry*.

This year the National Honey Show will be held in connection with the fair, occupying an entire building. The Floral Show has grown to such proportions that it will also be given an entire building.

The Johnny J. Jones Exposition will again present the attractions on the midway and will have many acres of space devoted entirely to amusements. The outdoor concessions at the fair will be handled thru the Jones company.

A new hospital building is now being erected on the grounds and will be ready for the opening of the fair.

Last year's attendance record of slightly more than 450,000 is expected to be broken.

South Carolina Fairs Hold Meeting This Week

ANDERSON, S. C., Jan. 11.—J. A. Mitchell, secretary of the South Carolina Association of Fairs, makes the announcement that the annual winter meeting of that organization will be held at the Jefferson Hotel, Columbia, S. C., Friday and Saturday, January 17 and 18. An interesting program is now being completed.

Mitchell is also secretary-manager of the Anderson Fair, also known as the Carolina-Georgia District Fair of this city.

THE SHELBY County Fair Association, Harlan, Ia., according to its financial statement, has a balance of \$872.47 with which to start another year. It began the year of 1929 with an overdraft of \$3,968.92, took in \$14,099.75 at the fair, had other receipts of \$3,578.86, paid fair expenses amounting to \$11,295.45, and other expenses totaling \$5,508.71.

They had no grand stand and their exhibit halls were few, but they had one of the most wonderful opportunities for their amusement features. My advice to them was to feature the amusements and not burden themselves by trying to feature the things that were impossible. They secured a good carnival and made the amusement end their feature, following as closely as possible with educational and commercial exhibits. The result was most flattering. They closed their gates with the largest attendance and the greatest financial success in the history of any county fair of the State in which they were located.

This one experience should be food for thought to the county and district fairs of all our States. The county and district fairs will never be in a position to do the big things along the lines of education until the time comes when the legislatures of the respective States including them in State aid. Therefore, if you should ask me the wiser course to pursue in the building of your community fair, I would say feature one of the three: Educational exhibits, commercial exhibits or amusements.

I am of the opinion that many of our county and district fairs are overlooking the amusement feature—the one, no doubt, you can promote with the least expense and the greatest profit.

Now, to my honored hosts: Many of you have been in the show business since your youth, you have experienced the pleasures mingled with the trials and hardships of the road. You have seen the fat and lean days, taking your success and your failures as other men and women have done in other vocations. I do not know what your success has been in this old year that is rapidly closing. As I look over this audience I can see many of experiences. I judge you by that brow that reveals the frost of many winters. I want all of you to resolve with me that we will increase our determinations for the new year. I have heard it said that "He or she who has reached a half of a century cannot come back." That statement is not true.

There was born in Bethel, Conn., a

baby boy. Like many other boys his parents were poor. He picked up pennies driving oxen for his father, but unlike many other boys he would invest these earnings in nicknacks which he would sell to joyful picnickers on every holiday. Thus his pennies increased to dollars. At an early age he was deprived of his father and began to work for himself at \$6 per month. He saved his money and afterwards opened a store which proved a successful business venture.

It is interesting to read of many of our successful men who have drifted from one thing to another until they settled upon some life work, then there was a hard struggle for victory, which was sure to come, provided they persevered. Such was the career of P. T. Barnum.

In 1835 he heard of a negress in Philadelphia who was reputed to have been the nurse of George Washington, and who it was claimed was 162 years old. Barnum immediately set out for Philadelphia and succeeded in buying her for \$1,000. This was more money than he possessed. He therefore risked more than he owned, but by judicious advertising he was enabled to draw large houses, bringing the show up to paying \$1,500 per week. The next year the negress died, and a post-mortem examination proved her to be possibly 80 years old. But Barnum had secured a good start from this time on. For 15 years he was connected with traveling shows, and his experience proved most profitable.

In 1842 Barnum first heard of Charles Stratton, whom he presented to the world as General Tom Thumb, exhibiting him in both America and Europe.

In 1849, after much correspondence, he secured the sweet singer, Jenny Lind, for 100 nights at \$1,000 per night. His profits on these concerts were simply immense, and he retired from business.

Eight years later it was heralded all over the land that Barnum had failed. Unfortunate speculators had swamped him and he returned to New York a bankrupt, without a dollar. He bought the museum again and in less than a year he succeeded in paying for it. His life, henceforth, was full of ups and downs. Twice was he burned out, but as often he came forth in some new roll or rather an improvement on the old. He was a very shrewd man, and he was also honest. Think of it! At 50 a ruined man, financially, owing thousands of dollars more than he possessed, yet resolutely resuming business life once more—fairly wringing success from adverse fortune and paying his notes at the same time. When solicited for money in which to carry on his campaign, when he was a candidate for Congress, he answered "God grant that I be defeated sooner than one grain of grid be so basely used." Such principles are glorious and upon their perpetuation depends the rise or fall of a republican form of government.

We, who are square, in the vocations of life, whatever they may be, cannot fail. Someone will build a bridge for us to cross the chasm.

The poet has so fittingly dedicated the following under the caption of *The Bridge Builder*:

An old man, traveling a lone highway,
Came at the evening cold and gray,
To a chasm deep and wide.
The old man crossed in a twilight dim,
For the sullen stream held no fear for him,
For he turned when he reached the other side.

And builded a bridge to span the tide.
"Old man," cried a fellow pilgrim near,
"You are wasting your strength with your building here,
Your journey will end with the ending day
And you never again will pass this way.
You have crossed the chasm deep and wide.

Why build a bridge at eventide?"
And the builder raised his old gray head,
"Good friend, on the path I have come,"
he said,

"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet will pass this way,
This stream which has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired boy may a pitfall be,
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim,
Good friend, I am building this bridge for him."

As we watch the dying embers of 1929 our thoughts go out to our friends, without whom, no man can succeed, and no institution progress.

Gathered here, we are standing on the threshold of 1930. Let us each endeavor to make that year grander than the ones that have passed.

Parks, Piers and Beaches

Conducted by A. C. HARTMANN—Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.

Building \$500,000 Casino At Playland Park, Rye, N. Y.

Gigantic modern structure will be operated thruout year—ideally located, building will extend out into sound—project expected to be completed by May 1

RYE, N. Y., Jan. 11.—The sum of \$500,000 has been appropriated for the erection of a modern Casino at Playland Park here. While this will be somewhat in the nature of an experiment, the Westchester County Park Commission feels justified in the expenditure, as everything yet produced at this super-resort has been so successful that the commission

same time, it will fill a need in the community. The Casino, now under construction, will operate thruout the year, and it will represent the last word in modern construction. As a place for dining and playing, it will excel any similar place in the Eastern States. The building is ideally located, and extends out into the Sound, with water surrounding it on three sides. From any section of the dining rooms or terraces there is an unobstructed view of the Sound. Attractive, popular-priced menus will be featured, and patrons will be afforded the opportunity to dine under the trees of the restaurant terrace, or within one of the spacious windows overlooking the Sound. A dancing and skating floor will also be in full view of the diners. There will be large bowling alleys for bowlers and other pastimes and games. There will be dancing on one of the finest floors in the State in the summer, and ice skating in the winter. A north wing has been planned for the Casino, containing luxurious hot and cold salt baths, winter swimming pool, and a Roman solarium, designed for winter sun bathing. This wing will be built later, it is understood.

The Casino's ice rink will be the regulation size for hockey matches, and will operate daily from October to April 1.

Work was started on the Casino October 1. The site of the new project is the large vacant lot opposite the administration building and adjoining the Bar Des Colonades. This space has been somewhat of an eyesore ever since the opening of this celebrated resort. For two years engineers and architects have been preparing plans for this gigantic amusement building, and on September 13, last, contracts for its construction were let to Johnson & Miller, Inc., contractors, of Yonkers, N. Y. It is the intention of the commission to make it the most modern year-round amusement building in the country. It will cover two acres, and there will be three entrances to the front of the building, which will face the plaza, with a modern tower on the extreme southern end abutting the boardwalk, which will conform with the two towers now at the head of the colonnade, and the one on the administration building. This will complete the quadrangle of the plaza.

In the center of the plaza and fronting the Casino, will be a large, circular, electric fountain, with tons of water constantly flowing, with a barrage of colored lights shedding their rays on the resplendent picture.

Other features embodied in the construction of the Casino include salles des games (the game room) for wholesome athletic pastimes; dancing floor, without posts or pillars, comprising 14,240 square feet of dancing surface. This will be converted into ice-skating rink in the winter. The floor will be finished with terrazzo so that the ice may be cleared in several hours and the building used for any other purpose. Two ice-skating plants are being installed, one with capacity of 55 tons daily. (See PLAYLAND PARK on page 70)

Will White Honored By American Legion

NEWTON, Mass., Jan. 11.—Will White, manager of Norumbega Park, Auburn-dale, has been awarded a Distinguished Service Citation by the local post of the American Legion. This is the highest honor that the Legion can confer on a nonmember.

The citation, which was authorized by national headquarters, was given because of White's outstanding work in behalf of the Legion. White for many years has thrown open his park for the annual benefit concert each spring, and in numerous other ways has co-operated with the post. Past Commander Julius Ramm made the presentation to White.

Mayor Edwin O. Childs was also honored with such a citation at the same time as White. Both were given prolonged ovations and were visibly affected by the awards. This was the first time that the post has thus honored nonmembers.

Big Building Program Set

Reconstruction work starts at Casino Park, Ft. Worth, Tex., January 15

FORT WORTH, Tex., Jan. 11.—Work of reconstruction of Casino Park on Lake Worth, advertised as "The Atlantic City of the West", will begin January 15, and it is aimed to have everything in shape for the spring opening May 1. The resort's building plans are much more elaborate than ever before and call for a Mediterranean style of architecture.

The entire park is to be in stucco on metal lath, with rustic lanterns on the upper walls and rustic balconies on the towers, red tile roofing, etc., to carry out the semi-Spanish appearance. A half-mile sand bathing beach is being constructed, covering the entire distance between the old lake bridge and a new \$250,000 concrete bridge just completed by the city of Fort Worth for the convenience of patrons to cross the lake to the park. There will be a beautiful new bathroom with the latest equipment, constructed with a garden and lounge on the roof. The dance hall will also be of the girder construction, interior free of any posts and equipped with loges and lounge of the latest style. Furnishings of this nature are necessary here, as the park patrons consist for the most part of the better class of people. There is but a small laboring element to draw from.

Under the new plans, so far as amusements are concerned, practically the entire park will be taken up with rides and games of skill. Several brand-new rides have already been booked.

The personnel of the Lake Worth Amusement Company, owning and operating Casino Park on Lake Worth, has been changed considerably. All of the stock is now owned by three parties who bought out the other stockholders. These stockholders are the present three officers of the company, to wit: S. N. Arnt, of Bellefontaine, O., president; M. C. Harrold, also of Bellefontaine, secretary and treasurer, and George T. Smith, of Fort Worth, vice-president and resident manager.

Nantasket Steamboat Co. Re-Elects Old Officers

BOSTON, Jan. 11.—General Manager Fred L. Lane and other officers and directors of the Nantasket Steamboat Company were re-elected at a meeting of the stockholders held at the Parker House. No action was taken on chartering a fleet of steamers to replace the five burned Thanksgiving Day, but when the directors meet within a few days Lane will outline his plans by which he hopes the season's opening can be arranged definitely for May 1.

Charles B. Barnes was re-elected president and Lane was again named general manager and treasurer. Other directors re-elected include Albert Stone, Jr.; William H. C. Walker and G. Peabody Gardner.

THAT breezy little four-page magazine, called *Play*, published and edited by Jerry Fleischman, now bears the title of *Uncle Jerry Says*.

Amusement Resortorials

By AL HARTMANN

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

THERE has been some squawking on the part of certain exhibitors at the recent convention of the National Association of Amusement Parks in Chicago. The squawking emanated from those who make riding devices, concessions, etc., that are used by not only amusement parks, but fairs and traveling amusement organizations, such as carnivals.

The squawking has come about thru the changing of the dates of the NAAP Convention to one week later than the annual meeting of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions and the Showmen's League of America's annual meeting and banquet and ball. In this connection, we quote the following from the current issue of house organ of a prominent ride-manufacturing concern:

"So far as the manufacturers of portable ride equipment are concerned it is very doubtful whether the meeting will be considered the biggest and best of all. The decrease in the number of visitors to the convention hall, as compared to former years, was the greatest disappointment of the convention. Changing the date to the week following the fair secretaries and the Showmen's League meeting kept away many of those who came to the Exhibition Hall to transact business during the past years. Previous to the last meeting all three of the above mentioned gatherings were held during the same week. This arrangement gave the exhibitor a chance to interview his prospects in the portable amusement business, as well as those engaged in the amusement park phase of the business.

"But during the meeting just closed, the Exhibition Hall was pretty well restricted to park men alone. Which, naturally, did not 'set well' with those manufacturers (riding devices and others) who do practically 75 per cent of their total business with the carnival ride owners and managers.

"Exhibitors who sell their equipment or services exclusively to the amusement parks were naturally little concerned about the handicap under which other exhibitors worked, for they talked business to the people they were interested in talking with. Other exhibitors were forced to spend the entire week talking business to the people to whom only a third or a fourth of their output was sold.

"Not only parks, but carnivals and fairs are prospective users of riding devices; amplifying systems, free acts, advertising tire covers, paint, popcorn machines, prepared drinks, automatic turnstiles, novelties, penny arcade equipment and a number of other products displayed at the convention.

"In writing the above, we feel that we are not only voicing our own sentiments, but also the sentiments of a great many other exhibitors. We sincerely hope that the officials of the NAAP Convention will take into consideration the handicap under which many of the exhibitors worked this year and in 1930 set the dates of the meeting for the same week as the fair secretaries and the Showmen's League.

"If this cannot be accomplished, it is very doubtful whether the expense of installing an exhibit is justified by the amount of business secured."

Officially, we do not know why the change in dates was made. One thing sure, far greater crowds could have been accommodated in Exhibition Hall than those which attended.

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For all Amusement Places, Parks, Beaches, Soft Drink Parlors, Shooting Galleries, etc. Runs itself—automatic coin collector and scoring device. Your profits clear profit. Each Whirl-O-Ball Game is 4x20 ft., and has an earning capacity of \$3 an hour. You can put 2 to 12 Games in any ordinary room. Take in \$15 to \$50 per day. Moderate investment required. Write now for free catalog.

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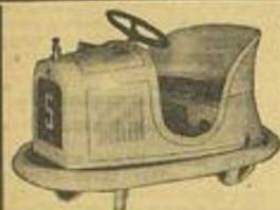
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Work of Rebuilding Willow Grove Under Way

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 11.—Since the fire which destroyed a large section of the midway at Willow Grove Park here Friday night, December 20, work has been going on clearing away the wreckage and rebuilding plans arranged. Venice and the Carousel, two of the oldest devices in the park, occupied strategic positions, and now that they are gone it will be possible to replace them with modern buildings and the latest in amusement devices.

Early days in the motion picture industry were recalled by the fire thru the destruction of the old theater building. It is said this was the first theater in the United States in which movies were publicly shown. The original purpose of the building was continued until about two years ago, and since that time the building was in use largely for exhibit or special exposition purposes. Valuable musical equipment used in both Venice and the Carousel was destroyed by fire or ruined by water.

Willow Grove Park has for many years been one of the best known amusement parks in this section of the country. It was created about 34 years ago under the direction of John B. Parsons, then president of the transit company.

Three years ago it was leased to Meyer Davis and is now operated by the Park Amusements of America, Inc. It includes more than 100 acres and many pretentious amusement structures.

James Wood is resident manager of the resort.

Hubin's Boosting Trip

Frank B. Hubin writes from Miami Beach, Fla., that Jack Crawford's Victor Recording Orchestra opened there January 1, to the largest crowds ever assembled at the beach. Crawford and his melody boys have been at Atlantic City Steel Pier for two years, and proved a great magnet.

Hubin's trip to Florida is for the purpose of boosting Atlantic City, as well as create interest in the reunion of the Grand Lodge of Elks, to be held in the new \$20,000,000 convention hall at Atlantic City next July. Hubin predicts that more than 200,000 Elks will be in attendance. His route for the next few weeks includes visits to Elks' lodges at Fort Lauderdale, St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Tampa, Lakeland, Orlando, De Land, Cocoa, Daytona Beach, St. Augustine, Gainesville, Lake City and Jacksonville, all Florida. On his return trip to Atlantic City he will visit Elks' lodges in Columbia, S. C.; Macon and Atlanta, Ga.; Chattanooga, Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Little Rock, Ark.; Louisville, Ky.; Evansville, Ind.; Cincinnati and Marietta, O.; Parkersburg and Wheeling, W. Va.; Cumberland, Md.; Gettysburg, Pa., and then home.

Hubin has also done some boosting for Miami Beach this winter, and expects to go on the air at various times. Miami Beach is crowded with visitors, and all concessionaires look for a big season, he says, adding: "The weather is fine and the bathing grand."

To Improve Natatorium

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 11.—Louis Vogel, proprietor of Natatorium Park, is planning extensive improvements at the park for the coming season. He will have the ballroom decorated in futuristic design and improvements will also be made in the swimming pool. Three new concessions and one ride will be installed in the spring.



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Book on Parks And Rides Soon

The book which R. S. Uzzell, of the R. S. Uzzell Corporation, is writing on the origin of amusement parks and riding devices has been delayed because of lack of co-operation on the part of some amusement park men in furnishing data sought, but Uzzell promises to have the first volume ready for submission to the board of directors of the National Association of Amusement Parks in the near future. In his report at the recent convention in Chicago, the historian of NAAP had the following to say:

"I wonder how many in the house read Coney Island, a book which has recently been published? I just want to know, because there is a story connected with it. The fellow who wrote it was a college friend of a cousin of mine, and that is the reason he came to me to criticize his manuscript. I guess you fellows who read it will agree with me when I say that he wrote a book in which the tail wags the dog.

"We would not be interested in it if he did not write it on Coney Island. He went down to Coney Island, he saw the side shows, and he never got away from them. He met a fellow there who was trying to build a contraption that everybody told him would not work. Finally he erected it, but it never worked, and in telling about that matter he leads his readers to believe that these devices are made, all of them, by that sort of a man.

"The author did not see the great Coney Island as it exists today, where we have amusement parks worth over a million dollars; we have a hotel worth \$2,400,000. We have a real Coney Island that is a city by itself, growing more beautiful all the time, with a boardwalk three miles long and 90 feet wide; a resort that will soon take its place with all the great watering resorts of the world.

"The author just missed his mark, and he wrote about the insignificant portion of Coney Island, that is, the insignificant portion to you men. But he was three years in collecting material from which this book was written. It was written by Coney Island as he lived near Coney Island where he went every day, and he consulted just a few men, who were not the kind of men that could have told him the true situation.

"Now, I am to write a book that concerns a nation, and I have consulted men in every State in the union. I am sorry to say that sometimes I have written 22 letters to one man before he responded. I hope he is in the room here, and if he is he will tell you the story himself. I do not have the opportunity of securing my information in one city so that I am able to get the men who know all about it and talk with them face to face, but I have to get my information from here, there and yonder by correspondence largely.

"Now, then, I started in by taking the word of this individual, or that individual, and the other individual for the origin of parks and devices, and I found that even if they were honest and sincere, they were wrong, and I had to go back and rewrite my book.

"I was foolish enough to think I could rewrite in one year what I had been three or four years in writing. It can't be done. If I seem a little slow, do not forget that I do a lot of work every year, and that I am not like the author of Coney Island, who spends all of his time in writing, and after he spent three years in collecting material, it took him eight months to write the book, and he spent all of his time each day until it was done. Of course, he had to write and rewrite, as all of us do. I have an infinitely harder task, and no one to help me. This author had some help because



FRED H. PONTY, owner of Wood-cliff Pleasure Park, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., photographed in the act of reading his favorite publication while sojourning at his winter villa in Palm Beach, Fla.

the final manuscript was written by a very expert secretary who could do that work for him.

"Therefore, I cannot do as I thought I might do this year and present you the book, but it is almost ready, the first volume, and already two or three noted publishers have asked me about its publication. I told them that I had nothing to say about it myself as I really considered after all it was a product of the National Association of Amusement Parks, and as soon as it was ready I would submit it to our board of directors.

"So if I have not seemed to be as speedy as you think I should, I have done my best, and I hope hereafter when I write you will do better than some of you have been doing. I certainly do appreciate men like Milford Stern, Frank Darling, D. S. Humphrey and others of that character, who are just as busy as the rest of you, but they always answer my letters and tell me what I want to know.

"I thank you."

Tilyou Estate \$20,000

CONEY ISLAND, N. Y., Jan. 11.—Edward J. Tilyou, brother of the late George C. Tilyou, with whom he was associated in founding, and later managing Steeplechase, this city, disposed of an estate valued at approximately \$20,000 in his will, which was filed for probate with Surrogate Wingate in Brooklyn this week.

Swimming Pool Notes

PATERSON, N. J.—Morristown Swimming Pool, Inc., of this city, has been incorporated to construct, own and operate a swimming pool; \$100,000 preferred stock, 5,000 shares of no par value. The directors are Albert H. Kreamer, Frances E. Kreamer and Ruth Fippinger, Totowa. Incorporation papers were filed by Attorney Kreamer.

ALBANY, N. Y.—The swimming pool here, for which the Legislature in 1928 appropriated \$20,000, has been completed, but no provision was made for water. Somebody forgot to include in the plans the \$5,500 for the water—hence the pool is dry. The lawmakers have now been asked by Assemblyman Charles Miller, of Genesee County, to provide the additional sum, but this probably will not be done before next September.

Zoo Notes

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—The 1930 program of the park commission calls for several improvements at the zoo. One of these is the reconstruction of all walks in the garden, to cost approximately \$5,000. Three playgrounds are to be built in the territory annexed east of the old city limits, but it is probable that only one of these will be established this year. Other improvements include new houses for fox, deer and other animals in outdoor pens.

Substantial additions to equipment have been made during the year. A \$20,000 auditorium has been built in Church Park on Beale street; a \$13,000 monkey house has been built in the zoo; the Peabody Park Community House has been established in the old

water works at a cost of \$8,500, and Washington Park, an amusement park on North Second street for Negroes, has been purchased.

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—A miniature forest fire broke out in Swope Park here Sunday night, January 5, but fortunately no buildings were in the path of the flames. There was considerable agitation among animals at the Zoo while the fire was raging.

NEW YORK—Two baby lions have been born at the Central Park Zoo, the first since last spring. The mother is Lady Helen II.

Do You Remember?

From Tom E. Kerstetter:
When the refreshment stands in parks were generally located under the Figure Eight pavilions and made real money? When Frederick Ingersoll built Luna Park, Mexico City?

PLAYLAND PARK

(Continued from page 68)
and the other, an auxiliary plant, with capacity of 35 tons daily. The second floor will contain a large restaurant or banquet hall, comprising 7,940 square feet of space. The entire building is being wired for a complete Miracle Music system, that will be independent of the system operating in the park at present. This system will allow the broadcasting of special exercises and speeches to all parts of the building. Those attending a large banquet or dinner may be seated on the first floor, with the speakers' table on the second floor, and everyone will be able to hear the entire proceedings. The exterior architectural ornamentation will consist of art stone, and correspond with the other permanent buildings in the recreational center. The building will be completed May 1.

Playland is installing new rides and other amusement offerings for the coming season. These will be mentioned in next week's issue of The Billboard.

CIRCUS PICKUPS

(Continued from page 58)
on the return trip and died soon after arriving here.

Earl Shipley with other Joys has concluded a successful engagement thru the holidays in a St. Louis department store and he will remain in that city for the present.

Horace Laird, who was with the Cole Bros.' Circus last season, had a bunch of clowns with him and has just finished a holiday engagement at the winter carnival of the Stanley Theaters, of Philadelphia. He will remain for the present at his home in Chester, Pa.

Automobile circuses are springing up on every side. The latest is the Sights Bros.' truck show which is being organized in Philadelphia and will tour that State this summer.

George E. Wintz, the former side show man who is now a big producer thru the South with late New York hits, was in Houston with his Padlocks of 1929, which did good business for two days at the Palace Theater. The show has had capacity business in most places since it opened in Atlanta a short time ago. The Palace, formerly a stock house, is closed this winter, except when used for an occasional one-night-stand road show. Will Horwitz, who operates three talking picture theaters here, is booking most of the shows for the house and Houston can now boast of a theater available for one-night-stand road attractions, a condition heretofore unknown in Houston, the Auditorium or the Masonic Temple Theater being used in the past.

Notes From Tampa

TAMPA, Fla., January 11.—Tony Rampsires, saxophone soloist with the Ringling Circus Band, is playing an engagement with the Tampa Symphony Orchestra, which gives daily afternoon and evening concerts in Plant Park.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Overton are winter guests at the Bay View Hotel. Overton, who is one of the 24-hour men with the Ringling Circus, has embarked on the wholesale pet and bird business here for the winter.

Henry Keyes and Fred Mascoe, of the Ringling Circus Band, this week joined the Grasso Concert Band in Clearwater, Fla., and will remain with that organization thru the winter months. The band broadcasts over Station WFLA.

Jack Pratt, piccolo soloist with the Ringling Band, has gone to Savannah,

Sarasota Briefs

SARASOTA, Fla., Jan. 11.—Carl Steinbrooke, announcer on the Ringling Circus, will be the announcer and broadcaster for the South Florida Fair at Tampa this year. Jack Foley, assistant to Fred Bradna on the Big Show, will act as equestrian director at the fair.

Mr. and Mrs. Cy Compton and daughter, Myrtle, drove to Tampa Tuesday to spend a couple of days with friends there. Miss Compton is playing with the Dutton Society Circus at fairs in Florida during the winter months.

Billy Exton, formerly press agent with the Ringling Circus, has been spending the last several weeks in Sarasota. Mrs. Exton accompanied him to the Southland.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Woodruff are spending the winter at Minneola, Fla. Woodruff is one of the ticket brigade of the Big Show.

In the absence of Merle Evans, who will be in Detroit and Cleveland at the time, Henry Keyes, cornetist, will direct the Merle Evans Band at the Tampa Fair. Keyes has been designated by Bandmaster Evans as his assistant.

Nat Rodgers, manager of the City Auditorium at Tampa, was a recent visitor at the Ringling winter quarters.

Cy Cleveland, veteran ticket man, is in charge of Lido Beach Pavilion at Sarasota this winter.

"Doc" and Mrs. Webber are at winter quarters as usual, training jumping horses and leaping llamas.

Cy Compton is aiding in conducting a riding school at the Dutton quarters here this winter.

Harvey Keddy and Al Tucker, of the front-door staff of the Ringling Circus, are to do special program work for the Tampa Auditorium during the remainder of the winter.

Hollingsworth Circus Again on the Road

STOCKTON, Calif., Jan. 11.—After remaining in Los Angeles for three weeks the Bert Hollingsworth Circus took to the road again December 27 and played five spots between there and this city. A tent is now being carried by "Holly", and where necessary it is heated. The show is presented in one ring and on a platform and business has been very good.

Two trucks have been added to the outfit, as well as Frank Spillman, boss canvasser, and six workmen. Seats are carried to handle 800 people. The same program is being given as when the show left Topeka, Kan., except the Altrow Family, it having left for Havana, Cuba, December 25. The acts have been replaced by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sharpe and their performing baby elephant. The "bull" is also used in the side show. The "Kid" show is being handled by the Sharps.

Arthur Self, with his eight-piece uniformed band, is making a big hit. Al Franks and Bert Lowers are two weeks ahead, routing the show thru Oregon and Washington over the Columbian River Highway. The diamond-ring contest, handled in the concert, is holding more than 50 per cent of the crowds. Much litho. paper is being used, as well as a full-page advertisement in the newspapers, gotten up by the Legion boys and space sold to the local merchants, their ads being run around the circus advertisement.

The show will be brought back to Los Angeles early in April, as many of the acts will leave for spring openings in the big tops. It is the intention of Hollingsworth to lease a small circus for the summer season and make the Middle Western territory. Mrs. Hollingsworth and son are spending the winter at Turlock, Calif.

Ga. to fill an engagement with a concert orchestra.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Evans arrived in Florida this week after their engagement at the Hippodrome, New York, where Evans conducted the band during the indoor circus engagement.

Charles Sella, clown with the Ringling Circus, has been engaged to assist on the advertising staff of the Tampa Fair and will also present his novelty trained pig act.

George Smith, assistant superintendent of the Ringling Circus, visited Tampa friends this week.

CUSTER CARS FOR SALE

Or will lease on percentage.
BOX D-139, Billboard, Cincinnati, O.

COLORED AMUSEMENT PARK FOR SALE

In one of the largest cities in the South, estimated weekly attendance 25,000, with over 100,000 to draw from in the city limits. Street cars to gate, and operating 7 days. Permit Grove, refreshment stands, concession buildings, Dance Hall, Pavilion and the following Riding Devices: Gray Bound, Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Whip and Scissors. This Park can be bought with or without riding devices. A bargain to anyone interested in a park in the city limits and on a paving basis. 21-health the reason for selling. Address all communications to BOX 189, Atlanta, Ga.

Circus Saints and Sinners

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Here's one too good to keep. One of the crowd in the Barnum Tent tried to get a banker friend to drop in on the Thursday lunch. "No," said the friend, "they might call on me for a speech." "Boy," replied the w. k. Sinner, "if you can get in a word edgewise with that crowd you'll be lucky. Speeches have to be ordered two weeks ahead." Panoast, by the way, has the oratorical record, having, according to Benham, delivered an oration in one city (name on request) before 15,000 empty seats.

Barnum (roll your own this week). Dr. H. C. Ingraham, of the Chicago Stadium, was the guest of honor. "Doc" now has one of the finest elephant acts in the business. Felix Adler was given a high rating on his unusual Christmas card (like Clint Finney's, it's so different—both have portraits). Ambassador Redford, of Richmond, attended a second of the Thursday Peace Conferences at Sardi's. He says memberships in the Workman Tent are very much in demand, with all places full.

On motion of "Scrap Book" Pitzer, the case of the old trouper needing a brace will be taken up actively. Doc Ingraham informs of a new circus book about

ready to appear. Can't have too many good ones by people who KNOW circuses. Some people can look at a load of saw- dust and write a circus story—story shows it, too. Doc Waddell's New Year's prayer for the C.S.C.A. read and greatly appreciated.

At a meeting of the Personnel Club of the financial district held January 10, Sinner Freddie D. Benham gave an exhaustive and authoritative talk on *The Circus: Its Personnel Problems*.

Fred J. Hecker, of Bradford, Pa., is vice-president for Pennsylvania. When addressing National Treasurer he sure to add junior to his name. This will save delays.

HUGH GRANT ROWELL,
National Secretary.

At Downie Bros.' Quarters

HAVRE DE GRACE, Md., Jan. 11.—Recent visitors at the winter quarters of Downie Bros.' Circus here were Blackie Fredericks, of Washington, formerly connected with this show; also Bill Cunningham, elephant man, who has been with the Honest Bill Show, Charles T. Hunt, Harry Hunt and Hazel Williams, of the Hunt Show, stopped off on their way thru to Baltimore.

Rodney Harris, big-show band leader, is getting his band lined up pretty well

from his home at Longwood, Pa. Irish Moran, press agent, is handling several vaudeville acts and indoor bazaars around New York and Long Island. Bill De Seck, formerly a rider in the Hanneford Family act last season, is considering going to South America with the Shippi Circus. Frank Mijares, wire walker, last season with Downie Bros., is making a name for himself in vaudeville under the name of Pancho, the Spanish Flash. He intends to get married in March and is at present framing a double act for vaudeville. Harvey Parker is with him in his present act. Des Rivers, last season on the advance of this show, is this winter at the billposting plant at Willimantic, Conn.

James M. Beach, last season contracting agent for Downie Bros., will be connected with some outdoor show this summer. Bessie Costello, last season with the Hanneford Troupe, is spending a few weeks at her home in Henderson, N. C. Jimmie Gallagher, advertising banner solicitor, will be at the Elks Club, Miami, Fla., for the rest of the winter. Leo Snyder and family of Wild West people are in Greenville, Mich. They will be with a truck show this summer.

Jimmy Agnew and wife are living this winter in San Antonio, Tex., across the street from Jake Brauer, formerly with the 101 Ranch Show, Henry Smith, colored trombone player, last season with

Downie Bros., is this winter playing in an orchestra in Wilmington, N. C. W. L. Watkins and wife are in Baltimore for the winter. Annie Bell, of the Minstrel Show remained here this winter.

Notes From Petland

ACCOTINK, Va., Jan. 11.—Recent visitors at Petland include Harry Atherton, animal dealer; Lieut. H. A. Mettete, parachute jumper, from a plane; Al Porter, of Porter Bros.' Indoor Circus; Jerry Woods, radio entertainer, and Dr. J. S. Boswell, noted naturalist.

J. T. Hager, circus man, now at W. Graham, Va., writes that he will be on for a visit to Rex Ingham in the near future. Ingham had the misfortune recently to lose his most prize pet, a beautiful leopard, tame as a house cat.

John A. Cover, Circus Pan from Meyersdale, Pa., with his son was here on his way to visit William Ketrrow at Chester, Va. Earl Johnson, former wagon and railroad circus owner and now owner of a carnival in quarters at Ashland, Va., stopped by for a chat with Ingham. With him was Pat McCall.

John Murphy, one of the oldest clowns in circus business, was here, with Mrs. Murphy, on his way north from Florida. Mr. and Mrs. K. C. West stopped by on their way south from New York.

Carnivalites Make Whoopee!

ATTIRED IN THEIR best bibs and tuckers and smiling "the smile that won't come off", the enthusiastic members of the far-famed Curbstone Exchange located at the historic corner of 43d street and Broadway, in the shadows of the Paramount Theater Building, gathered New Year's Eve to pay homage to the bedlam scenes that were being enacted so vividly in Times Square. New York's carnival fraternity is glad the old year is buried in sackcloth and ashes, and is looking forward to the new year with unmistakable confidence. The meeting of the boys was shorn of all formalities. Resolutions flew fast and furious. I. O. U. were relegated to the discard. Parched throats were quenched with the moist air that permeated from the roarin' '40s. The cabarets and chowmeineries lost their charm for the stalwart outdoor showmen. Jackpots galore were cut in huge chunks. All squawks were referred to Palestine's wailing wall. There was no need of an ouija board to console the curiosity of the boys on how many red ones they will play in 1930. The Curb's board of directors looked nifty in its New Year's regalia, and included such notables as John J. (Emergency) Kelly, historian of the association; Mark Evans, Slim Dykeman, Jimmy Doyle and Jess T. Whelan, who hope some day to establish comfortable clubrooms for New York's outdoor delegation. Other members present were Del Farris, Joe Ross, Sandy Tamargo, Sammy Miller, Thomas Helfin, Humpty Jackson, Dury White, Joe McField, Hospital Slim, George Burke, Pigknuckles Smitty, Happy Blackwell, Ballgame Ketchell, Brooklyn Jimmy Kelly, Jimmy Spencer, Hoopla Charlie Stratton; Jolly Viola, the fat girl; Harry Lincoln and wife, Jerry Riley and wife, and Dancing Doll Slim.

Florida Flashes

FROM MIAMI we quote the following communications—the first one from William McCormick: "Just a line to say there's nothing new here and the town's so-called fixer has lost his fixing ability. The following are among showmen basking in the sunshine here: Slim Barry, Billie Inman and Hucklebuck Tex. The sky seems to be the limit. The circus bazaar, held in Cinderella Ballroom December 16 to 21, was a clean bloomer. Frank J. Murphy is my next-door neighbor. The weather is ideal and permits the wearing of summer clothes and straw hats. This is the place to live the life of Riley!" Good-Natured Al Tucker, of the front-door staff of Ringling-Barnum Circus, writes: "The bankroll is getting pretty well thawed out. Quite a few circuses are here, including New Haven Joe Blakelee, who is officiating as head chef at Whelan's former fish grill at Miami Beach. Weary Willie, wearier than ever, is the big noise around Jim Hathaway's main drag arcade. Freddie Harris is an Adonis of Miami Beach. Harvey Keddy with his flashy sedan has plenty of admirers. Among the other outdoor boys are Frank Sutton, Sam the Wop, Irving Getty and Charles Senna, who are wait-

Out in the Open

By W. D. VAN VOLKENBERG
(Communications to 1560 Broadway, New York)

ing for the birds to start their pilgrimage northward."

Popular With Showmen

W. J. (BILL) O'BRIEN, of the O'Brien Productions, intones: "While in the Tonawanda I had the pleasure of meeting Charles Gaylord, postmaster of North Tonawanda, who has booked every carnival and promotion show in Tonawanda for the last 18 years, as business manager of the Columbia Hook and Ladder Company, as well as trustee for several fraternal orders. He is a fine chap and is well informed on all the new rides. Gaylord has been active in the past in booking here J. Frank Hatch, of the Polack Shows, Melville-Reiss Shows, West's World's Wonder Shows, Southern Tier Shows, Johnny J. Jones Exposition and the Rubin & Cherry Shows. At present arranging an indoor circus date for us here. He is a princely fellow."

Meritorious Idea

JOE END, of the Fair Trading Company, and widely known in concession circles, states, regarding the Florida State Fair, Jacksonville: "The 25-cent admission is an excellent idea and will no doubt be encouraged by many of the fairs throught the country in the future. It gives the public a chance to distribute its spendings and will benefit the midway attractions." Sammy Lawrence and Joe End claim responsibility for the Florida State Fair putting on the 25-cent gate, and they are confident the outcome will be satisfactory.

Riverview, Chicago, Booster

JACK DAVID is a staunch booster for Riverview Park, Chicago, and last season was the front talker on the side show that made history in the popular park. The inside attractions included Anna-John Budd; Sealo, the seal boy; Floeste LaBlanche, strong woman; Victor Basile, vegetable king; Prof. Winters, tattoo artist; Lady Dorothea, mentalist; Leesick, Oriental entertainer and gun spinner. Harry G. Dunse, formerly of Palisade Park, handled the inside efficiently, while David directed the front and was assisted by R. W. Smith.

Royal Entertainer

JACK GALLAGHER and wife "threw" a wonderful Christmas dinner at their cozy Philadelphia home, with plenty of turkey and oodles of other delicacies. Jerry Gerard, Pop Endy's right-hand man, was toastmaster; Patsy Finnerty proved a delectable after-dinner talker; Mrs. Edna Gerard and Mrs. C. Oilmore Tait excelled themselves in the art of chafedom, and their gastronomic con-

coctions brought miles of smiles. Mrs. Gallagher received the guests graciously. The honor of cutting the biggest jackpot went to Teddy Ike Harris. None of the guests missed the numerous toasts that prevailed. Among the guests, who were profuse in their praise of the big feed, were Louis Kaufman, Skee Baltosky and his newly acquired wife, Eddie Daly, Hickey Moore, Barney Isaacs, Joe Vanson, Willie Glickman and Helen Dougherty.

Turned Into Profit

THE MINEOLA FAIR was a red one last summer when the fair men leased for three months their race track to Ed Roberts, who introduced dog races, which went over big. As a result the fair folks netted the sum of \$23,700.

Busy Vacationing

PHIL O'NEIL'S popularity, if it continues to increase, will demand a private secretary, as he has been busy renewing the acquaintances of many ardent friends in Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Chicago and Montreal. It is reported that Phil is seriously thinking about studying law in his home town, Nashua, N. H., which is the haven for many outdoor showmen.

Scared Frightfully

BERNIE HEAD, circus publicist, breezed into Chicago ahead of *After Dark* Company and checked into a prominent loop hotel. The same night three gunmen fought a duel in front of the hostelry. The next day, according to Charlie Martin, Bernie purchased a steel-lined vest and stated he would not go out AFTER DARK.

Whale of a Business

"BILL" RICE, of the West Coast, received so many orders for whales that, it is reported, he told his customers, on account of the freezing of the ice, he could not capture any more of the deep briny sea monsters, whereupon Matthew J. (Squire) Riley suggested that he use airplanes for that purpose.

Knows His Subject

MAYOR J. L. HEPPERMAN, of Youngstown, O., has this to say about outdoor amusements: "Amusement fills a positive physical and mental need. It is as necessary as the clothes we wear and the food we eat. Men could not live thru the trials of life and the stress of monotony if it were not for relaxation and recreation. We must have an outlet, an escape. Show me the woman who has no relief from constant care and I shall show you a prospective patient

for a sanitarium. Show me a man who cannot relax or play and I shall show you a fit subject for America's favorite ailment—the nervous breakdown."

Hot Off the Griddle

POODLES HANNEFORD, it is understood, injured himself at the first performance of Bertram Mills' Olympia Circus, London.

ZACK TERRELL, it is rumored, has not signed up to manage the Sells-Floto Circus, but will probably reach a definite decision this week.

DR. H. C. INGRAHAM arrived at the Lincoln Hotel, New York, in time to find P. E. Naylor suffering from an infected toe.

WILLIAM JENNINGS O'BRIEN travels the South so frequently that Pullman porters now call him by his first name.

BOBBY, the English bulldog girl, will be with the Otis L. Smith Shows this season. Her husband-manager, E. O. Colin, will accompany her.

SAM DILL, 'tis said, has recovered his auto, which was stolen at Lexington, Ky., some time ago.

FRANK B. (DUTCH) HILDEBRAND is hailed as the big butter and egg man at Colonial Hotel, Warren, O., where he is ensconced for the winter.

OLGA, the bearded lady, and Howard, the lobster boy, have said "Good-by Manhattan, hello De Land, Fla.," where they joined the Jones show.

MRS. HELEN M. CORONATI, an ace of women promoters, has "big doings" in New Brunswick, N. J., this week.

BERT IBBERTSON, known as the "man who never smiles", smiled profusely when a number of contracts came in for trade-show bookings this winter.

DELL O'DELL, the circus girl, mailed Christmas cards to her friends, made of cardboard, bearing this inscription: "This is what the talkies did to my b. r."

COL. FRED CUMMINS is one of the most picturesque figures observed around Los Angeles this winter. His nearest rival is Ben L. Botsford, the Larry Boyd of the West Coast.

JOSEPH COLIHAN, of Pleasure Beach Park, Bridgeport, Conn., looked New York over last week and the longer he looked the better Bridgeport looked to him.

LARRY BOYD was not called "fat" in Europe. The English dubbed him "simply overemphasized".

BILLY RITCHIEY, manager of Ritchey's Water Circus, is keeping in good shape at Cumberland, Md., climbing the narrows until the outdoor season opens.

GEORGE ROLLINS never tires of visiting John T. Benson's wild animal farm at Nashua, N. H., which is a treat for tired nerves.

HANDSOME BOB VAN HILL has taken Miami by storm.

DONALD (GANDY) FARNSWORTH was one of the happiest men on Broadway when he learned that Willard (Doc) Foster had been visited by the stork.

EDWARD SHIPP is rarin' to go to South America with the Circo Shipp.

KAROLY, iron-tongued enigma, closed a 14 weeks' engagement at Hubert's Museum.

Anniversary Celebration

Historical Tennessee town to stage affair in honor of 150th birthday this year

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn., Jan. 11.—Next summer Jonesboro, Tenn., located about six miles from this city, will celebrate its 150th anniversary, according to a resolution unanimously approved by the County Court at its regular meeting early this week.

Jonesboro is the oldest town in Tennessee and is the original capital. It was also the capital of the "State of Franklin," which was organized shortly before 1800 at a time when a civil war threatened between the settlers in Tennessee and the old State of North Carolina, which then had jurisdiction over this territory. Jonesboro is rich in historical associations and shrines, and its principal street contains many buildings more than 100 years old. The present population is about 625, but for the sesquicentennial all of Upper East Tennessee will co-operate.

Judge Samuel C. Williams, of Johnson City, who is recognized as Tennessee's leading historian, is general chairman of the celebration committee. Judge Williams lives at his palatial home, "Aquone," on North Roan street, Johnson City. A number of county officials are on the committee, which will soon meet to lay initial plans. It is expected that a date early in the summer, probably in June, will be selected.

Second Aircraft Show At Pittsburgh in March

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 11.—The second annual Pittsburgh Aircraft Show will be held at Motor Square Garden March 6-15.

Both the main floor and basement of Motor Square Garden, with an outlay of 200 booths for exhibitors, will be used this year, according to Ray Krimm, director of the show, who managed the Pittsburgh show last year and who has just arrived here from Baltimore. Seventeen planes have been entered during the first week of active work upon the exposition. The show is being sponsored by the Aero Club of Pittsburgh, under whose auspices the first aircraft show here was held last March, which attracted an attendance in excess of 70,000 and was a tremendous success from every standpoint.

Celebration Plan Approved

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Jan. 11.—The plan of holding a Days of '49 celebration here this year has been approved by the directors of the Associated Business Council of this city. This council represents practically all commercial and financial activities in Sacramento.

The tentative plans for the celebration were outlined to the Associated Business Council by Irvin Engler, who was closely connected with the celebration held eight years ago and who was asked by the preliminary committee to draw up plans for this year's celebration. Engler pointed out that with the experience of the first Days of '49 celebration this year's event can be staged not only at a lower figure but by the use of the Sacramento Stadium can be made to show a profit.

Circus at Huntington

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Jan. 11.—The Union Mission Charity Circus, to be staged at the Vanity Fair here next week, has a pleasing advance sale of tickets. The program has all been contracted for and the following acts will appear: The Merrill Troupe, with their complete circus; Charles Camm, ventriloquist and Punch and Judy; Mrs. Camm, trained birds; Alex Brock and Edna Brock, in their circus acts, and there will also be a clown alley, under the supervision of Ed Jackson. The circus is being managed by Gentry & Newnan and they are expecting one of the largest crowds that has ever been in the Vanity Fair.

Special Events

TRADE SHOWS, CELEBRATIONS, BENEFITS, ETC.
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

St. Louis Horse Show Has a Circus Program

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—The Junior Horse Show and Circus, which was held at the new Arena last Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, was a success, and, according to E. L. Musick, who directed the show, the event assures St. Louis of an annual Junior Horse Show.

It was the first time that a circus was held in conjunction with a horse show in this city. The amusement end of the event was produced by Ray G. Shute and Edna Deal, theatrical booking agents of this city. Among the acts were Ines Peares, contortion; Harry LaPearl's Long Shoe Dance; Willie Twist, in his table rock; Eddie Brooks, slack wire; Roy Duo, comedy bicycle; Rose and Company, comedy acrobats; Sterling Rose Trio, serial act; Marie's Pals; Satchell and Beans, "January" act; Jenkins Duo, whip act; Tex Wilson, manipulator; Tex Terry, guns; Lee and Leroy, barrel jumping; Earl Wright, barrel jumping; Latham Duo, serialists; Haverman's Lions and Tigers, and Miss DeArmand, aerialist. In clown alley at the horse show and circus were Roy Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Harry LaPearl, JoJo, Jerry Alton, Piero, J. E. Mac, George Lenard and T. Conroy.

Circus Plans Completed

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—Plans have been completed for the first annual Shrine Hippodrome Circus, to be conducted at El Malakak Temple February 1-9 at the Shrine Civic Auditorium.

Director General Stanton A. Bruner has received the last of a number of signed contracts from well-known circus artists. An elaborate menagerie will extend from Figueroa street to the pavilion along 32d street.

Exposition Planned

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 11.—It was announced here a few days ago that application for charter for the Beaver centennial world exposition would be filed this week with Secretary of State Hoos.

The purpose of the proposed exposition is to celebrate jointly the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the steamer Beaver in the Columbia River in April, 1830, and of the arrival of Mrs. Marcus Whitman and Mrs. H. H. Spalding, the first white women to cross the plains to Oregon.

L. M. Bumstead is president of the exposition company. Advisory committees are to be selected from men's and women's organizations, which will appoint an advisory board. The board will assist in working out preliminary plans for the exposition.

Elks' Indoor Fair

SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., Jan. 11.—The South Norwalk lodge of Elks will hold an Indoor Fair at its home February 6-15.

Firemen's Indoor Fair

ROCKVILLE, Conn., Jan. 11.—The local fire department will sponsor an Indoor Fair at the Town Hall for a week, starting February 27.

Auto Show Dates

Among auto shows scheduled for the remainder of this month and February are the following: Starting January 18, Louisville; Harrisburg, Pa.; Pittsburgh; Baltimore; Detroit; Hartford, Conn.; Brooklyn; Los Angeles, and Montreal. Starting January 20, Huntington, W. Va.; Rochester, N. Y. Starting January 25, Chicago; Cleveland; Columbus, O., and Washington. Starting January 27, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., and Portland, Ore. Starting February 1, San Francisco. Starting February 3, Ottawa, Ont., Can.; Toledo, O.; Syracuse, N. Y.; Wichita, Kan., and Cumberland, Md. Starting February 4, St. Louis and Peoria, Ill. Starting February 5, Kansas City, Mo.; Allentown, Pa., and Los Angeles. Starting February 10, Indianapolis; Denver, and Sheboygan, Wis. Starting February 12, Mankato, Minn. Starting February 15, Providence. Starting February 17, Omaha. Starting February 20, Phoenixville, Pa., and Holyoke, Mass. Starting February 22, San Francisco. Starting February 24, Des Moines and Camden, N. J. Starting February 25, Seattle.

Funk Again Manager

AKRON, O., Jan. 11.—J. N. Funk will again be manager of the annual Food Show, to be held in the Armory here February 17-22 under auspices of the Akron Retail Grocers' Association. There will be the usual contests and a daily change of entertainment.

Exhibits Company Westward

NEWARK, N. J., Jan. 11.—The Trade Exhibits Company, displaying Newark manufacturers' wares on easels and tables, is planning to leave here the third week in February, traveling as far west as Omaha. It will show week stands in the smaller cities, nights only, and in the larger cities afternoons and evenings.

Indoor Circus at Welch

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Jan. 11.—B. L. Bevans, manager of Bevans Bros. Circus, is arranging an indoor circus to be presented in Welch, W. Va., February 10-15 under the auspices of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Water Carnival in May

STOCKTON, Calif., Jan. 11.—Dates for the 1930 San Joaquin Water Carnival and Regatta have been set for May 24-25 to conform with the fourth district Lions' Club convention, opening here May 22 and continuing four days. It is expected the regatta will celebrate the start of dredging on Stockton's \$6,000,000 waterway project.

Auto Show at Canton

CANTON, O., Jan. 11.—The annual Canton Automobile Show will be held at Land o' Dance February 17-22, it has been announced by Robert Lane, secretary of the association. In addition to the auto exhibits, there will be vaudeville and a band.

Indoor Circus At Portland

Circus Maximus registers decided success and favor at American Legion show

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 11.—Al W. Copeland's galaxy of entertainers, entitled Circus Maximus, to the number of about 55 persons, many of whom make their studio home in Hollywood and have become famous thru their connection with screen epics, put on eight stellar performances under the auspices of the American Legion here and to successful business.

The performances opened when Governor Alvin Norblad, from his official box, reviewed a drill of the American Legion prize-winning drum corps. Abe Lefton, announcer, introduced in flowery language the many acts on the bill. "Spud" Redrick, for many seasons leader of the Barnes Circus band, handled the music. The acts included Tom and Hank McFarland, who helped make Ken Maynard's film, *The Wagon Master*, a success. They put their ponies thru paces and races, and the 13-year-old Hank and 10-year-old Tom showed some clever rope work. The St. Johns Trio, slender lads, showed up their supple bodies to perfection. The elephants, Minnie and Mary, had two spots on the bills and were capably handled by H. Harriet and Captain Hoffman. Slack and tight-wire performers who gave creditable performances were Elizabeth Lorene and Emanuel and Diner Pina. Senor Clemato, known to movie fans for his excellent work in *The Great Divide* and *Four Feathers*, produced thrills with his daring throwing of battle axes and knives. Billy Lefourneau, equestrian director, did the chair balance on trapeze and two cloud swings. Madam Letorneau contributed her high trapeze act. Stella Smith and Bertha Cook, known as the Coddello Girls, with their brother, Toodles, artistic bareback riders. One of the young ladies recently doubled for Clara Bow in *Dangerous Curves*. The clowns, led by Curly Phillips, included Ernie Origgs, Charles Post, Ray Harris, the Three St. Johns, the Three McKeowns and Montana Earl and his bucking mule, May Lawrence, with her beautiful mount, Prince Albert, was a high spot on the bill. Among other well-known equestrians were Fred and Peggy Foster, teachers of high-school dancing horses, and Captain and Bertha Cook, all mounted on superb chargers. Marie Wallace put her motion picture lions thru many clever maneuvers. Peggy Foster, with her Shetland horses, dogs and monkeys, made a distinct hit with the juveniles. Edith Redrick rode her mount gracefully into the ring, burst into a popular song and as the last few notes died away a half dozen doves were let loose and alighted on the horse and rider. Other notable acts on the bill were Billy Mack, swinging ladder; Ray Harris, high-stilt clown; Pinea Troupe, acrobats; McKeown Boys, on horizontal bars, and the Athenian Troupe, which did some high and lofty tumbling, somersaulting around the ring.

Copeland's Circus Maximus made a hit here, and the heavy attendance added funds to the coffers of the American Legion. It is probable that this great midwinter circus will be an annual event. Considerable credit for the smooth performances must go to the boss property man, Harry Brooks, and Chief Rigger William Mulford and their staffs, who put up their equipment in a much smaller space than intended for.

GO AFTER 1930 BOOKINGS NOW!

for CONVENTIONS, BANQUETS, FAIRS, EXPOSITIONS, ETC.

6,600 Advance Notices of Conventions, Banquets, Fairs, Expositions, etc., to be held in 1930 are given in our December and January issues, 4,300 in our Big December issue, and 900 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 \$13 per year. Leadset BAC-1 gives full information.

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Rinks ~ Skaters

Communications to 25 Opera
Place, Cincinnati.

BEFORE probably the largest and most enthusiastic crowd that has ever attended a roller-skating race around New York. Roland Cioni and his team mate, Joe West, won the 25-mile international professional roller-racing derby at Ridgewood Grove, Ridgewood, New York City, Monday night, January 6. The time, a record for a 17-lap track, was 1 hour, 17 minutes, 24 seconds. The record, established on a nine-lap track in Chicago, is 1 hour, 11 minutes.

Cioni and West were six laps ahead of Al Cookson and his partner, Cloyd Cawthon, who came in second. Oliver Walters and Bob (Red) Bingwald, of Newark, were third, one lap behind the English team. Dutch Keller and Amos Bell were fourth, 12 laps behind the leaders. Art Ryder and Murray Gorman, the kid team, finished fifth, and Steve Donegan and Ernie Meiers came in last. Donegan fell in the eighth mile and catapulted thru one of the panic doors into Palmetto street. He was carried back unconscious and borne to the dressing room, where it took 20 minutes to revive him. Meanwhile his partner, Meiers, held to the track, but was lapped frequently. Returning gamely, Donegan was cheered to the echo. His team tried vainly to make up lost distance.

West was the surprise of the race. Reaching out like a long crane, Joe ate up distance and passed thru seemingly impossible spaces to gain the lead over groups of competitors. He and Cioni worked in perfect co-ordination and once they had gained a lap there seemed to be no doubt they would win. And as each additional lap was gained the cheers were deafening.

Al Flath, president U. S. Roller Skating Association, was referee. Carl Berger, president Ridgewood Democratic Club, started the big race. Joe Harth, Charley Bublitz and Jack Morgan were the scorers.

The New Royal Club team won the two-mile four-man amateur team race. A two-mile two-man team race was captured by Leo Kugler and Willie Murawski, of Norwood Rink.

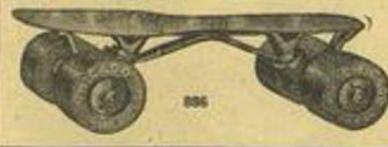
THE 25-MILE international professional roller-skating derby was so great a success that the management of Ridgewood Grove is negotiating for a 50-mile race of the same character, two men to constitute each team, to take place Thursday night, February 6. Several additional stars probably will be on hand for this event, including Malcolm Carey, who possibly will select Murray Gorman as his partner. It is possible also that Benny Lee, who recently captured the British championship in London, will have arrived, as he has announced his intention of coming to this country. John Gillespie and Billy Yale will compete, Gillespie probably coupled with Arthur Ryer. Other teams expected to be present are Steve Donegan and Ernie Meiers, Al Cookson and Cloyd Cawthon, Oliver Walters and Red Wingwald, and it is planned to secure the team of Cliff Howard and Art Launey.

With some of the teams shaken up the 50-mile promises to be keener than the 25-mile, and this ought to insure a sellout at the box office.

Ridgewood Grove track is quite large at 17 laps to the mile, wide at the stretches, where passing can be made in the easiest manner.

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jerks—half of the year out of doors and wonderfully; the other half indoors and woefully. What could better fill this void than rink skating? A "skate for health" slogan or a "skate for health week" might prove a new magnet for interesting new enthusiasts. And rink managers can easily prove that ice or roller skating is a synonym for health and longevity and the enigma of old age, to be sure.

DAN FENCE, having leased his rink at Owensboro, Ky., to Blocher & Temple, is opening one at Savanna, Ill., his third season there. "Have always had very good business in Savanna and everything looks good for this season," says Fence.

WINSLOW POUR, roller-skating outfit consisting of a mixed team of fancy skaters and a long and short comedy combo, were recently launched on RKO dates and are pulling heavy on laughs and applause.

SKATER REYNOLDS, author of 2 Rings, advises that this serial of three chapters will appear shortly in syndicate and later go over to films.

C. V. PARK, of Nu Ken Gardens, New Kensington, Pa., has been in New York City for a stay of about a week. While in the big city he saw a hockey "duel" between Americans and Toronto at Madison Square Garden.

FRANK ZIMMERMAN, manager of Arena Roller Rink, Broad and Ontario streets, Port Huron, Mich., kicks in. "Business in the skating line in Port Huron this season is pretty good," he says, and "am looking forward to a good year. Roller hockey is also going over big. Would like to hear thru the rink columns what managers are doing to ward making hockey popular in their rinks."

LAYTON AND MACK advise that they are doing some new spins and expect to open in St. Louis soon.

NATHANO BROTHERS, comedy roller-skating duo, played their third return date at the Wintergarten, Berlin, Germany, during December. They are a special attraction at the Kabaret der Komiker, Berlin, this month.

FRIENDS of H. E. Norton would like to hear, thru these columns, how the Alhambra Skating Academy, Syracuse, N. Y., is coming along. Let's hear from you, Norton.

JIMMIE BARNETTE, of McDonald, Pa., is heard from: "We are putting McDonald on the map so far as roller skating is concerned. Since we opened we have had a liberal attendance from both young and old, as we find there are quite a few of the oldtimers here who have not forgotten how it's done. We have an orderly bunch and have no trouble, as the rules of the rink are strictly enforced. The rink holds school children's sessions, and we have from 150 to 200 children in attendance, along with no small number of ladies. We have a club in the local high school and one for the general public. A roller hockey

team is in the making and will bear the name of the Merry Gilders. The school club uses the name, The Pastime Gardens Roller Club.

"At this writing, January 3, we have two rinks, Pastime Gardens in McDonald and Palace Roller Dome in Sloan, Pa. The holiday season went over with a bang and Manager Al Williams is highly pleased with the prospects for this year. We could not keep the New Year's crowd on skates, the supply being exhausted at 11:30 p.m. We have around 550 pairs in McDonald and 200 in Sloan. Noise-makers and novelties were distributed among the skaters and this helped to make the event the greatest the two rinks have ever had."

BRANDT AND AUDREY—Friends are inquiring about you. Kick in with a few lines.

RAY O'NEILL sends a clipping of The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, of December 31, containing almost a full-column story with a double-column head and a three-column cut of his Red Caps roller hockey team. The article, in part, reads: "Be careful the next time you hand your bag to a red cap at the Union Station for you might be meeting a member of the champion roller hockey team of St. Louis. If so, he should be treated in a manner befitting his prominence."

O'Neill's Red Caps won the championship of the Roller Hockey League last year at the Palladium and are tied for first place today in this season's race. The team is made up of ushers or 'red caps' at the Union Station.

O'Neill, chief usher, is a former city champion roller skater and he took over the duties as coach of the hockey team when Rodney Peters, Palladium manager, decided to form a league last winter.

"It was not difficult to induce a number of the Red Caps to go to the Palladium during the 'light' hours of the morning, between 9 and 11 o'clock, and learn to roller skate. O'Neill found many of them willing and once they learned how to skate, they grabbed onto the hockey game as quickly as they would Jack Dempsey's grip.

"Since its organization the team has lost but one game. That was the first one it played. The Red Caps' record this season is two victories and no defeats and they won the flag last season with six victories, two ties and one defeat, giving them eight victories, two ties and one defeat in their existence.

O'Neill has imparted considerable knowledge of the game to his players and they play quite well. He has been fortunate, too, in having a large squad, for each day there are 25 to 30 Red Caps learning how to skate and how to play hockey at the Palladium.

"The league is composed of the following teams in addition to the Red Caps—the Blues, who are tied for the lead with the Red Caps, the Gladiators, Sextettes, No-Names and Webers.

"Bill Schwenk, a former ice hockey referee, officiates in all league matches."

S. E. WALLS, Tri-State and West Virginia pro, speed champ, is back in Cleveland from a trip to his home town, Huntington, W. Va. He writes a long letter deploring the manner in which some rinks are conducted. Walls is

"taking to the wings" now, but doesn't expect to give up skating. He hopes to be a transport pilot some time the coming summer.

AFTER playing several dates in Northern New York Graceful Edna Delair is back in Canada. On January 2 she was at the Mount Royal Roof Garden, Montreal, Que., giving exhibitions of graceful skating nightly, and she advises that beginning January 12 she is booked to appear at the King George, Toronto, Ont., for a month's stay.

THE SKATOMACS, playing the RKO Time, during a two weeks' layoff, appeared at the Natoma Rink, Chicago, December 28 and 29 and put on a skating act that was witnessed by packed houses, Joe Laury informs. "They went thru 20 minutes of comedy spinning and the latest waltzes—Fio and Sally Jordan with the assistance of Charlie Austin, and Bill Henning doing the comedy part of the act," Laury states. "Austin does all the swinging of the act with Fio and Sally doing the spins that make the skaters and patrons take notice."

PLANS of a one-story roller-skating rink to be erected on the west side of Jerome avenue, 65 feet north of 190th street, New York, have been filed with the Bronx Bureau of Buildings. The cost is estimated at \$100,000 by J. P. Boyland, architect, who designed the structure for the Leonia Holding Corporation. The site is 252.50 by 100 feet.

ICE-SKATING RINKS are being established in various parts of the village of Villa Park, Ill., this winter.

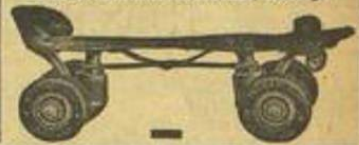
PALLENBERG'S BEARS, novelty animal act playing the RKO Circuit, presented by Miss Cato Pallenberg, feature, among other things, the two husky bruins skimming along the floor on roller skates. They played the New York Palace week of December 21-27.

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Carnivals

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Bernardi Greater Shows Pass to New Ownership

Frank Bergen and Julius Griffel purchase William Glick's interest in well-known Eastern organization — Max Linderman is the general manager

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Frank Bergen, well known in outdoor show circles, last season with the Greater Sheesley Shows, and Julius Griffel have purchased William Glick's interest in the Bernardi Greater Shows, which deal was consummated in this city this week. The consideration was for cash, it is understood, but the exact amount was not revealed. Bergen and Griffel are now the owners of this well-known title and show property. Bergen will officiate as president and Griffel as secretary. Max Linderman, who is related to Griffel, will act as general manager of the show. William (Bill) Holland, last season connected with the D. D. Murphy Shows, is general agent.

Linderman, who has been connected with the Bernardi Greater Shows in a managerial capacity for the last two seasons under the Glick regime, will continue in this capacity, but will take on added duties under the new ownership. He informed *The Billboard* that he was taking charge of the show, which would remain intact, but new rides and attractions would be added; also that the show will move on its own 20-car (steel) train, with 20 shows and 10 rides.

The show is scheduled to open April 14, in Richmond, Va. Linderman stated that Mrs. Linderman and Mrs. Bergen will have no connections with any of the concessions under the new order of things.

Bergen has already departed for the show's winter quarters at Petersburg, Va., where he will personally supervise the work of building and revamping the equipment in its entirety.

Linderman intimated that Ralph Smith, who was connected with Bernardi Greater Shows, and was financially interested in the same as one of its owners for some time, will probably be connected in a responsible capacity with the new organization. Smith is living in Baltimore at present.

Houck Clawed by Lion

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—An accident occurred at the winter quarters of the Melville-Reiss Shows when Charles Houck, aged 63, received a badly mangled right arm when clawed and bitten by Queenie, a trained lion belonging to Earl Purdie. Houck was attempting to pet the lion, which has been in his care this winter, when it suddenly turned on him. He was immediately removed to St. Peter's Hospital, where it was at first thought amputation would be necessary, but later report was that it might be possible to save the arm, and at this time he is resting quietly.

Royal American Gets Mayport

According to advice reaching *The Billboard* last week, the Royal American Shows have been secured to furnish attractions at the Seafood and Agricultural Exposition, to be staged at Mayport, Fla., February 3-5, of which event Justice of the Peace J. L. Gavagan is president.

Max Gruberg Adds Interest

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 11.—Max Gruberg, owner of the Gruberg Famous Shows, advises that he has purchased an interest in the Triangle Poster & Printing Company, this city. The newly acquired interest will be a part-time proposition with him, he stated.

Lauther Rebooks With M.-R.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Carl G. Lauther has rebooked his big Circus Side Show with Melville-Reiss Shows for the coming season. Lauther is presenting personally this winter his monkey girl and the cannibal pygmy at Hubert's Museum, where they will be for six more weeks.



L. CLIFTON KELLEY, recently elected second vice-president of the S. L. of A., and for 35 years a showman. He has filled positions from agent to manager and owner. Of late years he has acted as general representative for various organizations.

Current Reflections

By CHARLES C. BLUE

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

REFLECTIONS, as appearing under the above heading: Not intended in the sense of the sometimes used term "casting reflections." Not faultfinding of any individual or organization of individuals. Not written under slightest impression of being "wise" on the part of the writer. Instead, the paragraphs are reflections mirrored from a summarization of conditions helpful or destructive to the mutual welfare of carnival folk, as gained from a geographic and central point of news gathering.

It is worth repeating, in these days of shows reconstructing, that traveling outdoor shows (altho' not alone carnivals) are sorely in need of NEW IDEAS presented in entertainment offerings. The introduction of more NOVELTIES—not the "stereotypes" reshaped, or provided with new physical equipment, or augmented personnels, or more elaborately staged. Inventiveness follows a start and a continuation of thinking—that for indolent or careless thinkers—those who say "I don't know what it could be," etc.

It might be well to resurrect ideas along the line of the real features of years ago—not before the public the last many years; for instance, breakaway combination electrical and mechanical scenery productions, with versatile elocutionists as lecturers and back-stage sound effects, depicting the destruction of cities, or collapse of structures by the elements or cannonading, and various other possible subjects (remember the old-time Sturgis and the Morris "volcano" shows?).

In addition to deep thought and inventive effort, the production of a NEW offering requires an outlay of cash. But this, doubtless, is remunerative.

The practicability of the PAY GATE at so-called "still" engagements is universally under discussion. It was tried out by some managers last season. Quite a number of carnival heads have announced intention of using it the coming season. There is a "pro" and a "con" to the subject. It was extensively tried out years ago, but under far different conditions than now exist—which also includes "pro and con"—some showmen claim they prefer having all the free-admission midway attendance possible, leaving the dimes to be spent among the attractions and concessions, while others deduce that the gate admission keeps out the "riffraff," etc.

The public has been accustomed, in a large majority of instances and localities, to visit the midways gratis. But there has been a gradual falling off of "entertaining" ballyhoos—which has caused the visitors' ardor and accompanying anxiousness to turn out to also diminish. Therefore, it seems that (like back in the "old days") there need be more free offerings, to attract them. That for the free midway. It is but rarely possible that the pay gates at entrances to midways on which there are only the usual ballyhoos, whirling riding devices and the "etc." spirit-reviving FREE seems predestined to offset the gate admission. Therefore, there should be aerial or stage attractions on the midway free of all charges. It is noticeable that many managers are this winter including these "wanteds" in their pre-season advertising. Also, why not free acts on the midways for the fair season, at salaries based on "all season's employment"?

Circus for Otis Smith

Eastern showman plans acts program for end of his midway—pay gate

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Otis L. Smith has set at rest a rumor that he would embark in the circus business due to his purchase of elephants, draught horses and parade wagons from the Gentry Bros. Circus.

Manager Smith informed *The Billboard* that he will feature this season a big free-act circus in connection with the Otis L. Smith Shows, consisting of two elephant acts, trained horses and mule act, along with two aerial offerings. The circus will be presented in the lower end of the midway, using 40-foot stage, marquee and side wall.

Mabel J. Smith, daughter of Manager Smith, who has been officiating as the show's secretary for some time, will appear in a new role, that of working the elephants. She is daily rehearsing the quadrupeds.

Another feature of the show will be daily street parades, consisting of 24 pieces of parade equipment—band, calliope, tableau wagons and 10 open cages of animals.

Smith has devoted much thought to interpolating the circus features into his carnival organization, and everything he has utilized in this regard will pay its own way, he asserted. He has 20 draught horses, 12 of which he purchased from Gentry Bros. Circus.

Next in importance to the circus will be the introduction of the pay gate on the Otis L. Smith Shows. After feeling the pulse of the public on this important matter for some years Smith has decided that the time is opportune for charging a nominal admission—10 cents. And he promises to give the public something worth while for this admission.

The show will give a daily matinee throughout the season and the children will be permitted to ride the elephants, horses and ponies. Smith declares there will be probably 20 concessions, 12 shows and six rides. The running time of the circus will be 60 minutes, and two performances nightly will be given.

The Smith Shows will open the last week in April, close to New York, and will be transported on the same railroad equipment used in the past. There will be no material changes in the show's staff. Tom J. Singleton will be at the helm as general representative, a post he has filled for many years.

Elsie Calvert Flies West

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 11.—Elsie Calvert, of Elsie Calvert's Revue, of the Royal American Shows, left the city via plane for Spokane, Wash., to visit with her mother. She expects to remain in Spokane about 10 days and then return in preparation for her journey to join the show in South Jacksonville, Fla., where she will organize her company for the coming season.

Showman's Finger Amputated

A letter to *The Billboard* from George Williams, of the Kelley Grady Shows, from the General Hospital, Little Rock, Ark., stated that he was in that institution, having had the second finger of his right hand amputated January 1 because of blood poisoning. He would appreciate letters from friends, including Happy Stewart, care of the above hospital.

MVS Banquet Looms Big

Great interest manifested in social function — officers for 1930 nominated

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—Interest is rife around the clubrooms of the Mississippi Valley Showmen's Association concerning the coming banquet and ball at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Statler, February 15. At the regular meeting Thursday night, Mat Dawson, chairman of the ticket committee, reported that quite a number of reservations for tables had already been received and the outlook is very promising for a tremendous crowd.

Eddie Vaughan, the last two seasons legal adjuster of the Miller Bros., 101 Ranch Wild West, was chosen as general chairman of the sixth annual banquet, and following are the various committees appointed to work under him:

Banquet—J. C. Simpson, chairman; Stanley Hughes, Morris (Boots) Feldman, A. C. (Duke) Pohl, Leo McBride, Sam Feinberg.

Program—James F. Sutherland, chairman; Elmer Brown, Ed. C. Reiter. Ticket—Matt C. Dawson, chairman; John Schwepps, D. D. Murphy, Robert Walker, Frank B. Joerling.

Entertainment—Art H. Dally, chairman; F. A. (Whitey) Woods, John Brophy, George Heller, W. D. Sullivan, Tom W. Allen, Melvin Harris, O. H. Blanchard.

Floors—George Davis, chairman; L. M. (Pete) Brophy, Michael (Mickey) Fitzgerald, Tom Kearney, Herman Aarons, Tom Sharkey, Ed. J. Hackett, Jack Wilson, Harold Barlow, Judge Edward S. Butler, William Dolezal, Robert Mansfield, Dave Dedrick, John G. Lang, Robert A. Clay, Fred W. Daly, Charles Burke, Joseph Darpel.

Reception—John O'Shea, chairman; T. L. (Tom) Cochran, Tex Conroy, Jack Rees, Harry Miller, James Sherwood, Frank Hanasaki, William J. Price, L. M. (Tex) Shawver, L. S. (Larry) Hogan, Jake Hoffman, J. C. McCaffery, L. Clifton Kelley, Steve E. Connor, Lew Dufour, Harry Billick, Curtis Velare, Mike T. Clark, Al Clarkson, Dave Stevens, Noble C. Fairly, C. R. Leggett, W. R. Hirsch, Milt Morris.

The nomination for officers for 1930 was posted at the meeting last night, and the annual election will be held February 13. Following are the nominees for the various offices: President, A. C. Pohl, D. D. Murphy, James C. Simpson and Eddie Vaughan; first vice-president, Tom W. Allen, Barney S. Gerety, John J. Schwepps and Robert Walker; second vice-president, Harry Billick, Dave Dedrick, Col. H. M. Morgan and Stanley Hughes; third vice-president, Harold Barlow, Fred W. Beckmann, Robert Clay and Henry V. Gehan; secretary (unopposed), Frank B. Joerling; treasurer (unopposed), James F. Sutherland; sergeant at arms (unopposed), William Dolezal.

Board of governors (12 to be elected), George Davis, Matt Dawson, Tom Kearney, Jake Hoffman, L. S. Hogan, A. J. Ritter, Melvin Harris, Morris Feldman, Charles Burke, T. L. Milburn, John O'Shea, L. M. Brophy, Charles Ordwein, Joseph Treyball, John Brophy, Paul Brown, J. L. (Kinky) Wolf, George Heller, Cash Miller, Leo McBride, Sam Feinberg, Arthur H. Dally, Danny LaRouech, Milton Morris, Noble Fairly, Dave Stevens, Clyde Leggett, Walter Stanley, L. Clifton Kelley, Herman Aarons, F. A. Woods and Michael Fitzgerald.

It is expected that another ticket in addition to this will be posted during the next few days, and that the coming election will be a spirited one, is an assured fact.

Addition to Plant

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—W. G. Ryan, president of the Southern Doll & Candy Manufacturing Company, while in the city attending the Exhibitors' Convention reported that he is building an addition to the present plant in Dallas, Tex., to be used exclusively for the manufacture of plaster items.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SEND YOUR BAND ORGAN FOR REPAIRS

Have it put in A-No. 1 condition now and avoid delays later. We will store organ for you until you are ready for delivery in the spring. No charge for storage. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. Write for Catalogue of New Organs.

THE RUDOLPH WURLITZER MFG. COMPANY
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK

HAPPYLAND SHOWS

CONCESSIONAIRES—If you operate Concessions that are legitimate, we want to hear from you. We offer low rates that will interest you and every opportunity for making money that intelligent management can give. A few exclusives will be sold.

SHOWMEN—If you have a show or only an idea of one that is capable of getting money and will help to beautify our midway, your letters will be welcomed. We will offer you terms and co-operation that will be sure to please you.

Through fair dealing, courteous, well-paid employees, the very best of Concession and Show People, and the use of equipment excelled for beauty by no other carnival in the U. S., we gained a reputation during the season of 1929 of which we are mighty proud. The glad hand of welcome has been extended to us for a return engagement by the numerous Fair Secretaries and Committees in our territory that we visited during the winter. We intend to be always on the alert to preserve this good will and to gain many new friends during 1930. Address

HAPPYLAND SHOWS, 2124 GRATIOT AVE., DETROIT, MICH.

Sea Elephants Captured

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Jan. 11.—This port which recently has shown much activity in readying whales for exhibition purposes is now interested in sea elephants. Four of these rare mammals of the Southern Pacific waters were brought into port Tuesday in cages aboard the motor ship Patsy. The odd animals, which are of the seal family, were captured on Guadalupe Island, off Mexico.

The Patsy, carrying an expedition seeking the sea elephants, left here nine days ago. Members of the party said they counted nearly 400 of the strange animals on and about Guadalupe Island. Capture of the sea elephants, the party reported, was easily effected. Portable fences were set up on the land, into which the animals were backed by throwing sand in their faces. The sea elephants, some of which are estimated to weigh two tons, have flippers like seals which prevent any rapid navigation on land. A long head which ends in a long flexible upper lip, somewhat resembling the trunk of an elephant, gives the animal its name.

Fred Clare in States

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 11.—Fred A. Clare, of Clare & Greenhagh, Australian outdoor showman, arrived here late last week from New Zealand. He has booked John Aasen, giant, and Zimmy, the half man. Capt. Charles, formerly with the Al G. Barnes Circus, has been signed by Clare for a seal act. Johnny Branson, leaving for Manila Carnival, January 13, with two lions to work in an autodrome, will be accompanied by Mrs. Branson and a trick rider. After the Manila date they will go to Australia under a one-year contract with Clare and Greenhagh, opening at the Sydney Show the latter part of March, where Mrs. Branson will ride an automobile on the drome wall with the two lions. Clare reports that Mme. Elsta and Jolly Ray (fat girl) have just finished an exceptionally profitable outdoor season in Australia and New Zealand.

Sickels Stays With Little

Robert (Bob) Sickels informs that he will again the coming season assume the management of the Little Exposition Shows, with which he had a pleasant season last year. Sickels has been vacationing in Southern Georgia for some time. He and Little will attend some fair men's meetings, after which Sickels will devote his time to the reconstruction of the show.

Velares Return South

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—Elmer and Curtis Velare, of the Royal American Shows, left this city Tuesday, headed for South Jacksonville, Fla., where they will push forward activities around their winter quarters.

C. A. W. Shows Get Fair at Amarillo

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 11.—C. A. Worth, sm's World's Best Shows, Beckmann and Gerety, owners and operators, secured contract this week for the 1930 fair at Amarillo, Tex., the dates of which are September 22-27.

This gives that amusement organization the fairs at Dallas, Houston and Amarillo, all in the Lone Star State. The show is scheduled to move to Amarillo from the fair at Hutchinson, Kan.

Heth Gets Laporte Fair

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—L. J. Heth, of the shows bearing his name, and his general agent were here this week attending the meeting of the Indiana fair men, and the Laporte County Fair, at Laporte, was again awarded to the Heth organization for this year. Manager Heth advised that the addition of this date to his list brought the number of his fair contracts on hand for the coming season to 12.

Goodman to Boston

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Max Goodman departed for Boston today on a business trip. He has a promising list of fair bookings for the coming season with his string of concessions.

Mrs. Runyon in Hospital

FORT WORTH, Jan. 11.—Mrs. Hoy Runyon (Minnie Runyon) is in a hospital here, having recently undergone a serious double operation, but is reported getting along nicely. Her husband is here, their home city, and anxiously awaiting her return from the hospital. The Runyons have for many years operated riding devices and other attractions and concessions and were last season with the Texas Kid Shows.

Josselyn to Richmond

J. A. (Whitey) Josselyn, the veteran showman and general agent, passed thru Cincinnati last week en route from Chicago to the fair men's meeting at Richmond, Va. His short time between trains would not permit of his visiting The Billboard. However, he said "hello" to members of the staff via telephone. He has been headquartered in Chicago since before the big fair meetings in that city.

Going to West Coast

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Zebbie Fisher, well-known dealer in concession supplies, and Mrs. Fisher left on a trip to California Friday night. They will remain on the coast for some time. With them went Bert Earles, concessionaire, who has been in Chicago this week.

Pacific Coast Showmen's Notes

LOS ANGELES—The inauguration of J. W. (Paddy) Conklin as president of the Pacific Coast Showmen's Association gives assurance of continued prosperity for the year 1930. Past President Seber handed the gavel over to Conklin with wishes of prosperity and assured him of the hearty co-operation of the entire membership. Every member within this Southern country attended the meeting and gave the new president a thunderous ovation. President Conklin briefly stated his intentions and reminded all that this association was established largely at the outset as a social organization where its members could fraternize, creating among all showmen genuine brotherly love and a feeling of happiness among all. To uplift the amusement business in the United States, to assist thru good fellowship in making it easier for its membership to earn a livelihood, to uplift the morale of amusements and to "do unto others as we would have them do unto us". The final reports of the various committees were heard and the committees dismissed with words of praise for their accomplishments thru untiring efforts during 1929. The first duty of the president was the appointment of committees. His selections were heartily approved. A general report made by John Miller, chairman of the finance committee, showed that the association had a substantial amount in the treasury.

The new year started off with three applications for membership — Doc Hamilton, who has gained fame and fortune in Australia; John W. Branson, who recently returned from the Orient with a shipment of animals, and R. H. Hodge, well known in the outdoor field. They were unanimously elected to membership. A special drive will be made during the year for new members and prizes will be given to the individuals who come in with applications, and also to the individual organization that turns in the most applications from its show. John S. Lyon, chaplain, was again appointed custodian. Just as this appointment was made a beautiful floral piece was presented to Pres. Conklin, along with congratulations from the Mayor of city, and telegrams came in abundance from the outside world expressing good will during his term as chief executive. The Pacific Coast Showmen's Association has prospered and succeeded largely because it has been officered by men of affairs and high ideals.

Fred Clare, of Clare & Greenhagh's Carnival of Thrills, operating thruout Australia and New Zealand, was introduced to some of the members who hadn't had the good fortune of meeting him. He is a man of few words, but plenty action, who for many years operated from coast to coast, delving in many branches of the show business, and one of the first to invade the Hawaiian Islands when pineapples were used for money. His next venture was a trip to the antipodes. While there he amassed a fortune.

Refreshments and entertainment were the next feature of the evening. Frank Babcock, Ray Johnson and Dick Parks, supported by a cast of "sun-kissed beauties", appeared on the scene and appetites were satisfactorily taken care of. Marie Costello, Spanish sorceress, entertained with songs and dances of old Sunny Spain. Milano, accompanying himself with a harp, transformed the scene to the shores of Italy. Krishna in Egyptian dances, and Mickey Hogan presented the dance of the Australian Zouff. These took the boys on a "Journey around the world".

The banquet and ball will be history when you read this, and if you haven't attended this great event, may we suggest that you turn the pages of dear old Billboard over in the next issue and at least have the satisfaction of knowing just what happened on the night of January 14 in the city of Los Angeles. JOSEPH GLACY.

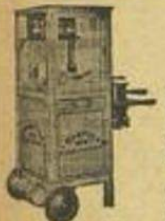
WANT TO BUY Small Portable Long Range Shooting Gun. Must be in good condition. J. L. BART, Coates House, Kansas City, Mo.

Wanted, Experienced CHORUS GIRLS

Those doing specialties preferred. Must be under 25 years. Also Musicians; an organized 6-piece orchestra preferred. Touring U. S. and Canada. Opening in Florida March 15. ELSIE CALVERT'S REVUE. With Royal American Shows, Coates House, Kansas City, Mo., until February 1; then South Jacksonville, Fla.

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LARGEST and only Exclusive Wholesale
Concession Supply House for the Carnival
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Send for Latest Catalogue.

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POPPER

Champion No. 5 has
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cut). Fuel is
can't spoil corn. Only
one of the several big
features of this knock-
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Write today for cir-
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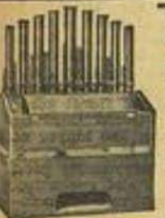
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Just the thing for
Southeastern and Con-
cessions. Rings
mounted in rings, as
illustrated.

Examples, 22c. P & F
Dozen, \$2.50. Half-
Gross Lots at \$5.25
per Dozen. Full-Gross
Lots at \$1.00 per Doz.
Louis Souvenir Coins,
Half, per Dozen, \$6.50.
\$1.50 per 100, \$6.50.

NOT THE CHEAPEST, BUT THE BEST.
SEND FOR NEW CATALOG
Of Carnival and Concession Goods—just off
the press. New Goods. New Prices.
KINDEL & GRAHAM
The House of Novelties,
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CALLIOPE'S
National's are the BEST
These Managers have
switched to National
Calliopes: Johnny J.
Jenns, Robin Grubery,
C. A. Wortham, Eli
Bridge Co.
There must be a rea-
son. Ask any promi-
nent Carnival Manager.
NATIONAL CALLIOPE
CORPORATION
516 Bank Street
Kansas City, Missouri

Monkey Family for Ball Racks



1930 Catalogue of
New Ball Throwing
Equipment: Teala,
Hoods, Dolls, Cats,
Monkeys, ready to
mail.
Improved Six-Cat
Rack.



TAYLOR'S GAME
SHOP
Columbia City, Ind.



BUDDHA PAPERS
Outfits and Costumes. Here-
scopes—musical. Send for
full info.
S. BOWER, Bower Bldg.,
430-2 W. 19th St., New York
See our ad in M. P. Section



CANDY FLOSS
MACHINES
All Electric, \$125;
Hand, \$125. D & S
Electric, 2300,
Catalina Frs.
NAT'L FLOSS MCH. CO., 68-24 24th, New York.



GUM
1 a
pack
Full size 50 packs—also other
sizes. Flashy boxes. All
Streetsmen. Concessions. A & S
Premium Men use our candy
brands. Double your money.
Deposit required. Order today.
**HELMET GUM SHOPS, Cin-
cinnati, Ohio.**



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FUTURE PHOTOS
Magic Wand and Buddha Papers.
Send for Samples.
JOS. LEDOUX,
189 Wilson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

3-ABREAST MERRY-GO-ROUND

Herschell-Spillman makes new top and wall, just
repatented and rebuilt one Eli Ferris Wheel No. 10,
hold stock in first-class condition. Two Ohio
Electric Flares, 2 1/2 ft. W. each; one Tangley Cal-
lopes, mounted on Chevrolet truck. This equipment
can be seen in Atlanta. Sell all or separate. If you
haven't the cash, please carry over stamps. **JOE
GALLER, Box 1095, Atlanta, Ga.**

Midway Confab

(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

TUESDAY, this week, the big banquet-
ball of the PCSA at Los Angeles.

TRAIN CREWS usually have "good
chucks" (checks) at the flats, but they
can't eat the shows' equipment.

J. GEORGE LOOS did some straight-
from-the-shoulder "talking" in his big
ad, under "SHOWMEN", in last issue.

BOY E. LUDINGTON, from California,
elucidates that, altho he can stand and
see snow on the mountain tops, "it's
'shirt-sleeve' weather on the doorsteps."

MR. AND MRS. P. W. MILLER, of the
Miller Shows, have been vacationing in
Chicago and Detroit, but are now back
in winter quarters at New Orleans.

NADINE GAVIN, who the last two sea-
sons was with Earl Ketring's Autodrome
on the Sheesley Shows, is wintering
among the "bright lights of Broadway".

O. A. BAKER and wife were to leave
Louisville, Ky., last week for Miami and
other Florida points of interest, includ-
ing Tampa for the fair.



*THE PHOTO was taken while the Roy Gray Shows were playing the
Wharton County Fair, Wharton, Tex. Seated, left to right: Ruth Gray,
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Gray; Mrs. Roy Gray. Standing, left to right:
J. R. Gray, general agent; Louis Bright, secretary; Rob Roy, secretary DeHalt
County Fair, Alexandria, Tenn.; Roy Gray, owner and manager.*

"**JACKS UP!**" yelled the boss train-
man, as the runs were being placed.
"I **LOSE!**" remarked the pull-up-team
driver. "I only hold a pair!"

MR. AND MRS. P. W. HOLTZMAN re-
cently closed two holiday stores in Pitts-
burgh, Pa., and are now in Tampa, Fla.,
for the winter.

REPORT from San Francisco was in
effect that Chick Hense, tattooed man,
is this winter tattooing at the beach
and getting along nicely.

"**TWO WRONGS** will not make a
right!" Neither will two managers bid-
ding a date into unreasonable thousands
provide a profitable engagement!

HENRY KHRET, erstwhile showman
of Portsmouth, O., was recently chosen
a chief director of the People's National
Bank at Johnson City, Tenn.

FRANK BERGEN returns to the or-
ganization ownership field with J. Grif-
fel—the Bernardi Greater Shows. He is a
hustler and an untiring worker at any-
thing he undertakes.

THIS WINTER'S impressive pre-season
announcements of managers re "off-
colorness" will cause interested watch-
fulness among both showmen and lay-
men next summer and fall.

HERB TISDALE, show executive of the
Great American Shows, has been con-
fined at his home in Richmond, Va., by

sickness. However, he expects to be
back at work shortly.

GENE CAMPBELL, boxer, and his
manager, Raymond A. Briggs, with the
J. J. Page Shows last year, are in Balti-
more this winter working at "squared-
circle" events.

JUST ABOUT all speed records be-
tween Kansas City and Charlotte, N. C.,
were smashed with the arrival of Mr.
and Mrs. Earl Purdie in their car—with
several broken spokes.

LARRY GLENN, concessionaire, re-
cently toured into Kansas City from the
Pacific Coast and after a brief visit
with friends in that city will leave for
a rest at Hot Springs.

H. B. (DOC) DANVILLE, general agent
John T. Wortham Shows, spent New
Year's in Los Angeles. It is said "Doc"
was also spied in Hollywood the eve be-
fore conversing with one of the movie
celebrities.

OUT PACIFIC COAST way nearly all
conversation leads to the big annual

ALWAYS POPULAR

The No. 12 **ELI** Wheel is a "go-
getter" in Parks
and on the Midway
45 feet, 9 inches
high, 23 standard
100 ELI Seats.

An easily op-
erated, Safety High
Ride that pays a
REAL dividend to
the investor.

Let us tell YOU
more about the "Old
Reliable" **MORSEY-
GOTTER**

ELI BRIDGE COMPANY
Builders of Dependable Products
800 Case Avenue, Jacksonville, Illinois

ALLAN HERSCHELL
CARROUSELS
FOR
CARNIVALS PARKS

Unbreakable Aluminum Horse Legs
Standard Equipment on All Our Machines.
Diameters: 32-ft. Little Beauty, 38-ft. Ideal,
40-ft., 45-ft. and 50-ft. Park Carrouseils.

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, Springville, Erie Co., N. Y.

WANTED
FREAKS AND NOVELTY ACTS
AT ALL TIMES
HUBERT'S MUSEUM
122 W. 42d Street, NEW YORK CITY.

FOR SALE
Large Richardson Roof Beer Barrel, practically
new, complete, Carbonator and Cooler, \$450.00
cash.
H. W. YENDES
1009 Waverna Drive, DAYTON, O.

FOR SALE
Wanted—Strong Feature, real Fat Girl, Glass
Blowers, Tattooer, Sword Swallower, Freaks, Ha-
wellian and Colored Musicians, Singers, Dancers
and Entertainers. Novelty Acts, capable Lecturer,
Talkers, Grinders, Ticket Sellers, etc. State all
and lowest salary (long season). Opening at San
Diego, Calif., February 1. Address
C. F. CURRAN, Mgr.
1621 15th Ave., Oakland, Calif., until January 23;
after that San Diego.

GREAT NORTHERN SHOWS
Opens 1930 season in or near Detroit. WANT
capable Showman to manage three small shows.
WILL DOOK shows with own outfit. Concessions
—All kinds open. Good opening for small Cook
House. Ride 1930 wanted. E. D. Bailey wants to
hear from Agents of all kind. All mail in care of
Shows. **ARCHIE DAVIDS**, General Manager, Box
213, Wayland, Mich.

FOR SALE
Two-Abreast Parker Swing, 42 ft. diameter, just
repainted, in good condition, with Tractor, \$800.00.
Also Whip, in good condition, \$1,750. Both Rides
Bargains. Act quick.
F. W. MILLER,
Flatters Hotel, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

season. John L. will again have James J. Downing and Charles Shanley with him.

OTIS L. SMITH has an innovative idea. He recently passed thru Cincinnati (during the absence of this writer) to New York from Indiana, where he purchased some additional animals, including two elephant acts.

HARRY COREY, auctioneer-concessionaire, with Morris Kantroff on the Conklin & Garrett Shows last season and formerly, intermittently, with Sam Jones, is putting in the winter in Cincy on some specialty sales.

WHO IS the 76-year-old Billboard agent who was seen entering a prominent hotel in Charlotte, N. C., with a young companion on each arm? His first name is Frank and he comes from Poughkeepsie.

JAMES H. HICKEY, ride mechanic, informed from 122 Beatty street, Wilkesburg, Pa., that he had undergone a serious operation on his ears, and while convalescing would appreciate letters from acquaintances.

MR. AND MRS. "BILL" STARKEY and daughter, formerly with the Spencer and Cloth shows, will be with the J. Harry Six Attractions the coming season with two concessions. They are sojourning in Cleveland, O., this winter.

MR. AND MRS. BOB SAILOR, of Fort Wayne, Ind., are getting their merry-go-round, arcade and string of concessions ready for the opening at Erie Lake. Babe Kay, balloonist, is also in Fort Wayne and enjoys trips a la "gas buggy eight" of Mr. and Mrs. Sailor.

LAWRENCE GARR recently returned home to West Somerville, Mass., from a trip south. While in Florida, he met numerous showfolks, including Mr. and Mrs. Wallace and Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Murphy.

- N-ondescript
- O-rations, or
- N-arrations;
- S-oul-stirring to nearly
- E-veryone, but
- N-ever approved by the
- S-ophisticated, or
- E-xacting formalists.

RAY FARMER, known to the show world as Ray Bennett, is doing local promoting and publicity for affairs in his home town, Binghamton, N. Y. Last season Ray was with the William Milarki Shows and Concessions, with which he is slated for the coming season.

W. E. ALEXANDER and his Flea Circus are wintering in Baltimore. The attraction opened last spring with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition in Florida and Prof. Alexander had a long and steady-grind season, closing recently at the Baltimore Museum.

IT IS SAID that in one camp of 167 cottages at Miami a large majority of the occupants are showfolks, including Chester Hamilton, Slim Kelley, Billy (Scales) Thompson, of the California Shows; Ossified Harry, of Coney Island, and many from the Frank West and the Sheeley Shows.

"FOLLOWING THE COURSE of least resistance" has caused many flops. The producing of an absolutely NEW attraction requires concentrated and stick-to-it thinking. Too many showmen have started to think, got "tired", stopped "worrying" about it and then—"I'll just build a 'new' one like 'Soandso's'!"

THE SPEEDY MERRILLS are wintering at Kansasville, Wis. A report recently reached the confab desk that Speedy and Art Chambers had completed a miniature auto for Merrill's drome at Cedar Point, O., but it didn't contain the information that the Merrills were headquartered at Kansasville.

MOST EVERY NIGHT around the Continental lobby in Los Angeles can be seen a number of the boys from Wortham, Craft, Hunsacker, Babcock, Clark Greater and McCart shows "cutting it up". The veteran talker, "Slim" Wren; Ed Mozart and few other oldtimers unfold some interesting yarns of the days of yore.

FROM LITTLE ROCK, Ark., comes word that William E. Grandstaff, calliothe driver and ticket seller with the Harry E. Billick Shows, is recovering from an operation for appendicitis at

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Before you buy any Corn Popper or Peanut Roaster, investigate the National-Peerless Line, Biggest Money-Makers for Show and Concession 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.

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CARDS — GAMES — CONCESSION SUPPLIES.
H. C. EVANS & CO., 1528 W. Adams St., Chicago

his home in Little Rock. He was confined to St. Vincent's Infirmary for 21 days. He expects to be able to continue his work when the show opens in March.

INCLUDING in "show letters" that a number of "fairs have been booked" is not of news value to the readers of the news columns unless the names of the fairs are also stated. Also, "the office of the show is busy with correspondence" isn't news—from the fact that the offices are supposed to be busy this time of year.

WALLY BLEIN, who last season had a show on Zorra's Midway Shows, until they closed; then jumped southward to the World of Pleasure Shows, at Camden, S. C.; next was with Cetlin & Wilson Shows until they ended their season; and then joined Coe Bros.' Shows, with two concessions, is in Florida this winter with the Coe caravan.

"THE NEXT TIME I start walking down steps I may take a parachute along," remarked Jean Duran, holder of three women's records for parachute jumping from planes, when she received a sprained wrist, a twisted ankle and a bruised hip in a fall of but one foot from the lower step of a theater entrance in St. Petersburg, Fla., recently.

TALKING ABOUT showfolks putting their trucks to use in the winter months, Stanford Baker has been hauling snow for the city of Detroit. There being many inches on the level, and more inches along the curbing, he isn't afraid of running out of stock. Young Baker is a concessionaire on the Michigan Greater Shows. Infoes Oscar Warner.

H. L. (SHEENY) BUSH recently closed a season of six weeks thru the Rio Grande Valley with Fred Bond's Freak Animal Show, at McAllen, Tex. Bush and Dolly, the Doll Lady, were going to Mexico to fill a three weeks' engagement with Eddie Dunn at the Tampico Cabara, and will be back with Fred Bond at his opening of the new season.

PURL A. SHIELDS, with caravans the last 20 years, including the old Otis L. Adams Exposition Shows and various others of the oldtimers, as manager of minstrel shows, also handler of The Billboard, and more recently with the Bruce Greater Shows, is headquartered at his home city, Graham, N. C., this winter, but filling a position as a salesman thru North Carolina and Virginia.

REGARDING the concessionaire (not show and concession owner) the longest with one and the same organization, quite a number of answers have been received. Specifically the question refers to the concession owner (one or more concessions) the longest, without leaving during a season, with one caravan. Make the answers in a few words. Let's see who has been the best "sticker".

CHAS. AND ETTA MORRIS, glassblowers, are back home in Pleasantville, N. J., from a trip south. After closing the season with Cetlin & Wilson Shows at Brunson, S. C., they left for Starke, Fla., for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Rube Wardell, who "have a beautiful home, and only business in the North kept us

from spending the winter there," say Chas. and Etta.

LUCILE B. YOUNG, piano-accompanist with the Musical Maids show of the Morris & Castle Shows, has almost completely recovered from the operation she underwent some time ago and has been working some theater dates and radio broadcasting. She has returned to Shreveport and advises that she has been greatly pleased with meeting many M. & C. folks since her return to that city.

AL KETCHEL was host to the following showfolks Christmas Day at his new night club, the Green Frog, in St. Petersburg, Fla.: Mr. and Mrs. Cecil C. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Flynn, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. "Pappy" Oonway, Garrison Turner, Gladys Douglas, Joe C. Turner, Mrs. Minnie McDaniels and Mrs. Ben Mottle. They were entertained with good "eats" and a series of dances by Princess Iona (Mrs. Al Ketchel).

AN ENJOYABLE Christmas dinner was arranged and served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Coban in Miami for their friends spending the winter at that city. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. Art Gareson, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold McIntyre and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Reese, Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Rockford, and Mr. and Mrs. John Miller. Numerous gifts were exchanged.

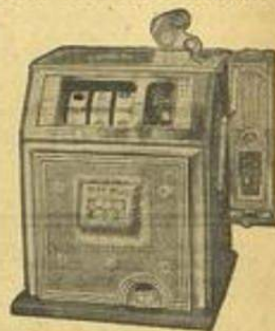
JACK T. WORTHAM, who has been assisting his "dad" managing the details at the "John T." quarters this winter, is still making his week-end hunting trips. "Tis said he came back with game the last time, altho another report has it the duck was a live decoy his partner had out. At least that is what John T., Sr., claims. Jack, however, is an ex-military schoolboy and a crack shot, and hard to beat—Roy Ludington will vouch for that (he paid off once).

GEAN NARDREAU and His Hawaiians are working in Publix and Sparks theaters in Florida this winter. At Jacksonville this eminent coterie of entertainers greatly helped in a big Christmas tree drive for needy people by the Florida Theater. They gave singing and instrumental numbers, and talked from a truck on streets of the city while toys, fruit, candy and money were collected. At the tree services at the theater there were more than 250 children in attendance. Gean and his entertainers will be back with the Melville-Reiss Shows the coming season.

HERE'S A straight-from-the-shoulder statement from Joe W. Stoneman, of the shows bearing his name: "We carried free acts last season and had a 10-cent gate admission, which was a success. Expect to do the same the coming season. May not play any fairs, and I am not attending any conventions. Will carry four rides and six shows season 1930."

CHARLES F. WATMUFF, whose capable general agent ability and ever-versingly pleasant personality are both well known to showfolks, has been down "on the border" and has sent some very interesting pictorial postcards to friends, obtained at Harry Tippe' (the

JACKPOT WITH CHECK SEPARATOR



No. 41-S—NICKEL PLAY, \$85.00
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EYE-COMPELLING, LIFE-LIKE BODY MOVEMENTS. THEY DO THE SHIMMY, HAWAIIAN AND OTHER "HOT" POPULAR DANCE MOVEMENTS. THEY KEEP TIME WITH YOUR RADIO. OPERATED BY MECHANICAL CLOCK MOVEMENT—THEY ARE THE BIGGEST MONEY GETTERS.

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BEANO or CORN GAME

The Best on the Market.
35 Player Outfit, \$5.00
70 Player Outfit, \$10.00

ALUMINUM CENTER WHEELS
2 1/2 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, Balloons, Candy, Fridge Toys, Balloons, Paper Hats, Favors, Confetti, Artificial Flowers, Novelties, etc.
SLACK MFG. CO.
124-126 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill.

FOR SALE CHEAP

A large Camping Truck built on Ford truck chassis. Just the thing for carnival work. Men and wife can live and work in it. Write for particulars. MRS. EDITH M. WILLIAMS, North Judson, Ind.

MIDGET HORSES 27 in. high, 50 lbs. Sound perfect specimens. For April shipments, \$300, \$200 each order, bal. C. O. D. FRANK WITTE, SR., P. O. Box 146, Cincinnati, O.

WANTED

C. A. WORTHAM'S WORLD'S BEST SHOWS

BECKMANN AND GERETY, Owners and Operators

GIRL SHOW, FAT FAMILY AND HIGH-CLASS PLATFORM ATTRACTION.

Will Furnish Complete Outfit for Same.

CAN PLACE ILLUSION PIT SHOW, ALSO CAPABLE MANAGERS FOR MOTORDROME, MONKEY SPEEDWAY AND FREAK ANIMAL SHOW.

Motordrome Riders that can Repair Machines. Ride Foremen for Carry-Us-All, Leaping Lena, Waltzer and Caterpillar. State experience.

WE HAVE ALREADY CONTRACTED NINE WEEKS OF LARGE FAIRS, INCLUDING SOME OF THE LARGEST IN THE STATES.

WANTED

All Address BECKMANN & GERETY, (Winter Quarters) National Stock Yards, Ills.

WANTED

WANTED

veteran erstwhile carnivalists) curio store in Matamoros, Mex. Mostly "in-door" photographs, the kind with feet on the railing, etc.

E. L. (SPOT) KELLEY and George N. Napier (attorney-general, Georgia) motored from Atlanta to Tallahassee, Fla., for a week's fishing. They fished at night, with a lantern, and "Spot" is authority for the statement that they really had to be very careful to douse the lantern when the boat became filled with mullet. Kelley's Amusement Palace played its arcade in Atlanta in three locations—two fair, one poor. It is wintering in that city. Will carry a vaude show, free acts, concessions and the arcade within one enclosure the coming season, and, starting out in March, will head for Western Canada.

ALPINE, Florida's Fat Lady, gave a delightful New Year's party at her home in Miami. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dobish, Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, Madge Crawford, Ray Campbell and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Butterfield, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Pedro (of Ossified Harry Show fame), Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Kelley, Slim Carver, E. V. McGarry, who was toastmaster, and Alpine's nieces from Ocala, Fla., who have been spending a few weeks with her. The party lasted till th' wee sma' hours of morning.

JACK H. NATION, after closing last season as general agent of the Miller Shows at Bastrop, La., decided that he and the missus would stop in that city, where Jack has since been operating a remunerative sign shop, assisted by "Dutch" Reiss, concessionaire. About the first of March they will all trek north, the Nations to visit homefolks at Dayton, O., and Angola, Ind., and Reiss to mingle among friends in Kansas City, before starting 1930 season, for which, Nation opines he will have the best framed side show he has had in 12 years.

NOW IT COMES OUT, who has had the storehouse at 414 Main street, Houston, Tex. H. B. Poole, of the shows bearing his name, writes that he has been running a show at that address for about six weeks now, with fair business when weather permitted. Major Fox, Mrs. Fox and Baby Fox have been featured. Other attractions include Madam Sylvia, with her den of large snakes; Prince Nelson, magician; Madam Elizabeth, reader; Tex Forester, handling the sword box, "four-legged girl" and the floor; Fay VanCourt, talker, and Albert Moore taking tickets, and the merry-go-round organ used for hallyboo music.

THE VENESSIA INN, located three miles out of Little Rock, Ark., and operated by two princes of carnivaldom, Tony and Louis Bernardi, was the setting for a gala gathering of showfolks New Year's Eve. The Bernardi brothers put on a good feed and entertainment and dancing, with a five-piece orchestra. There were too many present for the news contributor to get all their names. However, those he saw included Bob Harris, Jack Kramer, Harry Hunter, Bob O'Hara, Jack O'Hara, Jack Lucas, Jimmie Barker, Alma Robinson, George Campbell, Freddy Morris, J. E. Dodge, Kent Hosmer and Jack Sapro, and some of the showmen's wives also attended. Pete Cella, an oddtimer of the outdoor field, is master of ceremonies at the inn and has gained many friends. Carl Schaffer is in charge of the kitchen, being assisted by Mrs. Helen Bernardi and Mr. and Mrs. Deacon.

A RELATED BIT OF NEWS comes from De Land, Fla.: A big barbecue spread was given at winter quarters of the Johnny J. Jones Exposition. The "cats" were furnished by Joe Redding, business manager for the show, and Bud Cowan, of razor note. The feed

P. S. McLaughlin Shows

OPEN LATTER PART OF APRIL.

NOW READY TO BOOK SHOWS AND CONCESSIONS FOR 1930 SEASON.

Rides All Owned by P. S. McLaughlin.

This show will carry only legitimate Concessions, so if your Concession is controlled in any way, please do not bother me with your correspondence. WANT Cook House, Popcorn, Candy Apples, Ice Cream and all legitimate Concessions. Address all correspondence to

P. S. McLAUGHLIN
33 CRISMAN ST., FORTY FORT, PA.

P. S.—TO MANUFACTURERS OF RIDES: I have been granted a patent on a new Ride which I wish to sell to some manufacturer, either for cash or on royalty basis. If interested please let me hear from you. Above address.

SOL'S LIBERTY SHOWS, Inc.

WANT People in all branches of the Carnival business. Shows of merit, with or without outfits. CAN PLACE Ride Help for the following Rides: Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Aeroplane Swings, Tilt-a-Whirl, Lindy-Loop, Chairplane, Leaping Lena, Fun on the Farm.

CONCESSIONS—All Concessions open except Corn Game, Long Range Shooting Gallery and Bowling Alley. Show opens early in April at Anderson, Ind.

FAIR SECRETARIES—We have eight Shows and eight Rides, sixteen Paid Attractions Address all communications to

SAM SOLOMON, Severin Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind.

G. W. Nail Shows Now Booking Shows, Rides and Concessions FOR SEASON OF 1930

WILL BOOK any new and up-to-date Ride, Eber, reliable Ride Help, let us hear from you. WANT any Show of merit, Mrs. Fife and Sister Morgan, write. Concessions booked at live-and-let-live prices. All mail addressed to 335 Osachita Ave., European Hotel, Monroe, La.

P. S.—Yes, we have bought the European Hotel, opposite the Missouri Pacific Depot. Catering to show folks.

WANTS FOR THE SEASON OF 1930

Ed Ferris Wheel, Smith & Smith Chairplane and Shows, to open last week in April in Central Pennsylvania. All Concessions open except Milk Bottles. WANT small Cook House, hot good. Would like to sell X on Wheels to one party. Shows and open. Address all mail to A. H. HAYDEN, 1315 West Erie Ave., Philadelphia, Pa., or CHAS. ROE, 335 Morgan St., Tonawanda, N. Y.

was cooked and served by Mrs. Joe Redding, Olive Hager, Mrs. Bud Cowan, Mrs. Korhin (Secretary Korhin's mother), Whitley Forrest and Shorly Evans, the latter two boys officiating at the barbecuing. It was served in the big animal show top, erected especially for the occasion. Sam Collier, Chet Dunn and Eddie Madigan made brief addresses. In addition to roast pig, there were numerous vegetables and various "goodies". There were 170 diners and a panorama was taken of them, with Johnny J. Jones, Johnny Jr. and "Sister Sue" most prominently located. After the dinner there was entertainment of various kinds, including remarkable performances by Bud Cowan's dog, "Frost", which actually sat at a side table and ate, using knife and fork.

IN A ROOMING HOUSE in Philly about a dozen showfolks are hibernating this winter. They meet at intervals and hold entertainments—songs, dance specialties, monologs, sketches, etc.—just for themselves. Among them is John Jameson, former (veteran) monologist who, regardless of entreaties, until recently held off with his bit of entertaining—always saying that sometime he would give 'em 'one so 'old' it's ready for its second time on earth." A few days ago John, apparently in breathless excitement, came from the dining room into his friends' midst. Almost exasperatingly waving his arms at the "What's the matter?", "What's wrong", etc., he finally allowed himself to be seated (feebly) and said: "Terrible time at the

breakfast table." "What was it?", "Tell us", etc. "Well, in the first place the molasses got STUCK on a piece of pie. Then the sugar was found to be SWEET on a piece of pie. Then a potato got cracked in the EYF by a head of cabbage. That made the pepper HOT and the butter had to RUN. The coffee, being neutral, SETTLED back on its own GROUNDS. The teakettle came in, singing a 'HOT AIR', followed by a frying pan BEATING the devil out of some eggs!"

AUSTRALIAN CARNIVAL NOTES
SYDNEY, Dec. 12.—Manly Venetian Carnival takes place in January. The organizer has booked several good attractions for this annual event at one of Sydney's most popular seaside resorts.

Bob Sculthorpe is around town. He has a big novelty attraction during the Christmas and New Year holidays. His daughter, Gladys, who returned here from America a few months ago, will in all probability make the trip back within a month.

Several showmen are back in Sydney at present, getting things ready for the coming season of show dates in this State, which commences early in the new year. Among them is noted Dave Meekin, who has several attractions for the holiday season, and will be presenting something on a big scale for the coming Easter.

George Donovan, American carnival man, is still around Sydney.

Abdy's Performing Animals and Birds will be a feature of this year's pantomime at the Grand Opera House, Syd-

ney. St. Leon's Posing Dogs may also be included in the attractions.

Clare and Greenhaigh are presenting their attractions in New Zealand, the former in the North Island, and Greenhaigh in the South, with Pat Jolly Ray and Elsie Baker, the Human Enigma. Marjorie Vancamp with her performing pigs is with the Fred Clare show.

Doc Hamilton and his wife are still playing the New Zealand shows to good business.

Washington Producing Co.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Jan. 11. — The Washington Producing Company, under the management of S. B. Weintraub and Dr. Fred A. W. Reh, played under canvas here, under the auspices of the Wayne County Fair Association for a six-day engagement, and for the following week furnished the decorations and concessions and some of the acts for the American Legion Indoor Circus. On the bill at the circus were Bernice and Williams; Lester, the Great, and Clark's Educated Pigs and Trained Dogs. Ed Raymond, of the team of Raymond and Marcus, was producing clown. Attendance for the second week was almost negligible and business, as a result, was very bad.

The next engagement to be played by the Washington Producing Company will be at Hamlet, N. C., for a seven-day engagement, commencing January 25, under the auspices of the Volunteer Fire Department. Following that date a six-day engagement will be played at both Weldon and Windsor, N. C. An automobile locomotive is carried for advertising purposes and the principal streets of each town to be played will be decorated one week in advance of the opening. Special tieups are being arranged with the merchants by Walter B. Fox, who is booking and routing the show, and two promoters, Ed DuBois and George Hirschberg. The show moves overland on five large auto trucks, which are owned by the company. Many visitors were in evidence at Goldsboro, including Charles (Buck) Yeager, of the Sheelsy Shows; "Slim" Leeman, of Cetlin & Wilson Shows; "Lonnie" Mansfield, riding device operator; Mr. and Mrs. (Nick) Otte and many others.

Melville-Reiss Shows

CHARLOTTE, N. C. — Work has been going forward at the Melville-Reiss Shows' quarters under the supervision of J. L. Edwards. The Skooter will be entirely rebuilt and the top will be used. Trainmaster Ingram has arrived and taken up his duties. Manager J. F. Murphy has arrived from Piqua, O.

Ed Pasterson has returned from an extended tour of the South, which included Miami and Jacksonville. Eddie Hollinger has assumed the management of a local theater for the winter, but will again be on the front of the Minstrel Show. Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Burd have returned from their trip, and Fred will supervise purchasing of all material for winter quarters. Frank LaBarr is seen daily about the Stonewall and is in excellent health. Dad Miller has charge of the show horses. George Brown, assistant trainmaster, welcomed the arrival of Trainmaster Howard Ingram, having been his assistant many seasons ago. Nate Miller, while motoring in the vicinity of Charlotte, had the misfortune to puncture a tire late at night and in the rain. He had reason to use the language he did, because he had to walk two miles to the nearest phone. His New Year's resolution is to never go riding alone again.

Mrs. Harry G. Melville entertained at a bridge party to a select group of friends and was ably assisted by Bernice Melville and Mrs. Kantor.

W. L. WALTON.

Heart of America Showmen's Club

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 11.—The first official act of the newly elected president, Cliff Liles, was the appointment of the various standing committees. The chairmen of the various committees are as follows: Board of directors, Elmer Velare; house, George Howk; entertainment, Jake Vetter; finance, G. C. McDinnis; hospital and cemetery, J. H. Johnson; legislative, Elmore Velare; membership, Clyde Leggett; publicity, Gregg Wellinghoff. A meeting of the board of directors was held last Sunday afternoon to outline plans for the year. The house committee met for the same purpose.

Gean J. Bernal, chairman of the New Year's Eve Banquet and Ball, reported that the banquet this year far surpassed any previous affair in attendance. Last-minute reservations were so numerous it was necessary to delay the opening of the banquet to prepare for an additional list of reserves.

Col. Dan MacGugin has signed with Leslie Kell's Comedians for the coming season in the capacity of secretary and treasurer.

Les and Babe Hutchison departed after the banquet for Montgomery, Ala., where they will visit with Babe's sister, Mrs. E. B. Kent. They will return here late in January to prepare for their opening with the Noble C. Fairly Shows, where they have maintained the cookhouse for the last several years.

Mr. and Mrs. Baysinger, concessionaires with the J. George Looce Shows, arrived in the city early last week to attend the banquet and to spend a brief vacation here. After a tour thru Texas and the missus will return to the winter quarters of the show in Laredo to give their equipment the once over.

Mrs. Babe Drake and the new youngster, Vaughna Lou, arrived here to join husband and father and will remain for the winter.

The Ladies' Auxiliary had a very busy season with its Baltimore Hotel luncheon, its burlesque theater party, its tacky dance, its private home parties, its open-house dance and the dance for the incoming president.

Mr. and Mrs. Noble C. Fairly departed for a rest at Hot Springs, Ark. Noble carried with him his golf sticks.

G. C. Loomis and other Loomises left New Year's Day, headed for California, where they will reopen their show. The only closing date known around that show is for the H. A. S. C. Banquet and Ball.

It is understood that the newly elected officers are outlining a "hot" program for this year.

Dr. Walter L. Wilson, chaplain of the club, last Friday presented the club with an American flag. Dr. Wilson addressed the club on the same evening, using as his subject *The American Flag*. His impressive talk will linger long in the hearts of the members.

At the exhibitors' meeting, held at the close of the fourth annual Exhibitors' Convention of the H. A. S. C., it was announced that purchases made during the convention totaled a shade more than \$100,000. Of this amount \$42,000 consisted of purchases of riding devices, \$37,000 in railroad cars, \$9,000 in canvas, \$3,000 in calliopes and \$11,000 to the concession jobbers and other exhibitors. These amounts cover contracts signed, not anticipated deals.

Showfolk in Muncie

MUNCIE, Ind., Jan. 11.—The following showfolks are wintering here: "Kokomo Jimmy" Chanon, Athletic Show manager Denhart Shows last season, who has opened an athletic club; Willard Fryback, last season talker with Strayer Amusement Company, who is pitching fountain pens; Oscar (Casey) Corbin, Hawaiian showman; Bert Spurgeon, electrician with Taylor Shows last season, is buying and selling horses; Wes Covey has a barbecue place on State highway No. 31; Marrow Brothers (Charles and Baldy) are in the timber business; John R. (Jack) Bodicut worked Christmas novelties; Mose Hullinger, billposter with Robinson Circus last season, is at No. 3 fire station; J. W. Sullivan, electrician a part of last year with Michigan Greater Shows, is in trucking business; Guy Oliver, ball-game worker, is chef at Peter's South Side cafe; the "Murphys" (James and Ike) are daily visitors to the Moose Home; Jack Adams, wrestler, is creating mat

HELLER'S ACME SHOWS, Inc.

BILL WUNDER. WIRE ME YOUR ADDRESS. VERY IMPORTANT.

WANTED—Concessions; all Wheels open. Good proposition for Cook House and Juice. Want Shows with or without outfits. Reckless Murphy, Lofstrom, Captain Fisher and others I know, write. Want Ride Help. Open April 19, two Saturdays, in best town in New Jersey. 150,000 population. All address HARRY HELLER, Gen. Mgr., 246 Van Houten St., Paterson, N. J. Phone, Lambert 8190M.

P. S. For Sale—Monkey Motordrome, four cars, double decker, in A-1 shape. Stored in Columbia, S. C.

DEE LANG AMUSEMENT CO.

Want for 1930 Season

Cook House, must be up to date; will sell exclusive. All legitimate Concessions open except Corn Game, Cigarette Shooting Gallery, Candy Floss and Candy Dart. Will sell exclusive on all others. Positively no grift tolerated or wanted. NOTICE—Fair Secretaries in Illinois and Missouri wanting a good clean Show get in touch with us, as we have a few open weeks. We have the following four Rides—Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel, Flier and the only mile-a-minute Caterpillar, formerly with the Johnny J. Jones Exposition and Sheesley Shows. Everyone address DEE LANG, Manager, 4985 Wise Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

MIRACLE MUSEUM, Inc.—WANT—WANT—WANT

HIGH-CLASS FEATURE FEAKS.

Giants, Blanch-Meyers Midgets.	Leslins, Zippo, Fizmya.	Artless Wonders, Any Suitable High-Class Feaks of Nature.
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Doc Gibson, can place you. State all. Mail or wire
W. J. MURPHY, 141 Seventh St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Drew's World Standard Shows

WANTED—Shows and Rides that do not conflict with what we have. Concessions all open except Cookhouse and Grab. Address P. L. DREW, 197 Market Street, Lynn, Mass. Tel., Breakers 6747.

FIRST CALL, SEASON 1930—R. H. WADE SHOWS

WANT Shows with own outfit, especially Hawaiian, Ten-in-One, Monkey Motordrome, Platform Shows, or anything new and novel. Cook House that can deliver service and food. Concessions all open except Corn Game. WILL BOOK clean, legitimate Concessions only. Stock Wheels, Ball Game, Grind Stones, Long Range Shooting Gallery. Prices right and a sure long season of Street Celebrations and Fairs. Best Spring route in Ohio. We own our own three Rides and Camoos. Fair Secretaries and Home-Coming Committees, get in touch with us. All those who have been with us before, write R. H. WADE SHOWS, Mansfield, O.

excitement in towns of this section; Charles Johnson, who has been with many athletic shows and is fast coming to the front as a boxer, and the writer, Hubert Stinnett, who will have five concessions the coming season.

the Canadian National Exhibition, at Toronto, last fall with the Rubin & Cherry Shows.

Pickell Buys Whale

WACO, Tex., Jan. 18.—C. W. Pickell, who, with his wife, is so far best known by his dining car efficiency, has informed the management of Dodson's World's Fair Shows, wintering here and with which Pickell has been connected the last several seasons, that while in New York he purchased a 60-ton whale as an exhibiting attraction. It will be shipped to the show here. The outfits for this attraction and the 200-foot Circus Side Show, also under the supervision of Pickell, will be new and complete in all details.

Ride Purchases Announced

KANSAS CITY, Jan. 11.—C. V. Starkweather, secretary of the Spillman Engineering Corporation, while in the city attending the Exhibitors' Convention of the Heart of America Showmen's Club, stated that new rides for the coming season have been sold to Dodson's World's Fair Shows, Boyd & Sullivan, S. W. Brundage Shows; Bert Earles, for Foley & Burk Shows; White City Park; Levitt, Brown & Huggins Shows; Coney Island, Cincinnati; Woodside Park, Philadelphia; Revere Beach, Boston, and Orville Craft, of San Diego, Calif.

Zimmy Going to Australia

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Charles Zimmy, "human submarine", who recently closed an engagement as an added attraction at the Clamago house in Detroit, was in Chicago this week on his way to the West Coast. He left Wednesday and will sail from San Francisco January 22 for Sydney, Australia, opening there the last of February with Claire & Greenhough on their tour of Australia and New Zealand. Zimmy has been a well-known attraction for years and played

Showmen's League Notes

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The exact date for the February party of the Showmen's League of America has not been set, but it will be held between the 17th and 21st. Chairman Sam J. Levy has appointed Walter F. Driver to have charge of the ticket sale, so good results may be expected.

Quite a number of the boys attended the fair meeting in Milwaukee. Among them were Sam J. Levy, Fred Kressman, R. F. Trevellick, J. C. McCaffrey, R. S. Oakes, Felice Bernardi, L. S. Hogan, Wm. Brees, Chas. Miller and Dave Tennyson. Bert Earles has been a frequent visitor at the clubrooms.

Notices of dues for 1930 have been mailed and the results are gratifying. If you have not attended to yours, do so at once.

A heavy snowstorm kept some of the brothers away from the meeting. However, there was a very good attendance.

Second Vice-President L. C. Kelley gave his report as delegate to the Heart of America Showman's Club ball. He was well pleased with the affair and stated that he was royally entertained and hopes to be there again next year.

Brother Felix Retch is in the Oak Park Hospital with little hope for his recovery. The physicians seem at a loss to diagnose the case. This news was received with sorrow at the clubrooms, for Felix is one of the staunchest members.

Col. F. J. Owens is still confined at his home, but reports say that he is improving.

The applications of Maurice Lightstone, A. D. O'Brien and Harry Witt were balloted upon and all were duly elected to membership in the league.

Remember when you receive mail with an enclosure of tickets for the February party the entire profit from this affair goes to the American Hospital, an institution that is sure deserving of all we can give it. Do not figure that it is impossible for you to be there; just accept the tickets and send in your remittance.

Brother Bert W. Earles advised the house committee to prepare the lunch for Thursday evening and present the bill to him. The committee complied with the request and a delightful luncheon was served.

Brother Lou Leonard has left for the South. Lou will spend a few weeks with the Johnny J. Jones Shows in Florida.

Dave Robbins is sojourning at Atlantic City.

Zebbie Fisher will be the official representative of the league at the Pacific Coast Showmen's banquet and ball.

Recent visitors at the rooms were J. C. McCaffrey, Bert Earles, Al Wagner, Dave Tennyson, L. J. Berger, James Chase, L. J. Ascot, H. J. Schulz, Felice Bernardi, L. C. Kelley, Wm. Brees, T. B. Vollmer, Lou Mathison, Felix Charneski, Al Goldstein, Maurice Lightstone, Leo Lipps, Al Hock and many others.

Sam Menchin finally decided to make a change for the winter. He jumped into his car and started for Hot Springs.

Brother Walter F. Driver, who so successfully handled the 1929 banquet and ball, received a letter of thanks and appreciation from the officers of the league.

Dodson Shows Get Indiana State Fair

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 11.—Mel G. Dodson, general representative for Dodson's World's Fair Shows, was among the showmen attending the Indiana fairmen's meeting at the Claypoole Hotel here this week.

While here, Dodson signed contract whereby that large amusement organization is slated to furnish the midway attractions at this year's Indiana State Fair, the dates of which are August 30 to September 5.

Robert Sweeney, Notice!

A letter from Mrs. Fannie Briggs, 1195 South Fifth avenue, Kankakee, Ill., & neighbor of the mother of Robert James Sweeney, stated that Sweeney's mother was in St. Mary's Hospital, Kankakee, critically ill, expected to live but a short time, and that she was almost continuously calling for her son, it being her wish that she see him ere she passes away. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Sweeney should inform him of the situation as soon as possible.

DOUGLAS WADE

YOU WILL KINDLY NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

CHARLES UFERT
19 East 17th St., near Broadway, New York

The Radio Shopper

\$7.20 GROSS

Rock-plated. Holds all makes of Safety Blades.

1 Gross Radio Shavers
1 Gross Pickle Straps (2414)
1 Gross Razor Strip Dressing
1 Gross Carrots for Outside

One Gross Combinations Outside, all for \$14.95.
Sample Order, 35c. 25% deposit on all C. O. Dr.

RADIO STROFFER CO.
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\$3.00 PER GROSS



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in box with baby doll as illustrated.

A KNOCKOUT THE BIGGEST VALUE EVER OFFERED

Inventory discloses several thousand gross on hand. To close out we offer them at this unheard of **LOW PRICE**. These come packed 1/2 gross to a carton. Pink and Black Baby Dolls Assorted.

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AMERICA'S LARGEST RING HOUSE

We cater exclusively to only Big Distributors in the Premium, Carnival, Sales Board, Sea Shore Resort and other similar fields. Correspondence invited from rated responsible concerns.

SEND \$1.85 for a sample assortment.

BUY DIRECT

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Dept. B.B.
623 to 631 Atwells Ave.
Providence, Rhode Island

Pipes for Pitchmen

Conducted by GASOLINE BILL BAKER
(Communications to 25 Opera Place, Cincinnati, O.)

"BELIEVE IT OR NOT," James L. Osborne shoots from Tylertown, Miss. "Al Batson and myself have worked only 3 days in 11 weeks on account of the rain and know that have been sweeping thru Dixie, but we haven't missed a meal."

DOC JIM CARSON'S only objection to the national organization of pitchmen having been removed by the change in name adopted by the Eastern boys, it is confidently expected by the new organization that he will be enrolled as a member.

FRANK BURNS, squareshooting sub-getter, is the subject of a highly complimentary writeup in a recent issue of *The Hotel Review*, a business sheet covering the hotel business. "I can thank J. W. Compton for the bouquet," says Frank. "I recognized the finger."

HENRY CAMPBELL is asking brother pitchmen to aid him in tracing the whereabouts of Charlie Blum, who worked in and around New York. Campbell is now in Seattle, Wash., at 718 Sixth avenue. Blum is a card and paperfold worker. Henry has important info to communicate.

REPORT OF ACTION taken at the get-together of papermen held at the Sylvania Hotel, Philadelphia, is not published because the writer failed to sign his name. It's all right to use a nom-de-plume, boys, but the pipe must carry your real name and real signature. On request the real name will not be used, provided you are known.

FLOYD JOHNSTON, piping from New Orleans: "Things are a bit off down here for street workers, but you can work inside a building. I ran across Jack (Scotty) Sullivan, the old med. man, who is selling books in a building on Canal street, and Dr. Singh, Hindoo tonic man, doing magic. They have a swell joint and are sure putting the books over. Scotty works his med. when he can't work the books. What has become of Dr. Black and Frenchy? I never get a word from them. Best of success to all the boys for 1930."

CHICKEN CHARLIE CASEY, the jolly human rooster, comes thru with belated New Year's greetings. "Hello, Shorty Wrightman," he cackles, "I'm glad you enjoyed my human rooster pipe. Best wishes to George Faulber and Texas Red Powell. Say, Shorty, do they hand out the old-style Tom-and-Jerry at the Central Cafe? Did you note what Tom Kennedy said? 'Stay out of the Southland.'"

And that's where I made my bankroll. Cock-a-doodle-doo!"

"THE WHIFF OF THE PINE and the scent of the palm give Florida sunshine its sweet soothing balms." Curtis Ely, the Boy Wonder, sings from Bradenton, that State, adding: "Been here a week. Mr. and Mrs. Fred (Six) Cummings are here. I am enjoying working, loafing, bathing and fishing. Biz is good. I don't fish much, but I have landed one beauty and some small fry. Here it's hot, beautiful and wet. I spend the evenings making whoopee. What I need is sympathy, sleep and money, then more money."

P. F. CALHOUN, working Lakeland, Fla., during the winter season, wails that he was well and happy until the missus got a dog recently. P. F. is jealous. No doubt about it. The bloodie's success as a buttinsky drove him to writing a blue refrain, which he sends in. The words jotted under the six bars of notes read: "Poppa don't get no lovin' since mommer gotta dog. It's a poody-oody flapper, mommer's little dear. Poppa don't get no lovin' since he brought that d—dog here." Here's hoping the bowwow doesn't drive Cal to other bars.

JACK HANNAGAN infoes from Philadelphia that he was compelled to pass up Portland, Me., December 9, after going there, because he found the town closed tight as a drum. Near-by towns, such as Biddeford, Westbrook and Augusta, were wide open, but there was plenty of snow and ice up that way. He is leaving the Quaker City, bound for the Coast, where he will spend the winter. At Boston Jack encountered Leo Elliott making good passouts with Charleston dancers, and his partner, Chisel Morris, in another spot working self-threading needles and reporting fair biz. Hannagan wants to hear from Cliff Cross and Harry Kayer.

DOOLEY DEWIRE, PAPERMAN, advises that he has returned to New York after a hunting trip with Bat Smith, who is promoting circulation for one of the principal journals of the fur trade. The boys had a great two weeks in the New Jersey wilds and succeeded in bagging a giant turkey for the Christmas dinner prepared by Mrs. Dewire. "We are still hunting," says Dooley, "but the game now is orders on the sheet and we expect to bag our usual quota. We are leaving New York on a motor trip which will take us to Hudson Bay by June 1. I am taking this means of saying bye-bye to our many friends on the sheet. We leave January 10 and will drive thru New

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AUTOMATIC 400% PROFIT

JUST OUT. Lights gas instantly without sparks or flame. Burns like wildfire wherever gas is used.

\$8.00 Per Gross
Rush name and address (free sample).

One Gross Gives You **\$34 Profit**

Retails 25c

FREE SPECIAL
1 Dozen CROWN-LITE CIGARE LIGHTERS of Highest Polished Nickel with Birchstone Settings, Retail \$1.00 Each. With Each Cash Order of One Gross of Gas Lighters.

Ignition Products Co., Inc.
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Reduced Prices — Best Quality

OUR PRICES ARE LOWEST

Write for New Price Lists and Special Offer Spectacle Kit.



THE BEST

R.B.22—All Shell Small Bow Spectacles, all numbers. Per Doz., \$2.15; Gr., \$23.50

Here is A Big MONEY MAKER

"Goldtone" SPECTACLE

R.B.34—"Goldtone" Shell Rim Spectacles, with gold-plated bridge and soft Cable Bows, all Focus Numbers. Large Round Lenses.

DOZEN, \$1.52; GROSS, \$18.00.
Catalog Mailed Free. Write at Once.

NEW ERA OPTICAL CO., 21 North Wabash, CHICAGO.

HEALTH LECTURES

MANAM } \$8.00 per 100 Pkges

(Plantage Fyllium)

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VEGETONE SOAP, \$3.50 per 100.
Wrapped 8 to Carton.

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SPECIAL \$35.00 per 100

Send \$1.00 for all these samples.

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Buy Direct From Importers at Wholesale Prices

No. 31P—24-In. Neck-lace, Sample, 15c; Doz., \$1.50.

Send \$1 for 5 assorted Samples. We also import 12 different kinds and colors of Pearls. Write for prices.

F. SPORS & CO.,
170 Erie St.,
Le Sueur Center, Minn.

PAINT SIGNS and SHOW CARDS

We quickly brush you for money, in every line. Big demand. Big future. Interesting work. Good pay.

EARN \$50 TO \$200 WEEKLY

Only \$1000.00. Home-study graduate. No job business in one year. John Young, New York, for sale \$25 for a show card. Write for complete information.

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Removes tarnish from all metals without the use of liquid, paste or powder. Our agents say it sells like "hot cakes". Retail 25c. Sample free. F. C. GALE CO., 117 Edinboro St., Boston, Mass.

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YOU can be your own boss with our Key Check Outfit. Good for \$5 a Day stamping business on pocket key checks, fobs, etc. Sample check with your name and address. Retail \$2.00.

FEARSE DIE WORKS, Dept. D, Winchester, N. H.

Get Our New REDUCED PRICES on Pens and Pencils

BERK BROS., Import Corp., - - - - 543 Broadway, New York City

MAKE EASY MONEY SELLING SONG SHEETS

BROADWAY HAWKERS ARE CLEANING UP!

50 Latest Popular Hits, on good paper, 17x27 inches. Clear, readable type. Only \$18.00 per M—3c Each. Sell for a dime. Send money with order.

SPECIAL RATES ON QUANTITIES.

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Open Stem 12-Karat Gold-Plated Wire: 1/16, 1/32, 1/32, 1/16, 1/8 and "X" qualities; hard or soft, square or round, in 3-ounce coils. Prompt service. Quality guaranteed.

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Manufacturers of Wire for Wire-Workers for Over 50 Years. Send for Price List.

PENMEN Demonstrators

Introducing Our New Combination Pen-Pencil No. 50

Jumbo Regular and Ladies' Sizes. Assorted Colors. All we ask you is to mail \$1.00 for sample and your order will follow in possession of same. Also full line of Fountain Pens and Pencils.

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VICTORY NEEDLE PACKAGE
3 Papers all Gold-Eye Needles, 11 assorted Darning, 1 Blockin. In handsome illustrated covers. No. H587. Per Dozen, 51c; per Gross, \$7.50.

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Three Blades Assorted Color Handles. H5125—Bulk Packing. Per Gross, \$2.25 H5130—1 Dozen on Card. Gross, 2.50

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"I am well satisfied."
"The Camera cannot be any better."
These are only a few of the praises we receive daily.
Full line of Supplies for all makes of One-Minute Cameras. New embossed 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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MEDICINE SHOWS

Can play the same spots year after year with the Famous NUTRO Line and **MAKE MORE MONEY**

The high quality merchandise in exceptionally attractive wrappers and labels assure you repeat business. Positively nothing like it ever offered from a platform. Send \$1.00 for 6 full-sized samples.

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\$36.00 a GROSS, WHILE THEY LAST

GOLD MOUNTED BILLFOLDS
Made of SPECIAL ASSORTED COWHIDE.
Formerly \$48.00 a Gross.

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LION OR TIGER MAT, Size 11x12 in. (Sample, Postpaid, 50c).....\$ 4.25 Dozen
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Regular newspaper size, 10x25 inches. Good type, in colored sheets. New edition, just out. \$2.00 a Hundred, \$17.50 a Thousand. 25% deposit, balance C. O. D. Price on quantities.
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FAST MONEY MAKERS. FRESH STOCK.
100, 25c; 1,000, \$3.00; Per Pound, \$10.00.
In Assorted Colors, 25% Extra.
50% Deposit. Balance C. O. D.

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And more can be made selling money-making plans and formulas; also in our other propositions. Build up your own business by writing for free information.

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REBUILT WATCHES

ELGINS, WALTHAMS, ETC., CHEAP.
Send for Price List.

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Sell the best Polishing Cloths for all Metals and Cleaners, 6 Dozen Lots at \$1.25 per Dozen. Made for 50c. Sample, 25c. **WONDER POLISH CO.,** 24 W. Parada Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

IF YOU ARE NOW NOT SELLING OUR FELT RUGS WRITE US AT ONCE

We Manufacture America's Finest **FELT RUGS**
Brighter—Blended Better—Made Better.
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OFFICE SUPPLIES SALESMEN:

Solid glass Paperweights sell in every office. Useful as magnifying glass. A Paperweight for every desk. Useful and ornamental. **SOLID GLASS**. Ask for No. 12. Sample, 50c. postpaid. Dozen, \$2.50. Fancy Floral Paperweights, solid Glass. No. 25. Sample, 60c. postpaid. Dozen, \$4.50. Can be sold as souvenirs. Something new. **KANY NOVELTY CO.,** 246 Third Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Sensational Mystery Device Lights Gas Without Matches, Flint or Friction

New Automatic RADIO Gas Lighter

IMPROVED FILAMENT—Good for 10,000 LIGHTS
A Sure Fire INSTANTLY—Never Misses No Flint—No Friction—No Sparks

The improved RADIO GAS LIGHTER is a sensational. Works 100 out of 100 times. Works equally as well in hot or cold weather. Never misses. Held directly over gas flow. Lights instantly—manipulates gas stove, jets and heaters. Flame appears as if by magic. No sparks—no friction—no matches. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed. Our four sure-fire selling plans show you how to start a big paying window demonstrating business—how to get big orders selling wholesale to dealers, also canvassing and self-selling plans. We furnish individually illustrated cards showing 25c retail price, also self-selling dealer display cards for lighters.

Pays You 400% PROFIT \$36.00 A DAY EASY!

This wireless **QUARTER SELLER** creates a sensation with every demonstration. Everybody buys on sight. Operating under any of our four plans you can dispose of big quantities daily. J. Herber, Wisconsin, sold 100 gross in one day and made \$37.00. R. Williams, Buffalo, sold over a gross and made \$24.00. You can duplicate what these men are doing. It requires no experience. A gross sold in a day brings you \$36.00 and costs you only \$7.50; you make \$28.50 clear profit.

1 gross Radio Gas Lighters, \$7.50
SAMPLE DOZ. " " \$1.00

Start making big money at once. Send your order today. You will receive details of all our sure-fire selling plans with your order for a sample dozen or gross.

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LIGHT GAS BY RADIO
Gas Lighter and CASH IN BIG MONEY



England into Nova Scotia, then down thru Quebec into the principal cities of Ontario. We will arrive at Hudson Bay about the time the fur trappers are getting in. As Smith is general circulation director for a fur journal we are looking forward to a good season's work in June."

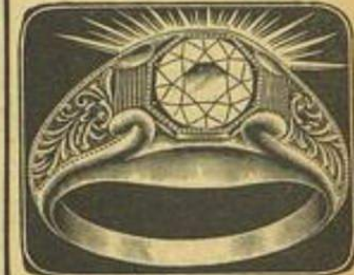
NEW YORK CITY NOTES, by Charles (Doc) Miller: This is the eighth week of Billy Blackhawk's med. show to good business and Snapp has decorated the store with some great Indian pictures. Professor Bowen, astrologist, has been added and is clicking. . . . Madeline Ragan, with books, is back in town from the Golden West. . . . The De Carlo Indian Medicine Company has opened a new store in Newark, N. J. . . . Madam Girond, herb worker, has bought a beautiful home on Long Island, just 45 minutes from Broadway. . . . Radio auction is getting the big money. . . . Astrologists here say they have received many orders for 1930 horoscopes.

E. W. WHITAKER returned to New York January 3 from Columbus, where he had a wonderful Christmas at home. "But yesterday the little family had to split up," he laments. "Marie left for Des Moines, Ia.; Jack went back to Cincinnati, and I on to New York, arriving today. My route has been somewhat changed for the coming season. I leave here tomorrow (January 4) for Boston for two weeks, then two weeks in Washington, two weeks in Akron, O.; two weeks in Youngstown, two weeks in Toledo, and two weeks in Alberta, Minn., and two weeks in Portland, Ore., to follow. Marie's route, outside of Des Moines, travels the same—thru Oklahoma and Arkansas. Any of my friends passing thru Columbus stop at 58 South Grubb street. The missus will give you our dates at the spots named. Best regards to all our friends, especially Mr. and Mrs. E. Davis and Lebo and wife."

NEVER BEFORE has the Cincinnati organization of demonstrators, salesmen and pitchmen shown such promise of developing strength and influence as may be noticed since Jeff Davis catapulted into the presidency. Jeff has started out as leader like a human dynamo. He has more ideas than George Stewart's cat has fleas. Jeff believes the game, as known and operated by the oldtimers, is out of date. He holds that the organization must work along lines that suit conditions as they exist today, not what was suited to five years ago or farther back. The new president is working out plans to increase membership to numerical strength that will make the local authorities recognize that they are dealing with a large body of American citizens asking only for their constitutional rights as citizens and business men. Jeff has learned from long experience that politicians and officeholders respect nothing so much as power. His plan is to pit organized power against official power. An individual can do nothing, Jeff argues, but an organization can do anything it sets out to do when its demand is backed by

CHROMIUM PLATE

5/10 as Hard as a Diamond.
\$11.00 Gross



R155—CLOSED BACK.
R156—OPEN BACK.
Engraved Sides.
1-CARAT SIZE STONE.
Send \$2.00 for Sample Line No. 100, consisting of 18 Chromium Rings, in beautiful maroon Tray.

HAVE YOU OUR NEW BOOK OF BARGAINS FOR DEMONSTRATORS, CARNIVAL AND FAIR WORKERS? WRITE FOR IT TODAY.
25c deposit required on all orders.

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AGENTS 500% PROFIT

Genuine Gold Leaf Letters
Guaranteed to never tarnish. Agree on set them on store and office windows. Enormous demand, large profits. Post Card sets: Small set \$12.75. E. L. Best made \$25 in two months. Write today for free sample and liberal offer to general agents.
METALLIC LETTER CO.,
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Agents and Demonstrators, send 50c for four complete samples, one for No. 3 Thread, one for No. 5 Thread, and 2 Ring Needles. **YOU WILL LIKE THEM.** These are the Novelties you will all be selling in the near future. Wholesale prices and complete catalog of stamped goods in colors, tinted shades, to work. **NEW WEA ARMY NEEDLE CO.,**
1225-27 N. Wabash St., Chicago, Ill.

Yours for the Asking!

Big Catalog of Medicines, Perfumes and Pot-pourri for coupon workers, Specialists, etc.
The DeVore Mfg. Co.
Mfg. Chemists,
209-19 S. 4th St., COLUMBUS, O.

MAGIC FOR PITCHMEN

Jumping Frog, Folding Paper Trick, Key Ring and Dime Trick, Nifty Letter, Whoopee Girl, Magic Pads, Card Trick and a big line of fast selling Novelties. Send for List "H"; you'll find what you want.
KANY BROTHERS,
128 East 23d Street, New York City

Then came Johnson collecting \$1.50 from the family of the deceased on the claim that the dead person had ordered the pen. Johnson's operations tended to prejudice the local authorities and the public against hundreds of square-shooting penworkers in the territory where publicity was given to the case.

SILK-HAT HARRY DOWNING shoots from Los Angeles: "Long time I no write; hey? Everybody fine out here. Mr. and Mrs. McNeil, of Portland, are now located here, and Vi is splitting time with me on the market. She also has a store at Long Beach. We both work the week-end there. Vi is a real med. worker and a real trouper. She joined the N. P. S. P. A., Los Angeles Lodge. Her better half, Mac, who is a wire worker, also joined. So did my wife, who made her first pitch January 2. Where are you, Slim Murphy? We miss you. It's a long time before spring. Better drop in. The N. P. S. P. A. Club is bigger and better than ever. Shoot your pipes, fellows."

"I PERSONALLY WITNESSED one of the greatest demonstrations ever attempted by a person in the show business," Lester A. Roberts infers from New York. "By special request, for a number of medical professors, I saw Madam Zangar strap up an eight-foot rattlesnake and lay its body open from the top of its head to the tip of its tail without drawing blood. This was done to show the medical men the organs of the rattlesnake's body, as they functioned at the Blackhawk Medicine Show, New York. The dissecting by Madam Zangar was so interesting that the professors would not leave until they had the promise that she would perform the same feat before the medical student body of one of the big universities here."

CLIFTON R. SMITH, on the sheet, shoots from Providence, R. I.: "Here's wishing all the boys of Pitchdom a happy and prosperous New Year. I am writing farm and trade papers thru Southern New England until the bluebirds arrive. In the spring will go on the road with my Thrill-o-Racer game, which has proven to be a red one, the game I advertised in the spring issue of Billyboy in 1929. I have found business very good on sheet and prospects for a new year look very promising. Have covered the southern New England States for the past 20 years. I have the X for concessions and rides on two New England fairs. Want to hear from all my friends. Always interested, Bill Hanson (ride man), did you get my letters? My home address is 281 Melrose street, Providence."


MED. LICENSE IN VIRGINIA is now \$125 a year. Doc E. C. Andrews infers from Lynchburg. Doc made the jump from Toledo, O., to Rustburg, Va., arriving January 2. He opened the year's activities with a \$60 pitch on oil alone at 50 cents or three for a buck. The soldier reader, he says, is not recognized in Lynchburg, which ought to know better, being the home of Carter Glass. Doc has no complaint to make against tight money, however, and moreover he is eating dinner with the homefolks, which means fried chicken, hot biscuits, boiled sweet potatoes and country ham. Boys, don't bother him. He's busy. He is heading for the Eastern shore this week, where there is always money and crabs, oysters and clams galore.

CONDITIONS IMPROVING in Middle Texas, according to A. Dell, sheetwriter, who was in Waco, the most central town in the Lone Star State, January 1. He found too many papermen working, but all seemed to be getting some business. "It is a hard matter to find a good spot that hasn't been recently worked," he infers. "Mitch Freeman and myself, however, are pushing the old car right ahead daily, shaking hands with the natives and making ourselves generally agreeable. The natives are in favor of everything except paying off, however, altho the price is only 99 a year. I have met quite a few of the boys, including my old friends, Jack Riley, Blackie McDonald and Red O'Day. They were all singing the same tune: 'Here's to the sheetwriter who is down and out; give him a smile for his sorrow, for this old world has a funny old way and you may be down tomorrow.'"

JESSE ISAAC MALONE wants it known that he is not J. I. Maloone, health-book man, who is interested in the search to locate Solite Frenchman, an heir to an estate. The similarity of names and the coincidence that both Malone and Maloone are in Little Rock,

THE SGT. FRANK POULOS

POCKET GYMNASIUM



Rubber Exercise and Body Builder with New Improved One-Inch Grip and Reinforced Sides. Made of Genuine Para Rubber. Retail for \$1.50. Now Marked \$2

\$35 PER 100
Sample, \$1.00

WITH COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED CHART

Showing actual photographs of each and every muscle, posed by SGT. FRANK POULOS. Also endorsements and actual photos from many famous authorities, including:

JACK DEMPSEY, YOUNG STRIBLING, KARL LEIDERMAN, PHILADELPHIA JACK O'BRIEN, AL JOHNSON.

This chart is a big sales turn for all Pitchmen and Health Lecturers.
25% deposit, balance C. O. D.

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SALES OPERATORS (Real Flash)

New Paris Girl 4 Pc. Set

New, Flashy Labels.

1 oz. Perfume
2 oz. Beauty Cream
3 oz. Cold Cream
3 oz. Face Powder

(Can also be furnished with two Perfumes, one Powder, and one Cleansing Cream.)

Nothing like this 4-Piece Set on the market. Perfume has its own individual box, covered with same imported paper as on Face Powder, and Outside Container. Face Powder Box simply beautiful.

Sample Set 75 Cents

PREPAID

Write for our complete line of Coupon Deals and Special Money-Making Plan.

PARIS LABORATORIES, Dept. 63, 2632 Olive, ST. LOUIS, MO.

SOLID GOLD PENS — SOMETHING THAT WILL INTEREST YOU — SOLID GOLD PENS

GOLD PENS, Jumbo Size, \$4.50
Medium, Doz. \$5.00

PENCILS to Match, Gross \$21.00

Black and Pearl (Effect), Black and Gold, Jade, Mottled Blue, Solid Red, Green, Blue, \$3.50. Pencils to Match, Dozen, \$3.00.

Twelve different colors to select from, including Black and White Stripes. Pencils to match, all colors. All first-class merchandise and workmanship. No seconds, no job lots. Yours for service at all times. Get my new prices.

NEW PRICE on Black and White Mottled Jumbo, Pearl Effect, Plated Points, 1/2 Dozen, \$2.50. Pencils to Match, \$2.50 Dozen. Complete Sets, \$66.00 Gross.

JAMES KELLEY, The Fountain Pen King, 487 Broadway, NEW YORK.
Branch Office: 188 West Adams Street, Chicago, Ill.

Ark. may lead to some confusion. Malone lives at 3921 Asher avenue, while Maloone resides in the suburbs on postal route No. 3. Jesse I. is widely known as "Flying Fish" Malone.

JEFF DAVIS, editor of The Picket, union labor journal published in Cincinnati; high pitchman and nationally known as King of the Hoboes, is the new president of the Agents, Demonstrators and Salesmen's Protective Association. The election of officers for the first year was held by the new association, which succeeds the Cincinnati branch of the National Pitchmen and Salesmen's Protective Association, in Cincinnati January 5. Davis takes the place temporarily held by James Millerhaus, who declined the full term because his business interests demanded his whole attention. The new organization has taken up the work of the old N. P. S. P. A. and has pledged itself to friendly alliance and co-operation with the parent organization, which has its headquarters in Los Angeles. The newly elected president is mapping out a campaign of accomplishment that is designed to attract salesmen in all lines. President Davis says he expects to see the organization build up a membership running into the thousands within a reasonable time. The aims and objects of the A. D. S. P. A. are identical with those for which the N. P. S. P. A. was originally formed. Establishment of a clubroom in Cincinnati will be one of the early accomplishments. Dues for the first year are fixed at \$1 and no entrance fee is charged. Women en-

gaged in any line of selling are eligible to membership. Other officers elected with the new president are W. George Stewart, vice-president; John Dennis, treasurer; W. Harris, secretary. Trustees chosen are Harry Moran, Charles Matherley and John Wisenberger. All salesmen visiting Cincinnati are invited to attend the meetings, which will be held at 1411 Walnut street, second floor, each first and third Sunday in the month from 2 to 5 p.m. Applications for membership should be addressed to W. Harris, secretary, P. O. Box 123, Station V, Cincinnati, Ohio.

TALES OF THE ROAD—A Dell passes out this one from Waco, Tex.: "The other day I called a prosperous looking citizen over to my car to solicit a subscription. He looked at me sort of reproachfully, then shaking his head sadly, he told me he had subscribed a few days before for Southern Agriculture for seven years and got a map as a premium. When he went home that night his wife informed him that she had subscribed for the same paper for five years, getting a needle book for a premium. A little later in the evening their son arrived to tell them he was giving them a nice gift. He had met a nice young man who had induced him to subscribe to The Southern Agriculturist for 11 years and be exhibited the handsome pocket-book he had received as a premium. 'You see how 'tis,' the old gent said in conclusion. 'I reckon I won't be interested in any more farm papers for a while, but I'll speak a good word for you and give you a boost down my way.'"

Harlem Museum Flashes

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—With business on the increase at Harlem Museum, the following current bill of attractions prevails: Mme. Zenda, the girl with the radio mind; Prof. Marsena, magic; Florence LaBlanche, the lady Hercules; Prof. John Conway, tattoo marvel; Kittie Smith, armless wonder; Jolly Bertha, Queen of Fat; Jessie France, a champion bag pancher; Victor-Victoria, and Soco's one-man band on the front rows the 125th street amusement seekers. Cyclone Jack Brady and Charles DeWise, front talkers, are turning 'em in with great success. The penny arcade and shooting gallery are getting their share of customers.

Sandy Shows

After an absence of two years the writer has decided to affiliate with his old employer and friend, Sandy Tamargo, owner of the Sandy Shows, which have grown to quite stable note and will present three show-owned and two other rides, 5 shows, 2 free acts and about 25 concessions the coming season.

To have a thoro overhauling done on the rides and the fleet of trucks, Tamargo is experimenting on splitting up his winter quarters—one located at Laurel, Md., and the other at Port Redding, N. J. So far it has worked out well, the two crews of workers trying to outdo each other. R. A. PATTERSON.

J. R. Edwards Attractions

WOOSTER, O., Jan. 11.—The office of the J. R. Edwards Attractions is in charge of Mrs. J. R. Edwards. W. H. (Bill) Sleur has booked his Jungleland and platform shows with the organization for the coming season. Sleur is now in Wooster, getting things in shape. Earl Kreager, of Cincinnati, and brother, Vern, have booked four concessions. Fritz Edwards, who assisted his father the last two seasons, has returned to school at Collegeville, Pa., after spending the holidays at home.

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To Become Established in "Your Own Business" through "Reliable" "Inside Information," contained in The Revised, 6th Edition, 32 Page, 1929 Edition of The Prout-Sheridan Mail Trade Directory. Tells You "Where To Buy" Over 500,000 Different Articles, both Domestic and Foreign, from Manufacturers, Jobbers, Importers, Great Mails as Prices, Gifts, Premiums, Dollar-Day Bargain Sales Offers, Including Mailing Tubes, Boxes, Cases, Bottles, etc. "Reliable" Trade, Beauty Preparations, Food, Medical, Soap Products, Put Up Under Your "Private Brand and Name" in Small or Large Lots, at Lowest Wholesale Prices. Trade Impressed (Year "Farm House" Printed On), Circulars, Catalogs of Books, Novelties, Jewelry, Radio Supplies, Medic Goods, Household Utensils, etc. "Where and How" To Advertise. Writers of Sales Letters and Descriptive Literature. "Reliable" Firm Who Furnish "Special" Mailing Lists of Bureau, also Mailing and Addressing Concessions in "All" Parts of the U. S. A. Goods, Postal Rules, Laws, Regulations, etc. A "Comprehensive" "Reliable" Bureau's "Business Opportunity" Guide at Your "Immediate Command" "Guaranteed" as Represented, "Positive". Only \$1.00, Postpaid. THE COLLINS CO., 197 Fulton St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

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Liers, Grifters, Gossipers, Marriage, Pilot, Divorce

Certificates in colors, official size, five kinds in package. Sell 25c. \$6.50 per 100 Package. Postpaid. 5 Samples, 25c. each with order. ROEBLER, 150 Park Row, New York.

ZIP POLISHING CLOTH

Lightly Hand Soap and other articles. 10% to 20% profit. Repeat orders. LIGHTN PRODUCTS CO., 625 W. Kinzie St., Chicago, Ill.

SALES OPERATORS!

Here's a real money getter—NEW and carries a flash that makes sales easy. Easy to handle, light weight. An attractive quality package that can be worked anywhere.

- Indestructible 15-In. PEARL NECKLACE, with double Safety Clasp.
- 1-Or. PERFUME, with Gold Seal Neck-band and Labels.
- 3-Or. FACE POWDER, Modernistic or Black Box.

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COMPLETE

Packed in a strong Black Diamond Embossed Box. All packages exactly as illustrated. Packed 50 Deals to Carton.

This Deal Works Any Season

This has been proven—it's working right now, and going strong. Our operators, who have been with us for years, say it's the best Deal they ever sold.

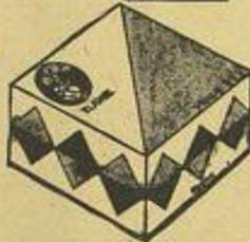


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TERMS:
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No personal
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Comics, Fancies and Mechanical Subjects in stock for quick shipment.

COMIC VALENTINES

64 ASSORTED SUBJECTS.
6 1/2x10 Inch Size.
10-Gross Lots, Gross, 35c
5-Gross Lots, Gross, 60c; Single Gross, 50c.



SAMPLE ASSORTMENT FANCY VALENTINES

Consists of excellent values to retail at 1c to 25c each, some cut-outs and lace effects, complete with envelopes, to retail for 3c to 15c each. Any others in separate boxes to sell at 25c each. Assortment complete at \$2.00.

Deposit of 25% in cash accompany all C. O. D. orders.

NOTE—Above prices do not include postage.
LEVIN BROTHERS. Established 1886. Terre Haute, Ind.

WANTED FOR SEASON—FREAKS FREAKS FREAKS—FOR SEASON 1930 FREAKS THAT ARE FEATURES, WRITE HOJO, THE BEAR BOY, WRITE

Side Show Acts of Merit, Sword Swallower, Fat People and Midgets that perform, Tattooed Man or Woman that are covered, Fire Eater, Talker for Circus Side Show and Grinders for strong Grind Shows. Show opens third week in February at Phoenix, Ariz. Long season with good treatment. State salaries expected in first letter. Address MEL H. VAUGHT, Continental Hotel, Los Angeles, until January 29; then care of Abner K. Kline Shows, Phoenix, Ariz.

CURTIS L. BOCKUS ATTRACTIONS

Can Place for Their 1930 Season

High-Class Money-Getting Shows. Motordrome, S. & S. Chairplane, Whip or any New Ride. Have opening for few legitimate Concessions. Want experienced and reliable Ride Help for Merry-Go-Round, Ferris Wheel and Caterpillar. This will be our tenth year in this section and we will show only the spots that have proved to be the best in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. Address CURTIS L. BOCKUS ATTRACTIONS, Hotel Osmond, Lynn, Mass.

Wanted COLEMAN BROS.' SHOW Wanted

TO OPEN AT MIDDLETOWN, CONN., APRIL 24.
Shows and Rides that won't conflict. Chas. Term wants Act for Side Show. Concessions of all kinds except Ball Games and Cook House. All Wheels open, also Grind Stores, Tracks, Skittes, Tip-Ups, Hot-Downs and O Wheels positively not allowed.
THOS. L. COLEMAN, Hotel Middletown, Middletown, Conn.

WANTED CIRCUS ACTS FOR FEBRUARY 5 TO 12

In all lines, including Animal Acts, Ground and Aerial Acts, also Musicians. Put price down on first letter. Bill Schultz, wire. L. C. BELDEN, Engineers' National Bank Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.

R. L. Wade Shows

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Jan. 11.—At present in the R. L. Wade Shows' winter quarters there are 10 men working from early morn until dusk. Curly Hyde and his crew are working on the Ferris Wheel. Joe Teska and his boys are rebuilding the Working World. Owner R. L. Wade and crew of four are at work on the Merry-Go-Round and show fronts. The color scheme on the show fronts this year will be orange and black. Warren Harrell arrived and is wiring the Merry-Go-Round and shows. Owner Wade and wife, Myrtle, paid homefolks a two weeks' visit during the holidays. They both enjoyed "Ma" Wade's cooking very much. They did not forget the boys in winter quarters, as they brought back with them many good "cats". Curly Hyde and wife and Skinny Sykes and wife all reported a big Christmas. They are sharing a flat in Pine Bluff for the winter. Joe Teska and family came in three weeks ago from Beaumont and have a flat just two blocks from winter quarters. The writer and Mr. and Mrs. Wade have a flat only two blocks from winter quarters. Visits are exchanged and evenings are passed listening to the radio.

The winter quarters are just two blocks from the main highway and it seems that all show people coming thru Pine Bluff stop and visit and are welcomed. The Billboard is in the office at winter quarters, located at 1020 State street. Milton Reed and wife left last week for Pennsylvania; also McHendrix and family for Louisiana.

The show will open here possibly early in March. Many new faces will be seen with it. Louis Collins will have the 10-in-1 show, Rex Sanders the Wild West, Joe Teska the Model Farm and Working World, Johnny Hatfield the Athletic Show, Pat Taylor the Hawaiian Show, Doc Moore the snake farm. There will be several other shows, including C. A. Crabtree's Monkey Motordrome. The show after opening here will work north as fast as it can, weather permitting. There will be a lineup of four newly painted rides, 10 shows, merchandise concessions, a brass band and a calliophone mounted on a new truck.

R. L. DAVIS.

Little Exposition Shows

ALBANY, Ga., Jan. 11.—Everything is quiet around winter quarters of the Little Exposition Shows—just "basking" for a while after the holiday festivities. The writer treated all showfolks sojourning here to a Christmas dinner at his Rainbow Gardens—dancing and good cats from noon till midnight.

Owner and Mrs. Roy L. Little are at home in Portsmouth, O. He will return to quarters in a couple of weeks, leaving Mrs. Little with their son, Billie, who is in school in Portsmouth.

Word from Mr. and Mrs. Gibson McGlothlin, at Columbus, O., was that they are anxious to hear the bluebirds sing and the band play. Paul McGlothlin will return next week to superintend construction in quarters.

Recent visitors were Joe Duncan, Eddie Deone, Daniel Mahoney and party from the Rock City Shows and Joe Collins from the Sunshine Exposition Shows.

Those spending the winter in Albany are Mr. and Mrs. Dick Keller, Jerry and Cutie Marsh, George Winters, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mays, Herschell Sickels, Jim Hayden, "Pork Chops" and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sickels and Bobbie Sickels, Jr.

The writer will again manage the Little outfit.
BOB SICKELS.

Sam Lawrence Makes Trip

DILLON, S. C., Jan. 11.—Sam Lawrence, among the best known of concessionaires in the United States, is here for a couple of weeks, visiting his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson. Lawrence returned a few days ago from a business trip, during which he visited Jacksonville, Fla., and Savannah, Ga., at both of which places he contracted for concessions at the respective State fairs. He also visited Montgomery, Ala., where he arranged to have concessions on the Rubin & Cherry Model Shows. He reports having had a very pleasant time among showfolk friends along with the business he transacted while on the trip. The Andersons, at whose home Lawrence is now a guest, are fine people and lovers of real showfolks. Among others they have entertained while showing here was Johnny J. Jones.

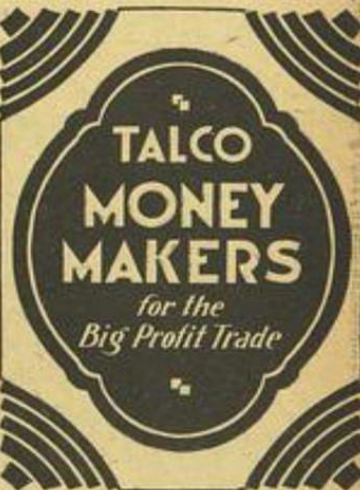
1930 Model

JACK POT



No. 40 for Nickel Play, \$80.00
No. 50 for Quarter Play, \$90.00

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For Cook House Men, Shows, Carnivals. Get this new 32-page Illustrated Catalogue. Famous Talco Machines and Equipment for making good things to eat and drink. TALBOT MFG. CO., 1223 Chestnut St., St. Louis, Mo.

BINGO

12	16	39	50	63
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2	27	0	56	74
15	18	31	48	73
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FASTEST BINGO CORN GAME

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PRINTED TWO SIDES
C. O. D. orders, \$1.00 post.
Sample Cards Free.
No. 1—35-Player. \$5.25
Black on White.
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We pay postage. Instant delivery.
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You will be surprised at the startling originality and beauty of these Artistic Novelties made from the unique shell of the Armadillo.
They get attention and draw many delighted "Ah's".
Always in demand, with rapid turnover. Armadillo Lamps, Baskets, Wall Pockets, etc. Write to you that we are right. Write for our Catalogue.
THE APALT ARMADILLO FARM,
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K. F. Ketchum's Shows

WANT Shows, Rides and Concessions. Address 121 E. 14th St., Paterson, N. J. Phone, Sherwood 6145

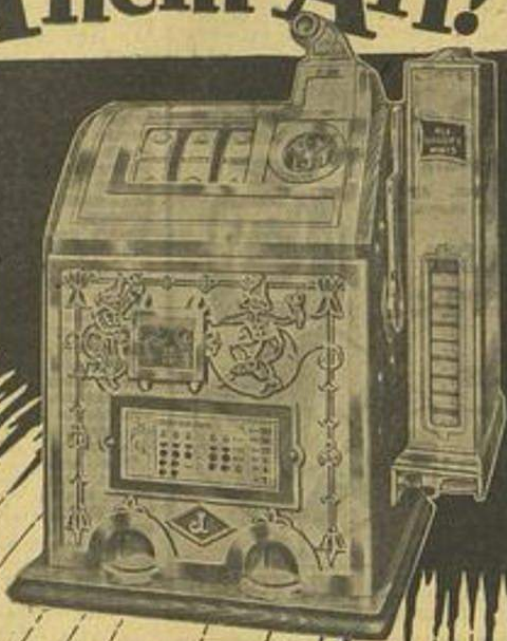
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New PERFECTED JENNINGS "JACKPOT"

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BELLS and VENDERS

Nickel, Dime, Quarter and Half-Dollar Play



Four Important New Features:

1. **NEW VISIBLE JACKPOT** Directly in front where it meets the eye. Coins in plain view against the shatter-proof glass.
2. **NEW RESERVE JACKPOT** Taking the place of the Primer, it refills jackpot immediately with 15 coins. This means no stoppage of play—continuous income from machine.
3. **PERFECTED FEED TO JACKPOT** Exclusive feature feeding from coin chute not from payout tube. Jackpot always loaded—can't be robbed by manipulation.
4. **NEW CHECK REJECTOR** Furnished when specified. Supplants old no-pay-on-check attachment. Rejects brass checks with hole in center returning them to player. Saves loss. Adds to profit. Exclusive Jennings feature.

BE FIRST IN YOUR TERRITORY WITH THIS LATEST MACHINE.
Write for details and prices today.

O. D. JENNINGS & COMPANY

Manufacturers 23 Years

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CHICAGO, ILL.

Nash in N. Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Charles A. Nash, general manager of Eastern States Exposition, spent the week-end here in conference with E. F. Carruthers, of Barnes-Carruthers Attractions. He is working on his free-act program for the coming season and is likewise negotiating with several big-name bands of international reputation for the coming exposition.

Nash is enthusiastic over his Recreational show, which will be held in the spring of 1931 at the Eastern States Exposition grounds, Springfield, Mass. He has been concentrating his efforts in this direction for some time and is confident the undertaking will establish a precedent. It will probably be held the last week in May. Irving L. Spear has been made Nash's assistant in connection with the Recreational offering. He was formerly connected as secretary of the Massachusetts Division of the New England Council. In order to prevent any friction or confusion Nash has two complete organizations—one of which functions expressly for the Eastern States Exposition, with Milton A. Danziger officiating as assistant to Nash, and the other for the Recreational show, with Spear assisting Nash in the detail work.

Plans have been drawn for another

State building at the Exposition, which makes a total of four State buildings. The new edifice will be known as the New Hampshire Building and will cost \$60,000. The sum of \$25,000 has been appropriated by the State Legislature, in addition to \$35,000 that has been raised from other sources. The building will be ready this season.

Carruthers Reports Shortage of Big Acts

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—With ample big acts, suitable for outdoors, for the present season, E. F. Carruthers, of Barnes-Carruthers Attractions, Chicago, on his annual midwinter visit to the metropolis, stressed the fact that there looms a great shortage of act material, mostly of big-time caliber, for the future. This condition, he stated, was brought about by the lack of work, and the fact that some of the acts are temporarily or permanently withdrawing. Some of their acts, who are in Europe at present, but are returning later in the season, include the Hanneforders, Stey Family, nine Allison, Clarkonians and others.

He states his firm is building several new shows, one of which is called Barnes & Carruthers 1930 Amusement Feasts, with Roy Smith's Scotch Highlanders Band, the Hanneforders, Pavley and Ouk-ransky's Ballet, of Chicago, marking

their first appearance outdoors. Two distinct productions will be given of the Feasts—one suitable for matinee presentation, and the other for the night show. The running time of the show is one hour and 45 minutes and has been booked solid for 12 weeks.

Fair Men in New York

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—The 30th annual anniversary of the New York auto show at Grand Central Palace last week was responsible for attracting many visitors to the metropolis. This event, in connection with the American Association of Horse Shows at the Biltmore Hotel, found many fair representatives in the city, including Fred Field, Sr., and son, of the Brockton (Mass.) Fair; William Boothby, of the Rochester Exposition; George Washburn, of the Worcester (Mass.) Fair; Charles A. Nash, of Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, Mass.; Charles W. Ross, manager of attractions, of Toronto National Exhibition, and H. W. Waters, managing director.

Will L. White in New York

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Will L. White, manager of Norumbega Park, Auburn-dale, Mass., was a local visitor, and while here had a conference with William E. Mallette, booking manager of Playland, Rye.

New York Office Callers

WILL L. WHITE, manager of Norumbega Park, Auburn-dale, Mass.
CHARLES W. ROSS, manager of attractions, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto.
CHARLES MORE, of Mechanical Rides, Ltd., London.
DR. HUGH GRANT ROWELL, of the Circus Saints and Sinners.
F. A. NAYLOR, of Sells-Floto program advertising staff.
JOE E. WALSH, promoter and outdoor showman.
MAX GRUBERG, owner of Gruberg's Famous Shows.
JOE BASILE, director of Basile's Madison Square Garden Band.
JOHN AND HARRY LESTER, of Lester's Midget Circus.
ISABEL HICKEY, president of Fairplay Booking Corporation.
CHARLES DODSON, just closed with Sons o' Guns.
FRANK BERGEN, president of Bernardi Greater Shows.
MME. STEFANK, free-act performer.
BERT IBERSON, the man who never smiles.
MAX LINDERMAN, general manager of Bernardi Greater Shows.
HARVEY PARKER, producing clown of Downie Bros.' Circus.
BIG BILL WILLIAMS, outdoor showman.
AL A. CRANE, concessionaire and pitchman.
FRANK PREVOST, clown.
WILLIE LEHMANN, floor manager of Rainbow Gardens, New York.
CAPT. FRED A. MARSHALL, former promotion manager of Luna Park, Coney Island, now with Pictorial Review Company.
KENO, mechanical man.
INEZ WOOD, trick and fancy diver.
AL HAMILTON, promoter and outdoor showman.
GEORGE BECKER, of Grand View Park.
JAKE KAHN, last season with Cole Bros.' Circus, now advertising salesman.
HAPPY WELLS, just back from Paris, and joining Johnny J. Jones, De Land, Fla.
NONA, the American doll lady.
ANNA BATES, manager of Jessie Kay, human paradox.

Happy Wells Back From Paris

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—After spending seven weeks in Paris, Biarritz, Bordeaux and Barcelona, Happy Wells, attached to the Johnny J. Jones Exposition, who accompanied the midgets from this side to France last fall, has returned. The midgets, Prince Dennison, Princess Marguerite, Lady Little and Dutchess Leona, will not reach the States until May 29. Happy spent one week at the Barcelona (Spain) Exposition, and the midgets, who were with him at the time, were the cynosure of all eyes. He reports the season in Paris somewhat quieter than in former years, although the 10-day carnival over the New Year holidays was an outstanding success. He left today for De Land, Fla., to rejoin the Jones outfit.

Chicago Office Callers

NAIDA MILLER, wire walker.
COL. C. A. BELL, general agent J. F. Dehnert Amusement Company.
CHAS. MCCURRIEN, veteran circus man.
DENNIE CURTIS, busy with winter indoor attractions.
PHIL KING, still walker.
SHY ALEXANDER, outdoor showman.
PAUL YOCAN, of the Paul Yocan Dancers, vaudeville act.
MOREY SCHAYER, last season with the 101 Ranch Show.
MR. AND MRS. P. W. MILLER, of the F. W. Miller Shows.
DR. B. H. LOUNSBERRY, physician, with Robbins Bros.' Circus.
THELMA MANN, entertainer.
CUBAN MACK AND WIFE, circus performers.
CHARLES ZIMMY, "human submarine".
TOM BARRON, clown.
GENE ENOS, equestrian director.

Witt To Make Trip

Harry Witt is preparing to leave the East for about 40 days on a trip in connection with the popular ride that he represents. His itinerary will take him into various States, including Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Arizona and California. At San Bernardino, Calif., he plans to visit the John T. Wortham Shows, to which he recently sold one of his rides.

RKO WAR

(Continued from page 8)

who look upon a nation-wide circuit as something getting its sustenance and expanding on a diet composed solely of films; features, shorts, newsreels, novelties—so long as it is composed of pictures.

But Ben Piazza is now sitting in the administrative chair of the booking office. And he is virtually free to fight for vaudeville—against its opponents in his own organization—while the booking routine is being handled capably by George Godfrey and Charles Freeman, the divisional booking chiefs. Godfrey, encumbered and stilted as he was by the multitudinous details of booking and administration on his hands, was unable to make the fight for vaudeville as he should. He had to be content with making the best of a job that was physically impossible for one individual to tackle for a great length of time. Piazza, having cleared his decks by now of the organization routine, is in a position to make a valiant fight for vaudeville, in the opinion of those well versed in the trend of inside doings in the RKO organization.

Piazza is regarded as a showman equal, if not exceeding, in ability, background and aggressiveness to his friendly opponents. Whichever side wins in the internal conflict about to be waged with all the energy with which a band of showmen that RKO now includes in its ranks are capable, the only losses looked for will be to vaudeville. If there are gains on Piazza's side, vaudeville will be the beneficiary. If he loses, it is admitted the circuit will not have any less a return, but for a long time to come vaudeville will be dormant. It will arise again only when another in the organization will prove strong enough to point out to the high-pressure men that they cannot get along without it—in the long run.

Joseph Plunkett, RKO's theater operator, has taken an excellent body of men into the organization. It is conceded, Plunkett's personnel activity, however, has not been conducive to the best interests of vaudeville. And vaudeville is what those are most concerned with who derive a livelihood from its retention and growth. Several of Plunkett's appointees are showmen who think along picture lines, who link the word "exploitation" with pictures and who look askance at an individual who dares to tell them that it is feasible to apply high-pressure salesmanship to vaudeville and obtain results proportionate to that experienced with films. Not this alone or specifically, but trends of thought like this must Piazza send his verbal forces against in his forthcoming battles.

Not diametrically opposed to lines of progress and showmanship, but in direct opposition to vaudeville, RKO under the influence of its high-pressure film showmen has taken over houses in order to build up its film chain and has even invaded, and to no small extent, the vaudeville contingent of houses for the spreading of all-sound policies. Long ago the film-minded Balaban & Katz, and later the Public organization, came to the realization that straight picture programs are not substantial enough for the accommodation of consistent patronage. RKO, with its lineal history trailing back to the time when it was the strongest supporter of vaudeville policies in the world, is now on the verge of being taken in whole by film zealots who regard vaudeville as a useful appendage to puff out that part of the average show not hogged by the picture.

Piazza was given his present job because he is known to be a capable executive versed in vaudeville administration. He has been allowed to lay plans for vaudeville, even by its opponents, on the ground that real sportsmanship implies giving the other side a fair chance to assemble its forces. But the time-out period is apparently over now, and "Big Ben" Piazza has a real he-man job on his hands.

President Hiram S. Brown of RKO is not essentially a showman—as yet. He is the business paragon at the helm of the factional ship, and he is looking on and allowing the opposing sides to battle it out. All for the good of the organization. While Brown has come out publicly for vaudeville, on the inside he is not minded either way, but willing to listen to reason.

Piazza will have to fight within the RKO outfit for proper exploitation of vaudeville, for reasonable vaudeville budgets, for bigger appropriations for his deflated department. Having attained this his fight will have been but partly

won since it will be his task to prove to the high-pressure men and the impartial judge on the RKO bench that the increased receipts, which will surely result if he has his way, were due to the concessions made him in his plans for vaudeville's comeback on the once big time.

PLUNKETT

(Continued from page 10)

Charles J. Freeman, George A. Godfrey, Jules Levy and Rosalie Stewart. Each represents a distinct department in RKO. Luescher readily consented to act as contact man for the project. He will keep divisional men closely informed of the latest developments and the resources of his department will be employed to relay ideas on how best to grab in the dough for Joe Plunkett's RKO birthday celebration.

Of the 11 divisional men now in the field, all but Frank Vincent (Los Angeles) and Charles McDonald (Manhattan) were taken into the organization by Plunkett. Vincent and McDonald were reappointed entirely on Plunkett's volition. Major Thompson, also not in the field, is a holdover from K-A and K-A-O, and proof of the esteem with which he is regarded was given by his appointment two weeks ago as Plunkett's right-hand man.

The Plunkett Month idea is a godsend to RKO box-office physicians since it will at least insure the forestalling of a letdown which might have been the natural reaction after the windup of the RKO Good Times Jubilee, now being celebrated with plenty of exploitation whoopee.

FOX

(Continued from page 9)

on a physical fusing of the companies. If the higherups so decree, Fox might assume booking of the Loew houses strictly as an outside organization, handing them under the same business arrangement as RKO does the dwindling column of its independent houses. A move of this kind, as has been frequently pointed out in *The Billboard*, would be logical any way it is tackled, i. e., with Loew houses going to Fox or vice versa. It would give the combined booking office greater buying power, and would eliminate the destructive competition involved in salary-bidding for acts. Circuits have made such agreements in the past to their mutual advantage, and these outfits were not intertwined thru mutual ownership or financial interest. However the situation finally evolves, it seems fairly certain that something definite will be accomplished about the relative position of both offices before the season has run its course.

The dawn of 1930 finds the Fox office in a relatively strong position. Whatever ideas vaudevillians have had about the Fox office before it increased its stature threefold by the acquisition of the Poli string and the former independents now booked by Jack Allen, this office is now looked upon as a very important factor in the vaudeville situation—and in many respects a beneficial one.

Fox differs radically from the other outfits in one feature of its adjustment to the disquieting condition of not being certain from week to week as to how much of the running time of a show can be devoted to stage attractions. The peculiar situation is being brought about, of course, by the booking of film specials of abnormally long running time. While other circuits have taken advantage of these time-hogging proclivities of specials and cut down accordingly on their vaudeville budgets, Loeb, according to account, has made up in quality for what his aborted stage shows have lacked in quantity (or running time) on these occasions. This manner of handling the flexible stage policies has not provided acts with more work because of the physical impossibility of accomplishing this, but it has at least given attractions of large salary consumption ideal opportunities to keep working when deprived of dates by specials being screened by other circuits.

As an example of Loeb's determination to keep vaudeville budgets constant so as to sell the public on the quality of Fox stage shows, *Gold Diggers* is booked for the Audubon this week, and on account of this the screen portion of the show runs two hours and six minutes. The stage show consists of Horace Heidt and His Californians and another act. The salary list of the abbreviated show is said to be equal or close to that budgeted for the ordinary five-act bills

used at the Audubon on non-special weeks.

For the remainder of the season the Fox office has no definite plans toward changing the vaudeville policies of its houses. Fox has not taken to the intact-show idea being readily absorbed by RKO and, to a limited extent, by Loew. This is accounted for by Loeb's yen for bargaining in the open field and juggling acts in shows to suit his immediate needs. Fox is after standard acts of strong entertainment value, and is wary as never before of "over-exploited headliners". J. H. Lubin, Loeb's booking chief, possesses a similar aversion to "names" that don't mean anything at the box office.

In view of reports being spread in the trade, presumably thru disappointed acts wrapt in their own misfortunes, a Fox executive stated to a *Billboard* representative that no new act of merit has yet been turned down by the office. The outfit, he added, has unusual facilities for catching new and untried material, and any unknown act with the essentials contained therein of being playable in the Fox houses is given its due by the office. It is being intimated in circles close to Loeb that Fox is unusually solicitous of vaudeville conditions because of its experience with this branch of the show business in recent months. Now it is admitted that vaudeville saved the day for many Fox vaudevillians of late when picture product was not as strong as one would expect and strong stage shows were resorted to as a means of keeping the houses out of the red.

The Fox office now books 36 houses, these making because of their variable policies, an approximate total of 25 weeks. Loeb and his senior wing takes care of about 15 weeks, and Jack Allen, working under Loeb's general supervision, handles the remainder of lesser stands.

VAUDEVILLE NOTES

(Continued from page 13)

is doing a three-people act, *Sasdust and Spangles*, by Ruth Howard, which features Joe Lyons, also of the Joe Cook show. Next week the act will split between New Rochelle and Mt. Vernon.

LOU LERNER and Beth Calvin are heading a three-people act which opened for RKO the first half of last week at Proctor's 125th Street, New York.

Indie operators being approached by RKO for the addition of houses to the circuit's family-time department are said to be wary of jumping on the empty bandwagons. The reluctant indies can't see why they should take on vaudeville when the great, big circuit that offers to sell it to them is getting vaudeville out of its own houses. All of which goes to prove that the old saying about people who live in glass houses still holds good.

HARRY CANTOR and Vida Duval recently returned to the Loew Circuit at the Plaza, Corona, in their familiar comedy skit, *As K'mon In*, by Harry W. Conn. Meyer North is agenting.

AL B. WHITE is heading a new elaborate flash, which he is calling *Talkies*. He showed for Loew last week, splitting between the Oriental, Brooklyn, and the Plaza, Corona, booked thru the Lyons & Lyons office.

RICHARD BAYARD and Aileen Cook were launched on a string of Fox's New York dates the last half of last week at the Crotona, Bronx. They had been playing for the circuit in New England territory.

DANNY MURPHY, formerly costarred with Charles O'Connor in a five-people act featuring the Moore Sisters and Mile, Dinke, showed for Loew recently at the Delancey, New York, heading a new three-people act, *Antiques*, sponsored by Jack Pearl. Others in the cast include Helen Ardell and Morris Lloyd. Bert Jones is the agent.

KEITH WILBUR, who recently played at the Palace, New York, after a string of Eastern RKO dates, switched to Loew two weeks ago at the Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. His sound impersonation routine is subtitled *The New Zealand Rascal* and is agented by Meyer North.

BOB ANDERSON and his Polo Pony recently returned to Eastern Loew dates at the Plaza, Corona.

THE TEMPLETON BROTHERS, who last season headed a 19-people flash subtitled *The Fox Farly*, are doing a new four-people offering, *Acquaintances*, featuring the Donovan Sisters. They opened

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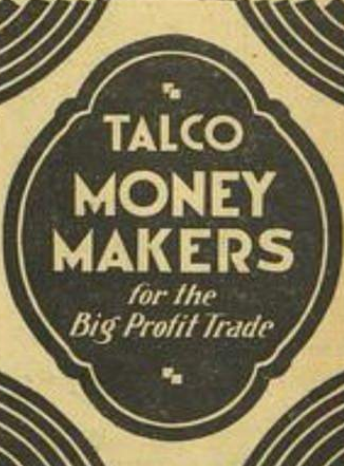
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for Loew two weeks ago at Loew's, Yonkers.

GOING STRAIGHT, standard three-people skit featuring George Taylor, returned to the Loew Circuit, and other Eastern dates booked thru Al Freeman are likely.

JOHNNY DOWNS, graduate of Our Gang comedies, is now doing a single. He is currently splitting for RKO between Troy and Schenectady. Routine of singing and dancing.

AL MOORE and his band have temporarily forsaken vaude. In favor of clubs. He opened last week at the Villa Venice, Miami Beach, for a 14-week engagement.

MONGE TROUPE, seven equilibrista, showed off on RKO dates this first half at the State, Jersey City.

CAUFIELD AND RITCHIE, heading a new nine-people flash, were brought into the RKO fold this first half at the Chester, Bronx. Direction of Fred DeBondy.

FISKE O'HARA returned to the RKO fold this week. He is working in Brooklyn, splitting between the Bushwick and the Prospect.

RUTH ROYE went RKO this first half at Keith's 81st Street, New York. She was booked thru Charles Morrison.

ADAMS—J. K. 73, well-known play agent and head of the International Theatrical Play Bureau, New York, died January 10 at the Rockefeller Institute, New York. During his lifetime Adams was interested in various phases of the theater, perhaps being best remembered for his long association with the late Henry W. Savage office as stage director and company manager. He managed the Elaw & Erlanger production of *Ben Hur* and was at one time accomplished as a baritone singer, known as a "quick study" with a repertoire of 34 comic operas, including those of Gilbert and Sullivan. There was scarcely a theatrical office in which he was not known, especially during late years while engaged as authors' representative.

BADA—Mrs. Giuseppina, 42, wife of Angelo Bada of the Metropolitan Opera Company, died of pneumonia January 8 in New York.

BEIGEL—Victor, 59, vocal teacher, died at his home in Sussex, England, January 7, after a brief illness. He was well known in England as a tutor of voice and was known by musicians on both sides of the Atlantic.

CREWS—Mrs. Anna L., 84, former stage star, died in Hollywood, Calif., January 7. She was the mother of Laura Hope Crews, widely known stage and screen star, who survives, besides two other daughters and a son. Burial was in San Francisco.

CUSHMAN—Mrs. Kate, 83, widow of Frank Cushman, actor, died in New York last week.

DALIEN—Joseph, 62, caretaker of the Sydney (N. S.) jail buildings for many years, died at his home in Sydney suddenly while starting a fire in the kitchen range. Several weeks before his death he had broken a leg in a fall on the street, and was on crutches when stricken with a heart attack. Death came in a few seconds. His widow, one daughter and two sons, all living in Sydney, survive.

DELLUTRI—Joseph, 36, musical composer, of Ansonia, Conn., died at Derby, Conn., January 1.

DEWELL—August, 65, former actor, died January 1 of lobar pneumonia, at the Milwaukee Emergency Hospital, Milwaukee.

FIELDS—Nettie, 59, formerly of Frey and Fields, died January 6 in Los Angeles of a heart attack. She is survived by her son, Billy Fields, well known in burlesque, and a daughter, Abbie, of the vaudeville team of Pieltet and Scofield. Burial was made in Baltimore, Md., her home.

POLACHNEK—Leon, 63, musical director of Chicago and New York, died at Polytechnic Hospital, New York, last week.

GOODMAN—Mrs. N., 89, mother of Jules Eckert Goodman, noted playwright, died at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Ore., where she made her home for several years.

GRAHAM—Mrs. Lucy, 73, mother of Joseph Graham, of Sells-Floto Circus, died at her home in Shakopee, Minn., December 31.

HART—"Sunshine" Lucia, 43, plump film comedienne, died January 3 at her home in Los Angeles. She had been failing in health for some time, and had not appeared in pictures during the last year. She was married, and leaves a daughter, 15 years of age. Her husband was Charles W. Hart. Miss Hart began her picture career in 1919. She was a member of the The Troupers and of Equity.

In Loving Remembrance of My Little Wife and Pal,

BETTY MORAN HEATH

Who passed away JANUARY 15, 1929. BY HEATH.

HASBROUCK—George Francis, 73, died January 7 in a hospital where he had been under the joint care of the Percy Williams Home and the Actors' Fund of America. He had been in the profession many years and appeared in *Cheating Cheaters*, *Lion and Mouse*, *Alias Jimmy Valentine*, *Girl and the Drummer*, *Quincy Adams Sawyer*, *Gloriana*, *A Fair Rebel* and with many stock companies. His last appearance on the stage was in 1920 in *Misleading Lady*. Hasbrouck was born in Kingston, N. Y., and is survived by two brothers, Alfred H. and James M. Hasbrouck. Funeral services, under

DEATHS in the PROFESSION

the auspices of the Actors' Fund of America, were held from Campbell's Funeral Church, Broadway and 66th street, New York, January 10 at noon, and interment was in the Actors' Fund plot in Kensico Cemetery.

HIRSHPELD—Charles, 74, formerly a leading member of the old San Francisco Stock Exchange and a backer of the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra for many years, died in San Francisco last week.

HOUCK—Charles, 65, an employee of the Melville-Reiss Shows, died January 10 at St. Peter Hospital, Charlotte, N. C. Death was caused by blood poisoning. Burial was made in the Elmwood Cemetery, Charlotte.

KEYES—The mother of Bert Keyes, comedian of *The Vagabond King* Company, now playing at Mobile, Ala., died recently.

KNOX—James Carter, 80, composer, died at Troy, N. Y., recently.

LAMBERT—Alexander, 67, one of the pioneers in musical pedagogy in America, and also a famous pianist, died in New York December 31, when he was struck by a taxicab. Lambert came to this country in 1824, and soon after took over the New York College of Music, which he made one of the leading conservatories in America. He was also at the time of his death a member of the faculty of the Curtis Institute of Music. A pupil of Liszt and a graduate of the Vienna Conservatory, he stood for the highest ideals in his chosen profession and is acknowledged to have done much for the growth of music culture in America. His will gives the New York Public Library his rich musical collection, containing a fragment of a manuscript by Beethoven, a letter of Chopin and a brief composition by Wagner. His funeral was attended by many notables of the music world. Jascha Heifetz, famous violinist, played Schubert's Ave Maria, and Josef Hofmann, renowned pianist, gave the funeral march from Chopin. Walter Damrosch made a speech praising the work of Lambert. The pallbearers were Damrosch, Hofmann, Helfetz, Daniel Frohman, Sergei Rachmaninoff, William J. Henderson, Sigmund Herzog, Leonard Liebling, Erem Zimbalist, Hugo Greenwald, Artur Bodansky and Walter W. Naumburg.

LANGE—Sven, 62, noted Danish author and critic, died January 6 in Copenhagen, Denmark. He was considered Denmark's greatest novelist of the present day and his best known dramatic work is *Samson and Delilah*.

LANSUN—Owen A., old showman, died January 6 of heart trouble at Sharpesburg, Ill. His widow and brother survive. He had trouped with many carnival companies.

LETNER—Fred, 41, died December 30 at Maine General Hospital, Portland, Me., after an illness of eight weeks. He had spent the last 21 years of his life in circus business and served in that field in many capacities. His parents survive.

MCILROY—Blair, 51, partner in the Fitzpatrick-McElroy Theatrical Booking Agency, of Chicago, died suddenly at his home in Chicago January 11. Last summer the firm sold 50 per cent of its theater holdings to Balaban & Katz for a reported sum of \$3,500,000 and a like amount was received from the sale of Paramount-Lasky stock.

MASON—William Kenneth, 7, son of Eston E. Mason, better known as Eddie Mason, country store operator, died at his grandparents' home in Omaha, Neb., last week. Interment was made in Mount Hope Cemetery, Omaha.

MICHELL—Antonio, 81, light opera tenor, died of heart disease January 5 at the Home for the Blind, Grand Concourse, New York, where he had resided for the last 11 years. He had been assisted by the Actors' Fund of America since 1915. Michell was born in Venice, Italy. His last stage appearance was in 1911 in *The Girl of the Golden West* under management of Henry W. Savage, but he also appeared in Mapleson Opera Company, Grau Metropolitan Opera, McCaul Opera and other well-known stars. Funeral services took place at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church January 7, and interment was in the family plot in Calvary Cemetery. He is survived by a daughter, Etelka Michell.

O'BRIEN—Michael S., known as "the Senator", who up to 15 years ago was famous as an impersonator of contem-

porary statesmen in minstrel companies, died at his home in Rochester, N. Y., January 1. O'Brien began his stage career at the old Lane Theater, Rochester. Later he joined a number of road companies. He was with Primrose & West for years. He leaves two sisters, Mary and Hannah E. O'Brien, and a brother, Patrick O'Brien.

PHILLIPS—Dr. Edward W., 58, secretary of the Jackson County Fair, Maquoketa, Ia., and past president of the Iowa State Fair Association, died January 8, in St. Luke Hospital, Davenport, Ia. Funeral services were held January 11, with Masonic rites, and burial in Mount Hope Cemetery, Davenport. Deceased is survived by three sons and two brothers.

RAFFLES—The Mysterious, 55, in private life Frank B. Jones, died January 2 in Pine Bluff, Ark. "Raffles", who had been in vaudeville for many years, doing in addition to his magic feats straight-jacket and handcuff escapes, was scheduled to open at the Seigle Theater, Pine Bluff, Ark., for a three-day engagement on the day of his death. Upon his arrival in the city he took seriously ill and was rushed to the hospital, where he died the same day. Funeral services were held in St. Louis, his home, and interment was in that city. "Raffles" is survived by his widow and a daughter.

Felix Reich

Felix J. Reich, for many years connected with the outdoor show business, died January 11, at Oak Park Hospital, Oak Park, Ill., after an illness of two weeks of pneumonia. He had been connected with the Barnes-Carruthers Fair Booking Association in Chicago since its organization several years ago. Previous to that he was New York manager of the World Amusement Service Association for three years. Still earlier he was in business for himself, in partnership with Joseph Plunkett, and later with P. M. Barnes, Inc., and with E. F. Carruthers in the United Fairs Booking Association. He enjoyed an exceptionally wide acquaintance among fair men. He is survived by his widow, the former Laurie Ordway, actress; a son, Felix Reich, Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. John Richards. He was a member of St. Andrew Lodge No. 863, A. P. and A. M.; the Showmen's League of America, and several other organizations. Funeral services were held January 14, and burial was in Showmen's Rest, Woodlawn Cemetery, Chicago.

RESNIK—David, 63, playwright, died December 29 in New Haven, Conn.

RHINOCK—William P., 43, of Covington, Ky., died last week at Booth Memorial Hospital, Covington, after a short illness. For many years Rhinock was treasurer at Keith's Theater, Cincinnati, but left that position when that theater ceased vaudeville about two years ago. His widow and a sister survive.

SHAFFNER—Mrs. Lillian, 66, actress, died January 10 at Los Angeles. She had been appearing at a theater in Los Angeles and was in the theatrical profession many years.

TAVAN—Eddie, 80, French composer, whose musical arrangements are to be found in the repertoire of every circus, concert or music hall orchestra in France, died at his home in Gasscourt, France, December 26. Burial was at Aix-en-Provence.

URBAN—John, nonprofessional, father of Mme. Stefanik, well-known free-act performer, died at his home in Mansfield, Conn., December 22. The body was cremated in New York, and the ashes sent to his native country, Czechoslovakia.

VAN HORN—Walter C., veteran stage actor, died January 6, on the stage of the Burbank Theater, Los Angeles, following a comedy scene. As he stepped to the footlights to respond to applause from the audience, he reeled and fell, and was removed to the wings to await the arrival of a physician. Death was due to apoplexy. Details of funeral arrangements await the location and arrival of relatives.

WHAL—The mother of Dorothy Whal, actress, died January 7 after a short illness.

WIEGAND—Albert, 60, widely known to

musician of Cincinnati, died suddenly at his home in Cincinnati January 4. He had been employed as a musician at the Erlanger Grand Opera House, as well as other theaters in Cincinnati for many years.

YAEGER—Frederick W., St. Paul, deputy commissioner of parks, playgrounds and public buildings, died of heart disease in St. Paul, January 1. He is survived by his widow, father, mother and a brother.

MARRIAGES

DICKSON-STUCKEY—Frederic B. Dickson, former adagio dancer with Amalys Harper in her vaudeville act, *Dance Creations*, and now on the copy desk of *The Evening Public Ledger*, Philadelphia, was married to Ruth Elizabeth Stuckey, at Norristown, Pa., November 29. The bride is a nonprofessional. The wedding has just been announced.

JACOBS-NICHOLAS—Jerome Jacobs, former stage comedian, and Emily Nicholas, nonprofessional, of Casper, Wyo., were married in Boulder, Colo., October 26, 1929. The wedding was kept a secret until just recently.

MCCABE-FREYHEARDT—William A. McCabe, broker of New York, and Marie C. Freyhardt, known professionally as Mary Russell, were married in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., January 4.

MCCOLLOM-KEALOBA—Violet Kealoba, dancer and entertainer, and L. Stanley McCollom, of Kansas City, were married January 4 in Dallas.

MARTIN-PARSONS—Dr. Harry Watson Martin, Hollywood physician, and Louella C. Parsons, motion picture editor for a large newspaper chain, were married January 4 in Hollywood. They will honeymoon at William Randolph Hearst's ranch at San Simeon, Calif. Many prominent film celebrities attended the ceremony and wedding supper which followed.

RUBINI-CRANE—Jan Rubini, conductor of the Capitol Theater Orchestra at Melbourne, Australia, and Adele Crane, well known in musical comedy productions, and daughter of Collin Crane, Australian performer, were married November 27 at Melbourne.

STINER-MAKUS—Hilda Makus and Lawrence Stiner were married in Seattle last week. Both are midgets and have been members of show troupes for several years.

THOMAS-WRIGHT—Catherine Wright, manager of the cookhouse on the T. J. Tidwell Shows, and Jack Thomas were married at Walters, Okla., January 7. They will be with the Tidwell Shows next season.

WAKEFIELD-GORDON—Eddie Wakefield, electrician of the Oriental Girls Company, a Mutual burlesque show, and Helen Gordon, a member of the chorus of the same company, were married January 1 in Baltimore, Md.

COMING MARRIAGES

Cecilia Hoyt De Mille, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil B. De Mille, announced her engagement to Francis Edgar Calvin January 6. The wedding will take place in February. Her father is a noted film producer and director.

Agnes Wormell, Denver ad writer, employed by the Paramount Company in Hollywood, and Count Strench L'Estrange De Blackmore, motion picture director, will be married January 21 in the chapel of the Episcopal Church, Hollywood.

Mrs. C. Morales, of the Famous Morales Family, announces the engagement of her daughter, Lola, to Herman Bernal, band leader of the Felix Morales Show. The marriage will take place February 24.

Announcement of the engagement of Theodore Hammerstein, of the theatrical family of that name, and Dorothy Underhill Storms, of Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., was made January 12. The wedding date was not disclosed.

Irene Mae Schuch, of Indianapolis, and Francis McDonald, motion picture actor, have filed intentions to wed, according to a report from Hollywood.

BIRTHS

A baby girl was born Christmas Day to Mrs. James O'Keefe (nee Edna Locke), formerly of *Punch* and *Judy*, *Tell Me More*, *Lucky* and *Paddocks* of 1927. Mrs. O'Keefe is the daughter of Edward Locke, American author of a repertoire of about a dozen plays, including *The Clamor*, which is now in the making at Hollywood for a talking film. The child has been named Locketta.

A daughter, Jean Burdette, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burdette at

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Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, January 5. The father is an announcer at Station WLW in Cincinnati.

An eight-pound girl was born January 4 to Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Garnett of the L. J. Heth Shows in Hopkintonville, Ky. The baby was named Joann Garnett.

A 9½-pound boy, Elbertson Wesley, was born January 7 to Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Hunn, operators of two pay attractions on the Great Sutton Shows.

A boy weighing 8½ pounds was born to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Parker January 6 at Durant, Okla., and was named James M. Parker, Jr. The parents are associated with the amusement business.

An eight-pound boy, William Glenn, was born January 8 to Mr. and Mrs. Brown Silverlake at the home of Mr. Silverlake's parents, Dr. and Mrs. Chas. W. Fisher, of Royal Center, Ind. The parents are well known in the amusement business.

A 7½-pound boy was born January 1 to Mr. and Mrs. William DeGray. The father is with the Cracker-Jacks Company, a Mutual burlesque show.

A son was born January 1 to Mr. and Mrs. William B. Grass at Boston, Mass. The parents are known in the profession.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. George W. Lamance January 9 a boy. The parents are well-known concession operators on the Lamance Attractions.

DIVORCES

Jay Mills, former m. c. at the Paramount Theater, Des Moines, Ia., was divorced in that city last week by Ruth Granville Berlefin. They were married in May, 1928, in Rock Island, Ill., where Mills was m. c. at the Port and Miss Granville was appearing on the Public Circuit as a saxophone soloist. Mills is now m. c. in Newark, N. J.

Mrs. Hazel Bernard Overgard, former musical comedy actress, filed suit in the Superior Court at Chicago for divorce from Chester L. Overgard, contractor.

Walter Ralrden, treasurer of the Sells-Floto Circus for six years and a resident of Bloomington, Ind., filed suit for divorce in Circuit Court there recently against Effie Ralrden. They were married in 1925 and separated in 1928.

Naana Wortova, sometimes known as Elaine Worth, actress, filed suit for annulment of her marriage to George Chapman Moses, identified with motion pictures in Hollywood, according to a complaint on file at Martinez, Calif. The actress asserts when she was married in 1926 she was only 17 years of age and did not have parental consent. They have a son three years of age.

Hilda Deesy, Hungarian film actress, filed a cross complaint January 6 to the annulment suit brought against her by Roy Harlow recently.

Mrs. Joseph C. Little has sued Joseph C. Little, owner of the Metropolitan School of Music, Chicago, for separate maintenance.

Mrs. W. H. Pendleton, of the T. J. Tidwell Shows, was granted a divorce January 7 at Wichita, Falls, Tex., from W. H. Pendleton and her maiden name of Catherine Wright was restored.

Walter Ralrden, of Sells-Floto Circus, has filed suit for divorce from Effie Ralrden. They were married in 1925 and separated in 1928. Ralrden is now at Peru, Ind., winter quarters of the Sells-Floto Circus.

Happy Ruggles, drummer with Spud Redrick's band on the Al G. Barnes Circus, has filed suit for divorce against Vera Ruggles, cashier at the Strand Theater, Long Beach, Calif., in Los Angeles.

Pearl Hazelton, ingenue leading woman in a stock, reports that she is now legally separated from Fredric Tonkin.

Mrs. Babe Campbell was granted a divorce from Al Campbell December 14, 1929, at Lawrence, Kan. She was also granted the custody of their child, Mrs. Campbell was formerly known as Babe Thompson in the outdoor show world.

Ann Seymour, musical comedy actress, was granted a divorce from Henry Santrey, vaudeville headliner, in Superior Court, Chicago, January 4. They were married in 1922.

Dr. C. L. Stumpf, Notice!

Mrs. K. Schill, 1326 St. Andrew street, New Orleans, La., informs that the grandmother of Dr. C. L. Stumpf is dead; also that his mother is very ill.

The report of the death of Jack Dollard, which was published last week on this page, is in error, according to a communication received just after the issue had come off the press.

New York Showfolk Leave for Richmond

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—Manhattan's delegation of outdoor showmen who departed today for the Virginia State Fair meeting, Richmond, comprised Frank Bergen and Max Linderman, of the Bernardi Greater Shows; William Glick, Joe End, of the Fair Trading Company; C. Gilmore Tait, manager of concession department of D. Auerbach & Sons; George Dinnie Moore, concessionaire; Matthew J. (Squire) Riley, general agent of Sheesley Shows; John C. Jackel, of the Jackel Agency; George Hamid, of Wirth & Hamid; Dave Coetello, James Victor, Frank Cervone, Ralph Hankinson, Harry Riggins and Joe Basile. (Expecting plenty of opposition, Joe took his trusty cornet with him.) Harry and Bench Bentum, accompanied by Arthur Campfield and P. Percy Morency, made the trip by auto. John Lester, of Lester's Midget Circus, decided to look the meeting over on his way south. C. Gilmore Tait was joined in Philadelphia by Jerry Gerard, Harry Ramish and Dave Endy.

Miracle Museum, Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 11.—The Miracle Museum opened last Saturday, the first museum here in 35 years, and was received enthusiastically. The staff consists of W. J. Murphy, general manager; Bob Winslow, inside lecturer; "Racoon" Smith, talker on front; Miss Noah, cashier. The program includes Leo-Looks; Leapo, leopard-skin man; Jolly Kittle, fat girl; Schreddo, skeleton dude; Laurelo, revolving head; Princess Neema, snake enchantress; Sinton, sword swallower; Gumbo, elephant trunk boy, and the Hamiltons, Scotch bagpipers.

The building housed at one time what was known as the Ship, a cabaret and dance hall. The entire front has been remodeled and converted into an attractive show front, with life-size paintings.

Among recent visitors have been Chas. Alton, Ward Hallings, Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt, R. W. Hartley, Walter Rayner and many others whose names the writer failed to get. J. W. MURPHY.

Kaus United Shows

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., Jan. 11.—Kaus United Shows' winter quarters work is picking up speed after the holidays.

Manager Kaus has returned from a business trip to the north, where he has purchased another funhouse to add to the midway for the coming season.

T. J. Holt has returned from a two weeks' trip with Doc Ray, and is now repairing and painting his floss and popcorn machines.

Word has been received from E. M. McIntyre that he will have all new canvas for his cookhouse and grab and jive stand, and will be with the show again next season.

C. C. Marshall, who is spending the winter months in Florida, writes he will have two corn games with the show. Al Branch, of Petersburg, Va., was a visitor last week. T. E. KAUS.

S. L. A. Auxiliary Notes

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Showmen's League of America held its regular meeting evening of January 9, with an excellent attendance. Numerous matters of importance were taken up during the business session. At its conclusion a most enjoyable social session was held. There was the usual bunco game with prizes to the winners. Mrs. W. O. Brown, secretary, entertained at the close of the meeting with a number of snappy songs and was roundly applauded.

Mad Cody Fleming Shows

COLUMBUS, Ind., Jan. 10.—At the winter quarters of the Mad Cody Fleming Shows it is one day like another—everything quiet, nobody working. Cap and Grace Hartley have charge of quarters and eating good meals has been the hardest work done so far.

A letter from Pop Wheeler, from California, plaintively asks the management to send the Merry-Go-Round organ and a motor to run it, so he won't be so lonesome till the spring opening.

Tiger Mack came in from Donaldson, Ark., for Christmas dinner and left for the "State of Pork and Sweet Potatoes". Ike Jeffreys came in with a truck load of concessions and will stay in Columbus until the spring opening. Harvey Scott

shipped in his cookhouse and is taking things easy in Indianapolis until time to report. Robert and Ruth Cotter are willing away the time down in Henry, Tenn. Mad Cody Fleming, the manager, is leaving for a vacation in Florida. Lou Thatcher is putting in the winter as editor for a local daily paper. The season will open April 19 here at Columbus. J. A. Montgomery says he will have the Tilt-A-Whirl shipped in by the middle of March. JAMES PAYNE.

Leach Amusement Co.

DAVIESBORO, Ga., Jan. 10.—The Leach Amusement Company opened its engagement here Monday night with favorable weather prevailing and the attendance was among the best the show has had since coming south. Last week, at Warthen, Ga., was a banner engagement for everybody. Owner-Manager Roy Leach is well pleased that he brought his show south.

The present lineup of concessions includes Roy McNally, one; Mr. and Mrs. Shelton, two; Duke Muldoon, one; Mrs. Lois A. Martin, one; Mrs. Roy McNally, one (palmy); Perry Madison, late of Ralph Miller Shows, four; Jack LeNore, two; Leo Brenner, one. Terry Martin has left to join the Harry Rogers Sunshine Exposition Shows. General Representative Mickey B. Martin has booked the show for six more weeks in Georgia, then the route will lead up thru Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia. M. C. MARTIN.

Dr. F. A. Dallen III

BROOKLYN, Jan. 11.—Friends of Dr. F. A. Dallen, circus veterinarian, will regret to hear that he is seriously ill of pneumonia at his home in this city.

REVIEWS

(Continued from page 17)
followed as another showing act—and how he showed what he could do. He knocked off a clean showstop. Garbed as a veteran of the O. A. R., he went in for harmonica blowing, story telling, warbling, uke strumming and tap and acrobatic dancing.

Jack Usher, aided by his two comely blondes, gave them his familiar three views of married life, and it is the stuff that is glove-fit for this house. The first two views are off-color, but the last episode is on the up and up and provides hearty laughs. Reaped a healthy applause harvest.

Bobby Folsom, fresh from the West, charmed them with her repertoire of song stories, Samples, by Neville Flesson. She goes best, as always, in her offering of the Puritan and modern Priscilla. Her drunk take-on hit them for a row of loops, to which she exited with prolonged plaudits.

Joe Jackson, the original tramp bike comedian, had them laughing hilariously to his ever-amusing pantomime. His makeup, handling of the two-wheeler, and his riding were prize winners. He had them working with him when he put on as tho he was swiping the bike. They gave him a swell sendoff.

Three Field Brothers, last of the try-outs, injected much comedy into their singing and dancing. They need stronger material and lots of fixing to make the grade. Their work smacks of a trio of youths having a good time at a friendly gathering. A clever finish signaled for big returns.

Buck and Bubbles, next-to-closing, stepped on to a tremendous reception, and when they got thru chalked up another showstop to their strong list. Their comedy, singing, dancing and piano playing is one long delight.

Six Jansleys, male risley troupe, gave the show a fast finish and held them in. Took only four minutes to go thru a sensational routine of stunts. Four youths are the daring and expert objects for the foot-juggling of two men. Gathered a big hand.

SIDNEY HARRIS.

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

(Reviewed Wednesday Evening, Jan. 9)

First mid-week evening show here had a bare half a house full, tho the bill includes one of the best-balanced shows seen at the midtown house in several months. Jules Lenzberg and the 81st Street Ensemble played an overture of *Site of Hits*, from Paris, the film starring Irene Bordoni, which will be shown here the first half next week.

The Alex Melford Trio, agile male outfit, opened with a corking routine of acrobatic, risley and balancing novelties. Their offering now includes many new

bits, rearranged most effectively, and they reaped a vociferous finishing hand.

Miss Questelle, champion boop-a-dooper who is the winner of the tri-boro Helen Kane contests held recently, got over nicely with a routine of songs and impersonations, with the able assistance of Joe Daley as her pianistic-announcing partner. Besides being a clever mimic of the baby-talk star, Miss Questelle can claim honors individually on her own merits. Well liked here.

Madge Kennedy, legit, and flicker star, created quite a stir in a pleasant one-act comedy, *The Red Hat*, by Elaine Sterne Carrington. The play was staged by Eddie Sobel and includes a supporting cast of Herbert Warren, Maxine Flood and Frank Taylor. Received a big ovation and a heavy applause at the bows.

Glenn and Jenkins, riotously funny pair of dusky comedians, registered a decisive two-minute show-stop in the next-to-closing frame with their routine of boke and chatter, interspersed with singing, dancing and musical bits. The pair of languid railroad reeaps are assisted by a new partner to the combo in the person of a hot guitar player. Sure-fire act anywhere.

George Andre and Company, consisting of a mixed adagio quartet, closed the corking bill with a group of sensational routines. Act carries elaborate scenery and lighting effects and picturesque costumes. Tumultuous applause followed each difficult stunt. Their work includes many new holds and throws. CONDE G. BREWER.

Loew's Bedford, Brooklyn

(Reviewed Monday Evening, January 8)
A far better show than the average that had been established here this season. Loew is keeping its promise of "a month of good shows" in this house. Five acts have become a rarity at this stand, and it is all the more surprising to catch this number particularly with a strong feature like *Unfamed* holding down the screen portion of the entertainment menu. Novelty turns open and close, but both are woppers, and by this token more than acceptable.

Bentell and Gould, with their novel xylophonistic and stepping work, were just about perfect in the opening frame. Their duo numbers on the wooden slats afford them a pleasing prolog while they raise their appeal swiftly as they let loose in single and challenge hoofing bits. The petite girl has a beauty of an item in her rope-skipping dance. Great hand.

Henri Garden, tenor, who doesn't look as if he can do very much to pep up a deuce spot, fooled us plenty. He opened indifferently with an Italian number, establishes himself securely with *Mighty Lak a Rose*, and says bye-bye with *Angela Mia*. No time off for bows, and the whole affair is over in five minutes. Garden is short and plump and wears a tooth-brush mustachio, but his pipes are the nuts. A blond miss serves at the grand. They gave him a show-stopping reception.

Earl Bronson and Irene Renne are doing a somewhat altered version of their *Opportunity Night* act, a hybrid of flash and comedy. Bronson is an appealing eccentric funster, but the combination of both he and Miss Renne shooting across comedy doesn't blend as it should. Their gags need a thoro cleaning. No manager who knows his onions should let them get by without ordering plenty of cutting. An attractive girl does strong stepping bits and a sister team supplies plenty of sing-dance interludes. There is also a boy hooper. The finale is okay, but entirely too prolonged. Pretty fair hand.

Claude and Marion worked in a tough spot, following a comedy-smeared flash, but the hefty girl of the team threw aside the disadvantage with her "ruffled" clowning and mellow-voiced warbling. This is a spotty act, and will be at every show until the man is given more to do. Girl plays the hard-boiled "wiff" and her sidkick the meek mate with little to say, and contributing little of anything else. The three numbers by the he-woman reveal a delivery that can be counted on to stop any show. Despite embarrassing lapses en route she had them in the palm of her hand at the bows. A clean showstop.

Carr Brothers and Betty offered their familiar classic of straight and comedy acrobating in the closing frame. Laughs and thrills galore in their white-faced balancing burlesque, and in their straight hand-to-hand work the brothers drew a defending hand. Betty does a posing trifle in the opening bit and fills a wait with a neat stepping number. ELIAS E. SUGARMAN.

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ROUTES

(Continued from page 55)

- Frivolities: (Piazza) Worcester, Mass., 12-18; (Castro) Boston 20-25.
- Get Hot: (Fox) Jamaica, N. Y., 13-18; (Apollo) New York 20-25.
- Ginger Girls: (Empire) Toledo, O., 12-18; (Columbia) Cleveland 20-25.
- Girls From College: (Radson) Union City, N. J., 13-18; (Gayety) Brooklyn 20-25.
- Girls From Happyland: (Gayety) Baltimore 13-18; (Gayety) Washington 20-25.
- Girls in Blue: (Star) Brooklyn 13-18; (Columbia) New York 20-25.
- Hello Paree: (Gayety) Boston 13-18; (Modern) Providence 20-25.
- High Flyers: (Orph.) Paterson, N. J., 13-18; (Hudson) Union City, N. J., 20-25.
- Hindu Belles: (Gayety) Brooklyn 13-18; open week 20-25.
- Jazztime Revue: Open week 13-18; (Gayety) Milwaukee 20-25.
- Knocking Kutties: Open week 13-18; (Howard) Boston 20-25.
- Laffin' Thru: (State) Springfield, Mass., 13-18; (Lyric) Hartford, Conn., 20-25.
- Mischief Makers: (Gayety) Scranton, Pa., 13-18; (Lyric) Allentown, Pa., 20; (Orph.) Reading 24-25.
- Moonlight Maids: (Grand) Hartford, Conn., 13-18; (Lyric) Bridgeport, Conn., 20-25.
- Moogie Hoogie Girls: (Mutual) Indianapolis 13-18; (Garrick) St. Louis 20-25.
- Naughty Nitties: (Gayety) Detroit 13-18; (Empire) Toledo, O., 20-25.

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- Nite Club Girls: (Gayety) Buffalo 13-18; (Columbia) Utica, N. Y., 20-25.
- Parlarian Flappers: (Trocaero) Philadelphia 13-18; (Gayety) Baltimore 20-25.
- Pretty Babies: (Empire) Cincinnati 13-18; (Gayety) Louisville 20-25.
- Puss Puss: (Academy) Pittsburgh 13-18; (Lyceum) Columbus, O., 20-25.
- Record Breakers: (Howard) Boston 13-18; (Trocaero) Philadelphia 20-25.
- Social Maids: (Gayety) Milwaukee 13-18; (Empire) Chicago 20-25.
- Speed Girls: (Lyceum) Columbus, O., 13-18; (Lyric) Dayton, O., 20-25.
- Sporty Widows: (Casino) Boston 13-18; (State) Springfield, Mass., 20-25.
- Steppie Show: (Gayety) Louisville 13-18; (Mutual) Indianapolis 20-25.
- Step Lively Girls: (Empire) Newark, N. J., 13-18; (Orph.) Paterson, N. J., 20-25.
- Sugar Babies: (Modern) Providence 13-18; (Gayety) Scranton, Pa., 20-25.
- Take a Chance: (Wedgway) Schenectady, N. Y., 13-18; (Empire) Albany, N. Y., 20-25.
- Tempters: (Columbia) Schenectady, N. Y., 13-18; (Wedgway) Schenectady, N. Y., 20-25.
- Watson Sliding: (Billy Show) (Gayety) Kansas City 13-18; open week 20-25.
- Wise Woman and Song: (Garrick) St. Louis 13-18; (Gayety) Kansas City 20-25.

- Mysterious Smith Co.: Connersport, Pa., 13-18.
- Itoscoe the Whale: Corsicana, Tex., 15-18.
- Wallace, Magician: Portsmouth, Va., 20-25.

T. O. B. A. CIRCUIT

- Brown Gal: (Frolic) Bessemer, Ala., 13-18.
- Brownkin Models: (Globe) Cleveland 13-18.
- Dashin' Dinah: (Central) Dallas, Tex., 13-18.
- Drake & Walker: (31) Atlanta 13-18.
- Clad Rag Dolls: (Pythian) Columbus, O., 13-18.
- Hot Ella: (Liberty) Columbus, Ga., 13-18.
- Hotentots of 1930: (Pike) Mobile, Ala., 13-18.
- King Cotton Revue: (Lincoln) Leutsville 13-18.
- Midnite Steppers: (Frolic) Birmingham 13-18.
- Raisin' Cain: (Grand) Baton Rouge, La., 13-18.
- Sunflower Revue: (Pal.) Memphis 13-18.
- Watts & Willis: (Washington) St. Louis 13-18.

CARNIVAL COMPANIES

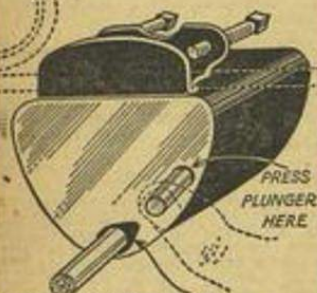
- Alabama Am. Co.: Luthersville, Ga., 13-18.
- Barkoot Bros.: Bowling Green, Fla., 13-18.
- Coe Bros.: St. Petersburg, Fla., 13-18.
- Loach Am. Co.: Davisboro, Ga., 13-18.
- Mathews, M. E. Am. Co.: Morven, Ga., 13-18.
- Miller, Ralph R.: Ponchaicola, La., 13-18.
- Rogers Am. Co.: Berwick, La., 13-18.
- Southern Expo.: Harrison, Ga., 13-18.

Additional Routes

(Received too late for classification)

- Billy's Comedians: Grenola, Kan., 13-18.
- Bishop Show: Indiana, Pa., 13-18.
- Boyes, Chick, Players: Hebron, Neb., 13-18.
- Conates Comedians: West Monroe, La., 13-18.
- Clarke's Chevrolet Comedy Co.: Hartsville, Ind., 13-18.
- Clifton Comedy Co.: Amestville, O., 13-18.
- Cook's Show: Argyle, Ga., 13-18.
- Gorman-Ford Co.: Millsboro, Del., 13-18.
- King's Musical Comedy Co.: Zanesville, O., 13-18.
- Kehler, Jack H., Players: Hayti, Mo., 13-18.
- LaBounty's Show: Tilleda, Wis., 13-18.
- Lena's Show: Lebanon, Wis., 13-18.
- Lesser Comedy Co.: Ashley, O., 13-18.
- Martins-Firestone Co., Magicians: Enid, Okla., 13-18.
- Marshall Players: Erie, Ill., 13-18.
- Miller, Al H., Show: Lamont, Fla., 13-18.
- Murdoch Bros.: Show: Claysburg, Pa., 13-18.
- Mysterious Smith Co.: Connersport, Pa., 13-18.
- Nash, Danville, N. Y., 20-25.
- Nash Players: Hartford, Ky., 13-18.
- Pioneer Players: Buckland, O., 13-18.
- Ray's Show: Alverda, Pa., 13-18.
- Reed, Great, & Co.: Hual, Ill., 13-18.
- Rever's Show: Shelby, N. C., 13-18.
- Sandy's Fun Show: Tichborne, Ont., 13-18.
- Star Dramatic Players: Archie, Mo., 13-18.
- Stuart Players: Grand Meadow, Minn., 13-18.
- Tate-Lax Show: Dickens, Tex., 13-18.
- Williams, Les, Co.: St. Paris, O., 13-18.
- Woods-Wall Players: Sulligent, Ala., 13-18.

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REPERTOIRE

- Braze Comedy Co: Bobcaygeon, Ont., Can., 13-18.
- Rhoads, John, Players: (Masonic Hall) Denton, Md., 13-18.

TABLOIDS

- Facts & Figures, Lew Beckridge, mgr.: (Princess) Youngstown, O., 13-18.
- Flash Parade, Bud Browne, mgr.: (Murray) Richmond, Ind., 13-18.
- Musical Dance Shoppe, Vardo & Kinney, mgrs.: (Temple) Bay City, Mich., 13-18.
- Record Revue, Teddy Underwood, mgr.: Winchester, Va., 13-18.
- White Bang Revue, Marshall Walker, mgr.: (Freeman) North Fork, Va., 13-18.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Becker, Magician: Arkadelphia, Ark., 15; Prescott 16; Nearfreestore 17; De Queen 18.
- Birch, Magician, & Co., Austin A. Davis, mgr.: Malvern, Ark., 17; Prescott 18; Texarkana, Tex., 20; Longview 21; Troup 22; Henderson 23-24; Alto 25.
- Campbell, Lorine, Magician: Stroud, Okla., 15; Turley 16; Muskogee 17; Quay 18; Niskotow 20; Sulphur 21; Davis 22; Cyril 23; Mount View 24.
- Daniel, B. A., Magician: Monticello, Miss., 13-18.
- Dunn, Great, & Co.: (Capitol) Malden, Mass., 13-18; (Morse) Franklin 20-25.
- Lacy, Thomas Elmore: Stratford, Tex., 15; Pampa 18; Panhandle 20; Memphis 23; Playada 24.

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145 West 34th Street, NEW YORK.

THE BIG MONEY GETTER



At the Automobile Shows.
For Automobile, made of an Airship Design which when inflated is 24 in. long and 8 in. wide. Cutlains wheels, 4x36, spare tire, hood and seat.
PRICE, \$7.50 per Gross.
Workers for above large Balloons, \$1.00 per Dozen.
Large Parts, 25¢ per Set.
25% deposit with order.

NATIONAL TOY AEROPLANE CO., New York City, 115 5th Avenue.

FERRIS WHEEL

EH No. 3, 1928 model, at liberty to book for coming season. J. P. McDONALD, 3226 N. Sacramento Blvd., Chicago, Ill.

WOLF SHOWS

Now booking for coming season Shows and Conventions. Good opening for first-class Cook House, Fair Secretaries Nebraska, Colorado, have some open weeks in September and October. Address mail to 432 Wabasha St., St. Paul, Minn.

MONARCH EXPOSITION SHOWS, Inc.

SHU have open Pich-Tis-Yee-Win, Devil's Bowling Alley, Hoop-La, Fish Pond, Quiz, Watch, Fruit and Grocery Wheels, WALT Ferris Wheel, Chairlaine and Venetian Swine Porem. Write MIKE ZIEGLER, President, 510 West 120th St., New York City.

WAX FIGURES

FROM 1 TO 100.
We make them true to life.
B. W. CHRISTOPHER STUDIOS
1241 Gravelly Ave., ST. LOUIS, MO.

Savannah Siftings

By CHAS. BERNARD

Savannah has a fascinating influence for quite a number of the circus and theatrical fraternity, which holds them here during the winter months, while sunshine and mild weather is an outstanding inducement for motoring, golf and angling for the winter trout.

Sam Wireback, who a score and more years ago had the privilege car and other concessions on the Bob Hunting and other circuses, has been the big flash in the F. & W. Grand 5 and 10 cent store on the main drag; with a mammoth salt-water taffy outfit, uniformed girls and a rush of eager buyers, that would make Sam smile as cheerfully as one of Charlie Griffin's big side-show openings on the Hunting show.

Charlie Ogden is on West Broad street with a great wire jewelry stand on the curb near Union Station, but regardless of how many gold bracelet or carrying customers are waiting, Charlie can tell a story about his wagon-show days in the Carolinas.

Tony Ybaner, one time treasurer of the Savannah Theater, when a hundred road shows were the average for a season, but now part and parcel of Beckmann & Gerety's Wortham's World's Best Shows, could not resist the desire to see the old Savannah theater, and surprise the homefolks. He is amongst us temporarily receiving the glad hand. Incidentally, Tony looks so prosperous and contented that it is a safe bet he has at least part of each season's salary salted away since he joined 101 Ranch Wild West about 25 years ago.

Frank Openheimer, another native "Cracker", who broke into show business at Savannah's Royal Music Hall about three decades ago, came in from Downie Bros.' Motorized Circus for a brief visit; but saw a chance to protect the bankroll by doing some Santa Claus and clown stunts in the B. H. Levy & Bros.' Department Store windows during the holidays. Frank also shows signs of a reserve surplus for the proverbial "rainy day".

Will H. Hancock, the veteran of many seasons on circus billcars, as house-to-house distributor, came thru from Boston before Christmas for his annual escape from ice and snow; a few days at Savannah, with daily gabfests at Bernard's Little White House, then on to the Travelers' Hotel, Jacksonville, until the red wagons roll.

F. V. Peterson, who has tramped ever since the days of brass band rube shows and made a barrel of "long green" managing a Bringing Up Father show a few years ago, was a welcome visitor at Riverside Place, where he is always one of the Bernard family. The visit was very brief, as he is rushing into Florida advancing for the May Valentine Musical Comedy Company.

Merle Evans in Toledo

TOLEDO, O., Jan. 11.—Merle Evans is here to direct the band for the Shrine Circus, which will be put on by Orrin Davenport, to be followed by a similar event in Detroit. Evans and wife will return to Sarasota following the Detroit engagement. He came here from New York, where he had been working in connection with Fred Bradna's circus activities.

Kennedy Going South

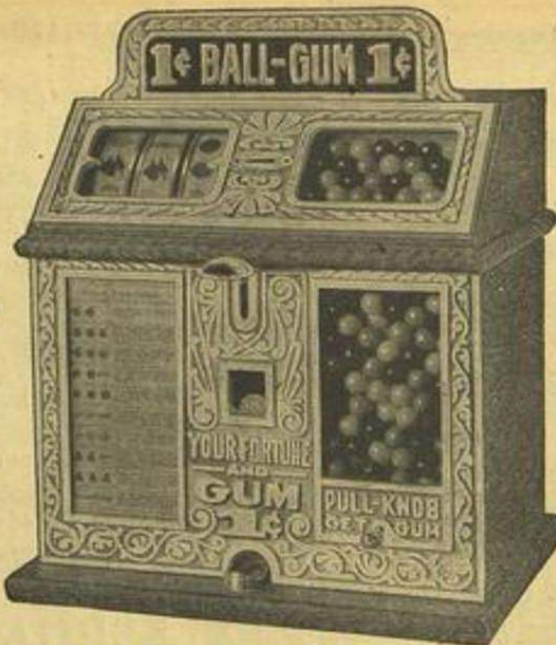
CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—Charles Kennedy, well known in outdoor show activities, and Mrs. Kennedy will leave their home in Palatine, Ill., late next week for a Southern trip that will extend over the remainder of the winter. Kennedy recently left a hospital, where he had been suffering from sinus trouble. He will divide his time between Florida and Cuba, returning home about April 1.

Tait With Auerbachs

NEW YORK, Jan. 11.—C. Gilmore Tait is now in charge of the concession department for D. Auerbach & Sons, this city, who have their show rooms at 46th street and 11th avenue. He will make the Eastern fair meetings, as in former years.

Floto Opening Date in Chi.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—March 29 is definitely set as the opening date in Chicago, at the Coliseum, of the Sells-Floto Circus, with the Stadium as the next stand.



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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

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The NEW PELLET BOARD

Improved—Fraud 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 PLATED PROOF Pellet Board.

"50 Winner" Pellet Takes in \$20.00. Pays Out \$17.50 in Trade.
"Flaccor" Pellet Takes in \$20.00. Pays Out \$15.00 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.

\$50 JACK POTS \$50

Money Back Guarantee

If you have not taken advantage of our specially priced 5c and 25c 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 ten-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 Slot Machines of every description. Send for literature.

REX NOVELTY CO., 3208 Southport Ave., Chicago

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No. 8211—JUNEO SIZE, BLACK and WHITE PEARL (Erect) PENS, NONBREAKABLE, with a 14-K SOLID GOLD Pen Point. Des. No. 8212—PENCILS to Match Above. \$8.50 Per Dozen
FREE FOR THE ASKING—Our "RED BOOK THAT BRINGS PROFITS TO YOU" for Concession, Salesboard and Premium Trade. \$3.00 Per Dozen Sets

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NEW LOW PRICE

SURE TOP CIGARETTE HOLDER has Spring Top, Gold-Plated Finish. Constructed of metal. Each one guaranteed. Buy now while our quantity lasts.

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Special Knockout Values

\$2.50



No. 512—Ladies' 14K solid Gold, Genuine Diamond Ring, beautifully pierced. Makes big splash and everlasting gift. Retail \$25.00. In Dozen Lots, Each.... **\$2.50**



No. 705—Fine 1-Jewel Watch, beautifully engraved case, at a VERY low price. Retail for \$15.00. In Dozen Lots, Each **\$1.95**

No. 703—Ladies' 6-Jewel Cylinder Watch, plated gold cases and beautiful case. In Dozen Lots, Each..... **\$2.05**

We also carry big selection of Fountain Pens, Rebuild Watches, Leather Goods, Watch Lighters, Cocks, Genuine Diamond Rings, Jewelling Silver Rings, Novelties, MESH BRACELETS, 35c Each.

Samples, 35c extra. 25% deposit on all orders, balance C. O. D. Money refunded if not satisfied.

ANTWERP JEWELRY COMPANY
23 CANAL ST. NEW YORK CITY



No. 113—A fine 6-jewel lever 2-adjustment "POLFRAN" movement. Fitted with a beautiful assortment of chromium finished regular, tonneau and square cases. Complete with box and price tag. In dozen **\$3.00** each.

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4-PIECE SCARF SETS

No. 133—4-Pc. Scarf Sets, consisting of one large handkerchief, one large handkerchief, one large handkerchief and two smaller ones.

\$6.00 Per Dozen Sets

No. 134—4-Pc. Special Scarf Sets, with beautiful HEAVY lace edging.

\$7.00 Per Dozen Sets

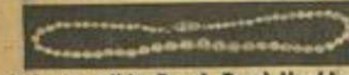
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1122 South Halsted St., CHICAGO, ILL.

COMBINATION NEW MONEY BILL FOLD AND PASS CASE.

4 Pockets, 2 Pockets. Space for new bills. Hand-engraved shield and corners. Made of genuine Calif. Alligator. Silver Lined. Horn-back and LIGNE. Individually boxed. \$1.50 Price Ribbon. PRICE, \$4.00 PER DOZEN. Send \$2.00 for sample line. 25% Deposit on All Orders. Balance C. O. D.

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Indestructible Pearl Bead Necklaces
for the jollying trade only.
THE AMERICAN JEWELRY CO., INC.,
Importers. 871 Broadway, New York.

FAST SELLING ITEMS AT LOW PRICES!

AMERICAN EAGLE BLADES
EACH BLADE GUARANTEED
11c
Fig. 19 Blades.

AMERICAN EAGLE BLADES
11c
Fig. 19 Blades.

Bill—American Eagle Blades are Double Edged and Fit any Gillette Razors. Packed 10 Blades to the Package, 20 Packages in a Display Carton. Price in 2-Carton Lots or More, \$2.50 per Carton. Less than 3-Carton Lots, \$2.50 per Carton.

Whoopee Tops Assorted Colors
\$2.170
\$6.75 Gross

51541—600-Hole Combination Bargain Board. Consists of two Jumbo Pen and Pencil Sets, one Strap Watch and one Lighter. Players pay 5c, 15c and 25c, as they choose. Taken in 100-50 and 50-25 cut in trade \$12.50. Sample—\$8.75—Asst.

\$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.

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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.

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Write for Catalogs
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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.

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FOR GILLETTE TYPE RAZORS.
95c PER 100 **\$8.50** PER 1000

Packed 5 to a Package, 100 Packages to a Carton. 25% deposit with order.

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5c, 10c, 25c and 50c Play.

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New and Used. All kinds and makes. Write for Catalog and Prices.

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IN BIG DEMAND

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\$6.00 New Style DOZ.

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Direct from Manufacturer. Small or large quantities. Write for prices.

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B1—WOOD YO-YO TOPS. Ass. Colors. \$4.50
Three Dozen in Box. Gross..... \$8.50

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For Streetmen, Carnival People, Demonstrators, Pitchmen, Specialty Workers, Promotional Users, etc. Write for prices on items you are interested in.

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A NEW SALESBOARD
Per Outfit Complete **21.50**

RP210 — 1,500-Hole Board with 3 Men's Strap Watches, 1 Lady's Wrist Watch, 4 Fountain Pens, 2 Cigar Lighters and 2 Pocket Knives. Pass out 28.00 in trade.

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BSC06—Smooth Edge Safety Razor Blades. Made of Tempered Steel. Each in 50 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**

BSC15—Silver-Plated Handle and Nickel-Plated Guard. Complete with 1 Genuine Gillette Blade. Each in Box.

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"VEST POCKET" BASKET BALL

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1 Shot for 1¢. 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.

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Large Quantity Discounts.

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Were you to give us an order for 1,000 Erie Diggers, Standard Model (we have figured very carefully), we could make them for \$69.60 each (Regular Price \$115.00) or the 1930 model at \$82.50 (Regular Price \$130.00).

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References: Bradstreet's or Dun's,
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Desiring to take advantage of your "Advance Order Special", as per
Billboard ad, herewith place order for:

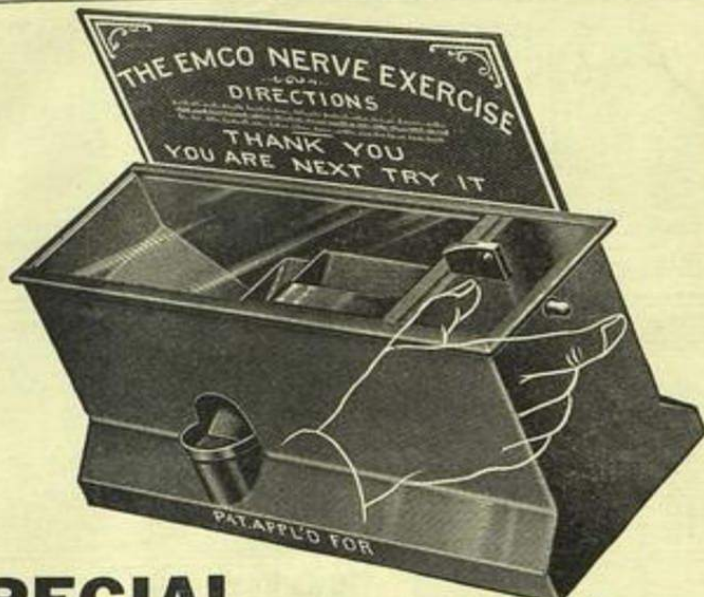
.....Standard Model Erie Digger Machines at.....\$69.60
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All Steel

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