

Nazi Embassy Demands Crackdown By Argentina on Pro-Democratic Pix; See Protests as Giong Unheeded

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1.—Apparently miffed by the ease with which Argentina's attitude toward anti-Axis films, the Nazi embassy has demanded that the Foreign Office crack down on pix which show the "Nazis" as the real villains.

Dr. Otto Maynen, the Berlin chargé d'affaires, brought the matter to the attention of Foreign Minister Raúl Garmazo, declaring that the exhibition of such films as "To Be or Not to Be" (U. A.), "Mr. Minister" (M-G-O) and "Eagle Squadron" (R. P.) were affecting relations between the two countries. Argentina and Chile are the only S. A. republics still maintaining diplomatic ties with the Nazis.

The Argentina Government has publicly refused to answer the charges lodged by Maynen, but it is understood from reliable sources that the Nazi protests will go unheeded. Until recently such protests have earned plenty of credit, and it was recalled here that only last month Maynen's over the top "Invaders at the Teatro Gran Rex" resulted in a withdrawal for a week of two pictures.

But the allegedly insulting anti-pix was subsequently released. It was word-of-mouth that some of the voice tracks had been blue penciled in his subsequent run.

Maynen's latest blast is regarded as a particular irritant in Hollywood, since the Nazis are known to be burned up by the Government's recent indignities toward the Axis in Rome-Berlin in propaganda, kidnapping and espionage.

Nazi activities in B. were revealed by three detailed memoranda sent here from Washington, with a request for details. One of the reports, which by Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles that the Nazis have been seeking a way to set off a coup d'état.

Following the old Nazi technique, Maynen kicked on latest batch of pictures in an effort to point out that they were permitted, despite fact that they constituted a strong pro-Democratic weapon and that the Nazis therefore had the right to carry on their own campaign.

Strongly anti-Nazi films shown recently have been subjected to many severe cuts, but it has been noticeable that outright propaganda, such as the case of Chaplin's "Great Dictator" and "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" a year ago, have not been cut. Such pix today are doing strong biz.

Rainier's Widow Sues Airlines for \$227,637

Los Angeles, Dec. 1.—Mrs. Elizabeth Bunker Wood of Ralph Rainier, song writer, who was killed in an airplane crash near Palm Springs Oct. 23, filed suit for \$227,837 damages against the American Airlines, operators of the airplane and Lieut. W. N. Wilson, pilot of the Army bomber which collided with the transport. Wilson later was acquitted of charges of involuntary manslaughter by an Army court martial.

The plaintiffs are the Rainier children, Douglas, Constance and Susan.

Induct Shumlin Dec. 11

Herman Shumlin, having received "The Great Big Doorstep" at the Morocco, N. Y., last week, has filed his season's schedule and is ready to go into uniform. He's 44. Shumlin is due to be inducted as a private in the Dec. 11, after which he gets a week's furlough.

Closing In Fast

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Film workers went out in earnings and living scale for the month of October, according to figures issued by the California Labor Statistics Bulletin.

Average weekly pay check for the month was \$58.61, a 10 per cent increase over October, 1941, while the cost of food went up approximately 24%.

Cinema Lochinvar

Toronto, Dec. 1.—Self-styled champion of American womanhood, Walter Thompson, has curled an angry eyebrow at Errol Flynn's screen-splashing as "Footsteps in the Dark." The picture, which is showing at the Palace, Toronto suburban house. "Footsteps" was followed by the actress and manager Sam Applebaum taking the drummer with the front office and screaming "No!" But for screen repair totalled \$163.

Young woman was found guilty of willful damage and has been demanded for a week in the cooler when sentence will be passed.

Local dailies muffed a good story by not ascertaining what film was being shown when the incident occurred.

B'WAY MAY SEE 'LADY IN DARK' REPEAT

Because it is not feasible to tour "Lady in the Dark" extensively, plans are being considered to play repeats with the Gertrude Lawrence starring attraction, with Broadway likely to see the musical again. Possible return of "Lady" to the metropolis is tentatively dated around Easter, with either the Broadway or Majestic theatres mentioned to get the word. Both are large-capacity houses and if a repeat is played the scale will be dropped from the original \$440 to maintaining during the run at the Alvin.

Figured that "Lady" could return to Boston for three weeks, prior to Broadway. Bookings for "Lady" after its Chicago showing, which begins in mid-January, are not definite at this time, because the attraction's stay in the big Civic Opera House will not be fixed until it opens there.

Robinson on His Own

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Casey Robinson, veteran Warner's writer, recently made producer, has checked out the lot.

He has plans for his own writer-producer unit.



"A pair of good-luck charms that shine like gold at the box office."—Daily News

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It will cost money to defeat Germany, Japan and Italy. Our government calls on you to help.

Buy war savings bonds or stamps today. Buy them every day if you can. But buy them on a regular basis.

Highlight of Ted Lewis' 30th Anni in Band Biz Is Today's Bad Travel

Originally a 30th anniversary in show biz would be a gala affair, but New York the other afternoon in New backstage at Loew's State in New York the everlastingly hot and wet "I Everbody Happy" catch phrase, Ted Lewis, didn't look any too happy about the whole thing. He was tired and as he noted that "an entertainer's road may be paved with the best of intentions, but right now it certainly is a tough one to travel."

He pointed to a group of medicine bottles on the dresser. "Doctor's care. Not that I'm ill, I'm just plain showy, I've done five, six and seven shows a day, but compared with today's traveling conditions, that's child's play."

"You need strength to travel around the country, keeping people amused, playing for the boys in the camps and selling bonds in your spare time."

"I remember the last year very well, and travel then was a pleasure compared with such things as sleeping on trunks in the baggage car between Meridian, Miss. and Atlanta, Ga. Not only you can't get a room, but down south when there's nothing but standing room, you can't even ride the Jim Crow cars. We've slept standing up overnight and then played a theatre date in Green Bay, Wis., with an extra job of trying to sell bonds on a cold corner."

The conversation turned to the last year when Lewis played at Rector's for the soldiers. "It was during that time that he introduced the laughing trombone, muted trumpets to dance music. We still have found anything to compare with 'Over There' in this war, although there are a couple of good war tunes

(Continued on page 53)

Waddies Want More Per Gallop

Producers of western films are facing a shortage of cowboy riders, who are refusing to gallop for \$11 per day, the customary wage for chasing rattlers, Indians and whatnots. The shortage is acute, especially only the regular \$10.50 calls and declining to risk their necks for the extra 50c. They want \$16.50, the same as dress extras are paid. Most of the many riders are quitting the industry to go to work on defense plants. One group of 25 left in a body last week, attracted by steady work and high wages.

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—

H'wood Political Ambitions Bolted As Signal Corps Sets Up Own Branch

Grauman Testing

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Sid Grauman is taking screen tests for a role in "Lester's" forthcoming picture, "Stage Door Cantone." Script calls for an experienced Hollywood showman who introduces various glamorous personalities to the populace. He plays the part of Sid Grauman.

Grauman is studying the tests to determine whether Sid is the Grauman type.

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Ground work for the establishment of a western branch of the Signal Corps Photographic center is being laid out by Col. Melvin E. Gillette, commanding officer of the unit, who has been here for the past week. Under the new plan Hollywood will play a bigger role in the United States Army's vastly expanded photographic operations. It is in orders of the chief of staff, officer and provides that Lieut. Col. Melvin E. Gillette, commanding officer of the Astoria Center under Col. Gillette, be in charge of the western branch which has established its headquarters at 8338 Brighton Way, Beverly Hills, from which future operations will be directed.

LAMBS GAMBOL FOR GOLDEN A WOV

By JOE LAUBE, JR.
When General Hugh Drum walked into the Lamb's Drum unit (29) for the installation of Gambo, incidentally, one of the top events of the W. 44th street clubhouse has been going on many years. The mob figured he was one of the guys from the "Student Prince" because he was studying around Lee Shubert so close.

Anyway, that'll give you a pretty good idea of the General Drum for that matter, all the others who turned out for the Gambo, got themselves in for because they wanted to see a vaude show for free.

And what a show! Take for instance (Continued on page 44)

Under the new setup the Army will do no producing on its own in Hollywood, but the procurement of scripts the subjects will be farmed out to various commercial studios. Under the new advance modern equipment, trained personnel and technical knowledge may be obtained.

Assignment of pictures to studios belonging to the Research Council of the Army, the Army Picture Arts and Sciences will be coordinated by the Western Branch of the center, through the Research Center, through the Research Council itself, which has no military or direct operations, but which for military reasons can be controlled by Army personnel, will be in charge of the production of pictures for the Signal Corps studio in Astoria.

Taking over for the Hollywood center of operations for the Signal Corps by Col. Gillette ends the political ambitions and plans of various studios in Hollywood. The Army within the past six months to have the photographic unit based here. This unit is now the center of production for all training films of the army, which one of the Hollywood centers of a regular Army officer such as Col. Gillette.

Sousa Goes Marching On in 20th-Fox Film

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—John Philip Sousa, bandleader and composer of military marches that inspired your grandpop to shoulder a Krag-Jorgensen in the Spanish-American War, is marching posthumously into Hollywood through his autobiography, "Marching Alone."

Rights to the book, acquired by 20th-Fox, will be used as the basis of a picture under the title, "Stars and Stripes Forever," the name of the most popular tune. Kenneth Macgowan is slated as producer, with Harry Goetz, who handled the rights of literary and musical copyrights, as associate producer.

'Robe' for London Stage

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Lloyd C. Douglas' novel, "The Robe," is staged on London stage, which under an arrangement between Alex Aaron's British legation, Frank Ross, who brought the screen rights of the book.

Aaron and Ross closed the deal for the stage production here last week.

Today I Am a Star

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Warners topped Irene Manning to stardom as a result of her performance in "Yankee Doodle Dandy." New Wings is due into industry in her next role in "The Desert Song."

Elsa Maxwell's Cafe Date
Elsa Maxwell's close to the Versalles on Dec. 17, booking being for two weeks. Maxwell will appear in Miss Maxwell made her night club debut at this spot six years ago.

There has been a Signal Corps office functioning here for some time with quarters at the Western branch of the center. It will be headed by Major Sam Brinkin has been in charge of a group of officers and men. This unit is independent of the one that Lieut. Col. Frank Capra heads and which is to make seven Signal Corps units serving the needs of the Army of which Eric Cen F. Osborne is head.

Melvin Brinkin Group
The Brinkin group has been under Washington direction. Part of it has been being assigned to work in the next few weeks and it is understood that the balance will be shifted to other posts, who are to be in the setup headed by Lieut. Col. Sloane, a former major studio director, who has been in charge of Hollywood production and method.

The research Council of the Academy, which was organized by Col. Nathan Levinson for its technical staff, is being staged in London, whom various picture men were recommended for reserve commission in the Army. It will consist of 100 members to be of service to the Western Photographic unit which Sloane headed, but will not have any military authority.

The films that are to be produced here under the direction of Col. Sloane are destined to cover field and combat duties. It is also contemplated by the chief signal officer to open additional photographic branches in the Detroit and Chicago areas, which, as in Hollywood, will be under the command of Col. Gillette.

The personnel of the 1st unit quartered at the Signal Corps center of 100 men with Major Robert Lord, a former film producer, he returned here from Astoria for executive duties.

Cocoanut Grove, Boston, Fire Strains Show Biz; Buck Jones, Pix Sales Execs And Cafe Artists Among Fatalities

Numerous film men and, in some cases, their wives, have already been identified as the casualty list mounts in the Cocoanut Grove, Boston, night club this Saturday night (28), second and worst disaster since the Chicago Iroquois fire shortly after the turn of the century. As 'Variety' went to press yesterday (Tuesday) the known dead stood at 449 including eight as yet unidentified.

Of the show business, among them were Charles Stern, eastern district sales manager for United Artists; Edward Ansin, president of the Interstate circuit in New England; and Mrs. Ansin; Harry Asher, veteran New England distributor man lately engaged in indie distribution in the Boston area; Leo Brons and Eugene Gross, Monogram salesmen at Boston; Phil Seletsky, club buyer-booker for the Mullin, Pinnick chain, and Mr. Seletsky; G. A. St. Pierre, M. & P. Part director; Fred Sharby, Keene, N. H., exhibitor; Mr. Sharby and his son, Fred, Jr.; Paul Barron, Universal branch manager at Boston and Mrs. Barron; and Graca Powell, Maxine Coleman; Ethel Pavey, Carl Bauer (Cf. and (Continued on page 24)

Buck Jones Was Long-Time Fave Of Cowboy Fans

The Boston Cocoanut Grove night disaster Saturday night (28) brought death to one of the long-time favorites of America's boy picture fans. It was Charles (Buck) Jones, born Charles Frederick Gehring in Vancouver, Ind., 53 years ago. Jones burned in the disaster, died at the General Hospital, Boston, Monday afternoon (30) without regaining consciousness. Physicians said they had abandoned all hope for recovery immediately after examining his burns.

Jones, who was the guest of honor at a party when the fire broke out, had gone to Boston with his personal rep, Scott R. Dunlap, Monogram man. (Continued on page 24)

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Roy Rogers vs. Roy Rogers? Think It's Worth \$500,000.

Roy Rogers filed suit in the N. Y. supreme court Friday (27) for \$500,000 against Leonard Wise, known in films as Roy Rogers, Republic Pictures Corp. and Republic Productions, Inc.

In his complaint Rogers seeks an injunction restraining Wise from using the Roy Rogers name. He alleges that he entered into an agreement in November, 1939, with Wise after he brought suit against Wise in California, wherein Wise was to use the name of 'Roy Rogers' in motion pictures. Wise allegedly admitted the Rogers cognomen early in 1941 but the plaintiff claims that Wise violated that agreement by making personal appearances, using 'R' billing unrelated to the motion picture industry.

Robeson III

Fort Wayne, Ind., Dec. 1. The appearance of Paul Robeson as soloist with the Fort Wayne Symphony, scheduled for last Wednesday night (25), was called off, because of a serious case of illness suffered by the singer.

Robeson was to have opened the orchestra's 11th season.

Benefit for Victims

Due to the tragedy befaling many film folk in the Boston fire and funerals that were held yesterday (Tuesday) in Boston or suburbs, all local exchanges of the picture companies closed down. Meantime, under discussion by film exchanges is a benefit show for the relief of some of the victims' families.

The tragedy cast an incredible pall of gloom over the city of Boston, with pictures as well as legit theatres reporting business at virtual standstill.

NO RADIO SHOWS AS YET FOR WINCHELL

Lennen & Mitchell, agency on the Jergens account, hadn't decided by yesterday (Tuesday) on whom to recommend as pinch hitter for Walter Winchell in his Sunday night spot on the Blue Network. Winchell on Tuesday (28) was asked to take over the quarter-hour following Winchell's Jan. 3, and (Continued on page 34)

'Claudia' Tour Puts Crimp In Bacalnova's Comeback

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1. Olga Bacalnova, star in silent pic who lingered in Hollywood for a while after tidbits came in, revealed here while playing the Nixon last week that she had been offered to be turned down a comeback chance on screen because of her off-stage life. During show's recent engagement on coast, Hunt-Strömberg offered her a role in the Barbara Stanwyck starer, 'G-String Murders'; but she couldn't accept it. Bacalnova said, however, she expects to return to Hollywood for another fling at films after 'Claudia' tour.

Frances Starr, also in 'Claudia,' said that reports from Coast that she had signed a deal with RKO, to begin next summer, weren't true. A veteran legit actress, Starr, who had signed but didn't accept it, she announced.

Warners Holds Butler

Hollywood, Dec. 1. David Butler became a regular fixture in Warners' direct staff through a term contract following a one-picture job.

Butler, in Hollywood, producer, called Butler in to direct 'Thank You Lucky Stars,' and Jack L. Warner decided to keep him on the lot.

BILL ROBINSON'S PIC

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Bill Robinson will not only top, but act in the 'Thanks Pal' cavalcade of Negro music at 20th-Fox. The all-star lineup has been set for a Jan. 1 start.

U. S. TREASURY IS SYMPATHETIC

Lady Esther and Corn Products in Position of Possibly Having Only Assured Supply of Guest Stars of All Radio Variety Programs

CLARIFIED

Lady Esther's 'Screen Guild Players' and Corn Products' 'Stage Door Canteen' may be the only commercial programs with major film names on the air in 1943 as the result of a special ruling handed down by the Treasury Department. This possibility is, of course, dependent on whether the same Department modifies the regulations on the \$25,000 net income limitation. If the latter strictures stand, the 'Guild' and 'Canteen' shows will be in a class by themselves.

Under a modification granted by the Commission of Internal Revenue these two programs are charitable because the Government as chargeable enterprises even though they are not incorporated and as independent contractors. The two programs are also being advertised by the purpose of raising funds with the stars involved in giving. (Continued on page 45)

B. S. Pulley Hits New Low in 52d St. Niterly Obscenity

One downtown N. Y. nitery entertainer got something out of his recent station house booking for indecency of performance — that certain something being an uptown booking and big type in daily newspaper ads listing him as Mr. B. S. Pulley, 'a new version.' He is neither a new version nor much cleaner than he was at the Frolics, and the only thing that the 'Mister' billing indicates is that he may be getting a little more coin at the Zebra Club on 52d street.

Neither Pulley nor the Zebra Club management was he to the (Continued on page 34)

New Congress Likely to Challenge Validity of \$25,000 Income Ceiling

'CEILING' NOW PART OF INDIE CONTRACTS

While various Congressional snafus are tearing up the ceiling on the controversial \$25,000 income ceiling after the new Congress convenes in January, the film industry is unlikely to be affected by any possible change until the spring. Many weeks are yet to pass before a committee is formed to take up the issue.

One clue has been the status of studio contract lists would be doubtful after Dec. 31, 1942, pending further Congressional action. Studios have been trying to avert such a contract upset, but which might prove damaging even to temporary members of the same modification of the regulation whereby the validity of contracts would be maintained but no definite response from U. S. Treasury officials on this point has yet been noted.

Currently he is producing 'Old Acquaintance' and preparing 'The Miracle'.

Drew No Blank Here

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Henry Blanke celebrated the start of his 21st year with Warners by signing a new contract so far. Blanke is producing 'Old Acquaintance' and preparing 'The Miracle'.

H'wood Studios in Increased Raids On Broadway Legit for Performers To Make Up Void Caused by War

Phones Clogged

By early Monday morning (30) it was impossible to buy a Boston paper on any of the New York stands selling out-of-town sheets.

Also, telephone lines became so clogged between N. Y. and Boston immediately after the Boston fire became known that it was difficult getting any calls through or to get much information if making a contact.

METRO, PAR, FOX BIDDING FOR LUNT PLAY

Metro, Paramount and 20th-Fox are submitting bids for the film rights to 'The Pirates' Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne starer, by S. N. Behrman. Metro is reporting having a slight edge, due to its contact with Behrman, who is on the studio writing list.

No asking figure has been reported as yet, though stealed bids run well into six figures for the 'Pirates Strip for Action,' Howard Lindsay-Russell Cosmo comedy, has not attracted a great deal of interest as yet, owing to asking price of \$250,000.

Stock Company Idea

20th-Fox meantime is talking of establishing a stock company in Los Angeles first, with possibility that similar groups may be set up in New York and one other city, to develop new writers and (Continued on page 47)

Harry Abbott Bkpt.

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Harry Abbott, Jr., who recently tried to revive refined burlesque at the Music Box theatre with disastrous results, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy. Debts are listed at \$27,000.

Those owed are his brother Bud Abbott (and Costello) \$18,000 and \$22,000 to salaried members of the ill-fated show.

By JACK PULASKI

Reputed increased value of talent in Broadway shows by Hollywood is being pointed out by managers, who say that the current raids are actuated by the number of young male film players joining the armed forces.

Demand is for players not likely to be called into service in the immediate future. Result is likely to be beneficial to such talent in the way of upped pay, while there is a trend among producers to increase the number of people given run-of-the-play contracts. Aim of managers is to choose actors who are reasonably good but not several called in the draft for some time. Some plays, however, call for adolescents. Most players are subject to call as their near maturity.

'Janie' As Example

Case in point is the young people in 'Janie,' Miller, N. Y. After the comedy opened Brock Pemberton boosted the salaries of several starlets and replaced their standard contracts with run-of-the-play agreements. Some players, however, he did so not only because of picture appeal, but he believed that he could get more money even though appearing on Broadway for the first time. In some instances, salaries were materially increased.

It is known that Hollywood offers (Continued on page 47)

COHAN MEMORIAL BY CATHOLIC GUILD

Catholic Actors Guild, which was headed by the late George M. Cohan, has arranged a memorial service which will be held at the Actors Church, St. Malchuk's, N. Y., Monday (29), at 11 a. m. The service will be celebrated by Father John F. White, chaplain and treasurer of the guild. In some instances, members of the organization, friends of Cohan are invited to attend.

The Frats, of which Cohan was a member, will be the Music Box, Sunday (29), the event being designed in his memory.

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CONTRADICTORY

Single Pix on Sundays, Duals Rest Of the Week, Click In Milwaukee

Milwaukee, Dec. 1. Single features on Sundays to get the holiday turnover and doubles during the week is the new policy adopted by the Fox downtown theatres. It was tried out on Tuesday with the inauguration of Sunday openings, clicked at once and has been consistently profitable ever since, so what was started as an experiment now is the established practice.

Wisconsin, Palace and Strand now play their act feature, together with selected shorts, on Sunday, making up a show that runs about two hours and 15 minutes, enabling them to give several additional performances on the day, then on Monday the houses return to the double feature policy, eliminating most of the Sunday shorts and putting in the secondary feature.

New policy with Sunday prices adds a couple grand to the day's gross, without affecting the week-day business, so that the theatres are just so much added to the week's gross.

Fox squawks have come from the bargain hunters, but any stay-aways on this account are compensated for by patrons who prefer single feature shows and make it a point to attend on Sunday on that account. An the Sunday stay-aways come during the week, so houses don't lose any customers, but on the contrary gain additional ones.

Sunday policy also is looked upon as a big patron, since practically all houses will be forced to return to a solo policy.

Philly Film Forum Concerned About Duals and Morals

Philadelphia, Dec. 1. The Philadelphia Motion Picture Forum, at its meeting last week, urged the suspension of double features for the duration as a measure to conserve film and other vitally-needed war materials. The forum is composed of representatives of 15 organizations.

One of the speakers was Judge Stephen S. Jackson of the Children's Court, N. Y., who asked that women pay more attention to the protection of their "movie-going" children.

"In wartime there are evidences of moral laxity and movie break-down invading even the entertainment field," he said.

Judge Jackson criticized the Government for its growing control of the motion picture industry, and asked women to make an effort to fight against any "further Government controlled motion pictures."

Lanfield Directs Hope In 'Let's Face It' Pic

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Paramount assigned Sidney Lanfield to direct the next Bob Hope starrer, "Let's Face It," slated to roll early this month.

Frederick Kohlar, is associate producer under general supervision of B. G. De Sylva. Harry Tugend is winding up his job on the script.

WB's African Footage

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Warners is putting on its own North African drive to reach the film market first with a two-part story on the Allied invasion "The Mediterranean Front."

Butte is "Our African Front," footage of which is being shipped by trans-Atlantic plane to Burbank. Film will be edited by Gordon Hollingshead as soon as it arrives.

B'wayites Go 'G-String'

Hollywood, Nov. 30. Hunt Stromberg's "G-String Murders," for United Artists, will have a sprinkling of Broadwayites in the production. Finkle Lee, from "Wine, Women and Song," Eddie Gordon, radio performer, and Joe Platt, stage designer, have arrived for their first film work here.

New cast addition is Victoria Faust from cast of stage hit, "City Haven." She's the wife of George Guzikov of the William Morris Agency.

Fewer Fans But More Cash Cues Upped Admish

Minneapolis, Dec. 1.

Exhibitor circles, considering another raise in admission prices, declare the boost would be justified not only because of advancing costs, but also because there are fewer people to draw from and those few have more money to spend for entertainment.

It's declared here that an admission price boost is particularly in order in the smaller towns hurt the most by wartime population dislocations. Those people still remaining in the towns are better situated financially than for many years and can afford to pay higher theatre admissions which would offset the volume losses at the boxoffice, according to this line of reasoning.

There is also much agitation for the raising of children's prices.

(Continued on page 28)

'MERE TALK WON'T TURN THE TROCK'

Regulation Would Have to Come From WPB or OES, Rather Than OWI, to Which Mellett Is Attached—Gradual Dual Elimination Foreseen Due to Stock and Manpower Shortages

ANTI-TRUST STATUS

Belief continues in the trade that all the pleas of exhibitor organizations and Government officials will not curb double features. Complete immediate stoppage of duals would have to come via Government decree and various officials have already expressed themselves loath to effecting via a directive. Such a regulation would have to come from the War Production Board or the Office of Economic Stabilization rather than the Office of War Information which Lovell Mellett is attached. However, it appears as if single billing is gradually being achieved anyway as a result of curtailment in material and manpower availability in all branches of the industry.

While those who believe single features are requisite would like to affect the elimination of duals themselves, they see no chance for this. Admitting that they don't like to have the federal government do it, these solo-feature advocates set no other alternative. These exhibitors and distributors have tried for 12 to 15 years to bring about the death of double-features, without success.

Not generally known is that U. S. anti-trust laws have prevented exhibitors from installing single feature bills, even when desired. The Interstate case, which went to the U. S. Supreme Court, is interpreted as forbidding any universal agreement to split twin bills. And un-

(Continued on page 28)

First Day's Gas Rationing Fails to Dent Studio Normalcy; Big Test Yet to Come

Just Couldn't Stay Away

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Rosemary Lane returned from Broadway to play her first film role in two years as romantic femme lead in the Judy Canova-Joe E. Brown comedy "Chatterbox," at Republic.

Picture went into production yesterday (Mon.) with Joseph Santley directing and Albert J. Cohen producing.

Coast's 'Come And Get Me' Attitude With Gas Patrons

Studio heads were confronted with a new problem last week as advance reports indicated that some studio workers, including film stars, were adopting a "come and get me" attitude in anticipation of gas rationing which was extended to the Coast yesterday (Tues.).

In many cases workers claimed that the limited allowance, with the Hollywood distances to be considered, would be virtually all used up by just going to the studios and returning home.

Though not of major proportions, this development, which appears likely to be speedily adjusted, added to the various wartime difficulties already hampering production.

Transportation pools, where not already in effect, are being discussed. Possibility is that studio buses may be used by some of the majors to round up personnel in the morning and return them to homes after work.

Los Angeles, Dec. 1. First day's gas rationing left no harmful effects on studio normalcy. Most cars are rolling with nearly full tanks and it's still too early to tell effects of transportation difficulties on studio workers. Only a few isolated cases of tardiness but not enough to affect normal pursuit of studio business.

Figured in Los Angeles County that approximately half of 175,000 car owners will be able to get along with basic 'A' ration books, which allow for 240 miles monthly. Supplemental rationing for holders of 'B' books is made in most cases to 64 additional gallons for three months period regardless of mileage stipulated in supplemental appeal. All rulings on actors have become prohibitive for studio heads, with many rulings conflicting. Theatre big Monday night grosses also little affected, with grosses also normal all around, with grosses also normal affected. Real test will come later in the week, when first coupons are cashed at filling stations.

30,000 Workers Hit

Film industry leaders are plenty worried over the situation created by gas rationing and its effect on the 30,000 studio workers. A meeting of studio managers and heads of unions and guilds was called Tuesday to draft a system for handling transportation problems.

Studio heads admit the situation is acute, with 58% of the regular studio employees consuming more mileage than the rationing will allow. Homes than the supplementary 'B' book allows for. Average for Los Angeles has been 38.7 miles daily.

Certification to ration boards for supplemental supplies to workers will be authorized by an established industry unit of management and workers. All workers will be made by the transportation unit in order to gauge the mileage covered on a customary work trip. Drivers will be rechecked carefully against figures in their questionnaire.

L. A. Bolstering Its Gas Rationing To Offset Gas Curb

Los Angeles, Dec. 1. With neighborhood trade expected to flourish as result of gas rationing extension to the Coast, chain operators are testing various new sites as gas-daters with delimiters.

Pox-West Coast, for instance, is naming the Blitz in the Los Angeles-Fox-Western Wilshire district with the State-Chinco, while Warners has branched the Wilshire area on Hollywood Boulevard, with the Downtown and Hollywood. Paramount is planning to build a single nabe house for a first-run tie-up with its downtown and Hollywood first runs.

Results of the new first runs will be watched closely and if big falls follow anticipated switches will be made to other houses such as Warners' Beverly in Beverly Hills and the Fox-West Coast on Hollywood in Westwood. If big holds up in downtown and Hollywood areas the whole setup may be revised. Meanwhile receipts of all houses are being closely scanned for what might offer a solution to the ever-changing shift of patronage.

Paramount's two theatres are only here to be noted as aborting a wartime trade due to attraction, "Road to Morocco," which is proving a box office bonanza.

Theatre operators figure it is too early to tell the effects of gas rationing because of the as yet full tanks, but in another 10 days it will begin to shape up and the drift become fairly definite.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

VARIETY

To Be Published Late in December

Special Exploitation Advantages

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 No. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

CASABLANCA

Wagner, Lisa, Inez, of Mal B. White... Casablanca (WB) (Songs)...

Mature Women

Casablanca' (WB) (Songs). Topical comedy... Mature Women...

John Wayne in a melodramatic setting... Scott and Wayne team up as buddies...

Par Paces Civil War; 20th-Fox Close Second

While there were several outstanding... Par Paces Civil War; 20th-Fox Close Second...

Lehr has lost none of his deft comedy... Par Paces Civil War; 20th-Fox Close Second...

'Casablanca' will take the box office... America just as swiftly and certainly...

Heavy advertising exploitation campaign... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

Exhibits, in selling the picture, will... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

'Casablanca' is pictured as a... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

Bogart, as might be expected, is... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

Standard performances are provided... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

Picture is well-mounted on the technical side... 'Casablanca' will take the box office...

REUNION

Metro release of Joseph L. Mankiewicz... Reunion (MGM) (Songs)...

Andy Hardy's Double Life

Andy Hardy's Double Life (MGM) (Songs)... Andy Hardy's Double Life...

There's a counter-punch introducing... Andy Hardy's Double Life...

The Tractor Within (MGM) (Songs)... The Tractor Within...

NOVEMBER HIT SHORTS

'Mr. and Mrs. America' (20th-Fox)... November Hit Shorts...

'The Wally Party' (MGM)... November Hit Shorts...

PITTSBURGH

Universal's 'Pittsburgh' (MGM) (Songs)... Pittsburgh (MGM) (Songs)...

PITTSBURGH

Universal's 'Pittsburgh' (MGM) (Songs)... Pittsburgh (MGM) (Songs)...

THE TRAITOR WITHIN

Republic's release of Armand Schaefer... The Traitor Within (Republic) (Songs)...

THE TRAITOR WITHIN

Republic's release of Armand Schaefer... The Traitor Within (Republic) (Songs)...

THE TRAITOR WITHIN

Republic's release of Armand Schaefer... The Traitor Within (Republic) (Songs)...

My Gal Torrid \$26,000, Jim Ditto In Frisco; Lovelier Booming 14C

San Francisco, Dec. 1.—Frisco houses are hitting the jackpot currently, with an influx of good new picture-making business. My Gal and My Gal (at the Warfield, is scoring big with a record at \$26,000.

“Gentleman Jim” is bringing a terrific \$20,000 into the Fox tilt, with “The Never Never” by the United Artists to \$14,000. Holdovers continue.

Estimates for This Week
Fox (F-W) \$3,500, 50-55—“Gentleman Jim” (WB) and “The Never Never” (UA) (20th). Frisco setting is helping to boost Fort Flynn film to trim record. Last week, \$12,000. (WB) (20th) and “Manila Calling” (20th). Last week, \$12,000.

Golden Gate (RKO) (2,850, 44-55-75)—“Sin Town” (U) and Ray McKeen (WB) (20th) are adding up to nice \$23,000. Last week, Seven Days’ “Savage” (20th) and “The Hawaiian Orch on Stage” (2d wk), \$21,500.

Blumenfeld (2,400; 50-65)—“Sister Eileen” (C) (4th wk) and “Smith Minnesota” (C). Still paying off to tune of \$12,000 over gross stretch. Last week, \$10,700.

Paramount (F-W) (4,740, 50-65)—“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), holdovers. Last week, \$22,000. (WB) (20th) and “Manila Calling” (20th), \$21,500.

St. Francis (F-W) (1,475, 50-65) (20th) and “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), holdovers. Last week, \$22,000. (WB) (20th) and “Manila Calling” (20th), \$21,500.

Warfield (F-W) (2,450, 50-65)—“My Gal” (M-G) and “Night New York” (C) (2d wk) are adding up to \$26,000. Last week, “Six Days’” (WB) (20th) and “Aldrich, Editor” (Par) (2d wk), one \$10,000 for five days.

Bob Hope Leads Mpls., Record \$20,000; Pride Great 15C, Tigers’ 5C

Minneapolis, Dec. 1.—With two ace boxoffice performers going their stuff, this week promises to set a new high for straight films downtown, Road to Morocco’ (20th) and “The Bank” getting a terrific \$20,000 at the State and a record in city for straight films.

“Fighting Tigers” at the Gopher, also is coming through weekly. After a several weeks’ lapse, stage shows are back on the boards, Friday (4), with Russ Morgan topping the bill.

Estimates for This Week
After “Fighting Tigers” (1,000, 19-29)—“Kopche Trail” (C) and “Lidice” (Par). Fine \$2,500 in five days. “Fanny’s Brother” (RKO) and “Meet Her” (C) are expected in this city today. Last week, “Careful, Sober” (20th) and “The Bank” (WB) (20th), good \$2,000 in five days.

Cenary (P-S) (1,200, 20-40-50)—“Pride” (WB) (20th) and “The Bank” (WB) (20th) are adding up to \$20,000. Last week, “Island” (20th) (2d wk), \$17,500. \$2,500 after first week.

Gopher (P-S) (2,000, 20-30)—“Fighting Tigers” (Par). Given big campaign and attracting plenty. Trim record \$2,000 for “Invisible Agent” (U), fairly good \$1,500.

Orpheum (P-S) (2,800, 40-55)—“Public Enemy” (C) and “The Bank” (WB) (20th) are adding up to \$20,000. Last week, “Desperate Journey” (WB) (20th) and “The Bank” (WB) (20th), \$17,500. \$2,500 after first week.

Key City Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week—\$24,500.
(Based on 26 cities, 178 theaters, chiefly first runs, including N. Y.)

Last Year—\$23,400.
(Based on 26 cities, 178 theaters)

HEDY TORRID 15 1/2 C, PHILLY

A rainy week-end plus a blackout Saturday night in Philadelphia, Dec. 1. Saturday night is expected to be a light in this week’s grosses at downtown deluxers, but not enough to worry about. “Gentleman Jim” is enjoying a lucrative “Flying Fortresses” week. Also doing heavy biz is “White Cargo” (WB) (20th).

Estimates for This Week
“White Cargo” (WB) (20th) is leading in for \$15,500 at this city. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Wake Island” (Par) finished strong at \$8,500. “Arenada” (Sablowsky) (3d wk, 35-45-50)—“Pardon Strong” (U) (2d wk), \$7,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$7,000 for second week of second run.

Boyd (WB) (2,500, 35-45-57-86-75)—“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$7,000 for second week of second run. “White Cargo” (WB) (20th), \$6,500.

Earle (WB) (2,766, 35-45-57-86-75)—“Priorities on Parade” (WB) with Johnny Long, Hugh Youngman and Tip Tap & Toe. Nice \$22,000. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Gentleman Jim (WB) (Flynns’ (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Keith’s (WB) (2,220, 35-45-67-86-75)—“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

75)—“Wake Island” (Par) (2d run). Fine \$5,200 after long run at Aidine. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500 for second run showing well.

“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

‘Lovelier’ Nice \$13,000
In Cincy, Wash. Ditto
Current boxoffice figures for major houses is several notches higher than last week. You Were Never Lovelier’ at the Albee and ‘George Washington Slept Here’ in the Palmettos are lead-heating for front place. ‘Lyster’ is having a good run on double-brother ‘Mummy’s Tomb’ and ‘Night Mystery’ (WB) (20th) is a winner in ‘Sin Town’. Keith’s is better on ‘You Can’t Escape Forever’.

Estimates for This Week
“Albee” (RKO) (3,300, 33-40-50)—“You Were Never Lovelier” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Brooklyn Bridge (Mono) and HI, Neighbor (Rep), split with ‘Hidden Hand’ (WB) and ‘Wed’ (WB) (20th). Net \$2,300. Last week, ‘Just Off Broadway’ (WB) (20th) and ‘The Phantom’ (RKO), divided with ‘Yank in Rags’ (FPR) (2d wk), \$2,000.

Grand (RKO) (1,430, 33-40-50)—“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Keith’s (Libson) (1,500, 33-40-50)—“Can’t Escape Forever” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Palace (RKO) (2,800, 33-40-50)—“Washington Slept Here” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Springtime in Rockies’ (20th), Brought back after fortnight’s hiatus. Last week, \$15,000. Last week, \$15,000. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

NATIONAL BOXOFFICE SURVEY

Strong Thanksgiving Upswing Boosts Big Grosses To New High—‘My Gal’ Outstanding

Despite bad weather in many keys, Thanksgiving day week is living up to expectations generally with trade booming at most theatres. Exhibitors shuffled their schedules in some instances to open fresh product on Turkey Day, bringing in strong film fare including “White Cargo” (M-G), “Casablanca” (WB) and “Avenue” (Par), with only the latter named failing to make up its cost.

“White Cargo” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

‘Road to Morocco’ (Par) is the stock attraction of the week. Bob Hope’s (WB) is making \$35,000 at two Los Angeles spots at a huge \$55,000, rated terrific in its third session in the N. Y. Paramount, added to lead stage shows. “Morocco” is doing \$11,000 in Minneapolis vote. Film is getting a giant \$30,000 and holdover in Boston. It is pacing the straight filmers in Louisville, sockeroo \$15,000, in Buffalo, smash \$21,000 and in Omaha, great \$12,500, for biggest week house has had in “Morocco” since its debut.

“Gentleman Jim” (WB) also is setting a hot pace, with \$22,500 in Washington aided by vote from N. Y. and \$22,000, Philadelphia, and smash \$54,000 in N. Y., at band-policy Strand. “George White” (WB) (20th) is doing \$15,000 in New York. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

smash \$24,000 to lead St. Louis, solid in Louisville, great \$15,500 in Denver and hot \$16,000 in Buffalo. “Who Done It?” (U) and “Black Swan” (20th) both are setting new records. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

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Morocco’ Smashes Records at Two L. A. Houses With Huge \$55,500; ‘Gal’ Fine \$35,800, ‘Wash.’ 43 1/2 C, Spots

Los Angeles, Dec. 1.—Running up the staggering gross of \$55,500 day-and-dating at the Downtown and at the Albee, “Road to Morocco” is shattering all previous highs at both houses on the street. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Estimates Total Gross This Week—\$61,000.
(Based on 13 theatres)
Total Gross Same Week Last Year—\$52,000.
(Based on 13 theatres)

Broadway Grosses

“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Estimates for This Week
“The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500. “The Love” (WB) (20th) and “Tombs” (Par) (2d wk), \$21,500.

Estimates for This Week
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Reefellows Club of Ch Electing; Other Theatre an Exchange News

Chicago, Dec. 1. The Reefellows Club of Chicago, at monthly meeting at the Lakeside hotel Sunday (20), selected nominees for annual election. The club has 120 members. Dec. 13 and elected six new members. The club is composed of film salesmen working out of Chicago.

Members giving the okay are Jim Devlin (Par), Richard Scheinbaum (M-G-M), Maury C. (WB), Joe Fieldman (M-G-M) and Ed Sauer (WB). Frank Fanning (WB) opposed for president. Other nominees are 1st vice-president, Harold Wirtwirth (Par) and John Kempin (M-G-M); 2d vice-president, Irving (Par); secretary, Harry Mandel (WB); treasurer, Tom Williams (WB); Clarence Phillips (Col); assistant secretary, Stanley (WB); assistant treasurer, Bob Funk (U); assistant treasurer, Tod Meyers (U).

WB Bond Prices

Sales meeting of the Warner Bros. distribution manager will be held in Toronto Friday and Saturday (11-12), with Wollie Cohen, Canadian division manager, presiding.

Ben Kalmsone, WB's general sales manager, and other distributors from the office will attend.

Wollie Cohen "sells its entire season's lineup above the border as against blocks-of-five in the domestic market."

Prices in war bonds of \$33,850, to be sold by Warner, are showing best results on the sales drive beginning Dec. 20, have been broken down by Ben Kalmsone, general sales manager, as follows:

War bonds to be sold in first position will receive \$3,500, while the second position will receive \$2,500; fourth, \$2,000; fifth, \$1,750; sixth, \$1,500; seventh, \$1,250; eighth, \$1,000 and down to \$100, with the branch placing 15%.

War management prizes will be \$1,500 for first place and \$1,000, \$750, \$500 and \$350 for others.

War bonds, in addition to sharing in branch awards, will include prizes for the top 100, \$500 second, \$400 third and down to \$100, with the top 100 receiving \$500 first, \$450 second, \$400 third, \$300 third and down to \$100 for 10th place. For the top 100, the prizes are \$500 first, \$450 second, \$400 third, \$300 third and down to \$100 for 10th place.

Can't Talk It, Eh!

Hollywood, Dec. 1.

Chelle Janis, first femme theater singer for Loew's, will be the first for Fox-West Coast on the Paramount stage. Her performance will be the first for the duration in the Special Service Branch of the War Department.

City Talks Over Filming

Northampton, Mass., Dec. 1.

City officials are planning to enter into the exhibition business, planning to operate the house theater for the year. Mayor Walter W. O'Donnell announced that the city would purchase the building and the present lease of Martin Shaughnessy, 120 Desautels and Stephen Brierley expires.

Ed Greenberg, of the Warner exchange, won first prize of a \$25 bond for the Warner Club Christmas party.

Neil F. Agnew, who made a tour of the war back to the Coast, returned to his district on Monday.

Gross Heads Philly Variety

Philadelphia, Dec. 1.

Sam Gross, Philly variety manager of 20th-Fox, was chosen chief Barker for Tent 15. The club elections held at the Bellevue-Stratford hotel recently. Other officers: president, Ed Agnew; vice, Chas Zagars; 2d assistant, Chas Agnew; 3d assistant, Ed Agnew; and Erwin Charlap, secretary.

Members of the board are: Amsterdam, Ed Agnew; Chairap, James P. Clark; Al Davis, Henry Friedman; Sam Gross, William M. Scheraga; J. Schaninger, Clint Weyer and Earle W. W. Wieringer. Ex-officio members: Ed Agnew, being ex chief Barker; Edgar Moss, Jack Beresin, W. J. R. and Ed Emanuel.

The new officers will be installed at the Memorial Ball at the Variety Variety banquet which has been cancelled for the duration.

Loew's Shifts

Joe Volet of Loew announced following managerial shifts: Boyd LeRoy of the Palace, resigning; Loew's Grand Atlanta, succeeding Eddie Pentecost, resigned; Ceco V. Hillman, resigning; Hillman will move into Memphis vacancy. Al

WARNER EXECS EAST WITH 'AIR FORCE' PIC

Jack Warner and Charlie Einfield are due in New York today (Wednesday) from Washington, where they took a print of 'Air Force' from the Coast. They will be shown to executives and War Department officials at a special screening. While in the h. o. they will discuss the picture with world prem of the picture in Washington, N. Y., Wichita, Seattle and Denver.

Harry M. Warner and Hal Wallis, producer of 'Air Force,' may come from Washington by the end of this week or early next.

STUDIOS WILL TURN CURRENTS TO FILM SALES

Magazines specializing in salacious and suggestive material will be boot from picture studios.

The industry's Public Relations Council, which met at a meeting Monday (30), voted to withhold cooperation from such magazines, on the ground that much harm is being accomplished. It also took cognizance of the increasing number of magazines which are Representatives of such mags, it was reported, will be denied studio publicity and their requests for yarns or art nixed.

RKO DROPPING POSTER ADS FOR MORE DAILIES

E. L. Alpersen, general manager of RKO Theatres, is eliminating outdoor poster and window-card exploitation currently reported to amount from \$150,000 to \$200,000 annually. Money thus saved will be thrown into regular newspaper advertising columns for larger space. In addition to money output, RKO issues around 30,000 papers annually for poster and poster displays. This large free list was an influencing factor in the decision.

Both RKO, with around 40 theatres in the New York metropolitan area, and which has served the area in the same sector, have gone in heavily for outdoor exploitation, the former reports spending more on bill posting covering Jersey City, Westchester and New York.

Both Loew's and RKO circuits have been backing up their nabes. Loew's posters to it is considered an unusual extent. Loew's reportedly cut its pass list of 9,000 to 10,000 but which was served by the \$200,000 annually in outdoor advertising. Comparatively lower cost for Loew's due to the fact that the chain buys most of the boards it

Overseas Press Club's Tieup With UA's 'Serve'

Lowell Thomas, president of the Overseas Press Club of America, Monday (29) announced the establishment of a 'Correspondents' Fund' which starts off with the preem of the United Way drive at the Capitol theatre, New York, Dec. 23, when proceeds will be turned over to the club.

Fund will be used to cover correspondents and commentators on news fronts, news of whom have to date been killed in addition to many others wounded or imprisoned.

It was pointed out that while metropolitan newspapers provide insurance for staff employees, from news fronts on such occasions are not covered. The fund will be used as partial insurance for those that are only provided by regular employees.

Administrators of the Fund will be Thomas, H. V. Kaltenborn, George Fielding Elliot, Johannes K. Meyer, and William W. Williams, other members of the board of governors of the Club.

JULES SERKOWICH WITH COL

Chicago, Dec. 1.

Jules B. Serkowich has taken over the Columbia picture district for Columbia Pictures here.

Change was necessitated by the death of Louis B. Thomas, who had been forced to retire for a long rest. Thomas has been here for several years.

Piling Up of Releases Forces Distributors to Curtail National Fan Mag Ads Because of Timeliness

Harrisburg Theatre Praying

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 1.

Wilmer H. Hines, president of the town picture houses inaugurated something new in Thanksgiving day advertising by the end of this week. Managers to appear twice through out the day and offer prayer. C. Floyd Hopkins, head of Wilmer & Vincent interests, and the Rev. Harry Zechman, president of the Ministers' Association, cooperated in the plan.

A similar plan is being mapped for New Year's day.

FILMS P. A. ORG. TO BALANCE HOOD TO INDUSTRY

Full appreciation of the industry's failure to date to keep the general public acquainted with the tremendous work being done by the industry to help the nation's war effort is back of present plans of the industry's Service Bureau (formerly the Public Relations Committee). Initial step in these plans is to establish an outstanding spokesman for the industry in key cities whose duty will be to handle institutional publicity on the picture business, including the spreading of facts about the War Activities Committee's work in war-torn areas.

Not decided how many would represent the ISB and WAC but likely that six to 10 would be selected from various keys. Their duty would be to appear at the various public, fraternal and religious groups, clubs, etc., and present factual data on the industry's war work.

Such material would not only cover its efforts on bond campaigns, salvage drives, etc. but would show the voluntary contribution of the film business in providing entertainment for troops overseas. The picture industry has provided a steady flow of motion picture film to various overseas theatres, which otherwise are unable to get regularly scheduled pictures, also would be related. Another phase of the work by these representatives would be to establish a liaison program to contact so that the industry's setup in war work may be unfolded.

Intention is to employ such ISB representatives on straight salary plans. Men would be picked, not only from the picture industry but from other lines, to bring their own practical experience, but their knowledge of certain territories and ability to handle overseas relations with the industry's story.

There is no set attempt to get together a group of men for the business. Rather, the effort will be to get together men who are able and to prevent hazardous criticism and eliminate glaring lack of knowledge as to what the industry is doing.

St. Louis' Own 'Judy'

St. Louis, Dec. 1.

To bally 'For Me and My Gal,' Rex Williams, manager of Loew's, Monday (29) announced the precedent when he persuaded the City to block off one of the downtown streets for a reciting troupe of buses and service cars for 40 minutes.

Then he held a mass singing here in front of the theatre in which songs of the World War and those that have become popular since Pearl Harbor were sung with a local cast as the Judy Garland of the Y.M.C.A. holding the spotlight.

The community's longest benefit in front of the theatre in which songs of the World War and those that have become popular since Pearl Harbor were sung with a local cast as the Judy Garland of the Y.M.C.A. holding the spotlight.

The community's longest benefit in front of the theatre in which songs of the World War and those that have become popular since Pearl Harbor were sung with a local cast as the Judy Garland of the Y.M.C.A. holding the spotlight.

Because of the fact that release dates on pictures now vary widely in the various territories, and many new films are badly blocked in certain cities, the industry is making engagements, distributors are reported giving consideration to releasing pictures in the future since it has lost much of its value.

Of recent years the film companies have dumped hundreds of thousands of national fan magazines but since the war, as well as the war effort, which has increased release dates, it has been difficult to obtain full value from such advertising.

Situation has reached the point where a film may play one branch territory when available only due to a sales condition or other factors may not get to accounts in another exchange territory. This is due to the inability to negotiate a quick contract where that holds up production of the picture. Pictures from defense work or soldier trade, pictures are held over so many weeks that they are behind them are forced to wait for a date.

An unusual situation, typical of the picture business, has developed in New York last season when Par was unable to obtain a date to begin with, the company could not negotiate contracts with other circuits, and the picture was set for its 80-odd Greater New York houses.

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Under any general swing away from national map advertising, it is thought that the industry will get higher amounts for local newspapers so that ads could be timed properly to the local market.

Metro's deal to go on the Bice network of over 100 stations will be first time done by any of the companies.

METRO'S SALES PLANS SET AT CH CONFAB

Chicago, Dec. 1.

Sales policy from here on and pictures to go into Metro's second block which may be sold when the company is ready, were discussed at a two-day executive sales distribution meeting here on Monday (30) and today (Tuesday).

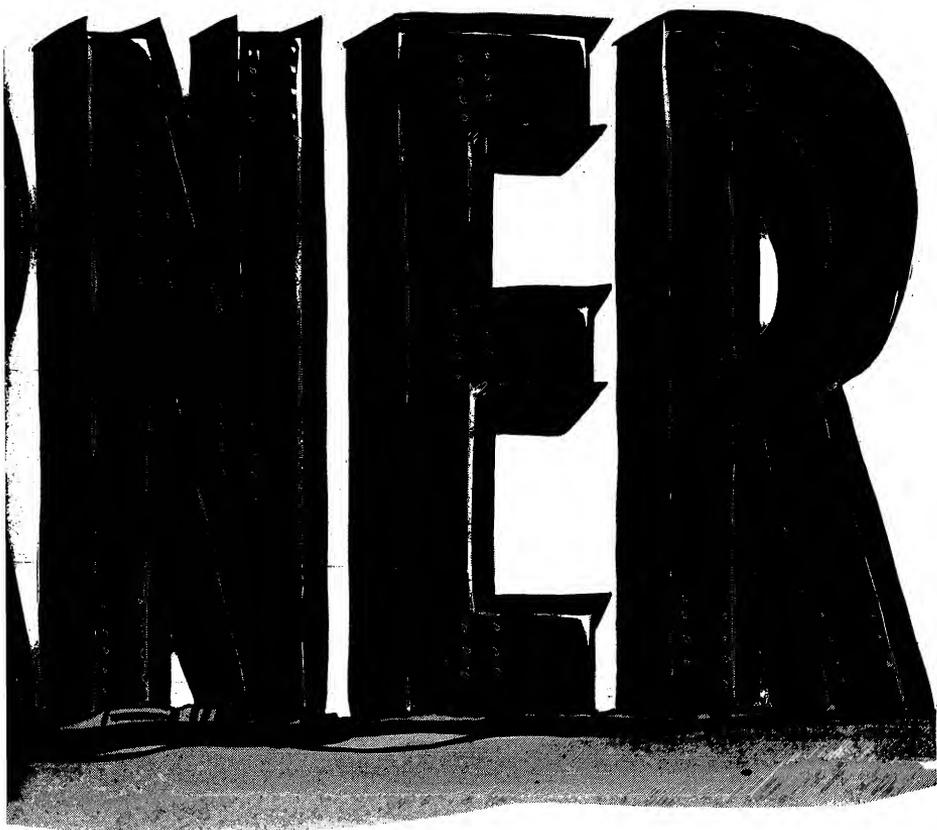
Metro is selling a block of 12 titles in Chicago, including the second package may number 10 instead of 12, though the company has an even dozen ready to be sold immediately offered for sale.

Hill Rogers, Metro group attending the Chicago session, headed by Bill Hodges, who presided, also included E. M. Saunders, western district manager, and J. J. Decker, eastern-southern divisional chief; Jack Flynn, central division head; and J. A. Cummins, in charge of exchange operations; Tom Richey, Los Smith, public relations; and several others. Joe Brazier, Charles Deven, Harold Postman, Paul Richey, an even dozen ready to be sold, Arthur Lucks and Irving Helfort,

Solid!

WWAARD

**YANKEE DOODLE DANDY! ACROSS THE PAGE
GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE! GENTLEMAN JIM!**



**IC! DESPERATE JOURNEY! NOW, VOYAGER!
FLYING FORTRESS! CASABLANCA! *Next* → AIR FORCE!**

Ferocious!
"MOROCCO"

Gargantuan! *Huff!* *Sensational!*

-TOO BIG

Gigantic! FOR *Immense!*

WORDS!

Stupendous!

"ROAD TO MOROCCO"

is the biggest smash

Paramount has had in YEARS!



Bing Crosby • Bob Hope • Dorothy Lamour
in **"ROAD TO MOROCCO"** with
Anthony Quinn • Dana Drake • Directed by David Butler
Original Screen Play by Frank Butler and Gus Hartman





TIMES CHANGE, BUT LEO IS ROARING LOUDER THAN EVER!



SUREFIRE COMPANY!
Not for just a season, but ALWAYS! Not up, then down but for 16 years consistently UP!

HEADLINES OF LEADERSHIP!

"RANDOM HARVEST" TRADE SHOWS GET PRESS RAVES!

"Box-office hit. Certain to be 'in the chips.' Garson's work equals 'Mrs. Miniver.' Big business."—*Showmen's Trade Review*. "Superb love story. One of those rare pictures one would like to see again. When honors are handed out at box-office, this will be high on the list."—*Jay Emanuel Publications*. "Will win new friends and patrons. Not only thoroughbred but it is box-office. Subsequent runs will find themselves equally fortunate. Its fame runs before it, increasing as it goes."—*Motion Picture Daily*. "One of the truly fine motion pictures of this or any year."—*Hollywood Reporter*. "Should command strong attention at the box-office. Colman fine. Garson more charming and seductive than ever."—*Variety (Weekly)*. "A beautiful job of film-making. Unquestioned box-office natural. Mervyn LeRoy directed magnificently."—*Box Office*. "Producer Sidney Franklin ('Miniver' producer) has done another splendid job. Preview audience absorbed and touched. Excellent."—*Motion Picture Herald*. "One of season's outstanding screen offerings."—*Daily Variety*. "Superb dramatic entertainment. Should make the box-office bulge. Rich rewards from one of M-G-M's finest achievements."—*Film Daily*.

"FOR ME AND MY GAL" TOPS "MINIVER" IN FIRST 19 CITIES!

Every opening sensational! Beats every M-G-M picture for years back, including "Mrs. Miniver" in Rochester, Akron, Bridgeport, Norfolk, Reading. Tops famed "Mrs. Miniver" in first 19 spots, including Cleveland, Louisville, Columbus, Atlanta (which equals advanced-price "Boom Town"), Memphis, Providence, Syracuse (which equals "Rosalie" New Year's record), Richmond, Nashville, Evansville (which beats everything since 1934). Judy Garland triumph in 7th Big Astor, N. Y. Week! 3rd Week Cincinnati. 33 more Hold-overs at press-time!

"WHITE CARGO" BIGGER THAN GABLE HIT!

Imagine! You thought "Somewhere I'll Find You" (Gable's glorious grosser) was tops! "White Cargo's" opening at the Capitol, N.Y. is even bigger! Held over, of course! And at the Aldine Theatre in Philadelphia, the Hedy Lamarr-Walter Pidgeon bonanza beat every M-G-M attraction since 1938! Chicago is a BIG 288% of normal. Get ready, Mr. Exhibitor, for what the public wants!

"STAND BY FOR ACTION" WOWS AUDIENCE!

When the telegram came from the Hollywood sneak preview we gasped, but we've just screened it at the Home Office and it's everything they say and more. Here's the coast wire: "Ovation of audience terrific. They literally ate it up; reacting with cheers and applause. Robert Taylor, Brian Donlevy, Charles Laughton all brilliant. Battle scenes finest ever witnessed. Action drama on a scale never before seen, felt or heard on screen. Patriotic theme and comedy surefire!"

Big Ones NOW—Big Ones Coming from
Metro-GOLDMINE-Mayer

Watch... THE COIN START ROLLING IN on this new hit made by the combination who gave you "The Pied Piper."

MONTY WOOLLEY

"PIED PIPER'S" STAR!

IDA LUPINO



LIFE BEGINS AT EIGHT THIRTY

AVENUE DEC. 7th
- WITH BONDS!



"PIED PIPER'S" DIRECTOR!

"PIED PIPER'S" PRODUCER!

with **CORNEL WILDE • SARA ALLGOOD • MELVILLE COOPER**
J. EDWARD BROMBERG • WILLIAM DEMAREST
Directed by Irving Pichel • Produced and Written for the Screen
by Nunnally Johnson • From a Play by Emyln Williams

A **20th** CENTURY-FOX PICTURE

"We request that you do not book
this picture until you see it"

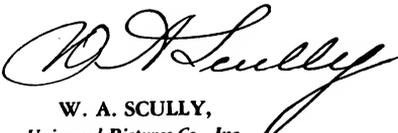
*W*e have a very entertaining picture titled,
"When Johnny Comes Marching Home."

We believe in the subject just as we believed
in "Buck Privates."

In our opinion, it's the kind of a picture that
will entertain your patrons and send them out
with a smile.

We request that you do not book this pic-
ture until you see it.

"When Johnny Comes Marching Home" will
be a good thing for you, for us and for our
business in general.


W. A. SCULLY,
Universal Pictures Co., Inc.

All N. Y. Theatres, Indoor Amusements Face Severe 'Special Firemen' Edict

New York City fire department is literally applying the edict of theatre in the territory in a thorough effort to determine fire hazards, following the Coconut Grove fire in Boston.

Progs, apparatus and theatre structures are being inspected in this area so far as they have found its satisfactory condition.

Picture houses, legit theatres, dime-a-danceries, niteries and skating rinks are confronted with a proposed New York City regulation which would increase operation costs hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Councillor Louis Cohen, Bronx, has introduced a resolution in N. Y. City council chambers calling for the mandatory employment of "two or more special firemen in all places of amusement using mechanical apparatus in this territory.

Potentially, most vulnerable under the present regime would be smaller theatres, some of which might be forced to close. Under the measure 400 theatres could be compelled to employ "special firemen." Fear is also expressed in the theatre world that the new law, sooner than later be organized and that high wage scales would be inflicted on unions.

While most seriously affecting independent operators, de luxe theatres would incur heavy extra charges. Though well-equipped and with a minimum fire hazard, they are being called upon to employ a number over two special firemen.

Former New York State Senator J. Fred Walter, R-CO, N. Y., called a meeting of theatre operators last Monday (30) to consider the problem. RKO is the user of mechanical equipment by any place of amusement is so broad that it could apply to legitimate and legitimate theatres using only spots, etc.

It would cost \$75 or \$100 weekly in cost of operation of smaller theatres would likely suffer some situations, as currently do, under the measure covers 700 picture houses in addition to an estimated 400 additional places of amusement such as legit, niteries, ballrooms, rinks, arenas, etc.

N. Y. Canteen Now Taking Extra Fire Precautions

One result of the Coconut Grove halocaust in Boston has been the American Theatre Wing's asking the N. Y. Fire Department to survey its Stage Door Canteen, in New York, and set a limit on the number of persons that can safely be handled at any one time.

The N. Y. Canteen is located in the 44th street theatre district, site at one time being a night known as the Little Club. Canteen is the favorite with service boys and often handled 1,500 men of an evening.

In the Boston fire as an example of what overcrowding can do when a fire breaks out, and the one major cause for the tragedy was the wing plans to limit the number of people in the spot at any one time by issuing a check on the door. When the maximum is inside doors will be closed and additional persons admitted only at the earlycomers leave.

At the same time the United Theatre Fire Activities Committee, which clears talent for war-slanded benefits and canteens, such as the Boston Canteen, has asked the Fire Department to gauge the maximum capacity of all spots and to make certain that no performers appear unless the location is within the safety limit.

STORY BUYS

Hollywood, Dec. 26.—Frank Sherman bought "Mag yarn by Samuel W. Taylor," from Fred Gross sold "The Ghost and the Guest" to Alexander Stern Productions.

Richard Sinclair sold "North Africa Incident" to PRC-Pathe. "They Met in Paris" to Wallace Morgan.

Columbia acquired "Rhapsody in A Flat," by Doris Malloy.

Buck Jones

Continued from page 3

ducer of westerns, at the invitation of the Junior Commando Army sponsored by the Boston Traveler. Dunlap was critically burned and was reported near death last night. (1).

Reporting that Jones died from smoke inhalation and burned lungs, and from third and fourth degree burns of the face and neck, physicians told the cowboy star's friend, Trent Carr, Mono producer who played in from the Coast after learning of the tragedy, that even had Jones survived his car accident would have been over because he was so grotesquely disfigured.

Jones died while his wife was reported speeding in his bed. That checkup yesterday (11) disclosed that of about two dozen guests at the Jones testimonial, 13 were known dead, seven, mostly women, were reported as missing and presumed dead, and the remainder were reported with car accidents or injuries that may prove fatal.

Idol of millions of fans, Jones was an early contemporary of such famous stars as Bronson and Tom Mix. For 20 years he was the dashing hero of the westerns.

Starting a life of roving at an early age, he went to Montana, where he worked as a cowboy. Later he joined the U. S. Cavalry for service in the Philippines and India, but was discharged as an expert rider with the Miller Bros. 101 Ranch Wild West Show.

During the World War he served in France with the First Air Squadron.

Buck Jones, Marshal

Philadelphia, Dec. 1. Buck Jones, burned to death in the Coconut Grove blaze, was grand marshal astide a white horse of the annual Gimball parade last Thursday (26).

He left Philly for Boston, his last stop on his tour before returning to Hollywood.

Member of the U. S. Army and, after an Armistice, he stayed in Europe for a year, working as a number of traveling shows. One of his exploits brought him to the attention of William Fox, who signed him to appear in films and took him to Hollywood.

In the years that elapsed, he was one of the few Hollywood stars to retain his popularity and he appeared in more than 100 films, worked for Fox, Universal, Columbia, and, most recently, Monogram. Fox's recent film, "The Law of the Town Law," below "The Border," "The Trails" and "Gunman From Bodie."

Show Biz Fatalities and Casualties

Boston, Dec. 1. Among the list of 449 dead and scores injured in the Coconut Grove fire, those identified with show business follow. The extent of the injuries detailed in story herewith.

DEAD

Edward Ansin, president of Interstate Circuit of New England, and Mrs. Ansin.

Paul Barron, independent distribution executive in New England.

Paul Barron, branch manager for Universal in Boston, and Mrs. Barron.

Maxine Coleman, entertainer at Coconut Grove.

Eugene Gros, Monogram salesman in company's Boston exchange.

Guy Howard, entertainer at Coconut Grove.

Charles C. Jones, cowboy film actor.

Mrs. Bernard Levin, wife of Columbia film salesman.

Ethel Powell and Carl Bauer (Mr. and Mrs. Bauer), entertainers at Coconut Grove.

Charles Stern, eastern district sales manager for United Artists in Boston.

Herman Rifkin, wife of Monogram franchise holder in Boston.

Fred Sharby, Keene, N. H., exhibitor, Mrs. Sharby and son, Fred, Jr.

Mrs. Martin Sheridan, wife of local Boston publicist for Monogram.

Paul Selitky, chief film buyer-booker for Mullen & Pinski's Theatres in Boston, and Mrs. Selitky.

O. A. St. Pierre, art director for M. & P. Theatres.

Scott R. Dunlap, producer of Monogram exchange.

Moe Grassberg, Boston branch manager for Twentieth-Fox.

Bernard Levin, salesman for Columbia at Boston.

Paul Lieberman, owner of Boston theatre circuit, and Mrs. Lieberman.

Herman Rifkin, New England franchise holder for Monogram.

John Stoddard, film actor.

Mrs. Charles Stern, wife of eastern district sales manager for UA.

Mrs. Lawrence Stone, wife of Mono salesman.

Harry C. Thomas, N. Y., and Philadelphia franchise holder for Mono.

Boston Niterly Holocaust

Continued from page 3

(Mrs. Bauer) and Guy Howard, entertainers in the ill-fated niterly. Jones died tragically.

Buck Jones, western star, who later died of his burns. His producer, Scott R. Dunlap, v. p. Monogram.

Freak of Fate

By a strange twist of fate, Harry Asher, victim of the fire, which gutted the Coconut Grove, was the only building which he himself had erected. Premises up to 15 years ago housed the Boston Paramount sales force.

Asher, back in 1917, when he owned the New England Grand Chase on Fox pictures, built the structure which 25 years later was to take the lives of hundreds of persons as well as his own. He subsequently sold out his franchise to Par and within a few years has been dabbling in independent distribution in the New York City area.

Par moved to new exchange quarters in Boston in 1927.

was another victim. Reported he has been burned by the better, Herman Rifkin and Harry C. Thomas, Mono franchise holders; Moe Grassberg, branch manager for Fox at Boston, and Fred Lieberman, who owns a small circuit of theatres in Boston. Fred Lieberman, who is badly hurt. Bernard Levin, salesman for Columbia; Martin Sheridan, Mono salesman; also hospitalized. Mrs. Rifkin, Mrs. Levin and Mrs. Sheridan have succumbed.

James Mestel

Jones, with falst head and face burns, was host at a party given at the Coconut Grove last night, which had invited theatre and movie people to attend. Greengrass is said to have 50-50 chance of surviving but late reports held out slender hopes for Mrs. Charles Stern.

James Mestel, owner of the Philadelphia Monogram franchise and at one time headed his own circuit in the East, was reported to be so badly burned that it is feared he may lose his eyesight. However, reports yesterday (26) that Mestel was responding to treatment and has a good chance of recovery. Rifkin, owner of the Boston franchise, is said to be in critical shape, but that Dunlap may survive his injuries.

When Stern was found he was so badly charred that identification was difficult. The victim was James Duddy, who's in school. Eddie Schnitzer, UA sales executive in New York, was injured in the blaze in Albany this week (part of his district), and Harry Goff, eastern branch manager for Monogram (today 29) to identify Stern. His remains are being brought back to New York for burial today (27).

In Boston just one year, he starred with UA as a branch manager in New England, subsequently becoming southeastern district manager at Atlanta. He was only 42.

Paul Selitky was one of the largest branch managers in the business. He was 35 years old and had been with U between three and four years.

The Selitkys, who also perished, both were show business workers of amount homeoffice. In the old days when the company's chain was known as Public, Selitky was a booker handling the New England territory, while his wife was the former district manager in Boston at the h. o. to Jack Barry before the Selitkys shifted to Boston about 10 years ago. The Selitkys have three children. Funeral services were held yesterday (Tuesday) at Newton, Mass.

Talent Fatalities

Miss Vaughn, who worked at a picture palace in Melody Lane portion of the niterly, is the daughter of Guy M. McDermott, in charge of accountancy at the Paramount's home office. She died as result of a fall and was found slumped near the stage without any fire having touched her.

A singer of Irish songs, playing here in the show, Miss Gladys Ann Vaughn, 21, died of a heart attack in N. Y. St. George hotel, Brooklyn, last night. Her father is Guy M. McDermott, a partner in the New Jersey. She was the niece of Guy O'Malley of the firm of Billy Dunlop and Grace O'Malley. Her first husband was Guy Irving Berlin.

by Harry Link. She was a niece of Link's private secretary. On the air a couple of years ago with Nick Kenyon and his gang, Miss Vaughn also had tried to break into show business. She had been appearing in stock at Ogunquit, Maine, last summer. She was only 20.

McDermott, who rushed to Boston Sunday afternoon (23) to identify the body, brought it back to N. Y. City and also had it autopsied. The body will be held today (Wed.).

Cook's, Pierce's Heroism

Thirty-three members of the show, including business executives and chorus girls, were saved by the individual heroism of a 19-year-old chorus boy, named Marshall Cook, who discovered the flames roaring up the stairs to the second floor dressing room. Slamming shut the door, he calmly informed the show people of their danger, broke through a window leading to the roof, and led them out. Finding a ladder on the roof, he and another chorus boy began climbing to the top of the girls climbed down. They had to drop the final six feet, but none was seriously injured. A male staff member strove heroically to effect the rescue of those entrapped in the lower part of the building.

In the meantime, Eddie Pierce, of the dancing team of Pierce & Roland, bravely lifted another group of performers from the second floor, joining room, from which they all escaped unharmed. The saving grace to many of the show people was due to the fact that the fire broke out very early in the evening and they were in their dressing rooms.

On the current bill at the Grove were the Carr Bros., Miriam Johnson, Helen Faye, Pierce & Roland, and the chorus line of 12 girls, all working on the main floor. In the new dressing room were the Carrs, Powell, Carlos Compas & Mellis, Miss Vaughn and Miss Coleman.

With Guy Howard in the Melody Lane show, and Guy Howard in the other of these sustained minor injuries, but none, except those mentioned as having been in the top of the building far as could be learned tonight. Returns, however, are far from complete. It is possible that some of those in the Grove and usually on hand on a Saturday night, was confined to his quarters in the building and was not on the premises during the conflagration.

Bound to Affect

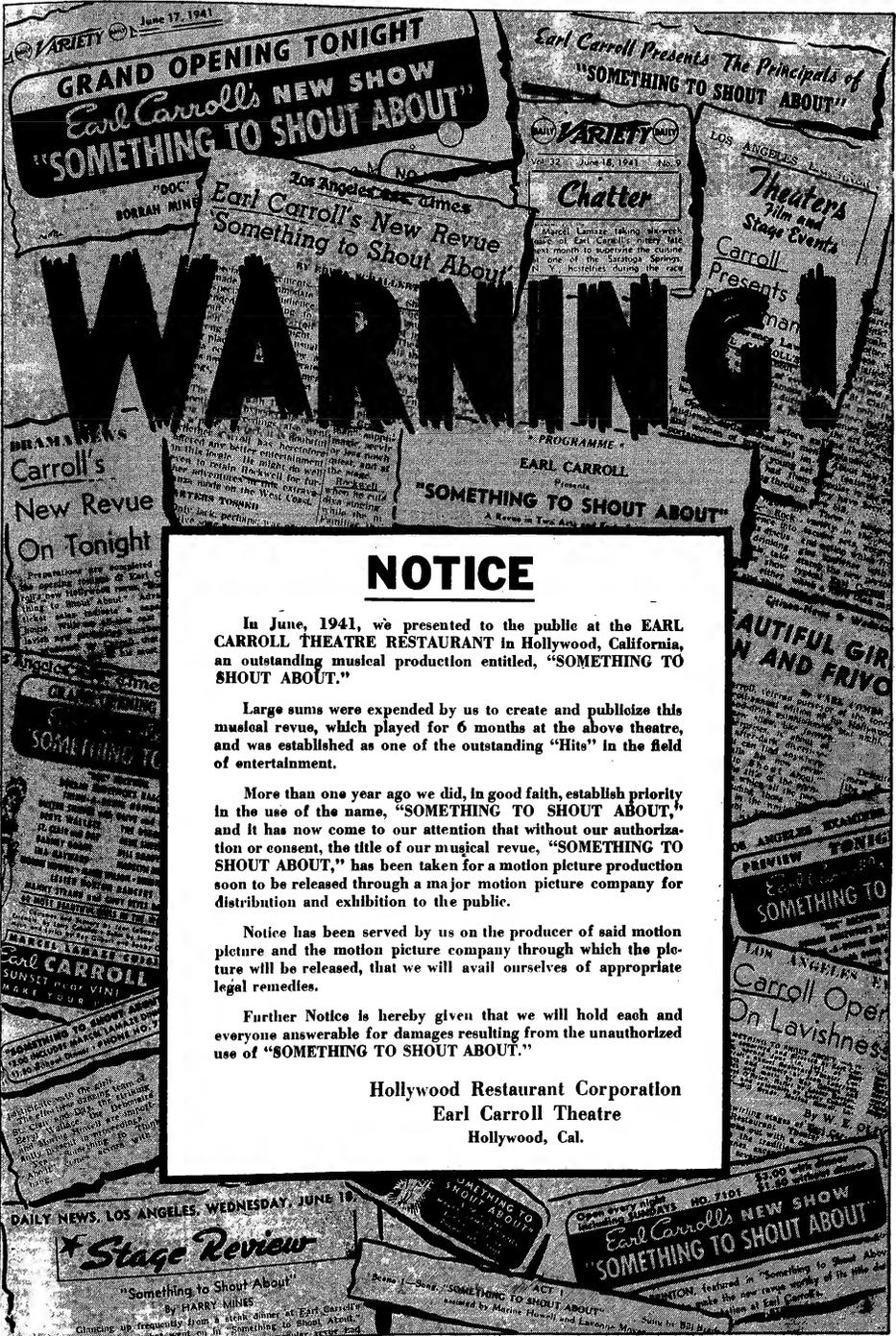
That the tragedy will profoundly affect the local night spots, and even those in other cities, was without those considered firetraps, and of them, certainly, will come in for a special inspection changes ordered—etc. The Grove was not overly upholstered with flammable and other highly resistant materials, and was, indeed, finished in many places with a fireproof wall material. The fire-resistant flames, but gave off suffocating fumes which, along with the smoke, accounted for more deaths than the fire.

Secondly after the cry of "fire!" the crowd was not so well established, though, the entire structure was an inferno, the flames leaping up and spreading as though simultaneously ignited.

Rules Jackson Park, Chi, Has Good Cause for Suit

Chicago, Dec. 1. Preliminary hearings of the Jackson Park Theatre's conspiracy suit against the Chicago stock exchange companies and the Balaban & Katz and Warner theatre circuits were again held today in U. S. District Court. Judge Igoe overruled the motion of the stock exchange to dismiss and quash the case and turned down their request for a bill of particulars, the suit being filed by the complainants to try the case on the issue of facts. Judge Igoe also stated that Jackson Park's \$300,000 crowd promoter and was not subject to any legal defects.

The case was filed on last July 26 and was the result of a crowd promoter or conspiracy against the plaintiff's business under the Sherman and Clayton antitrust laws. The case was filed by former arbitrator on the panel of the American Arbitration Board, here, attorney for the plaintiffs.



June 17, 1941
GRAND OPENING TONIGHT
 Earl Carroll's NEW SHOW
"SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT"

Earl Carroll Presents The Principals of
"SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT"

VARIETY
 June 16, 1941 - No. 9

Chatter

LOS ANGELES
Theaters Film and Stage Events

Earl Carroll Presents
Something to Shout About

Los Angeles Times
 Earl Carroll's New Revue
"Something to Shout About"

WARNING!

DRAMATICS
Carroll's New Revue On Tonight

PROGRAMME
 EARL CARROLL
 Presents
"SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT"
 A Revue in Two Acts and One Intermission

NOTICE

In June, 1941, we presented to the public at the EARL CARROLL THEATRE RESTAURANT in Hollywood, California, an outstanding musical production entitled, "SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT."

Large sums were expended by us to create and publicize this musical revue, which played for 6 months at the above theatre, and was established as one of the outstanding "Hits" in the field of entertainment.

More than one year ago we did, in good faith, establish priority in the use of the name, "SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT," and it has now come to our attention that without our authorization or consent, the title of our musical revue, "SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT," has been taken for a motion picture production soon to be released through a major motion picture company for distribution and exhibition to the public.

Notice has been served by us on the producer of said motion picture and the motion picture company through which the picture will be released, that we will avail ourselves of appropriate legal remedies.

Further Notice is hereby given that we will hold each and everyone answerable for damages resulting from the unauthorized use of "SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT."

Hollywood Restaurant Corporation
 Earl Carroll Theatre
 Hollywood, Cal.

Beautiful Girl and Frivo

LOS ANGELES TONIGHT
 Preview
SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

LOS ANGELES
Earl Carroll Oper On Lavishness

DAILY NEWS, LOS ANGELES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Stage Review

"Something to Shout About"
 By HARRY MINES

Clipping up frequently from a local dinner at Earl Carroll's Theatre, where the new show "Something to Shout About" is being given.

SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT

Open every night
 including SUNDAYS NO. 100
Earl Carroll's NEW SHOW
"SOMETHING TO SHOUT ABOUT"

By W. E. O'NEILL
 "Something to Shout About" is the new revue worthy of the title and the name of Earl Carroll's Theatre.

F. I. C. PROBING LEFT WING

OWI Rules Out Pirating of Domestic Radio Personnel by Overseas Branch

Washington, Dec. 1. International branch of the Office of War Information has assured the radio broadcasting industry that it will not tolerate the "pirating" of the personnel of domestic stations by the international branch of the Office of War Information (OWI) overseas branch employees. Any such OWI employees who seek to lure men from the technical or operating staffs of radio stations will be summarily discharged, it was announced.

Murray Brophy, chief of the bureau of communications facilities and deputy director in charge of international broadcasting of the OWI overseas branch, stated emphatically that his branch will not seek to employ men now associated with domestic broadcasting stations.

"International branch of OWI," said Brophy is fully aware of the tremendous importance of domestic broadcasting. "Nothing we do in the international field will be allowed to impair in the slightest degree the continued efficient operation of domestic stations."

Brophy's statement of OWI policy in respect to "pirating" of station employees was issued after National Association of Broadcasters protested that OWI overseas branch employees were active in luring stations' technical operators "with promises of more pay and draft deferments."

LEVER-SEALTEST WILL DIVIDE BARRYMORE

Rutheford & Ryan, agency for Lever Bros' "Maver of Our Town" program, reported yesterday (Tuesday) that the Lionel Barrymore "Christmas Carol" angle has been all cleared up. Barrymore, according to R. & R. will play Scrooge for next Lever Bros. and Sealtest, and that the settlement of the issue had been worked out directly between the two agencies.

Barrymore had played Scrooge for Sealtest last year and had previously committed himself to repeat the part this Christmas. The Lever broadcast of the same fable would come a day before Sealtest's. Thursday, Dec. 24, and McKee-Blairigh, the Sealtest agency, stated last week that if Barrymore persisted in going through with his plan to do the "Carol" in his regular Wednesday spot for Lever the matter would be submitted to the American Federation of Radio Actors for a ruling.

RUBICAM, AIDE BACK TO AGENCY FROM D. C.

Raymond Rubicam, chairman of the executive committee of Young & Rubicam, who several months ago became head of the public relations division of the Manpower Commission, is slated to return to active service with the agency this week. Also due back at his Y. & R. desk is T. S. Reppner, associate copy director, who went along with Rubicam.

Another Y&Rite, Frederick W. Wile, Jr., remains in Washington for the time being. Wile held the title of assistant to the radio director.

PALMOLIVE BLURBS
Placement Fellows Tests in Four Nelson Markets
Palmolive Soap launches its one-minute announcement campaign on a national basis Jan. 1. It will be 30 blurbis a week for 10 weeks. The account had previously tested the plugs in four Nelson markets. Ted Bates is the agency.

S'long, Pal

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Studio gang at a network station is making book on how long a certain radio star and his sponsor will keep company following his blow-up at a recent rehearsal. Spotting a group of men in the canteen booth, he screamed, "Get those jerks out of there; what do they think this is a public rehearsal!"

"The jerks" he referred out were the bills of the company that foots the bills for the program.

Army Issuing Special Credentials for Radio's Local War Coverage

Radio announcers, production men and engineers of networks and stations on the eastern seaboard will be given credentials by the Army for use in case of bombing raids or other enemy action in this country. The identification cards, to be issued by the War Department through the headquarters of the Eastern Defense Command and First Army, are intended to facilitate regular news coverage during military action.

Credentials will be issued to all major networks (through their managements) and not through their principal or key stations) for six men each. All stations, regardless of power, will receive cards for three men each. All men receiving the credentials will have to be vouched for by the members of stations, respectively.

Buffalo—Gene Wyatt, 34, commercial manager of WBEH, has been appointed a naval warrant office policeman with a gunner's rating and is awaiting orders to report to Jacksonville, Fla.

EXAMINING BOOKS AND RECORDS

Seek Evidence of Sales Discrimination by NBC, Blue, CBS and Mutual—Subpoena Forces One Web to Open Files

COMPLAINANT SECRET

Washington, Dec. 1. All the major networks, NBC, CBS, Mutual and the Blue, are undergoing a probe by the Federal Trade Commission. Representatives of the FTC have been assigned to make an examination of each of the networks' books and files to determine whether any of them has shown discrimination in the sale of facilities. The particular objective of the probe is to find such data that will demonstrate that the contracts and billings relayed to an agency or account are not in accordance with the networks' rate cards. It is the first investigation of this kind that the webs have been subjected to.

It is understood that one of the networks last week refused to make the stipulated records available to the FTC investigators in N. Y. until they had obtained a subpoena. Also that the order was duly forthcoming and the network in question made no further move to stymie the inspection.

No intimation has been given as to identity of the advertiser whose complaint, charging that a practice of granting preferential rates exists in the network field, caused FTC to launch its investigation.

Florida Citrus Starts Mixed Spot Campaign
Florida Citrus starts its spot campaign next week. The schedule is a mixed one, composed of 100-word announcements and stationbreaks. Blackett-Samphe-Hummert is the agency.

Hub Stations' Nitery Holocaust Coverage A-1 Public Service Job

Peace Feeler

Springfield, Mass. Dec. 1. The ability of the Boston Symphony and the American Federation of Musicians to get together should constitute a directive to the radio moguls to get together with the AFM, declared The Daily News in an editorial Saturday (28). Pointing out that the union made concessions, something that is not within the vocabulary or imagination of dictators, the paper said that there was no doubt but that the AFM had won.

Willkie, Reynolds Among Those to Pitch for Allies Via Kate Smith Show

Wendell Willkie, Quentin Reynolds, Jan Struthers, and numerous other name figures will guest on the Kate Smith program Friday night, starting early in January, to deliver five-minute messages boosting the United Nations' cause. Writers War Board suggested the appearances, is arranging the guests and handling the aural scripts.

Ed Hitz, NBC Sales Executive, Seriously Ill

Ed Hitz, assistant to the NBC v.p. in charge of sales, is in a serious condition at the LeRoy Sanitarium, New York. He suffered an internal hemorrhage Friday (27) and his removal to the hospital was followed by several blood transfusions. Pneumonia set in Sunday (28). In terms of service, Hitz is one of the oldest men in NBC's sales department.

Most of Boston's stations did an alert and well-rounded job of public service in covering the Cobanut Grove Club fire Saturday (28); a catastrophe that had already cost a total of 440 lives by this morning (Tuesday). WBZ, the Westinghouse outlet, was the first to apprise listeners of the tragedy through a flash bulletin at 10:30 p.m., only 15 minutes after the fire started. WMAC remained on the air all night broadcasting bulletins from the scene and hospitals, after all the other stations had shut down at their usual time. WBZ brought in John Barry, Boston Globe feature writer, early Sunday morning, and at intervals during the day he announced the casualty list and called upon blood donors to report to the Red Cross. Within a couple hours after Barry's opening broadcast, the Citizens' League had booked enough donors to keep its staff busy 12 hours daily for three weeks.

WEEI organized a crew of 25 employees to answer questions from listeners called upon blood donors with the station inviting the inquiries, since other public agencies were not similarly equipped. Network advertisers relinquished their time on Boston outlet in many cases so as to allow the station to broadcast public service work. WCOP, WHDH and WORL also had men on the scene for the "Fanny Money Man" role. He explained that he was too exhausted and in no mood for the task.

Bill Payne, featured singer with Mickey Alper's orchestra at the Coconut Grove and the recipient of several personal at the disaster, declined to go on WHEX Monday afternoon for his regular "Fanny Money Man" role. He explained that he was too exhausted and in no mood for the task.

'MRS. MINIVER' MIXED BY M-G FOR AIR

Chicago, Dec. 1. Deal for the radio serialization of "Mrs. Miniver" has been turned down, according to Wallis Jordan, radio head of the William Morris agency here. Producers was to have emanated from California, but MGM refused to consider the \$50,000 offer made for the radio rights.

HIALEAH GEE GEES TO GET MBS AIRING

Mutual has obtained the exclusive broadcasting rights to the coming season's events at the Hialeah racetrack in Florida. The network will carry as many of the featured races as it can during the week, with Bryan Field as the descripietion. The broadcasts will originate from the 12:45-1 p.m. spot Monday through Friday. Henry Souvaine offers set the deal. "Judy and Jane" directed by Irving Vengid and scripted by Jim Whipple, is produced in Chicago and featured in the Midwest by Folger coffee, through Lord & Thomas. It's being recorded at the Coast Theater Plaza, through the Bates agency.

Ward Baking 'Judy and Jane'

Ward Baking, through the Thompson agency, has bought the "Judy and Jane" recorded serial for the NBC territory. It will sponsor the show on WOR, New York, starting Jan. 4 in the 12:45-1 p.m. spot Monday through Friday. Henry Souvaine offers set the deal. "Judy and Jane" directed by Irving Vengid and scripted by Jim Whipple, is produced in Chicago and featured in the Midwest by Folger coffee, through Lord & Thomas. It's being recorded at the Coast Theater Plaza, through the Bates agency.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE

37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

VARIETY

To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St.	HOLLYWOOD 1708 N. Vine St.	CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph Pl.	LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.
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Marvels, Sixth Biggest Star, Presents Arresting Case Study; Big Spot Broadcast Advertiser

BY BEN BODICE

Marvel's sixth biggest selling artist, is renewing its spot contracts. The agency is Aitkin-Kyren of Philadelphia, which has extended for a 12-week basis.

Of related interest to the radio is Marvel's advertising activities in radio as compared with those of the big three, Lucky Strike, Camel and Chesterfield. Each of the three turns out about 30,000,000 and 35,000,000,000 cigarettes a year and spends between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 a year in advertising. Marvels distributes about 6,000,000,000 cigarettes and its advertising appropriation, with a huge share it is going for spot radio is less than \$100,000 a year.

Marvel's policy is not to enter any territory where the competition would be too expensive. The brand is owned by Stephano Bros.

GRIFFIN GOING WITH SOCONY TO COMPTON

Frank Griffin, formerly an executive with the Getchell agency on the Socony-Vacuum account, joins the Compton agency about Jan. 1 as vice-president, and will continue to handle the Socony-Vacuum account, which last week was acquired by Compton.

Griffin was with the Blackett agency several years ago as executive in charge of the account. He left the agency when the account became Socony-Vacuum and transferred its advertising to Getchell. Blackman agency later became Compton.

OLMSTEAD BACK WITH Y&R ON WESTINGHOUSE

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Clare Olmstead, who left Young & Rubicam agency five years ago to tie up with Sol Lesser in picture and Orson Welles in radio, is back with the agency to produce the Westinghouse series starting early in January from New York. Partnering with Welles, for whom he was production manager, was Milton Westinghouse series will feature John Charles Thomas, John Neshbit and an orchestra and chorus. When program shifts time, Victor Young will direct the band. Show by the way will conform to the new format and concert tour of Thomas.

Olmstead leaves New York on 8:30 p. m. Y. R. to talk over the format with N. Y. and Westinghouse executives.

Robert Diller Elevated To Program Management

Chicago, Dec. 1. Robert Diller, who has been announcing and producing at WGN, for the past 18 months, now has been made program manager of the station. He succeeded Harry Jackson, who has resigned to go with the Wade Advertising Agency, here, after joining the firm on April 1941, Diller was at WMRO, Aurora, Ill.

Theatre's Film Guests

Film actress Ellen Drew guests Saturday (5) on "Theatre City" for Armstrong circle, with CBS. Stuart Erwin, recently featured in "My Sycamore" for the Theatre City Guild, returns the following week, Dec. 12. No one is set for Dec. 19 broadcast, but Edmund Gwenn appears Dec. 26.

Kenneth Webb produces the show for the B.B.D.&O. agency, with Ed Wardlaw directing. Ed Wynne does the casting. Scripts are freelanced.

NBC AGAIN CLINCHES ROSE BOWL EXCLUSIVE

Louisville, Dec. 1. NBC again moved in on the Pasadena Rose Bowl game and will broadcast it exclusively. It goes as a sustainer, although network was free to negotiate for a sponsor. Last quotation to underwriters was \$60,000.

In return for the exclusive, NBC will help the Pacific with their Tournament of Roses Parade of Bands. With the New Year's parade cancelled, towns which spend thousands of dollars rigging up floats, are being persuaded to utilize that cash for buying tickets.

Bill Stern will call the plays and Ken Carpenter will paint the color picture of the Rose Bowl game in even George F. for the east, and a yet-to-be-picked Coast team.

Gillette's Trio of Bands

Gillette will have three networks broadcasting the parade on New Year's Day. The account's football lineup on that date will be the Cotton Bowl Georgia Tech-Texas U. and the Nutcracker Bowl (Tulsa-Tennessee) over the Blue, and the Orange Bowl over CBS.

Camel, Lever Bid For Thurs. 1/2 Hour Nat. Dairy Vacating

Camel has put in a request with NBC for the Thursday 10-10:30 p.m. segment effective Jan. 7, when the Kraft Music Hall becomes a half-hour program. Lever Bros. will take over the 9:30-10 p.m. slot. Also interested in the Thursday 10-10:30 period is the Radio City show, which would like it for the "Mayor of Our Town" program (Lionel Barrymore), now on CBS Wednesday night. Each a switch would help Barrymore away from the opposition of "Mr. District Attorney".

In the event Camel does move Abbott & Costello from Thursday 9:30-10:30 p.m. to 10-10:30 p.m. and the Seelster show (Rudy Vallee) use the same station lineup that he proposed in later program to the Coast at 8:30 p.m. Riggs' current NBC stretch is Friday 7:30-9:30 p.m. with a broadcast at 10:30-11 p.m.

'Cavalcade' Going West Dec. 14 for One Shot

"Cavalcade of America" goes to the West on the 14th. Gene Griffin will direct the 11:30-12:30 p.m. show. The "Man Who Wouldn't Be President," Hector Chevrin's script about Daniel Webster. Wayne Griffin will direct the show.

Next Monday night's 7th edition of the program will feature "The Day in Rio Victory," a special show observed by Pearl Harbor, sponsored by Norman Foster and Robert Tailman, from Sandburg music by Homer Dickelt directs for B. B. & O. "Cavalcade" airs on NBC for two nights.

Two Webs Okay Temporary Delay In General Foods' Option On 25G Issue

General Foods doesn't have as expected its renewals for time as they come due on NBC and Columbia this month. The two networks last week agreed to waive the requirement that contract renewals for the succeeding 13-week cycle be exercised 30 days before the expiration date of the current obligation and allow the visuals packer to go along on the week-to-week basis until Jan. 1.

The request of Norman Foods was

TO TOP COURT NBC, CBS Both File Papers Appealing FCC Rules

National Broadcasting Corp., on Wednesday and Columbia Broadcasting System, Inc., on Friday, filed their appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States from the decision of the three Judges of the Sixth Circuit who dismissed their suit to restrain the F.C.C. from enforcing new regulations which will limit the number of radio stations in the networks.

They both filed seven objections to the court decision which it claims constitute reversible error. The F. C. C. regulation bars the making of time reservations for advertising between networks and their affiliates.

IPANA DENIES COPY CHARGES

Washington, Dec. 1. Bristol-Myers Company, distributor of the Ipana tooth paste and Ryan, Inc., and Young & Rubicam, Inc., advertising agencies, have entered a general denial to allegations of the Federal Trade Commission's complaint which charged them with misrepresentation of the dentifrice. Answer denied that Ipana tooth paste is a cosmetic preparation used in the Federal Trade Commission Act and also that the advertising agencies participated in the dissemination of the advertising matter to which reference was made in the complaint.

Answer was made in the answer that portions of the advertising statements appearing in the text of the complaint were not fair and accurate representations of the entire context from which they were lifted.

Answer especially denied the allegation that the recommendation of Ipana by dentists constitutes convincing proof that use of Ipana produces of healthier gums, brighter teeth, a more attractive smile and results in helpful stimulation of the gums.

Answer admitted representing that by actual choice twice as many dentists personally use Ipana in preference to any other dentifrice preparation and that more dentists recommend it for their patients' personal use.

It was also admitted that representations were made that the current American diet is "soft" and "soft" does not give the gums sufficient work, exercise and stimulation but the answer asserted that portions of the advertising quoted in the complaint are not fair and accurate representations of the whole contents. Answer further denied representing that the use of Ipana will prevent decay of teeth and that in many schools children are drilled in rubbing their gums with Ipana.

Heardings before the FTC will be in due course.

Golden Gate 4 Back To CBS and N. Y. Cafes

Golden Gate Quartet exits Coast on Monday. Andy Shuman, 3 appearance, returning to the N. Y. CBS spot Dec. 20. Latter has been temporarily filled by Della Rhythm Boys.

Paramount wanted Golden Gates for "Calgary Stampede," but CBS' \$100,000 advance bookings obligated return east.

Hub Reaction to Info Please Bond Date Indicates \$50,000,000 Tour Total

Bond-Selling

Seattle, Dec. 1. Radio's bond-selling month (December) got off to a big dress rehearsal on Saturday (28), with a live broadcast originating from the University of Washington stadium at half the time of the U. W. Western State football game.

First week of the campaign has been designated "Avenue Pearl Harbor Week," which will wind up with a big push in Seattle's Victory Square, Dec. 7.

Campaign, under the direction of state chairman Bert Fisher, KOMO-KJR, with Bill Mosher, KIRO, handling the publicity, will give an hour booth last night (Monday), when all stations in the Victory Network carried a musical variety show. Praise the Lord and Pass the Buck, originating from KOMO, Seattle. Program was scripted by Dwight Esser, KOMO-KJR program director; it aired at 7 p. m. for a half hour, and future Monday night shows will be presented progressively one-half hour later; so that the same programs will not have to be cancelled.

The Dec. 14 show will originate at KPFX, Spokane.

In addition to the statewide broadcast, each individual station in the state will carry its own daily and weekly programs plus the national programs and bonds. All other sales agencies in the state are cooperating with the radio industry during the campaign.

Writers Greatly Needed As Armed Services Cut Into Radio Biz

The shortage of manpower among the ad agencies which have major stakes in radio is beginning to reach the point where the squeeze becomes painful. Men in key and minor posts continue to leave for the armed services and government agencies, but there is no diminution in these large firms' radio business, nor any sign of a slowdown.

While the lookout for producers is of marked proportions, the agencies report their greatest cry for help is writers. Many of the good ones have quit with quick acceptance when they have applied for service with the various armed services and Government agencies, and the agencies say they do not see any stoppage of this drift in the immediate future.

Thompson Moves From WEBR, Buff., to WBEN

Buffalo, Dec. 1. C. Robert Thompson, former director of WEBR, has accepted the offer of the commercial department of Monday night's "The Howl" on WBEN, under Gene Wyatt, former WEBR commercial manager, who reported for duty on Wednesday, Dec. 1, last week as a Navy warrant officer.

Thompson's duties at WEBR were taken over by Paul Thompson, president of WEBR, Inc., since the latter and the Courier-Express bought control of the station in July.

Kansas Omy-Margaret Hillis is newest addition to the KCMCO staff, doing broadcasts on feminine subjects. She was previously added to station's continuity staff.

U. S. Treasury department delighted with the Boston reaction for 'Information Please' as a War Bond drive.

U. S. Treasury department is delighted with the Boston reaction for "Information Please" as a War Bond drive. The show has produced \$375,000 in bond sales.

It was decided to let cities bid for the show, with the highest bidder, "Information Please," based on the Boston reaction. Treasury figures the radio attraction is bringing in at least \$50,000, Minneapolis, Detroit and Philadelphia have already entered bids for the program.

Each city wanted before going on the air, and in each city visited, will have local celebrities in addition to John Krier, Oscar Levant and Franklin P. Adams. In Boston, the chief guest star will be Senator Joseph P. Kennedy.

"Quiz Kids" are now negotiating to make a similar bond tour for the Treasury.

GOLENPAUL MAY SWITCH 'INFO' ELSEWHERE

While Lucky Strike (American Tobacco) doesn't have to exercise its renewal option on the program for the first time, the "Info" circumstances point to a parting of the ways in January between "Information Please" and American Tobacco. Dan Golenpaul, owner of "Information," who recently protested against the plug-in method of financing his program, can at least lay claim to one touch on George Washington Hill's "Info" program. "Info" broadcast wasn't apprised about the plug-in method of financing.

Hill, it is reported in the trade, plans to replace "Information" with a musical show of his own creation. He himself was never enthusiastic over the quiz show or any program which was the result of his own creation. He considered circumvented. George Washington Hill, Jr., advertising manager of American Tobacco, says purchase, like the show and the father let the boy have his way but not "Info" which was the result of his own creation. He argued that the class appeal of "Info" was just the thing that Lucky needed to supplement its more popular type of programs and also to gain some prestige for the brand among the upper strata of potential consumers. G. W. Hill, the elder, granted the son this point but nevertheless held that a program of popular appeal, representative not only draws huge segments of attention but allows for the utmost flexibility in merchandising a fast-turnover product.

Golenpaul is the first showman in the history of radio to question the tobacco mogul's judgment in the application of merchandising to a radio program. He has argued that it should come a topic of much curbstone discussion in the trade.

WILLSON WILL WEAR PAIR OF SILVER BARS

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Meredith Willson hands over the baton to Max Baer, who will take over to his assistant and arranger for the past eight years, Carmel Drago, on Monday. Army Air Force Services with a captain's rating. He will be stationed here temporarily. Willson directed the show for the java show for six years and previous to that handled the music on general entertainment programs. He is returning to Hollywood he was NBC music director in Chicago.

Mex Station Resumes

Mexico City, Dec. 1. Radio station XELQX (10,000 watts) at Morelia, has resumed such as a layoff of several weeks for general face-lifting and modernization. The station is owned by XELQX's owner-manager.

From the Production Centres

George Corey's British Broadcast in Static Washout a la Corwin

19.4% of All Employees Considered Essential to Radio Broadcasting

IN NEW YORK CITY

The radio Tazoo... The situation created by the two Treasury Department shows Saturday nights on the radio and the music and studio audience from the New York and Hollywood pickups...

Victory Volunteers... The OWI's guest-starring stanza at 10 a.m. daily on NBC went off the air abruptly with the first of the program's broadcast from there...

Storrs Haynes... Agency radio director, and Bob Wamboldt, agency supervisor of "Truth or Consequences," to Toronto over the week-end for the program's broadcast from there...

AFRA's New York local will hold its annual ball next Feb. 19 at the Waldorf... Conrad Thibault substituted Friday night (27) for Frank Munn on the radio...

Evelyn Varden... of "Front Page Farrell" serial, and Ken Jagers joined David... as director of auditions at WOR, New York, to join the Marines...

Heben Brown has joined the radio commercial writing staff of A. Walter Thompson... moving over from Pedlar & Ryan, Ltd. in New York...

Dick Gilbert, WHN's singing disc jockey, renewed for fourth time by Bartlett Candies... as emcee of its "Ladies' Menu" broadcast on Saturdays at 10-10:45 p.m.

IN HOLLYWOOD

HARRY MAIZLICH has turned over KFWB to the Treasury department for the sale of 24 hours Dec. 8 to hypo the sale of the station's way of obtaining the first year of war without any mention of Pearl Harbor...

IN CHICAGO

Joe Gerner, concert master of the "Carnation" orchestra, was notified by the American Red Cross that his family's safe in Moscow... was the first word about them in 15 months...

Bernadine Flynn, of CBS' "Vic and Sade," back from a 10-day visit with her husband, Major "Dotery" of the Army Air Forces Medical Corps...

The Blue Network and the National Association of Manufacturers will incorporate in the Dec. 8 installment of "This Nation at War" some of the bits which had been scheduled for the washed-out program of last Tuesday (24)...

For next Tuesday's (8) events the Blue and the NAM will take the precaution of having a standby program of similar complexion in the event shortwave reception is unsatisfactory...

Because of the failure of "This Nation's" initial pickup from England, Corey's stay may be extended another week to Dec. 29...

The highlight of the Nov. 24 broadcast was to have been a two-way convention between the foreman of a bomber plant on this side and the latter's son, who is now over on the other side engaged in flying one of the same plant's machines.

Riley With P&R

Tom Riley, formerly with the NBC production staff, has joined Pedlar & Ryan as supervisor of daytime programs...

Washington, Dec. 1. Men considered essential to the operation of radio broadcasting stations constitute 19.4% of all radio employees according to the latest analysis of the manpower survey of Broadcasters...

Percentage of executives, 31.1 per cent; first class licensee, 18.6 per cent; restricted, 15.8 per cent; unlicensed, 13.3 per cent; program, 12.3 per cent; commercial, 12.4 per cent; general and administrative, 2.9 per cent; and miscellaneous, 0.1 per cent.

Present analysis shows that the average station is employing 211 persons as against 22.5 persons two years ago in October...

In the case of men lost to the armed services the tabulations show that local channel stations have been harder hit percentage-wise than regional stations...

Clear channel figures obtained are not representative, because eight regional and two local channel stations were reported jointly with 10 clear channel stations and could not be separated...

percent of total clear channel employment; 24 per cent of regional channel employment; and 38.9 per cent of local channel station employment...

WNVC IN NEW 10 P.M. SIGNOFF

New York's municipal station, WNVC, received permission from the Federal Communications Commission yesterday (Tuesday) to extend operation until 10 p.m. for the duration of the war...

The FCC ruling was a reversal of its decision of two months ago rejecting the WNVC bid for permission to operate until 11 p.m.

The WNVC request has been opposed for the last two years by CBS, which owns and operates station WCCO, in Minneapolis, on the same wavelength, 830 kc.

WNVC will be able to start operation on the extended schedule within about two weeks, after minor adjustments to its present directional antenna equipment.

Lesson No. 4 in

... up to date

Since the first of last year, the Mutual Network has become 23% larger... increasing from 168 to 206 stations. And 74% of all Mutual stations have strengthened their individual voices...

Yet today the entire, bigger and better Mutual Network costs 4% less than before the expansion and improvement cited here. For example, you can now buy an evening half-hour on all 206 stations...

This is MUTUAL

U. S. TAX BATTLES

On the Wrong (Silent) Side

Jack Teagarden's orchestra is currently in the middle of a hot feud between two student factions of Temple University, Philadelphia, apparently for no other reason than that he was lucky (or unlucky) enough to be bought for a prom hop on Dec. 11. It seems that the committee which bought the band is intensely opposed by another student group, who are in control of the school's paper, The Owl. And that's where the rub comes in as far as Teagarden is concerned. Leader's band, history, and person have been lambasted, according to the sheet. The story makes every effort to convince bystanding students that the committee pulled a booster in buying the outfit for the prom and urges them to pass up the affair. Teagarden isn't worrying too much—he was bought for a flat sum, not on percentage.

Dick Stable Enlists; Gracie Barrie May Baton to Keep Band Intact

Cleveland, Dec. 1.

Dick Stable missed the first three days of his current date at the Palace here, with his orchestra opening Friday (27) without the leader, who enlisted in the Coast Guard last week. Stable was freed by re-enlisting office formalities. His singing wife, Gracie Barrie, drafted for him for the first three days, acting as his until Stable arrived Monday (30).

Her sax-playing-maestro husband hopes to keep the entire orchestra intact, since it's on the upbeat and hitting one of the most profitable years in his career. He wants his wife to assume his baton-waving duties.

Beck is booked for Oriental in Chicago next week, reporting to Los Angeles' Trilone Room Dec. 23 for six-week run. Considering all the band's prospects, it is likely that Miss Barrie may become the first female leader of a name orchestra to be created by war conditions.

Hoff Sidesteps Those Wartime Tour Headaches

Carl Hoff has disbanded his orchestra rather than accept bookings outside New York, which would have meant again facing the transportation and living problems he went through on a recent five-week tour. He is currently negotiating for a radio job, and if it comes through can recover all of the men he releases as a couple of weeks ago after completing a short stay at the Edison hotel, N. Y.

Several reasons for disbanding are typical of the barriers that all bands still in existence have to face. On his last tour he had six men inducted and four others enlist, at one time, practically breaking up his band. He was also hit by gas rationing, train travel, hotel accommodations, high road salaries for men, and none of his men's anxious to experience again.

SONNY DUNHAM INTO HOTEL NEW YORKER

Sonny Dunham's orchestra gets the New Yorker hotel, N. Y. city, following Benny Goodman. He opens Dec. 31 for four weeks, with options for a radio job, and if it comes through to band to follow Goodman, who goes into the Paramount theatre, N. Y. Dec. 10. Woody Herman was originally supposed to come in next and when he refused the booking the hotel was left stuck for a name as none of the top bands which ordinarily would jump at the job were available.

Beside Dunham, Gene Krupa, Shep Fields, Chuck Foster, Tony Pastor, Carl Hoff, and Stan Kenton were offered the hotel.

Glaser Going West

Joe Glaser leaves for the Coast Saturday (5), to be gone about two weeks. He flies to Chicago, where he picks up his mother and takes her to live at the new home he has bought in Beverly Hills.

On the Coast, Glaser will concern himself with final negotiations on a film deal for Freddie Slack's orchestra.

IBEW ORGANIZING JUKEBOX WORKERS

Philadelphia, Dec. 1. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has started an organization drive among jukebox workers.

By the weekend, James T. Rogan, business representative of Local 98 of the union, announced that more than 75% of the mechanics and route operators were in. Minimum scale is \$48 a week plus 10% commission for route operators, plus a \$10 weekly gasoline allowance. Mechanics are guaranteed \$48 a week.

WILL HINGE ON WILLIAMS CASE

Theatres May Seek Abolishment of AFM's Form B Contract, Plus Rebates From Government—See 25G Income Ceiling Also Easing Way for Social Security Tax Clarification

PROTEST PAYMENTS

Flock of legal actions may be touched off before long at theatre operators, including some of the major circuits, are preparing to tackle the baffling Social Security tax situation as it concerns the controversial status of orchestras—whether band leaders are individual contractors or employees.

Action, with possibility that rebates will be requested, is being considered following the U. S. Supreme Court ruling last month refusing to review the decision of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which held that Cliff Williams, the band leader, is an individual contractor and not an employee.

Some of the circuits, such as Warner and RKO, have been paying Social Security taxes under protest since the Form B contract, forced upon the industry by American Federation of Musicians, went into effect. Contentions of those theatre operators who have been paying Social Security taxes with protest since the Form B contract is that they should not be held liable for the taxes, regardless, because Form B is a labor-enforced contract, not a court ruling. U. S. Internal Revenue agents have recently been asking theatres to pay back taxes, going back to the inception of the Social Security act in 1937.

Most important effect of the U. S. Supreme Court decision, according to industry attorneys, is that while

5% Victory Tax to Make Every Musician a Bookkeeper, Perhaps Also Rushing Form B Reversal

New Year's Sellout

Major band bookers report a virtual sellout of musical talent for the coming New Year's Eve. None of the various offices has any name bands left to sell for that evening, and very little of the non-name variety.

This year, more than any other, it was a case of spots buying early or being left without.

The 5% Victory Tax, which the Government will levy on all salaries for 1943, has been a headache. It is an item that most musicians and bandleaders have not devoted much thought to since its effect was mitigated by the passing of the \$25,000 net income regulation. According to orchestra accountants, the Victory Tax will force every musician to be a bookkeeper, in order to accurately compute the amounts owed to Treasury, unless the American Federation of Musicians reverses its Form B contract and allows band leaders to be classed as employees.

Form B labels all leaders employees. Accountants state that when a band is working in a theatre, or on location, the problem will be simple. But when an outfit goes out on a tour of one-nighters and colleges the fun will be had. Musicians will have to be sure to obtain receipts for the 5% deducted on each individual's pay. If the band operator or payoff committee at a college, they will also have to prove at all times whether their earnings for the week are below or over the initial \$12 that is taxless. Musicians will have to compute transportation and other expenses, plus commissions, salaries of his musicians, pro-rated rightly over and above the first \$12. After the 5% has been deducted and he's paid the rest, the matter doesn't look so bad. There will be plenty of time to ink work among bands next year.

Accountants point out, too, that there's a chance the Government will much of the cash deducted as the tax will never see the inside of the treasury. It is a chance based on experience that few Social Security deductions made by college dance committees are ever turned in, for example.

On the other hand, if AFM reverses Form B and qualifies the band leader as employer, which will also remove him from the earning reductions of the \$25,000 net law, the Victory Tax problem will be a comparatively puny. Virtually all of the bandleaders currently enjoying any sort of recognition keep a set of books. They have to, the band business is big business and most musicians in name outfits today are paid flat sums. Which will make payments to the Treasury a simple process of weekly deductions, along with the social security tax. It is not now the responsibility of the leader either under the Form B contract.

Ted Weems and Band Going on Location With U. S. Merchant Marine

Memphis, Dec. 1. Ted Weems' band is being sent to the Merchant Marine and will report to the Basic Training School at San Mateo, Calif., immediately. Weems himself and five members of the orchestra will be sworn in tomorrow night (Wednesday) at the Peabody Hotel. Weems will get a Chief Petty Officer rating.

Last group includes Joe Stenger, Joe and Morris Hoover, Jim Sorrowin and Pat Leonard. Also sworn in is heretofore Army band leader Memphis guitarist, who is joining the Weems band and the Merchant Marine. Unannounced to replace a member who was unqualified physically to pass the necessary test. Another addition to the outfit for a sea service is to be Snooky Lanson, former featured vocalist with Ray Noble and Jan Garber bands, who will join up and take the oath in his hometown, Nashville, together with Elmo Tanner, whistler. Bill Black, Weems' manager, is trailing his boss into the service.

802 Musicians To Decide Hot Race Thurs. (3)

Election of officers of N. Y. local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians takes place tomorrow (Thursday) at the local headquarters opposite Radio City Race, involving the incumbent Blue ticket and the strong opposition, the Unity group, is gauged as the hottest in the eight years the current administration has held its posts.

Blue faction stands on its record and platform: Unity aspirants are advocating and promising numerous reforms. There will be no absentee balloting, which figures to work (Continued on page 38)

the Cliff Williams case sets no precedent, it shows that a contract can be written whereby band leaders are legally regarded as individual contractors. It's also noted that the Government pressed the case to prove Williams an independent contractor. (Continued on page 38)

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER



To Be Published Late in December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

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NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 No. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

No Shellac for Dec., but Recorders Got Under Wire With Xmas Supply; Counter-Balance for AFM Ban

War Production Board, as expected, has decreed that no shellac allotments are to be granted recording companies for the current month of December production. Since the various manufacturers had been forewarned last month by the WPB that there would probably be no allowances this month, the actual order likely to be very early.

Curtailed of shellac by the WPB (not its elimination entirely, however) has been a left-handed blessing to the record companies, in view of the American Federation of Musicians' ban against recording, in effect since Aug. 1. Gradual slowing of the flow of shellac has forced the companies repeatedly to restrict the releasing of new platters, as a means of keeping within production distance of the demand for hit discs already on the market, and the heavy demand for classical and holiday platters. Restricting new releases therefore delays the date when they will exhaust the supply of fresh tunes which each company feverishly had up before Aug. 1.

At the ordinary weekly rate of releasing, most of the manufacturers would have disbursed all stocks of new tunes soon after Jan. 1, but now, since Decca and Columbia have not issued anything new for several weeks and don't intend to until about Jan. 15, both these companies and Victor, which releases every two weeks (two, sometimes three discs) will be able to hold out well into 1943. Victor asserts it may be able to issue fresh items until June. By that time the record controversy between Petrillo, the networks and broadcasters may be settled.

All of the major manufacturers claim to be pressing at capacity, that's only technically true. None are producing at the rate their facilities would ordinarily allow. They are running capacity to the extent materials will allow, and the majority of the latter is being poured into holiday releases and the four or five

GAIL CURTIS TRUMPETS FOR JOHNNY MCGEE

Johnny McGee has hired a girl trumpeter for his all-male orchestra, as a regular playing member, not for novelty. She's Gail Curtis, who has played with various girl bands who she joined with earlier last week on a one-nighter for West Catholic Alumni, Philadelphia.

Petrillo 1st Witness When Sees AFM Probe Tees Off Dec. 7

Washington, Dec. 1. Every allegedly questionable phase of the operations of the American Federation of Musicians will be investigated by the Senate interstate commerce subcommittee. Senator D. Work Clark of Idaho, chairman of the subcommittee, stated yesterday (Monday). Hearings are expected to open Dec. 7.

Senator Clark, who is the sponsor of the resolution that authorized the investigation, said that the first witness will be James C. Petrillo, AFM president. With Senator Clark on the subcommittee are Senators Ernest W. McFarland, Arizona; James M. Turner, Delaware; Wallace H. White, Maine, and Charles W. Tobey, New Hampshire.

Jan Savitt orchestra has been held over at the Astor hotel, N. Y. indefinitely. Eugene Baird, formerly with Tony Pastor, has replaced Lorraine Benson as vocalist and Savitt has signed the Galle Sisters to a solid pop hit, for which there has been a terrific demand.

1942's STAND-OUT MUSICAL PRIORITY IS—
Wool Courtneys
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
Now Playing Return Engagement Within Five Months at the PALACE HOTEL, San Francisco.
Broadcasting CBS coast-to-coast.
* Watch for Our New Universal Movie Short *

ADDS THIRD NEGRO

Charlie Barnet Orchestra includes Roger Ramirez
Charlie Barnet now has three Negro members in his band with the addition last week of Roger Ramirez, pianist, who was with Ella Fitzgerald's outfit before he was broken up. Ramirez replaced Bill Miller, who entered the Army.

Barnet Settles Agent's \$100,000 Suit; Agrees To Pay Show \$100 Weekly

Billy Shaw's projected suit against Charlie Barnet over \$100,000 for failure to live up to a contract between them, has been dropped. Shaw, one-night booker for the William Morris agency, has agreed to a settlement under which he will receive \$100 weekly from Barnet's earnings.

802 Musicians

Continued from page 35
against the present administration. The Unity group has gained considerable strength since the last election, when it made a credible showing. There are close to 3,000 local members, of an approximate total of 21,500, in various service branches. One of the things that has both sides, and their supporters, humming is a story that appeared in a trade paper last "Variety" last week, which inferred the Unity group is financially backed by the major booking offices. It's said that reprints of the article, gotten up by the Blue ticket, were handed out the same day the publication was issued.

Coca-Cola's Xmas Band Salutes From Camps on 142 Stations to Cost 200C

2D HERMAN BAND STOCKHOLDER LEAVES

Tommy Linehan, pianist and stockholder in the Woody Herman orchestra, leaves that band next week to go back to California with his family. His future plans aren't definite, but his replacement, Linehan is the second stockholder in Herman's outfit to leave within the past few months. Savio Manfredi, sax, left to return to his Springfield, Ill., home to take over his father's plumbing fixture business and lead a band in a local hotelery at night.

Frolics, Ex-Gambling Spot, Now Ballroom For Miami Troops

Frolics Club, Miami, former gambling spot and swank night, has been renovated as a ballroom catering to service men quartered in the Miami area. It debuts a name band Friday, Dec. 7, bringing in Bill Osborne as a starter, and following with Clyde Lucas.

'Intermezzo,' Chi AFM House Organ, Suspends

Chicago, Dec. 1. "Intermezzo," for many years the official monthly organ of the Chicago Federation of Musicians, is suspending publication for the duration, with the current December issue. Papers were struck by James C. Petrillo when he was first elected officer of Chicago local, and has continued for 326 consecutive issues. Discontinuance is an economy move.

New S. S. Tax

Continued from page 35
tractor, and thus liable for Social Security taxes.
Should the contemplated action by the theatres break the current power of the AFM's Form B contract, it would have the effect of removing the orchestra leader from the restrictions of the \$25,000 net earnings law. As individual contractors, if incorporated, these leaders would not be subject to the income ceiling, except in the salaries they themselves receive from the corporate estate.
This, in effect, is what the AFM's executive board has been mulling over the past few weeks. It now realizes, according to sources close to the board, that the Form B contract is a mistake in view of the \$23,000 limit, and it may change the law to specify name leaders as employers, rather than employees, which they are now labeled.
One factor said to be deterring AFM executive board action is the Form B question is how the Treasury Department will treat the change of stance. Government would probably then insist that leaders pony up Social Security taxes most handlers haven't paid since the s. s. law went into effect in 1937. Form B taxes have been paid the last six months by the operators and nitery owners, etc. It's expected that if the AFM revokes Form B the taxes of this period at least, will have to be repaid by the leaders.

The 10 to 11 hours of dance music the Coca-Cola company is sponsoring on the Blue network Christmas Day will cost the bottlers approximately \$200,000, according to band bookers estimates. This figure includes the cost of the bands, which will be picked up at 15-minute intervals from Army, Navy and Marine camps throughout the country, transportation for them and network time charges for 142 stations.

In addition to doing the broadcast, which will begin at noon and continue until after midnight, each band will put on a show for the ones in the camp they're at.
Coca-Cola is backing another method of entertaining service men, which will begin at noon and continue until after midnight, each band will put on a show for the ones in the camp they're at.

Coca-Cola is backing another method of entertaining service men, which will begin at noon and continue until after midnight, each band will put on a show for the ones in the camp they're at.

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Wool Courtneys
AND HIS ORCHESTRA
No. 1 Swan Records Art st.

HIT RECORDINGS IN A ROW by Wool Courtneys
No. 1 Swan Records Art st.
NOTE TO OUTSTANDING FOLK: WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE IN THE WOODS OF THE WOODS?
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We Have Just Enjoyed Our Best Thanksgiving and As We Near Our Greatest Goal OUR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

we offer our thanks for the respect and cooperation accorded us for nearly fifty years by the better elements in the whole Music Industry, including . . .

The Music Trade
The Mechanical Companies
The Singing Profession

The Broadcasters
The Orchestra Leaders
The Musicians

Also—our authors and composers and the men and women of our entire organization who take just pride in the Marks Catalog of over 20,000 numbers which has stood the test of time since 1894.

Here is a selected list of just a few favorites in some of the varied types of music we have published.

POPULAR

I WISH I WISH I WISH DO IT ALL THE TIME I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS (The Just in Memory) AT THE CROSSROADS	THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY EYE I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW (The Beautiful I Go Home on Leave)
--	---

PATRIOTIC

THE MARINES' HYMN HE'S I-A IN THE ARMY (And He's A-I In My Heart) THE OLD FLAG NEVER TOUCHED THE GROUND THE BALLAD OF VALLEY ONE DAY NEARER TO FOURGE	LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING (The Immortal Hymn of Victory by James Weldon John- son and J. Richmond Johnson) VICTORY
---	---

STANDARD LATIN-AMERICAN

EL RANCHO GRANDE MAMA INEZ YOURS (Quelere Mueha)	THE PEANUT VENDOR SAY "SI SI" (Para Vige Mo Vay)
--	--

NEW POPULAR LATIN-AMERICAN

EL CARBONERO (The Charcoal Man) TUMBANDO CANA (When They Cut the Cane in Cuba) PARE COCHERO (Sop. Cabaret) LETARGO (Long Live the Future) CANITGA INGNUNA (When You Peer Into My Heart) DILES QUE NO ES VERDAD (Ages Ago)
--

STANDARD PRODUCTION

PARADE OF THE WOODEN SOLDIERS (Chauve Souris) LOVE'S OWN SWEET SONG (Seri Wata) FRASQUITA SPRINGALE (My Little Nest of Heavenly Blue) LOVE'S ROUNDelay (Hearts Dream) DAY DREAMS (Serenade Maid) IT'S DELIGHTFUL TO BE MARRIED (Ziegfeld Follies)
--

OLD TIMERS

IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMER TIME HOT TIME IN THE OLD TOWN TONIGHT MY GAL SAL	MOTHER WAS A LADY I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW TA-RA-KA-BOOM-DE-RE
---	---

STANDARD AND CONCERT

GLOW WORM DOWN TOWN DON'T COUNT THE STARS (Robert Sloat)	MALAGUENA WALTZ TIME IN VIENNA CHANGES MADE TODAY (Oscar Straus)
---	---

STANDARD DANCE TUNES

SONG OF THE ISLANDS IDA, SWEET AS APPLE CIDER THE BREEZE AND I	THERE'LL BE SOME CHANGES MADE PLAY FIDDLE PLAY JAZZ ME BLUES
---	---

AND THOUSANDS AND THOUSANDS MORE

Write for Our Various Catalogs

Edward B. Marks Music Corporation

R.C.A. BUILDING RADIO CITY NEW YORK

Praise the Lord

New York.

Editor, 'Variety':
I read with interest your piece on 'Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition.' It had to do with clergymen and others being against further exploitation of the song. Explanations were gone into, but I think the main reason for this attitude has been overlooked.

There is a reason—and a good one—why the story behind this song should be—shall we say—exploited. It is not unpatriotic, but rather most humanitarian. According to international law or covenant no chaplain is to bear arms. He is a moral officer. This is universally understood. Therefore, this portion of the story should not be enlarged upon for it is making a fact out of that which is not. Now to the main point. There, etc. it is said, many chaplains being held as captive of war. If they are considered bearers of arms, they will be dealt with as would any soldier. It will be subject to barbarous treatment and possibly death. It is in the interest of these men to admit to the souls of our fighting men that clergymen are making this plea which seems to be a reasonable and justifiable one.

I believe you will find it of check with Naval officials that this angle of the story is the correct one.
William P. Maloney.

Church Paper Asks Radio Ban 'Praise the Lord'

Richmond, Dec. 1.

A plea that "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" be banned from the air was expressed here editorially Thursday (28) by the Virginia Methodist, official organ of the Virginia Conference of that church. "There's no denying that the tune is a catchy one, but the words are no credit to America's chaplains," the publication says, adding:

"Why the Federal government continues to allow the song to be sung over the radio is something we do not understand. As to whether the song is sacrilegious may be a debatable point, but the fact that it gives an entirely erroneous conception of a chaplain's activities is not debatable.

"Chaplains have many duties in the Army, but fighting is not one of them. By international agreement, these men do not carry arms, and taking part in actual combat puts them on the same footing with other soldiers and removes any justification for treating chaplains as prisoners of war in any different from the fighting men. It has certainly is no credit to America to sing such a tune as that of a 'sky pilot' (chaplain) who becomes a killer.

"If damage has already been done, perhaps," the editorial concluded, "but as a matter of principle we should like to see the song banned from the air."

PAR SETTLES FILM SONG SUIT IN PHILLY

Philadelphia, Dec. 1.

The \$50,000 damage suit filed by two Philly songwriters against Paramount Pictures, Inc., for alleged plagiarism, has been settled out of court, it was announced yesterday (Mon) in U. S. District Court here. Judge J. Cullen Casey ordered the case filed a year ago dismissed. The amount of the settlement was not disclosed.

The tune-clevers who filed the suit were S. Bockley Reichner and Dr. City Boland, the team which has been writing the songs for the University of Pennsylvania's Mass and Wig Club shows for many years. Reichner and Boland (now a lieutenant-commander in the U. S. Navy Reserve) claimed that Paramount had stolen their tune, "Midnight on the Trail" which they wrote for Mass and Wig's "Great Guns," a production of three years ago. They contended that Paramount had remodeled the tune, "Dancing on a Dime" and used it in a picture of that name.

10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country, as reported by operators to 'Variety.' Names of more than one band or soloist after the title indicates, in order of popularity, whose recordings are being played. Figures and names in parentheses indicate the number of weeks each song has been in the listings and respective publishers.)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|
| 1. White Christmas (7) (Berlin)..... | Bing Crosby..... | Decca |
| 2. Praise Lord (7) (Famous)..... | Charlie Spivak..... | Columbia |
| 3. When Lights Go On (8) (CLP)..... | Kay Kyser..... | Columbia |
| 4. Daybreak (4) (Feist)..... | Gerry Miles..... | Decca |
| 5. Five By Five (5) (Leeds)..... | Vaughn Monroe..... | Victor |
| 6. Deary Beloved (2) (Chappell)..... | Les Brown..... | Okeh |
| 7. Manhattan Serenade (4) (Robbins)..... | Jimmy Dorsey..... | Decca |
| 8. My Devotion (14) (Sanity)..... | Harry James..... | Columbia |
| 9. Why Don't You Fall Love (3) (Harms)..... | Jimmy Dorsey..... | Decca |
| 10. There Are Such Things (1) (Yankee)..... | Vaughn Monroe..... | Victor |

OTHER FAVORITES

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity. Tunes number with numbers in parentheses are fading, others gaining.)

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------|
| Strip Polka (16) (Morris)..... | Andrews Sisters..... | Decca |
| Der Feuerher's Fae (6) (Southern)..... | Johnny Mercer..... | Capitol |
| Here Comes Navy (Shapiro)..... | Spike Jones..... | Bluebird |
| I Had Craziest Dream (BVC)..... | Andrews Sisters..... | Decca |
| Brazil (Southern)..... | Harry James..... | Columbia |
| Serenade Blue (BVC)..... | Jimmy Dorsey..... | Decca |
| There'll Never Be Another You (Miller)..... | Jimmy Dorsey..... | Decca |
| This Is Army, Mr. Jones (Army)..... | Sammy Kaye..... | Victor |
| For Me and My Gal (Mills)..... | Woody Herman..... | Decca |
| Moonlight Becomes You (Famous)..... | Tommy Dorsey..... | Victor |
| | Inkspots..... | Decca |
| | Hal McIntyre..... | Victor |
| | Judy Garland..... | Decca |
| | Clay Lombardo..... | Victor |
| | Bing Crosby..... | Decca |
| | Kay Kyser..... | Columbia |

Henry Olson, former publicist for Frank Dalley's Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J., and later with A. Donahue and Stan Kenton, has replaced Charlie Stone as p. w. with Tommy Tucker. Stone was drafted.

Maurice Furlit, former member of Glenn Miller's disbanded orchestra, has joined Tommy Dorsey in place of Buddy Rich. He played with Dorsey before joining Miller.

Brunswick Radio Moves

Albany, Dec. 1. Brunswick Radio Corp., a Delaware corporation, has changed its location for the conduct of business in New York State to 80 West 57th Street, New York City. This is the h. q. of Decca Records which took over Brunswick's assets. David Lubin & Mackay, New York City, were filing attorneys.

Follow Feist

PARADE OF HITS

Headed for the No. 1 Popularity Spot

DAYBREAK

Based on theme of "HARDI GRAS" from "Mississippi Sul"

Lyric by Harold Adamson

Music by Ferdie Grofe

Sure-fire Material, Because It's Different

IF I CARED A LITTLE BIT LESS

(And You Cared A Little Bit More)

Words and Music by Bertley Graham and Carley Mills

Everyone Agrees—Last Year's Big Show Hit
TAKING THIS Year's Picture Song Sensation!

TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE

Lyric by John Letchow and Ted Fetter. Music by Vernon Duke.

From the M-G-M picture, "Cabin in the Sky," with Ethel Waters,
Rochester, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Lena Horne,
Chuck and Buddee and many others.

HARRY LINK, Gen. Pres. Mgr.
LON MOONEY, Prod. Mgr.

LEO FEIST, Inc.
1629 BRADWAY, NEW YORK

Henry King Called 'Unfair' by Union Of Songpluggers; Second Such Case

Henry King, whose band is currently playing in Chicago, has been placed on the 'unfair' list of the contact-men's union. King is, of course, one of the members of the American Federation of Musicians, also affiliated with the A. F. of L.

According to a resolution passed by the executive council of the contact-men's union, professional men, as their publishing employers, are barred from soliciting King for plugs or servicing him with music in any way. The action was decided on at last week's meeting of the council, after several members had complained that King had sought to induce them to violate the union's anti-subsidy rules and had become negligent when his demands were rejected.

King makes the second band leader against whom the union has taken such steps. The other maestro changed his attitude shortly after the taboo order was issued.

Ferguson Vice Burkan For ASCAP in Denver

Harry Ferguson has been named replacement of ASCAP's Denver district. He replaces Barry O. Burkan, who was recently commissioned an ensign.

Decca Buys Weil

Decca Record Co. has acquired the catalog of the Milton Weil Music Co., Jack Kapp, Decca prez, stated yesterday (Tuesday) that he wasn't certain 'as of Dec. 1' whether his company would use the catalog as the nucleus of an active publishing business. All he could say, added Kapp, was that the Weil catalog had been offered him and he bought it.

The recording company has maintained any ownership connection with a music catalog since the latter '20s, when Victor turned over Southern Music to Ralph Peer.

Mrs. Mable Sample, widow of Mil- ton Weil, passed the catalog to band-leader Tommy Dorsey several years ago. Dorsey made it the basis of his own Music Co., and, about a year and a half after adding the hit 'I'll Never Smile Again' to it, he turned the catalog back to its owner.

Intl. Machines To Allocate ASCAP Credits

The International Business Machines Co. will take over the function of allocating performance credits for writer and publisher members of ASCAP. The Society had intended to do this job itself with machines purchased from the same company, but it learned recently that priorities barred their delivery.

What makes the use of such machines necessary is the fact that starting Jan. 1, ASCAP will credit members on the basis of 250,000 radio-station performances a year. The breakdown, as had been expected by publishing firms, will not take into account the broadcast of tunes from recorded libraries.

ASCAP Writer Ballots Stand After Directors Reject Buck Idea

ASCAP board of directors, at a meeting last Wednesday (25), declined to consider a suggestion from Gene Buck, former prez, that an amendment to the by-laws regarding writer classification be limited to a run of two years. Ballots on the amendment were immediately mailed out to the writer membership. The amendment, which was submitted by Fred E. Ahler, seeks to abolish the current practice of classifying writers every quarter and to make such procedure mandatory only once a year. The amendment is corollary to a new plan for determining a writer's classification.

It was during the discussion of a motion before the board that the amendment ballot be approved that Buck remarked that he had been under the impression that Ahler's new plan of classification was to have a seven-year period of two years. Buck declared that he favored a limitation of this sort, but other members of the board pointed out to him that the issue he had raised was not in order, since the motion would tend to do away with the ballot form and not the amendment. Buck was reminded that the Ahler plan had been under discussion for months, both before the writers' classification committee, of which Buck is a member, and the directorate as a whole.

SOLLY LOFT'S 60 DAYS TO WIND UP AFFAIRS

Solly Loft, partner in the publishing firm of Campbell, Porsie & Loft, has been given a 60-day deterrent by his draft board so that he can wind up business and personal matters. He's slated for a late January induction.

Nick Campbell, one of his partners, is in the Coast Guard, which he joined several months ago.

Decca Record Co. has acquired the catalog of the Milton Weil Music Co., Jack Kapp, Decca prez, stated yesterday (Tuesday) that he wasn't certain 'as of Dec. 1' whether his company would use the catalog as the nucleus of an active publishing business.

ASCAP ELECTS 20 WRITERS

ASCAP board of directors last week elected 20 writers and five publishing firms to membership. The writers make the largest number admitted in a single batch since early 1941.

The new writer members consist of Charles O. Banks, Vera Bloom, Carl Busch, Walter Donovan, Milton Keith Ebbins, George Ellis, Pearl Fein, Don George, Schuyler Greene, Fred Hillebrand, Arthur Kent, Hazel C. Kinsella, L. B. Kornblum (Hollywood attorney), Richard Charles Krieg, Zeke Manners, Irwin Rowan, Igor Stravinsky, Mrs. Joe Taylor, Bernard Wagman and Meredith Wilson.

The new publisher electees are Bloch Publishing Co., Glenmore Music, Inc., J. C. Marchant Co., Noble Music Co. and Tempo Music Inc.

'America I Love You' Writers Sue Mills, 20th On 'Alley' Film Deal

Edgar Leslie and Archie Gottle, who wrote the composition, 'America I Love You,' filed suit in N. Y. Supreme Court Monday (30) against Mills Music Co. and 20th Century-Fox film Corp. for a reasonable fee and to cancel license for the use of the composition.

Leslie and Gottle claim in their action that Mills had no right to grant 20th-Fox use of their composition in the picture 'Tin Pan Alley.' They claim they received only \$5,000 for film rights, which they claim was not enough and that they should have received \$50,000.

The plaintiffs originally granted the exclusive publication and recording rights to Kalmor & Puck Music Co., which assigned the rights to Mills in 1937.

Luther Peet assigned to compose the score for the Dudley Nichols production, 'This Land Is Mine,' at RKO.

Andy Penn and Louis Hershey writing background music for 'I'll Be Home at Christmas.'

Best Sheet Music Sellers

- Week ending Nov. 28
- White Christmas.....Berlin
 - Lights Go On.....G.P.P.
 - Praise Lord.....Famous
 - Spangled Banner.....Miller
 - Five By Five.....Leeds
 - Deary Beloved.....Chappell
 - Are Such Things.....Yanke
 - Army Air Corps.....Fischer
 - Never Another You.....Morris
 - Fuehrer's Face.....Southern
 - Talk For Joe.....Shapiro
 - Penna. Polka.....Shapiro
 - Why Not Fall Love.....Harms
 - Serenade Blue.....BVC
 - Night This Time.....Warock

ASCAP Suspects Mills' Talks With BMI on SPA Deal Prompted 'Rosy Picture' of 'Straying' Society Writers

Broadcast Music Inc. yesterday (Tuesday) denied the report nam- ASCAP board of directors, at its monthly meeting last Wednesday (25), took formal recognition of the report. John G. Paine, ASCAP general manager, read to the board a letter he had received from one of his southern district managers, who

(Continued on page 40)

Thanks KATE SMITH

For Starting Another Smash Hit!

DADDY'S LETTER

(signed) *Your loving son*

By TOT SEYMOUR and VEE LAWNHURST

Chorus

Dad-dy dear, I'm eight years old to-day

I've put my toys a-way. I'd rather write to you than play.

Mom-my's here. And when you said "Good-bye"

She smiled and so did I 'Cause I know

big boys never cry. I've got a sword and a soldier suit, A

gun and a con-vent loo. So if you need me in the

arm-y now, I'll fight right next to you. Each night I pray

The war will soon be done. Come home please when you've won.

That was DAD-DY'S LET-TER signed "Your loving son."

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IRVING BERLIN, Inc.
799 Seventh Ave., New York Dave Dreyer, Gen. Prof. Mgr.

HOLD YOUR HATS ON!

(TOO-DLE-OO-DLE-OO)

Yes - we have the rights to this English sensation - acclaimed an American smash hit from its very first broadcast.

Already the favorite of the boys on the march - this happy-go-lucky, rollicking tune is swinging its way across the nation!

HOLD YOUR HATS ON!

(TOO-DLE-OO-DLE-OO)

Words by SONNY MILLER Music by RICHARD ADINSELL

VOICE *Lydia Brown*

IT'S TIME THAT WE WERE SAYING 'CHEE-RI, O!' *OH*

WANT TO LOVE YOU, BUT WE'VE GOT TO GO. *BUT THE*

SOMEONE WE HIT THE TRACK, THAT THE SHOWER WILL GIVE ME, *OH*

AND IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE WE SAY 'HILL-LI!' *CHORUS*

HOLD YOUR HATS ON, TOO-DLE-OO-DLE-OO HOLD YOUR

HATS ON WE SHALL SEE IT THROUGH! - *WHERE THE*

O - CHER'S BEAR-BEAR, COME THE BRICKS IS CHAMPION, HOLD YOUR

HATS ON, GIVE A JOB TO JOE! *SO GO*

RAIN - ODE THE POEM - *BUT WE'LL*

SOON COME GAIL - I'VE MADE - *WHILE THE*

TIDE IS TURNING, KEEP THE HOUSE FROM SHAKING, HOLD YOUR

HATS ON, TOO-DLE-OO-DLE-OO GIVE A JOB TO

JOE! *WE'LL BE SEEING YOU! TOO-DLE-OO-DLE-*

OO!

Copyright 1942, HOLD YOUR HATS ON! *Copyright by B.M.I. for Sonny Miller, Richard Adinsett*

ATTENTION!

Radio Stations • Dance Bands • Vocalists
Program Builders • Electrical Transcription
Companies • Recording Companies

ALL MATERIAL NOW READY!

Upbeat

Gene dePaul and Don Raye clefing two more songs for 'I Dood It' at Metro, making a total of four.

Lennie Hayton conducted the Roger Edens-George Bassman score for 'Cabin in the Sky' at Metro.

Adolph Deutsch scoring 'Action in the North Atlantic' at Warners.

Milt Rosen and Everett Carter clefing musical numbers for 'He's My Guy' at Universal.

Dave Franklin clefing four numbers to be sung by Allan Jones in the 'Universal musical, 'Isle of Romance.'

Fredde Slack's book on hot music: 'Boogie-Woogie and the 8-Beat,' published by Robbins Music Corp.

Harry Tenney has sold the British rights of 'With a Pack on his Back' to Chappell & Co., of London.

David Snell assigned to write the score for 'Air Raid Wardens' at Metro.

Marlo Silva joined Columbia Pix studio music staff as conductor and vocal coach.

Hugh Merton and Ralph Blane, authors of the score of the legit version of 'Best Foot Forward' are in Hollywood to compose supplemental music for Metro's film version.

Irvin Talbot is not only scoring, but handling the entire musical direction of the Harry Sherman western, 'Cali Comrades,' for United Artists release.

Roy Webb doing the score for 'I Walked with a Zombie' at RKO.

SOLO PLUGGERS NOT WELCOME

Contact men representing various N. Y. music firms and the operators of the Dixie Hotel's new Flanigan Room are at odds currently. Spot is making every effort to keep the music men out of the room during the evening session (11 p.m. to 2 a.m.) unless they're scoring someone.

Basic in the trouble is that the room has neither cover or minimum. It's claimed that the contact men occupy tables and eat or drink comparatively little. Pluggers, on the other hand, assert that they fact there is no cover or minimum is not their fault; maintain that they still have to contact Teddy Powell, whose band is playing at the room. They claim they haven't the capacity to eat or drink. If they room they enter nightly, but would pay any minimum the Dixie would set.

ASCAP Suspects

Continued from page 39

wrote that Carl Havelin, BMI's field man, had been urging wavering BMI station licensees to stick along because BMI would soon furnish them with the song of important ASCAP writers.

During the ASCAP board discussion of last week, one director stated that the assurance most likely stemmed from the meetings with C. Mills, now general manager of the SPA, has been holding with BMI officials on the subject of signing an SPA basic agreement. This director speculated that Mills may be pointing out to BMI how the latter organization might, through the instrument of such an agreement, clear the way for BMI officials to help BMI officials to obtain the works of ASCAP writers. Mills, who was of ASCAP party this year, is still getting a weekly check from the Society.

A BMI executive stated yesterday (Tuesday) that the statements credited to Havelin have no connections whatever with the negotiations be-

Inside Stuff—Music

Frank Luther, who records for Decca, and has been chiefly identified with hillbilly cowboy and kid records, and radio, has written a book, 'Americans and Their Songs' which Harpers has just brought out (\$2.50). As the title implies, it parallels the musical history of our country from the psalms of the Pilgrims through the Civil War, the Irish-American Wars songs, spirituals and cattle country (cowboy) songs, sacred and college, gay 90s and songs of the 40ers. It eschews the modern.

Jimmy Van Heusen, Hollywood tunesmith who penned the music for 'Road to Morocco' and other Crosby flickers, is a test pilot at Lockheed's California plant these days. Van Heusen learned to fly a plane at Flushing Airport two years ago, using the profits from his crack song hit, 'Darn That Dream,' for his lessons and a Luscombe monoplane. Van Heusen's working under his real monicker, Edward Chester Babcock.

ASCAP has complied with the requirements of the Florida anti-monopoly state and broadcasters in that state have begun to obtain licenses from the Society. The Florida states are acting under their state organizations, having taken a stand in favor of or against an ASCAP rapprochement.

To date, Irving Berlin's score for 'This Is the Army' has sold 290,000 copies. 'I Left My Heart at the Stagedoor Cantina,' 180,000; 'I'm Getting Tired So I Can Sleep,' 30,000; 'This Is the Army, Mr. Jones,' 40,000, are the toppers.

For the first time a pop composer's name appears in the title line of a song. Tip Top Tunes, a Boston Publishing house, has just put out a new tune by Bob Elsworth titled, 'If I Were Irving Berlin.'

NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following tabulation of popular music performances embraces all four networks—NBC, CBS, Blue and Mutual—as represented by WEAZ, WJZ, WABC and WOR, N. Y. Compilation herewith covers week beginning Monday through Sunday, Nov. 29-29, from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., and is based on data provided by Accurate Reporting Service, regular source for music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER	TOTAL
White Christmas—"Holiday Inn"	Berlin	42
Street Dreams	Miller	38
Mr. S by 5—"Behind 8 Ball"	Leeds	30
Why Don't You Fall Leave With Me?	Harms	28
'I'm Getting Tired So I Can Sleep	BVC	27
'I Had the Craziest Dream—"Springtime"	BVC	23
'I'd Do Again	Southern	23
Daybreak—"Pi; Miss Jones"	Southern	23
Dearest Beloved—"You Were Never Lovelier"	Chappell	21
I Get New Chickens—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	21
Manhattan Serenade	Southern	21
Pennsylvania Polka	Shapiro	20
Moonlight Becomes You—"Morocco"	Famous	17
By the Light of the Silvery Moon	Rosen	17
Brazil the Lord and Pass Ammunition	Famous	16
Praise	Yankow	15
There Are Such Things	Southern	15
I Came Here to Talk For You	Shapiro	14
When the Lights Go Again	CLP	14
Can't Get Out of Mood—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	13
Constantly—"Road to Morocco"	Paramount	13
Velvet Moon	Witmark	13
A Boy in Khaki	ABC	12
For Me and My Gal—"Me and My Gal"	Mills	11
Hip Hip Hooray	Shapiro	11
Rose Ann of Charing Cross	Shapiro	11
There'll Never Be Another You—"Iceland"	Morris	11
That Soldier of Mine	National	11
You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To	Chappell	11
A Touch of Texas—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	10
Serenade in Blue—"Orchestra Wives"	BVC	10
'This Is the Army, Mr. Jones	Armey	10
When You're in the Mood—"You Never Loved a Man"	Witmark	9
I Don't Care What You Think	Dorsey Bros.	9
Moonlight Mood	Robbins	9
Please Think of Me	Witmark	9
Begin the Beguine	Harms	8
Gobs of Love	Paramount	8
My Delusion	Savoy	8
Yesterday's Gardenias	Mayfair	8
At the Crossroads	Marks	7
Anything I've Got, I've Got	Southern	7
I'm Old Fashioned	Chappell	7
Idaho	Mills	7
Blue Skies	Regen	6
Special	Regen	6
Parade Valley	Atlas	6
Rosie the Riveter	Paramount	6
When You're a Long, Long Way from Home	B'way	6
Abraham—"Holiday Inn"	Berlin	5
American Prayer	Mutter	5
Wonder When My Baby's Comin' Home	Crawford	5
When They Sound the Last All Clear	Dash-Connelly	5
You Never Loved a Man—"You Never Loved a Man"	Chappell	5

*If Musical. **This is the Army' publishing marks.

ing carried on with the SPA. BMI, he said, does harbor the hope that ASCAP writers, who have no outlet for their manuscripts with ASCAP publishers because of their picture contracts and other commitments, will soon turn to BMI affiliates for publication and in that way BMI licensees would enjoy a rich and larger flow of material.

What Havelin had in mind, added the director, was the appearance of a press opinion of confidence in BMI legal quarters, that a favorable decision

in the E. B. Marks-ASCAP suit, now pending in the N. Y. federal court, would make available the works of ASCAP writers to BMI's 802 station licenses. In this litigation, BMI makes the contention that where songs have been written by an ASCAP member and a non-ASCAP member, ASCAP has no right to convey the exclusive performing rights of such a number and that the non-ASCAP member is legally privileged to license the song's use to any one he elects.

3 MUSTS FOR YOUR BOOKS
I BURNED A MATCH | MUMBLE JUMBLE
(From end to end)

OGEECHEE RIVER LULLABY
GAB. CRAWFORD, Inc., 3000 C.W.
RYTVOC, Inc., 1685 B'way, N. Y. (ASCAP)

USO Troupe Details Inconveniences Of Playing Bermuda, but Extreme Enjoyment of Soldiers Was Worth It

By LOU FRANKEL
Performers slated to play Bermuda for USO-Camp Shows in England are preparing for clammy weather, a sea of laundries, and beauticians with just about nothing in the way of accessories. According to Frank Conville, who headed a troupe which returned to New York last week from the island, the best thing the gala on the island is wear dresses that won't wrinkle, while the men should stock up on thousands of shirts; i. e., dark-colored shirts that won't show the wear and tear. But the soldiers' superior enjoyment was enough to compensate for these inconveniences, Conville reiterated.

The troupe, consisting of Conville, Blossom Sisters, Stan Kavanagh, Georgette Brierley and Eleanor Frenzy were on the island for three weeks. They left the mainland with the all-girl, all-star troupe (Kiki Conville, Miss Betty Brown, Landis and Mitzl Mayfair) that was headed for England. With them was Abe Lastogoff, press agent for USO-Camp Shows. And when the European jaunt was delayed in Bermuda for two weeks, the troupe was re-routed and gave the servicemen a number of two and one-half-hour shows. The troupe starts as well as the others, bunked in the USO Flats, a \$6c per night bunkhouse. By dint of ready winking, the authorities agreed to locate someone to press the stars' gowns, but everything else was for the soldiers. They washed their own hose and lingerie. The men washed their own shirts, and when that failed, they used a portable electric iron with which their shirts were ironed.

Conville naturally traveled light, especially the people bound for England. Abe Lastogoff, with six clean shirts in his kit, took the real thing, a Camp Show prezzy, he was the recipient of numerous "letter-in" letters from the boys, written in English as well as Yank.

Most Shows Outdoor
Most of the shows were outdoors, and were held in the open, even during rainfalls. Afternoons they usually entertained at isolated points, where they utilized the tents. Shows for the isolated detachments were adlib gabfests, with the men happy to get sessions Conville huddled with the men and fed them gags and anecdotes.

There were only a few regular stages available. Shows were mounted on planks that were slapped together on a concrete floor. A couple of times they worked on tennis courts. All of these were a problem to Kavanagh and Miss Mayfair. Later in a hoarse and doc routine that features a lot of splits, Kavanagh, the juggler and rubber ball trickster, had to learn new methods of keeping his tricks going. The lights were usually mounted in tall poles, and at a spot near the tomato juice. And, in most of these catch-as-catch-can shows, the public address system was a part of everything else. Despite the handicaps, every one enjoyed everything, and the show people get a bang out of the amazing reaction of the audiences.

During the time the stars were with the troupe they did nine shows for the men. Miss Francis and Conville split the melody. Frances and Martha Raye did the singing. Miss Mayfair hooped and wound up with a glittering routine with the busiest serviceman in the audience and, despite the disparity in their size, she put him around in a bawdy way on stage. The Kay Francis song was "Brother, That's A Wolf," and the second song practically everyone on the island was using the "wolf call" for a running gag.

Winchell's Pass 'n' Pass Favorite hangout was the Pan American Airlines office where the USO troupe did a lot of radio listening. There the stars heard Winchell announce they had arrived in England. There also they heard most of top radio programs which are shortwaved to the troops.

Most of the films on the island were oldies. The big favorite was "My Favorite Blonde," with Bob Hope and Middleline Carroll. Other favorites were "Young as You Feel," "Irish Luck," "I Married an Angel," "Joan of the Ozarks," and "The Night in (Continued on page 42)

2 of Mills Bros., Now In War Service, Hypo Drive

Richmond, Va. — Two of the Mills Bros., discovered at the Richmond Air Base where they are in service, helped swell the war bond total last week when they appeared at the Mosque in connection with an all-Segro program directed by Negro Women at War.

Negro women, staging a singing contest between various choirs in the city, had enlisted the help of the Mills, plus two other colored singers who made up a quartet and presented the number like the hit on the bill were Bob Robertson, former pianist and singer from the Cotton Club, and Floyd Smith and his 12-piece orchestra from Camp Lee.

Admission to the event was through the purchase of war stamps with two bonds as prizes to the local choirs winning the contest.

NEW BREACH OF BOOKERS, AGVA IN PHILLY

Philadelphia, Dec. 1. — War has broken out anew between the American Guild of Variety Artists and Philly's booking agents, and this time it looks like the real thing.

AGVA is threatening to open its own booking office. Agents are getting ready to join their AGVA franchises into the aseban. Fur is flying around the Shubert Building, center of Philly's tenper-center colony, over the new price scale established by AGVA.

Last week everything looked rosy. A committee representing the Entertainment Managers Assn. (bookers) and its adjunct, the Cabaret Bookers Assn., met with a committee of AGVA's, met and agreed to the new price schedule calling for a 10% cost of living' increase in all categories. But when the committee pre-

(Continued on page 44)

Youngstown Showgirl Beaten; Seek Assailant

Youngstown, O., Dec. 1. — Police are seeking an unidentified assailant who waited in a darkened downtown hotel room until 4:40 a.m. Monday (2) to strike Stanny Lovett, showgirl who was returning from work at the Grand Theatre, Youngstown burlesque house. Stepping from behind the door, the man struck Miss Lovett on the head several times with a wooden club.

Not seriously injured she suffered bruises over her left eye and on her face.

N. Y. Par Option On Inkspots Cues Booking Beefs

Harry Levine, booker for the Paramount theatre, N. Y., has protested the booking of the Inkspots, a five-piece of single-day stands in various RKO nebe houses around N. Y. Levine lodged his complaint with Max Gale, Inkspots' manager, on the grounds that the Par had an option in the quartet's service and that circulating them in outlying sections would injure their next play-date at the Par. Later house includes clauses in all its contracts prohibiting performers signed from accepting date within a radius of 50 miles of N. Y. for 60 days before and after playing the Par. This rule is often waived, however.

All operators of theatres that could possibly play bands and vaude in the (Continued on page 42)

Pay Disagreement In Chi Night Clubs Discussed by Assn.

Chicago, Dec. 1. — One of the salient points discussed at last week's meeting of the Illinois Cafe and Cocktail Lounge Owners Assn. at the Sherman Hotel, was the problem of talent buying. Members of the organization claim certain prices are submitted to some operators and different ones to others. They feel they should have a joint agreement on salaries.

Meeting was presided over by David Branover, chairman of the executive board. An election of officers will be held in two weeks.

Boston, New York and Other Niterly Business Sharply Off Following Hub Fire; Key Cities Ready Precautions

Veloz & Yolanda Mild \$3,000, Indianapolis

Indianapolis, Dec. 1. — Veloz and Yolanda, at \$2 76 top and playing return engagement in their 'Dansen', took mild \$4,500 in three performances at English's (1,000-seat) Nov. 27-28, against stiff competition from Sonja Henie's 'Hollywood burlesque house. Manager Vincent Burke reports lively advance sales for Zasha Pitts in 'Her First Murder', at English's, Dec. 2, 4, 5.

Ballet Theatre, at English's for one performance tonight (Dec. 1) guarantee good house by Matrons subscription series. Burke thinks effects of gasoline rationing, starting here today (Dec. 1), have already been discounted at boxoffice, since trade from nearby towns has been light all season.

EARL CARROLL ASKS 25G IN CHI BREACH

Chicago, Dec. 1. — Earl Carroll filed a petition in the U. S. District Court here last Friday (27) asking permission to file a suit against the Morrison Hotel Corp. charging breach of contract and seeking damages of \$27,000.

Carroll charges that he entered into an agreement with officers of the hotel last August to take over the Terrace Casino, which was to be transformed into a theatre-restaurant, and after he had spent \$27,000 in costumes, scenery and made numerous contracts with performers, the hotel's board of directors refused to honor the contract.

The petition states that Carroll negotiated his contract with A. E. Bolt, treasurer; Frederick J. Best, assistant secretary, and Leonard Hlicks, managing director of the corporation but that the board of directors disapproved the deal.

Boston is still in mourning as a result of the tragic Occoquan Grove fire Sunday morning which took upwards of 450 lives, and its reflex effect in film sections across the land. Where spots like the 600-700 capacity Latin Quarter in Boston only had 12 people on Sunday night. It was almost as bad in New York and Chicago, where big dipped 50 to 80% in those places which operate Sundays.

Monday, a traditionally poor going-out night—although with the de-

Other stories dealing with the Occoquan Grove fire are to be continued on pages 1, 3, and 24.

ense workers' trend it's been much better for some months—safe business likewise denied.

NO question of non-fare men that quick and intelligent psychological hypno to public confidence is necessary if things are to perk up. Coming now, in the face of the usual 'Prema's lull,' it's no small chore for all concerned.

Theatre men, too, took cognizance of their fire precautions, exits, etc. (details in film sections across the land) from coast to coast the following key city reports are but a cross-section of what has been the direct result of the Hub tragedy.

Philly's Probs

Philadelphia, Dec. 1. — A double-header investigation of Philly niteries was ordered yesterday as an aftermath of the Boston holocaust. Lewis G. Hines, state Secretary of Labor and Industry, and Philly Fire Marshall Alexander Smith, chief of the city fire department, in this area to see whether their exits met with safety regulations, and to check on fire regulations, which under the law, must be proofed.

Hines announced that 417 spots in Philly have dance licenses, including niteries, cafes, taverns and halls. The list includes names such as E. O'Halloran, a former member of the board of Local 8, International Alibi, and the city's fire department, however, declared that all niteries should be forced to employ competent inspectors.

With the war boom, there has been a rush for dance licenses from many small spots in all parts of town with little supervision on the part of the authorities.

"If we were to bear down on fire defense in Philadelphia, very few of the night clubs would remain open," said Hailoran.

"The way, most of them operate is a crime—with their inflammable decorations, lack of exits, and no proper electrical equipment."

"The clubs should have a competent electrician to supervise and operate their electrical equipment. They should exercise the same care in precautions that movies and theatres do."

Springfield Takes Stock

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 1. — Seeking to eliminate possible fire-traps in Springfield, municipal and State agencies have instituted a series of investigations of public and private property.

Building Commissioner Gordon Robertson ordered immediate inspection of "all places of public assembly and Executive Secretary of the State, Dr. W. W. H. of the Hampden County Safety Council sent out a bulletin advising all owners of public buildings. One of the victims of the Boston litery fire was Gilbert W. Winslow, a consulting engineer.

Following conference with Mayor Roger L. Putnam and fire police officials, it was announced all municipal agencies would cooperate to prevent duplication of the Boston disaster.

Fire prevention laws here have prevented visiting opera companies from staging little more than concert versions here because of limitations of the Municipal Auditorium stage.

"Can't Happen" in Newark? Newark's night club patrons are (Continued on page 41)

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

VARIETY

To be Published Late In December

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Greaza Remains as AGVA Chieftan Pending Selection of Successor

Walter Greaza, due to return to the assistant executive secretaryship of Equity yesterday (1), will probably remain in that office for several weeks because of failure of the Associated Actors and Artists of America to name a successor. As head of the American Guild of Variety Artists, Equity "loaned" Greaza to AGVA after the former resigned from the vaudeville branch for the purpose of setting the union on its feet. Greaza's budding fatality last Friday afternoon in an effort to select a new executive to handle AGVA. There had been over 100 names submitted to the committee, that finally being pared to a list of 10. Four of these were eliminated. The AGVA's next step will finally take over, rather than on Friday (4) will again try to determine Greaza's successor.

N. T. Condon, Executive secretaries of all AGVA locals, excepting Frisco, Portland, Ore., and Chicago, will be spending three days of confabs at union headquarters in New York on Monday and Tuesday. That day will appear before a special meeting of the international board of the 4A's. Many of their duties will be on the revamp of AGVA and a successor to Greaza. Their candidate is Walter Greaza, of the Detroit local's exec. sec. Among the reorganization suggestions are to divide the national office to a midwest local and another calling for an AGVA council headed by the executive secretaries and national representatives.

The 4A's is studying the report and is expected to act upon it at the next 4A's board meeting Friday.

Saranac Lake

By Happy Benway
Saranac, N. Y., Dec. 1.
Horace Conley, Fred Higgins and Barney and other stand-tards will be a new arrival at the winter resort.

William "Whitey" Matthews flashing his go-home papers, "Hokey" Matthews and "Red" Matthews, "Martha" Maryfield, ex-roofer still here, still held in bed.

Mrs. Alice Van Ness, a newcomer from Chicago, has been established better.

Monroe Coleman, ex-NVAICe and former lab technician at the Rogers, is doing detective work in Newark.

Bugs to Clayton Cornell, manager of Schines' Pomine theatre, reports on the open-house party being held at the latter's home.

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TIP-TAP-TOE SUED ON PITT PACT BREACH

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1.
Frank Matesic, local agent, suing Tip-Tap and Toe, indicted by a grand jury for running out on a written contract with them recently. Trio was playing Stanley, W.G. deluser here, and Matesic, upon learning that they had two open weeks, contacted the hostess about date of the Merry-Go-Round, niter here he being booked.

The N.Y. agent wasn't satisfied with the money Tip, Tap and Toe were offered, but told Matesic if threesome was satisfied, they could go ahead with the deal. Dancers agreed to the short coin for the Merry-Go-Round, niter here he being booked. The N.Y. agent wasn't satisfied with the money Tip, Tap and Toe were offered, but told Matesic if threesome was satisfied, they could go ahead with the deal. Dancers agreed to the short coin for the Merry-Go-Round, niter here he being booked.

Meanwhile, an offer at a bigger salary, name of the band, was made through Joe Hillier, the local agent, for a date at Gray Wolf Tavern in Sharon, Pa., and that was accepted. As a result, Tip, Tap and Toe failed to show up at Merry-Go-Round, niter here he being booked. The N.Y. agent wasn't satisfied with the money Tip, Tap and Toe were offered, but told Matesic if threesome was satisfied, they could go ahead with the deal. Dancers agreed to the short coin for the Merry-Go-Round, niter here he being booked.

MPLS. SINGERS HIT BY DEARTH OF NEW NAMES

Minneapolis, Dec. 1.
Increasing shortage locally of well-known bands act for night clubs is a current headache. One leading club, the Ritz, has had to discontinue its act entirely eliminated its band, dancing and entertainment.

One of the performers ran into an ex-customer, man who, back in 1920, had sold him a flock of stocks and bonds that went down the drain with the collapse of the market.

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Plea for Rainbow Room

New York.
Editor, "Variety":
I have been reading with deep regret and sincere concern about the contemplated closing of the Rainbow Room. The management of this room, which has given me the pleasant privilege of doing business with the management, is a man of high integrity, who has developed a reputation for his manly manly that was also characterized by surprising courage. He dared to open his doors to the public in a new phase in floor entertainment. The acts without losing their intrinsic quality, seemed to be clothed with special distinction and unobtrusive dignity. Here, one discovered a helping hand to new artists, and many of these have since justified the confidence placed in them by quickly becoming names on the radio, stage and screen.

But there is the public, too. Here you could bring your mother, your grandmother, your aunt from Dubuque. You could bring your wife and your children. Many such families came. You could hear a father telling his wife to get her children into Rockefeller Plaza, something about the magnificent buildings, the beautiful rooms, the excellent refreshments; as he walked through the spacious and impressive corridors, topped with crystal chandeliers; then you got into the speedy elevators and remarked with knowledge that the building ascended at the astounding rate of 1,400 feet per second. Then you came to the Roof. There, the music was playing, the lights were flashing, the atmosphere was festive; as he walked through the spacious and impressive corridors, topped with crystal chandeliers; then you got into the speedy elevators and remarked with knowledge that the building ascended at the astounding rate of 1,400 feet per second. Then you came to the Roof. There, the music was playing, the lights were flashing, the atmosphere was festive; as he walked through the spacious and impressive corridors, topped with crystal chandeliers; then you got into the speedy elevators and remarked with knowledge that the building ascended at the astounding rate of 1,400 feet per second.

This is not just another night club. It is a contribution to the culture of modern America. It is institutional—and that's institutional. People come to the Rainbow Room to be entertained and tell a wondrous tale of being in the Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Plaza. The Rainbow Room is a part of New York. It belongs. It has become a part of the city's life.

Benjamin David.
New Show Dec. 9
Status quo continues in the Rainbow Room's plans to try and keep the Rainbow Room open for another year. Another estimated grand or so was realized from the program, but the 34th Frolic since the club's inception and who is former Abbotts, Milton Breis, who m.c.'d virtually the entire affair, and George Jessel, who came over late from "Show Time" (Broadhurst), were among the entertainment words. Both kept bowling ten over from the start, although, for some strange reason, complained about the audience. Jessel came late and despite the flock of preceding acts, where class to stealing the show. Where James Van Der Zee, who was also in the "Little Singer," picked up the audience in a knot. Her Sunny Side of the Street' delivery was among the evening's standouts.

Also in the show was James Barton, on early with a comedy "Mad Dog" routine and a classic "Dumb" routine. Barto's act was in the old Palace form and held the audience tight despite the family feud. Jessel came late and despite the flock of preceding acts, where class to stealing the show. Where James Van Der Zee, who was also in the "Little Singer," picked up the audience in a knot. Her Sunny Side of the Street' delivery was among the evening's standouts.

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Freeman Bernstein, Farasuc Head Figure of Yesteryear, Dies in H Wood

Cafes' Midnight Closing In Frisco Set for Dec. 10

San Francisco, Dec. 1.
Date for the clampdown, in form of midnight closing of all night taverns and night clubs, has been set for Dec. 10 by George W. Brown, mayor of the city, liquor enforcement body. The closing hour decreed by Hally is midnight, in place of a 2 a.m. hour specified by state law.

In the absence of legislation to enforce the earlier shutting down, he said that any drinkery that does not conform voluntarily will be dealt with out of bounds by the military authorities, and that then the state board will suspend the license for the duration.

Nitery operators, who believe their chances of survival depend on revising the club closing law, in a drive of the populace, are planning to start operations much earlier every day. A new party rule was adopted starting at 6 p.m., dancing at 6:30, and floor shows at 7:30 or 8 o'clock. A new party rule was adopted starting at 6 p.m., dancing at 6:30, and floor shows at 7:30 or 8 o'clock.

New order will permit drinking by service men at bars from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Heretofore, they could not be served liquor after 10 p.m.

FRIARS IN TOWN SHOW: GROSS ABOUT 6G

By JOE SCHOENFELD
Friars Club staged its best Frolic in years Sunday night (29) at the Music Box, N. Y., with the variety show grossing around \$5,000 from the ticket sale, thus insuring a home for the club's activities for the next year. Another estimated grand or so was realized from the program, but the 34th Frolic since the club's inception and who is former Abbotts, Milton Breis, who m.c.'d virtually the entire affair, and George Jessel, who came over late from "Show Time" (Broadhurst), were among the entertainment words. Both kept bowling ten over from the start, although, for some strange reason, complained about the audience. Jessel came late and despite the flock of preceding acts, where class to stealing the show. Where James Van Der Zee, who was also in the "Little Singer," picked up the audience in a knot. Her Sunny Side of the Street' delivery was among the evening's standouts.

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Freeman Bernstein, one of the most fantastic yet colorful characters known in and out of the vaudeville stage and someday (1) in Hollywood. He had been some time and anticipated his own demise. He was found in his home in Hollywood, California, with a heart attack. He was 74.

Bernstein trouped vaude shows to the vaudeville stage and sometimes he was a comedian. His exploits were of such unusual nature that the vaudeville stage and sometimes he was a comedian. His exploits were of such unusual nature that the vaudeville stage and sometimes he was a comedian.

One of the stories of his far away wanderings had him touring a show in the city of New York. He came, omen, or other means and accepting terms in lieu of admission, he was allowed to see the show. He was allowed to see the show. He was allowed to see the show.

Bernstein had the native ability to borrow money and a credit was considerable because when he again in the chips he paid off. For that reason, perhaps, he could borrow up to \$500 in any branch of the William Morris agency. Seven years ago he was in a boat on a trip loaded with money he disgorged from all pockets and even from his pockets. He was in a boat on a trip loaded with money he disgorged from all pockets and even from his pockets.

For years he conducted a vaudeville show in the city of New York. He was in a boat on a trip loaded with money he disgorged from all pockets and even from his pockets. He was in a boat on a trip loaded with money he disgorged from all pockets and even from his pockets.

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U. S. Tax Bureau Granted Time Extension on Plea Vs. Social Security Decision

The U. S. Department of Internal Revenue has asked and received an extension of time in which to file an appeal in effect upon the decision of the state tribunal classing acts as independent contractors.

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US Troupe

Continued from page 41
Paris' and 'Melody For Three' All of these were regular 35 mm. prints with the 18 mm. issue of the new releases due to arrive any date. Aside from Bob Hope, the big clicks with the troupe was the Super-chang troupe.

One of the performers ran into an ex-customer, man who, back in 1920, had sold him a flock of stocks and bonds that went down the drain with the collapse of the market.

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USO to Aussie

Continued from page 4
and operates with a \$15,000 per month grant from Camp Shows. Also in the offing but still in the shadowy stages are plans for supplying shows in other countries.

Wherever possible these will utilize local organizations and manpower.

This desire to tread territory the Army is regarded in informed circles as a necessary step toward charitable organizations which were active in providing entertainment to the G.I.'s in the Pacific.

Jack Pepper, formerly operator of a night club in Dallas, indicted by a grand jury in Dallas, indicted by a grand jury in Dallas.

Jimmy Melrose's orch has been booked by Variety's, Detroit rally.

Leon-Eddie's Reps, 4-A's Committee Meet Again Today to Find Solution

Representatives of Leon & Eddie's nery in New York met with a negotiating committee appointed by the Associated Actors & Artists of America Monday evening (30) to settle a dispute over the nery's right to discuss a new pact with the American Guild of Variety Artists, a 4-A's affiliate. New contract upon the guild's classification and minimums to what the club felt was an exorbitant point.

The conferees met at the office of the American Guild of Musical Artists, another 4-A's affiliate, and broke up after a couple of hours with the proviso that they'd reconvene today (2). Representatives of the musicians union did not attend, although they were responsible for bringing the opposing groups together. Also absent were reps of the stagehands, the musicians union came into the scene after a voluntary group of name players representing all the 4-A's unions and headed by Danny Kaye, Roy Bolger, Clifton Webb, Lawrence Tibbett and James Cagney, among others, called upon William Feinstberg, of Local 802, to request his support. Meanwhile, Tibbett had prexy, and arranged for his support. Understand that the musicians brought the nery into the conference with the 4-A's negotiating committee by agreeing that the nerys would not have to honor the pickets if no contract was signed.

The 4-A's committee, consisting of Tibbett as chairman, Walter Greza, Emily Holt, Henry Jaffe and Florence Marston, occasioned much discussion in the trade due to the lack of any actual AGVA representation. Tibbett is pres of AGMA and the American Federation of Radio Artists. Greza has been adminis-

trator of AGVA via a 'loan' from Arosa Equity and is considered an authority on how long they can operate if situation doesn't change any. Boys who run the minor cafes and night clubs point out that a fifthly three-quarters of their bar trade is on the cheaper brands, and that the night clubs point out that a figure in a short time their liquor licenses won't be worth a nickel a dozen.

Depleted stocks in the less expensive bottled goods have the state stores here imposing rationing of a sort on purchasers. Individuals can get more than two packages at a time, regardless of whether they're pints or quarts, and retailers have also been rationed accordingly.

Higher-price booze is still plentiful (4) the class spots aren't being filled up with their more palatable, but the operators of the joints and semi-joints are screaming bloody murder and the handwriting is on the wall. State Liquor Control Board so far hasn't come through with any explanation, and it's not the old one of 'war conditions,' and some operators are figuring on getting together and appealing to the Federal government for a solution to their problem.

Shortage of Stew Juice Has Pilt Cafes in a Stew

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1. Shortage of booze in the low-price brackets has smaller inkeepers here in a stew, and they're demanding how long they can operate if situation doesn't change any. Boys who run the minor cafes and night clubs point out that a fifthly three-quarters of their bar trade is on the cheaper brands, and that the night clubs point out that a figure in a short time their liquor licenses won't be worth a nickel a dozen.

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Wirtz Agreement to Negotiate Wins Stay on AGVA Action Vs. Henie Show In Indnpls.; Settlement Believed Near

Dispute which has been pending between Arthur Wirtz and the American Guild of Variety Artists over a basic agreement sought for 'Stars on Ice,' Cent. Radio City, was virtually cleared up in Indianapolis last week as the result of a quorum moved by the Screen Actors Guild. In that city the acting of Sonja Henie in Hollywood Ice Revue of 1943 was threatened for a time, but bowed in on schedule Thursday (28) after Wirtz agreed to consider a contract, with certain stipulations.

SAG acted as an affiliate of the Screen Actors and Artists of America, which had declared the Henie show and 'Stars' unfair. Miss Henie is associated with Wirtz on the managerial end of both attractions. Neither the salary scale nor working conditions of the Henie revue was involved, it simply being a matter of a 'Stars' contract. SAG threatened to bar Miss Henie and others from the show from the Hollywood studios unless the 'Stars' situation was cleared up.

representatives who claimed that 80% of the company belonged to AGVA, SAG or both, threatened to round them up and take them to court. Finally, Wirtz signed a contract, and said that 30 people from the show were with them in an assembly room at the Clayport Hotel while the others waited at the Coliseum to see what would happen. Finally, last Wednesday night, Helen and Wirtz addressed a company meeting at the Coliseum, explained terms of the agreement, and so the rehearsal was held.

Cast had previously been notified by SAG, to which many of the performers belong, that its ruling against working for Wirtz still stood. SAG also had guaranteed transportation and financial help to any of its members in the show who needed help in case they were called out.

Cleve. Palace Sets Jan. Solidly With Name Bands

Cleveland, Dec. 1. Name orchestral police has hit it off so well at the RKO de luxe Palace this season that Clem Pope, local agent, has booked January solidly with jive bands. Hal McIntyre's orch is starting the month's 'Month of Music' on New Year's Day. Following are Bob Allen, week of Jan. 8; Henry Busse, Jan. 15, and Woody Herman, Jan. 22.

Sets Acts for Mex Follies

Chicago, Dec. 1. Joaquin Gonzalez, representing the Follies Bergerre theatre, Mexico City, is here to buy tickets for the new 'Follies Bergerre revue' opening there on New Year's Eve. Acts engaged will be guaranteed four weeks with options. Show will feature 100 acts and 30-40 people. Bookings are being arranged through Phil Phillips, local agent and producer.

'ICE FOLLIES' BIG ZOG IN CLEVELAND

Cleveland, Dec. 1. Built up by Thanksgiving week crowds, 'Ice Follies of 1943' roped a strong \$70,000 at \$220 top at the Arena last week. Three of the eight performances were near-sold out. Arenad's next ice spectacle is to be 'Ice Capades,' set for return one week, stand Feb. 14, as result of its big bank on initial week at the circus, staged by Orrin Davenport, toppling spot. 'Terry Jacob' can act, also booked by Lou Herzog at the local sports auditorium Jan. 10-24.

Toronto Girl, 18, Signed by 'Follies'

Toronto, Dec. 1. During engagement here at the Shipstad and Johnson's 'Ice Follies,' impresarios signed up Mary Robinson, after an audition, to make six members of the Toronto Skating Club on the 'Follies' paralytic; Barbara Colson, Frances Claudet, Shirley Halsted, Norah McCarthy, Margaret Richardson and Mary Robinson. Colson, Claudet and McCarthy are getting top billing in current 43 edition. Other two are in the ensembles.

'Icecapades' Sock 165G At Gardens, Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1. 'Icecapades' grabbed an estimated \$185,000 in 20 performances at the Gardens, falling off a bit only at the end, which was expected since it was longest engagement for carnival ever had here. In addition, show gave away extra Sunday performances for war purposes, netting more than \$600,000 one of them for USO-Variety Club. Car pools and the other disposing of \$250,000 worth of War Bonds through tieup with Station WTKD, whereby tickets were given to purchasers.

Gross on last couple of shows was higher than some of the previous men's offer to admit all service men, which has become a policy with the local Harris outfit, controlled by John H. Harris, president of 'Arenas Managers' Assn., which owns 'Icecapades.' Harris threatened to block local houses to admit men in uniform free of charge, others giving them cut-back.

'Icecapades' contribution to USO-Variety Club Centre swelled total to nearly \$400,000, not having been obtained from football game club, and an army team from Fort Knox, Ky.

Sandy Morrison, former Pacific Coast emcee, is now a cop on the 'Trisco waterfront.

Appeal for Funds So Negro Soldiers Can Be Entertained

Detroit, Dec. 1. Governor Murray Van Wagner and Governor-elect Harry F. Kelly both are appealing to the State Defense Finance Committee to unfasten the purse-strings for funds to finance the care of Negro women to entertain colored soldiers stationed at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Both old and the new top men of Michigan are acting on behalf of the USO, which has appealed for up to \$12,000 for the project.

What points up the situation is that there is no Negro population at the city in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where the Negro troops were brought in to guard the vital Great Lakes.

Their entertainment problem is a serious one. Gov. Van Wagner has urged that the State committee which controls such spending. The USO has arranged for Negro girls, orchestras and entertainers to make the long trip up-State following one successful junket earlier.

THIS IS ONE ESCAPE TRICK HE MISSED ON

Detroit, Dec. 1. William (Hungry Bill) Gnipkozy, a circus artist, couldn't wiggle out of Uncle Sam's clutches. He has been all over the country with carnivals and circuses and entertainers showing the folks how to wriggle out of ropes, handcuffs and boxes. He is in jail charged with false draft and failing to register for the draft and desertion. The FBI said he wouldn't be able to resume his career for from one to five years.

Dale Harkness, pianist and former band leader, into Music Bar, Pittsburgh, as a single.

SAMMY BIRCH

P.S.—This is "OFF THE RECORD."

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Eye Pitt Cafe Matines Inside Stuff—Vaude-Itineraries

Defense Workers Indicate Idea May Boom Afternoon 'Niter'y' Business

Pittsburgh, Dec. 1. Niter'y owners watching with interest the experiment of Al Mercer, at his downtown Music Bar, regard the cafe matinees. There's a feeling locally that hot spots may be losing plenty of coin by not having a regular afternoon show for defense workers on the night shifts who like to play in the early p.m.

Indication of that is in the booming big the straight bars are doing these days from noon to 8 p.m. Boys places claim they've had to put on extra help lately to take care of the overflow, and queries to customers reveal that more of them are birds on the assembly lines and gals in war factories who like to relax but can't stay up too late for the last floor show.

Hotels have all gone in for extra afternoon sessions. The last of the cocktail hour and turning it into a regular after-dinner dance, with the same entertainment the latecomer get. In some places, mat biz is almost equal to the late trade and very busy case, the take from afternoon drinkers is way up over what it's been in the past.

Bookers-AGVA

(Continued from page 41)

vented the accord to a combined membership meeting of the EMA and CBA it was voted down. The bookers, outgoing EMA presy, sent a telegram to Dick Mayo, executive secretary of AGVA, stating that the agreement was being accused the EMA of a 'double cross' and declared that any agent who books under the new agreement would be placed on the unfair list any spot which hires an actor below the union's new scale would be picketed.

Unless the agents accede to the terms of the new agreement, AGVA will open its own booking office. Mayo sent a wire to this effect to William Douglas, State director of employment, maintaining that it would be legal for the union to go into the business of booking since it would charge no fee. Douglas has not made any ruling as yet.

Indoing with the bookers, privately agree that the union was justified in asking for higher prices, but they maintain that AGVA's new 'classy' acts. If an act is inferior, it should not command a salary of a top act, just because it plays at the same spot.

Important money in Detroit's Paradise Valley is bringing in plenty of entertainment designed for the large Negro population there. Paradise Valley has gone off WPA and, with the salarials its residents are pulling war work war arsenals here, is beginning to draw plenty of attention as spenders.

Bellewether of the new trend has been the Paradise theatre, once the grandest in the city. It was the first to go over to the bow-wow and then came back by installing a policy of Negro bands. It was on Detroit's main stem, not far from the populous Negro section, and for the past two years has been a big draw. Because many of these were in the top flight of orchestras, its pull also extended to the boogie-woogie fanciers in other colors.

But the new pushy 'act' which the Majestic theatre, nearby grand house, hasn't been eyeing that important Negro patronage for nothing. The Majestic shortly, according to the press, is going to bring in the grand company but boosting it up by bringing in name acts among the stabled fanks.

The Three Swifts arrived in Washington without their Indian club. Trunk was lost in transit. On Thanksgiving morning managing director Harry Anger of the Earle theatre was presented with a trunk full of spare clubs. He located three at the Hotel Shoreham from Maximo Luce, and finally found four more with an act that had played USO show at Fort Meade Md. The trunk was located the usual 40. By the second show Union station spotters had instead the trunk and it was delivered to the entertainers.

Fire Boffs Cafes

(Continued from page 41)

such decorations on routine inspections. L. A. Cavazos, Los Angeles, Dec. 1.

Echoes of the disastrous Boston fire which killed 300 in Boston, Angles Monday (30) when Councilman Roy Hampton sponsored a resolution for the city to make it mandatory to make rigid inspection of all night clubs and cafes.

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FOLIES BERGERE CAFE SHIPPED BY FISCHER

Clifford C. Fischer, whose 'Pierettes' helped bring back two-a-day vaudeville, just as his Fran Casino and International Casino type of lavish night revue set a New York standard in that field, is planning an early move to the Bronx. It will bring back the 'Folies Bergeres' to the Hotel Edison's grand ballroom, and perhaps for the first time in three years give Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe some real competition.

Arthur Loesser, once reappointed American long time resident of Paris, whose class east 53d street (N.Y.) restaurant, La Perle, became the center of the gulet club scene, will be associated with Fischer. The owner of the Four Main chain stores in Paris (counterpart of S. Klein's pop-piered dress store), who backed Loesser at the start, will probably also be in on the venture. Report of Lee Shubert's participation is denied by Fischer, although he has been identified with Fischer's vaude ventures. The Shuberts also own a financial interest in the Edison hotel, from reports.

Hotelly runs from 47th through 49th street, off Broadway, and is by Rose's Horseshoe in the basement of the Paramount hotel. Lou Waterbury's Latin Quarter is in the new recent Broadway club, with the lavish type niter'y, and where scores of the top vaudeville acts are heard. Rose has been cashing in for several seasons with his mass-appeal cabaret.

\$25,000 Ceiling

(Continued from page 3)

week and may be announced this week.

Some relief is believed likely insofar as free lance players below the \$25,000 brackets, and the question in the matter of normal deductive business expenses incurred by artists.

Challenge Ceiling Washington, Dec. 1. Movement is getting under way on Capitol Hill to challenge the validity of the \$25,000 net salary ceiling imposed by President Roosevelt's executive order.

Senator Walter F. George, Georgia Democrat and chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, has predicted that the new Congress would be called on to decide whether the salary ceiling should be retained or set aside. He left no doubt among newspapermen with whom he talked

First Attempt Falls

First Congressional effort to nullify President Roosevelt's imposition of a \$25,000 ceiling on net salaries of show artists was made by Representative Boehne, Indiana Democrat, in the House ways and means committee.

Congressman made his attempt as the committee undertook consideration of the restricted authority proposal to give the President blanket authority to suspend tariff laws. He sought to nullify the salary ceiling through an amendment to the tariff-immigration committee bill. Representative Doughton, North Carolina Democrat, threw it out as 'germane.'

New York's first salary nullify act "another step in the new order which the people voted against last year," he would give up in his efforts to effect a change.

Informed officials here say that the President is planning to ask Congress to extend the \$25,000 limit to investment firms. Some authoritative sources state that it is President Roosevelt's belief that all types of permitted show employment are within the law.

It is understood that the President's latest investment income bill would include the Wage Stabilization Act because he did not think the measure gave him the power to invest in income. It is expected that F. D. R. will recommend to Congress that the proposed investment income ceiling be handled by Congress via taxation.

WAG SETTING UP

Hollywood, Dec. 1. Future policies and procedures under the Wage Stabilization Act will be determined by a meeting of CBA members of the Screen Actors Guild, Prexy James Cagney and Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary, revealed today.

Thomson, executive secretary, revealed today that he will let members know they learned on operation of the \$25,000 ceiling order.

Important item up for discussion was the future option contracts, renewals, etc., and recommendations were made for applications to working days of the objection was recently taken by actors to starting salary in a term part of the new contract. Thomson, in lifting options, it was later agreed to eliminate this clause pending that be held at \$100 weekly for seven years. Thomson's proposal for raising years would run up salary to \$1,000 weekly.

Lamb Gambol

(Continued from page 2)

stance, the club sketch written by the club members, and the stand, there, before you, was the library of the Lamb, its walls covered with the names of the ex-Shepherds, R. H. Bursidae, A. O. Brown, Frank Crumit, Billy Gaxner, and the Warms. The boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass. And when the boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass. And when the boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass.

A nickel in the slot under the Waring pie got a load of Chatterfields. And when, finally, the boys stepped out of the frames they were greeted by the Andrews-Lattimer. Which was another break for the boys out from.

Upsetting tradition, the banquet preceded the show—and the celabs turned out in force for the food. The boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass. And when the boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass.

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City Building Superintendent

Bigger and only 10 days ago. Building inspectors were ordered to check excise of public buildings here. Some of the buildings are still being eliminated, he said. He declared his men have warned against use of red tape. The boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass.

Safety devices which permit all sections to open under pressure. State Alcoholic Beverage Control Commissioner Driscoll said the Boston Fire shows the need for strict control of all local fire prevention ordinances. He declared premises where the public congregates frequently be carefully inspected frequently to make certain they do in fact comply with the law.

Niteries in suburban Essex County and nearby Union County municipalities were declared safe from such a fire danger. The boys' portraits at all, but the mcey framed in brass.

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St. Louis Checks Up

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Indpls. Rates New Hennesse Revue As Lavish Spectacle: Short on Speed

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 2. — Sonia Henie and her Hollywood troupe, premiered at Coliseum, Indianapolis, Mo., Dec. 25, 1941. The revue, produced by Leo J. Lombardi's Famous Ice Productions, Arthur M. Wittz, director, choreographer and stage manager, and Charles Littlefield, musical director, Jack Kelly, Musical Director, and the Caley Sisters, James Hawley, John C. Gentry, Ira Gorman, George Carney, Elizabeth Kennedy, George Curlew, Leo Preisinger, James Corbett, Charles Hallett, James Kelly, John Van Doren, Peter Kiltan, Bob Murphy and Louis Coulthart.

Sonia Henie's 1943 edition of the Ice Revue, has the makings of one of the best, beautiful and extravagant in any minor rink, and even at the opening here are ironed out. Emphasis is on production values, with costuming by Billy Livingston so varied and excellent in color schemes that it offsets the spotlight from the performers who wear his creations.

Charles Littlefield has given the ensembles some brilliant and spectacular moments, particularly in every inch of the rink's ample space. Some of the most interesting bits of speed, which is this kind of entertainment's greatest asset, came in her study of the "Trot" better by the kids if they took off their shoes and ran. Sonia dominates the human element with her own performance. In the program, in one number, "To the Colors," a scenic presentation of Sonia representing some of the Livingtons and Littlefield's best ideas, comes in five minutes, with a gorgeous change of wardrobe each side from the other. In the course of most of the production in the series of vehicles she uses for her entrances.

In "To the Colors" she rides out on a plane with her popular Elizabeths in "Mistral Memories" her troupe in an all-around popular "Eight Boys, and in "There'll Always Be a Christmas a Sleigh. She outters and six credits with "The Swan," her stand-out solo. The program ended this year with youthful Jimmy Hawley, as big a hit as ever. The finale, the Christmas Eve, is a typical Red House with a lot of delicate charm about it, and a belle of the ball, George Carney, sprightly cakewalk in "Mistral Memories."

Nothing like to a show-stopper among other performers is Freddy Young, who gives the show a comedy punch with his bounding "The Merry Old Fireman" and a squad midst in an army routine while the audience yells. The surprise of the show is the debut of a newcomer who didn't even get up on the stage. He is a young skater in a silly fence get-up produced another vocal presence. The four sisters are George, Dynamic Duo, their speed and precision. George, a young man, Preisinger, Jimmy Caesar and Charles Hallett do some nice acrobatics in an exhibition of speed and leaps. On the pretty side, Iris Brown, Jean Sturgeon, popular Elizabeths and Kennedy skate charmingly in "Waltz Rhythm," "Flamingo Flare," "Latin Mood," "Garden of Eve" and "The Christmas Eve." The girls with color and will form an excellent extra-entertainment. The cast includes about 80 in all, many of them youngsters new to the ice show. Some of the specialty pieces have been reviewed in previous choruses and show prominently at the audience at the Coliseum at 8:30, with several sections filled by men in uniform, adroitly, fast, four-footed, and stage for all performances through the year, 1940, but the box office effect has gas rationing gone into effect Tuesday has been reported.

EARLE, WASH.
Washington, Nov. 27. — Betty Bruce, Jo Lombardi's House Ork; Gentlemen Jim (WB);

good ballet work with some extraordinary dancing, she's the 27th of this program. Jo Lombardi's specialty, currently with a swell arrangement of Jerome Kern material which also served as the background for the "You Were Never Lovelier." Business Thanksgiving terrific. R.

SHUBERT, N. H.
New Haven, Conn., 28. — Louis Prima Orch. (14), with Lulu Davis, vocal. The Brothers Ears Herzogs, Victory Tunes (Ork), Dorothy Young, Harry Hermsen House Band; "Sealed Lips" (U).

With legit looking good a fad-out for several weeks, Shubert is filling its currenty with a double triple threat show on stage and screen. Bill consists of Louis Prima's Ork live acts of vaude and a feature film. It's a lot of talent for the price, and the three hours of good entertainment.

Following his overture, Bill gets off with four of the acts working for Brian Herman's house band and Ork live acts of vaude and a feature film. It's a lot of talent for the price, and the three hours of good entertainment.

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CHICAGO, CHI
Chicago, Nov. 27. — Lawrence Walk Orch. (14) with Jimmy Young, vocal. Red Hot and Blue, 3 Make Believers, Buster Shaver, 3 Make Believers, Major and Minor, 3 Make Believers.

The wisemakers who have claimed that a band must be noisy and brassy should visit here this week and see how sweet music is made here. Since the band first came into prominence around here six years ago, it has weathered the jitterbug with an ease, proof that the public has a taste for the music. The modern aggregation whose music sounds like a band, but who are actually a quartet, who might like a little loud stuff. Walk has included "The Swingin' Wildcat" and skin beating of "Red" How, the out-tunes, and then the "The Green Smith" of one of the trombones.

After a few trials of the band's music, it swings into "The Green Smith" with vocal by Bill Murray. The band is led by Murray with his rendition of "White Christmas." Well soloed on his accordion with "Nola" followed by songs from Jayne Walton, the band's feature attraction, to good effect.

Three Make Believers (Marvin Himmell, Phil Erickson and John Himmell) make their debut with new arrangements to records played over the radio. The band is led by Murray with his rendition of "White Christmas." Well soloed on his accordion with "Nola" followed by songs from Jayne Walton, the band's feature attraction, to good effect.

STRAND, N. Y.
Glen Gray Orch with Kenny Sargis, Pep Wee Hine, LeBaron Sargent, Eddie Brown, Fred Astaire, and Gentlemen Jim (WB); reviewed in Variety Nov. 4, 42.

Case Loma orch, batedon by Glen Gray, combined with a couple of other specialty acts, provides ample stage space for the gentlemen in "Bertel" Flynn starrer.

Outside turns are Gaudimbro Brothers, Fred Astaire, and Gentlemen Jim (WB); reviewed in Variety Nov. 4, 42.

Murphy impersonates practically everybody from Mae West to President Roosevelt, and ranges in effectiveness from indifferent to excellent, but he manages to hold interest through his monolog and builds steadily to a smashing finale.

Pe Wee Hunt impresses as the outstanding turn with the Gray comedy, with a series of interpretations of such listenable tunes as "Strip Away the Paint" and "Ain't It Aino," solo and with the band chorus.

CAPITOL, WASH.
Washington, Nov. 26. — Johnny Downey, vocal. The Murray, Loyell's Stallion, Rhythm Rocks, Sam Jack/Kaufman's house orch, Lulu Davis, vocal. "Thunder Birds" (20).

Jan Murray was thrust in as aces for this show but was as green as fresh cabbage on introductory and solo work. Loyell's Stallion, Rhythm Rocks, Sam Jack/Kaufman's house orch, Lulu Davis, vocal. "Thunder Birds" (20).

The Murth Sisters, with blended voices, open slow with one sister on stage, and goes into a big war when comedienne of the trio opens up. The Murth Sisters, with blended voices, open slow with one sister on stage, and goes into a big war when comedienne of the trio opens up.

APOLLO, N. Y.
Erskine Hawkins Orch (16). Manhattan Pal, "Pigment," Ida James, vocal. "The House of Blue Leaves" and "Curly; Tipped Toe" (Par).

House this week rocks solidly with Erskine Hawkins, who rates high with his showing here. The man plays out here, and is a single of magic tricks. Downs must be sensitive about his youthful appearance, but he introduces a song about his baby, then unfurls an overstated parody of the kid's corny but audience gave it a carry. Song from Hollywood features this mildly, but Downs has the answer with his feet, and should make a name for himself with the Rhythm Rockets on for two numbers, closing the show with a manly, dancing and music.

Erskine Hawkins Orch (16). Manhattan Pal, "Pigment," Ida James, vocal. "The House of Blue Leaves" and "Curly; Tipped Toe" (Par).

On 'A Kiss' and encore, 'Knock Me a Sids' (WB); reviewed in Variety Nov. 4, 42.

Gaudimbro, comedy Negro female impersonator, is followed by specialty acts, including one who steps out of the sex section to warble "Ala Lala" and "Let's Be Naughty." The show is a blue fashion and effectively using the leading and following, and the ending and effective voice of the evening. Montgomery's femme take-off is strictly for laughter and is not very professional.

PALACE, CLEVEL.
Cleveland, Nov. 28. — Dick Stabile Orch. (18) with Gracie Barric, Paul Warner, Betty Jane Sweetwater, vocal. "New Comers and Tympany Five; 'New Comers Through' (RKO).

This newly solo musical bill has plenty of value, and the show is being perfectly grooved for the live audience.

Remarkable angle about Dick Stabile's finely organized orch that is the only one of its kind in the city for the first three days without its regular leader, Lulu Davis, and Guard in N. Y. last week and band came here without him. Batorner was expected to return to the show on Monday. And did a swell job, too.

KEITH'S, INDLPS.
Indianapolis, Nov. 28. — Gus Van, Simmons & Joy, Chaz Calkins, vocal. "The House of Blue Leaves; Ed Reener's House Ork; 'Old Homestead' (Rep).

Keith's has organized one of its best shows of the season in the new venue, the Keith's, and the veteran Gus Van. There aren't any new additions, but the show is fitfully in a program that's really variety. Comedy, athletics, singing, dancing and music.

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STATE, N. Y.
Ted Lewis' band unit with Charles (Snowball) Whittier, Jane Edwards, and Gene Williams, vocal. "Brook Kay Geraldine Dabois; The Myron and Suzanne" (RA).

There's no special fanfare for Ted Lewis' band unit, but it's one of the man with the battered topk and a walling of the floor stick is competing with the floor stick is competing. That's a long time, but no silencing here enough to match that that the floor stick is competing with the floor stick is competing.

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EARLE, PHILLY
Philadelphia, Nov. 28. — Johnny Luce Orch, Gene Helen Young, The Four Tens, Gene Williams, Henry Youngman, Tip & Toe, "Prize" and "Make the Par).

Nothing spectacular, but genuinely different, is the show. The show is fitfully in a program that's really variety. Comedy, athletics, singing, dancing and music.

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'Sons' Enters 2d Year, Marking 5th Straight on B'way for Olsen-Johnson

'Sons O' Fun' engagement at the Winter Garden, N. Y., started its second year last night (1), the anniversary of the Olsen and Johnson revue being hoop-lasted also by the... 'Sons O' Fun' marks the fifth of the first consecutive year on Broadway for the comedians O. & J. who, in 1937, made their Main Stem debut after three years with 'Hollaopoppy,' which immediately preceded 'Sons' as their record is not of consecutive appearances, since the pair has knocked off at times for a film, etc. How many times O. & J. appeared on and off in the two reviews isn't even known to themselves. They appeared in 'Holla' for two years and nine months, or approximately 1,156 times, and around 400 times in 'Sons' for an estimated total of 1,580 appearances. Present engagement is indefinite.

The show withdrew from 'Holla' early in the summer of 1941 and spent about three months on the Coast to make the 'Holla' picture. Jay C. Flippen and Happy Felton rejoined at the Garden, and went to England in 'Holla' during the summer. Replaced, then to the road. Olsen tops Johnson in the number of appearances in 'Sons' O' Fun' since the latter ducked Sundays, but he's now back in those performances.

The approximate records for long stays by name players on Broadway indicate that O. & J. are runners-up in department of long stays. It does not indicate the number of performances missed through illness. As for actual length of stay in plays, in the same show on Broadway, there are several players who went through the entire five-year run of 'Abe's Irish Rose,' which played 2,372 times.

For one people, Jim Barton seems to have the record in 'Tobacco Road,' but neither were his 1,899 appearances consecutive. In 'Tobacco Road,' which was played 3,180 times. Barton quit 'Road' three times and then returned to the lead. Frank Babson was credited with playing throughout the run of 1,250 performances of 'The Music Man,' his longest performance among the N. Y. run. Other long stickers: Frank Taven, who played 'The Music Man' for 1,100 times; 'The First Year' which played 760 times on Broadway, and Laurence Taylor, who played 'Rain, 660; Lenore Ulric, 'Kiki,' 600; Marilyn Miller, 'Sally,' 570; David Gray, 'The Music Man,' 540; Helen Hayes, 'Victoria,' 517.

Stunt Party Backstage Stunt party for O. & J. was given backstage at the City Center last Saturday (28), the comedians sitting out front and the supporting players losing off a revue called 'Sons of Slander.' One skit was supposed to be a cavalcade of the stars, and was, and was admitted on the limberberg side. A prize gig-getter was a skit showing Olsen and Johnson in big business in his dressing room, where he holds forth to all comers at all hours. Another act was called 'Chick's Off,' kidding Johnson for his Sundays at his farm in Carmel, N. Y.

Sec. in Lee Shubert's office, called 'Frenzied Finance,' also tickled the actors. Characters included 'Shubert,' Harry Campbell and O. & J. They discussed the ceiling on earnings and what to do about it. Suggesting that the ceiling be put more money, with 'Kauffman' shaking his head and saying, 'That's all that could be done. Shubert' replied: 'Don't ask me, I never did.' There were also three skits labeled 'Old Hukom Bucket,' given, as many sections, with stagehands playing parts.

Leo Edwards' 2 Shows Leo Edwards has completed the scene for 'You'll See' (previously called 'Star Bound') which opens in New York the latter part of this week, and is now working on a new show to be called 'Automatically Yours.' This is based on the Alice and Isaac 'Cinder' children's Hour; the Horn & Hardart radio program now in its 12th year on NBC. Besides writing the music for 'Automatically,' Edwards will supervise the production. Blanche Merrill will do the lyrics and Chester Hale will stage the dances.

Notable 'Corpses'

Instead of having unknowns die up from the basement is certain call to 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' as the 13 victims of the Broadway sideshow. Tony Meyer, director of the Duluth Playhouse, tried a new angle. He broadside town's leading assassins to turn up as the victims.

As a result, Duluthians discovered, among the Brezner 'corpses,' Mayor E. H. Bremer, Municipal Judge Richard M. Bremer, Wm. A. Coventry, past president of Midway League society, and other leading civic lights.

P.A. SHORTAGE GROWS IN ATAM

There appears to be an approaching shortage of press agents in the Association of Theatrical Agents and Managers. ATAM states that there is a higher percentage of its membership employed now than at any time since the union was formed, but reports of a shortage of house and company managers are correct. However, because there are more opportunities this season than in some times, ATAM has dropped its entrance costs by 50%. Understood applicants for membership may put less than half the fee on the line, with the balance due when on the job. Quite a number of members are on the job with USO-Camp Shows. The larger units sent to training camps and naval bases have men in advance and back. Approximately 41 ATAM-ers have been engaged by USO, such jobs being welcomed, though the salaries are under those regularly paid, because of the assured number of weeks work. Men in advance get \$100, while company managers are paid \$45 weekly, some getting more.

Not all the men ahead and back with USO outfits are members of the union. Originally ATAM had an agreement with the camp show outfit to use its members only. Some time after Pearl Harbor, however, that arrangement was altered at ATAM's sanction, later explaining it wanted to cooperate in these times. While USO desired to have some men in engaging executives with its attractions.

Broadway Managers Urged to Relax Curbs on Amateur Versions of Plays As Aid to the Professional Theatre

CISSIE LOFTUS HONORED BY FAMOUS REGIMENT

Forty-two roses representing the period in which she has been honored sergeant of the Queen's Own Rifles, one of Canada's most famous regiments, were presented to Cissie Loftus, co-star with Walter Hampden in 'Present and Old Lace,' when Miss Loftus was guest of honor at a special banquet in the sergeant's mess. The only other woman who has been made an honorary member of this great regiment is Dowager Queen Mary.

Forty-two years ago, Miss Loftus, then an outstanding musical comedy star, was inducted into the QOR's after she had given a series of entertainments here for troops in training about to embark for the Boer War.

Zasu's Improved Play Laid to Phil Dunning's Rewrite; Big in St. Leo

Indicated salvaging of a play that opened adversely on the road is reported to have been accomplished in an unusual way. Show is 'Her First Murder,' with Zasu Pitts, and judging from the business drawn in St. Louis, where takings approached \$14,000, it appears to have a good chance. St. Leo critics gave it good notices. 'Murder' will be shown in Chicago before bowing on Broadway.

'Murder,' written by Robert Presswell, was penned when it opened in New Haven the middle of October and about the same reception was accorded the play in succeeding stands. Meantime, the script was being rewritten by Philip Dunning. Dunning's completed new version, shown in St. Louis, is credited with the promising result.

'Murder' has been produced by Victor Payne-Jennings and Marion Gerag, and it is said that the United Booking Office is financially interested.

Convention of the National Theatre Conference representative of the NTC, which was held at the Piccadilly hotel, N. Y., last Friday and Saturday, may be productive of better results than the movements in remote stands. Attention was drawn to the NTC which 74 college and little theatre groups have already played it. First showing was at the University of Indiana, where the play was heard the same night it opened at the Cort, N. Y. Managers were advised that there should be fewer restrictions on releasing rights in the sticks. Stated that a good deal of the material used in the embryo of the material used in the theatre. Pointed out that current plays, a good of fairly recent date, are being sent to little theatres and others spotted in places where there is little or no chance of visits by road shows. Thus the professional theatre would be popularized, it's held. Besides that, it is a business matter. The amount of important performances amount to important money in the case of those engaged in road shows. They're touched upon at the convention.

There are 80 so-called important stage groups in NTC but the total number of outfits that go in for dramatics now and then supply fanatical interest in the show is Her First Murder, with Zasu Pitts, and judging from the business drawn in St. Louis, where takings approached \$14,000, it appears to have a good chance. St. Leo critics gave it good notices. 'Murder' will be shown in Chicago before bowing on Broadway.

Not only has several agencies which specialize in amateur rights, including the National Theatre Conference, was elected president, Halle Flanagan, formerly head of the WPA Theatre Project; Arthur Cloething and Gordon Giffen, also on college staffs, were named for the executive committee. The name Malone of the Army Morale Branch, urged NTC to help supply players in military plays to army theatres. Particularly those abroad.

New Haven, Dec. 1. What started as a routine season has bogged down markedly at the Shubert, but acquiring several breaks. 'Beat the Band,' Mr. Sycamore, 'Skin of Our Teeth' and a list of other attractions, house and name went blank and gives little indication of emerging from liberation the day after Christmas. Tentative bookings on 'Three Sisters' and 'Russian Nights' fell through when shows could not be readied for available dates. This, together with shortage of road shows cut off the season. The woods, adds up to prospects of a bleak December. But this might be that January will see a pickup. Meanwhile, house is operating with vaude and plays to amuse the regular Sunday name-band players.

Good Prospects Turn Sour for New Haven

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Margalo Gilmore Raps Buffalo's Legit 'Apathy,' But 'Father' Biz Good

Buffalo, Dec. 1. In a backstage interview with Ardis Smith, reviewer for the Buffalo Evening News, Margalo Gilmore, leading lady of 'Life With Father' at the Bringer, sounded off against the alleged apathy of the local populace to the legit theatre. First time a player has seen fit to take an on-record swipe at the city's palmy days. Among other things, Miss Gilmore characterized mainline attitude as pathetic.

The week's gross for 'Father' turned out to be considerably above average, about \$15,000 at \$2.75 top, after a sluggish start.

"Show Business At War" THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

VARIETY To Be Published Late in December USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL Special Exploitation Advantages Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office NEW YORK HOLLYWOOD CHICAGO LONDON 154 W. 46th St. 1708 No. Vine St. 54 W. Randolph St. 8 St. Martin's Pl.

Plays on Broadway

Plays Out of Town

THE PIRATE

Founded in three acts, presented by the...
Cast: ...
Music: ...
Dances: ...

The Great Big Doorstep

Comedy in three acts (first revised by...
Cast: ...
Music: ...
Dances: ...

Three Sisters

(REVIVAL)
Washington, Nov. 30.
Dances in three acts and six scenes by...
Cast: ...
Music: ...
Dances: ...

Three Sisters

(REVIVAL)
Washington, Nov. 30.
Dances in three acts and six scenes by...
Cast: ...
Music: ...
Dances: ...

Plays Out of Town

Chekhov, with the other characters...
Cast: ...
Music: ...
Dances: ...

The Lunts are back in town

and so they are new hit on Broadway...
The Lunts are back in town...
Cast: ...

Manuela

Manuela (Miss Anton Reed) is the...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

From E. P. O'Donnell's recent novel

Francis Goodrich and Albert...
The Great Big Doorstep...
Cast: ...

From the flood waters of the Allis-

Acadian French descent) have re-...
Cast: ...

The Hackets have adopted the

seemingly familiar and safe...
Cast: ...

Clyde Clement gives a diverting

performance with Joy Geffen and...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

COUNSELLOR-AT-LAW

(REVIVAL)
Comedy in three acts and nine scenes by...
Cast: ...

In view of Paul Muni's sporadic

return to the Broadway stage of re-...
Cast: ...

A decade has failed to dim the

author's excellent character studies...
Cast: ...

John Golden is making the cur-

rented, and his long-expected re-...
Cast: ...

'Modernized' to conform to certain

requirements of the production...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

CHEKOV'S PLAY

Chekhov's play, written in 1900...
Cast: ...

The 'Three Sisters' seemed just

as regio from the lives of the...
Cast: ...

While this seems a savage

appreciation with more or less em-...
Cast: ...

'Modernized' to conform to certain

requirements of the production...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

THE SUN FLOW

Comedy in three acts and nine scenes...
Cast: ...

While the baseball stuff in 'The

sun flow' is not a new...
Cast: ...

Following the general lines of the

conventional romantic comedy, an...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Life Line

Mediations in three acts, presented at...
Cast: ...

Broadway

Lyle Andrews still seriously ill at Lytle Brook, L. I. home. John Gold, reinstated at Lambs as assistant booker... Paul Gerard Smith, in from Coast, may be presented on Broadway this season.

Francis Hidden, of Richard Pflaum, is operated on at Roosevelt hospital.

Jewish Theatrical Guild hosted season at Lambs club on Thanksgiving day.

Rodgers and Hart dropped work on "The Sign of the Cross" as they were working on.

Ellen Drew, whose husband, Capt. C. Bartlett, is overseas, is trying to arrange a trip to England.

Eddie Hahn, formerly with Phil Spector, is standing up in the Army at Atlantic City.

Mary Martin will sing Friday (4) but will make no radio appearances, as had been previously planned.

Henry Menck, who is flying to Britain now in the dispatching department of Douglas Aircraft on the Coast.

Leonard L. Levinson of the OWI has written a new play, "The Crowd," which was produced by D. C. tilted "Sherman Was Here."

Richard Marshall, who acted in San Francisco and Detroit, back with Arthur J. Beckhardt at the Adelphi stock.

Latin Quarter revue unfolds Dec. 14, with Mme. Kamorova and M. Kamoroff again in charge of production.

Elias Sagarman, trade press editor for his magazine, is leaving Saturday (28) and will be induced on Dec. 10.

Jack Marks, former actor who is in charge of Squigly's addressograph department, is leaving to go to college at home.

John Quinn, legit agent, to the Coast to settle some old contracts. Mrs. Murray Phillips handles the office during her absence.

Ed Armstrong sitting in a pajama suit on the floor at the Adelphi. Bill Doll is out of town ahead of "Something for the Boys."

Bill Doll is out of town ahead of "Something for the Boys." The "Coca-Cola's Spotlight Bands" show, and which is married to the "Coca-Cola's musically minded singer, in L.A."

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kota indie exhibitors' organizations, meet here this month to discuss their plans for the year.

Because Warner Bros. failed to exercise option after three months on June 1939, stippler, he back from Hollywood and in burlesque and vaudeville, and he is now in the theatre guest star for two weeks.

St. Louis

By Sam X. Hurst
Charlie Goldman, owner of the Lyric and Senate here, will take the bath at Hot Springs, Ark.

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Ballet Joss being rehearsed for opening of City Opera. Paul Sockin film activities being held up due to his indisposition.

The Harry Nesbitt, at this writing, is in the hospital, ready to go. They now have one boy.

Chris Gill suddenly rushed to the hospital. He is recovering. Tessie O'Shea, who was stricken ill.

Charles L. Tucker Enterprises has acquired provincial rights to "The Merry Widow" from George Black.

Teddy Morgan had his own vaudeville unit, in association with Fred M. Samson and Charles Fox. It's to be titled "You See a Musical."

Bunny Wainwright, former general manager at Adelphi theatre for Tommy Botsch, runs the Spotlight club at side line. It is for actors to rest in between shows.

Frank M. Mather, former general manager for Campbell, Connelly, who has been acting for the last six months, is back in the theatre. Noel Gay Music Co.

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'Spring Again,' which will play Nixon as subscription offering. Private Gabe Rubin, owner and operator of City Opera, is returning to the staff next semester.

Frank Strang hurried from Plymouth, Pa., to New York for his midnight-10 shift in a defense play.

Jeanie Owens (Mrs. Harry Fields), formerly of dance team of Liberty Theatre, is returning to the staff next semester.

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It's still 10 gallons of gas a month, and they still get no more. 15. Gov't now looking on orders coming from the War Relocation Authority. Johnny Noble celebrating his 25th year as song writer, and is planning to go west with the USO, and to get a job in the States. Houses no matter how ancient the architecture.

World-famous magician, Max Maginoff, Oct. 23, son Ozlie with Mrs. Maginoff, new head man in the business. Max Maginoff, Oct. 23, son Ozlie with Mrs. Maginoff, new head man in the business.

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Washington

Earle theatre will lose its manager, Fred Thomas, to either the Army or Navy.

Eddie Keller, the National Theatre's treasurer, is leaving to go to hospital for physical checkup.

Bunny Wainwright, former general manager at Adelphi theatre for Tommy Botsch, runs the Spotlight club at side line.

Frank M. Mather, former general manager for Campbell, Connelly, who has been acting for the last six months, is back in the theatre.

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Chicago

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Exchanges

Continued from page 13
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Pittsburg

Daucer Jack Blanche in town with her mother.

Vince Correll has replaced Wilko Bener as pianist with Elai Covato band at Villa Madrid.

Marie Anita, who is the night manager at the Lyric and Senate here, will take the bath at Hot Springs, Ark.

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Mexico City

Film actor John Wayne visiting. Joaquin Pardave, veteran stage and screen actor, is signing for Gonzalo Elvira for his Cinema Films.

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Hollywood

Leo Seltz laid up with bronchial pneumonia. Leo Seltz, who is a member of the Hollywood Publicity Council, is a member of the Hollywood Publicity Council.



Hollywood...

STARTING PRODUCTION
DECEMBER 7th
UNIVERSAL PICTURES.

**"OH
DOCTOR"**

WITH
**ABBOTT and
COSTELLO**



RECORDING TO BE
RELEASED IN 1943



New York...

OPENING JAN. 27th
PARAMOUNT THEATRE
(EXTENDED RUN)
FOLLOWED BY TOUR OF
OTHER MAJOR THEATRES

★
RETURNING
HOTEL NEW YORKER
(FOR SPRING AND
SUMMER SEASONS)

JOHNNY LONG

AND HIS ORCHESTRA

featuring

★ HELEN YOUNG ★ FOUR TEENS ★ GENE WILLIAMS

Exclusively on **DECCA RECORDS**

PERSONAL MANAGEMENT JACK PHILBIN

SCREEN

RADIO

MUSIC

STAGE

THE NEW YORK TIMES

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VOL. 148 No. 14

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1942

PRICE 25 CENTS

U. S. EASES TREAT TOY EX

U. S. Soldiers Disapprove of Hilarity At Home While They're at the Front

A poll taken in New York among soldiers from the various war fronts significantly reflects their attitude about the boys engaged in the far-flung battlefields as against the war-munro spending spree back home.

Survey, made by the Hotel Governor Clinton, N. Y., management to decide whether it should drop its 1943 year's eve revelry plans, reveals a definite undercurrent of disapproval by the U. S. combatants to hilarity current in alleys and other spots. Singled out for criticism, in particular, were the defense workers.

Soldiers polled, according to Robert J. Glenn, the Clinton's hotel general manager, expressed the hope there would be "a sane observance of this New Year's commensurate with good taste."

Hotel, accordingly, has abandoned plans for its Coral Room floor show and will usher in '43 on a strictly "business as usual" basis, despite fact that it packed 'em in to the tune of 1,200 last New Year's at \$750 per head.

Hill Will Replace 'Info' With Parade Of Old Pop Songs

The program with which George Washington Hill, American Tobacco Co. pres., proposes to replace "Information, Please" on NBC Friday nights, involves another Hill Parade instance will be songs dating back 20 years or so. It will be a half-hour stanza, using a new dance unit, solo vocalists and a mixed chorus.

Hill has not as yet indicated, through his agency, Lord & Thomas, what his disposition will be toward the regulars when the renewal option on the quiz comes up in a couple weeks.

TRAGEDY PERKS HOTELS

N. Y. Patrons Snee Away From Niteries Since Hub Fire

The hotels are cashing in on the Boston Coconut Grove fire, at the expense of the niteries, at least as far as New York is concerned. In Gotham, the supper clubs have been hit hard by the Hub tragedy.

The hostesses, however, with their roomier dining-and-dancing restaurants, plus the steel construction and manifold fire exits, etc., have perked markedly.

Really Excited

A New York vaudeville booker had been very worried by the threat of induction by the Army. When it was announced that no men over 38 would henceforth be drafted, which lets him out, the show buyer got so excited he started paying acts \$25 more.

War Correspondents' Kudos for Col. Zannuck's Heroism in No. Africa

Col. Dartry Zannuck, known by many as his former associates in the film business to have landed in Africa with the big American division there, is disclosed by reports reaching New York from newspaper correspondents to be photographing the biggest production of his life. And that's no small potatoes for a guy who's credited with some 20 films, among them some of the biggest grossers of their day.

Zannuck, film advisor to the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, is revealed to be in charge of a crew of 30 letters. They're picturing every aspect of the invasion of the Americans of North and West Africa and the current struggle for Tunisia. This is the first battle in which the AEF has met the cream of the Nazi blitz force.

Despite his rank, Zannuck is disclosed to be getting his pictures the hard way. According to the correspondents, he's right in the thick of the firing almost all the time. Capt. MacFowan of the New York Sun, quotes Sgt. Robert Edwards, of Asland, O., as saying: "Col. Zannuck certainly amazes us. He insists on going to the front" (Continued on page 16)

SUN VALLEY FORCED TO FOLD BY HELP SHORTAGE

Washington, Dec. 8.—Sun Valley, Idaho winter sports resort, will close its doors to the public Dec. 20 for the duration. Persons holding reservations for the Christmas holidays were being notified to cancel. Gas shortage, food and fuel rationing and transportation difficulties were the reasons given by general manager W. P. Rogers for the closing.

He explained that he had conferred here Monday with rubber czar William L. Miller, secretary of the Union Pacific Railroad, which operates the resort, about the closing.

38-DRAFT-AGE LIMIT BOON

Industry Heads See Major Relief Via War Manpower Commission and End to Labor Changeovers—Halts Talent and Technician Enlistments

BUT NO CURE-ALL

Uncle Sam's new draft age regulations and the emergence of the War Manpower Commission as a dominant factor in handling the nation's manpower pool last week impressed Hollywood and New York film industry toppers as a major relief.

Picture producers previously were burdened by a patching insurance obstacles. The threatened disintegration of the intricate, highly specialized production branch of the business now appears likely to be averted.

Realignment of Selective Service operations under the War Manpower Commission, chairmanned by Paul V. McNutt, by presidential decree over the weekend is viewed in show business as likely (1) to halt the exodus of tonight performers, directors, writers from the studios via enlistment, and (2) allow for some deliberation on the comparative value of studio personnel (including vital technicians) before irreplaceable manpower is moved about.

Coming earlier in the year, this Government action terminating voluntary enlistments and fixing the draft age below 38 might have conserved for the industry some of its biggest boxoffice names (Clark Gable) as well as personnel not so well known the public, but whose less invaluable behind the scenes in production.

Coming at this time, when the call on studio manpower for assignments in various Government projects involving units has reached huge proportions, the order has been received with high favor because it is considered likely to provide a measure of (Continued on page 16)

COMEBACKS BECKON TO A. K. MAESTROS

Major band booking agencies recently increasing calls each week from "retired" bandleaders who now wish to return to action. Starting telling of the number of inductions and enlistments by current leaders have apparently convinced the agencies that the time is ripe for a comeback. Some are going ahead with plans to reassemble their past discouraged when told of the difficulty of securing musicians.

ASCAP's \$4,450,000 Melon for 1942

Keynotes Fast Post-Radio Recovery

King Publicity

Thanks to the publicity gained during the "Wine, Women and Song" tour, Margie Hines, over whom the major facts started, has got herself a manager and is asking \$2,500 a week for theatre and cafe dates. Her top price in the past was \$1,500.

Being handled by Charles Yates of Frederick Bros.

Legit 'Eileen' Seen Passing Pic Version On Length of Run

Max Gordon believes his "My Sister Eileen" will continue its stay on Broadway long after the highly regarded film version, which played three weeks at the Muehl Hall, Radio City, will have completed release. Business for the play has dropped again, but with the actors taking a salary cut, Eileen can go on indefinitely.

Pay deal calls for the cast to receive a pro rata share, according to receipts, with full pay if the gross exceeds \$6,500. There is a sliding scale starting at \$4,500 which is considerably under the lowest takings to date. The usual Equity minimum of \$50 weekly applies at the \$4,500 figure.

Eileen now in its 133d week, will be heralded its fourth Broadway house, slated for the Broadway from the Ritz on Sunday (1943), former house being available by the abrupt withdrawal of the New Opera outfit. Gordon sought a large-capacity theatre and thought of going to the Adelphi. Later was taken over, renamed the Radiant theatre, and operated in the name of the "My Sister Metaphysians," a cult whose leader is in jail because of fraud.

ACT'S LOVE OF A DOG CANCELS 8-MO. TOUR

A full-breasted spitz dog that had been their pet for five years has resulted in Rollo & Verna Pickert, agency hoofing turn, passing up an eight-month tour with USO-Carm Shows. Transportation made taking the dog with them prohibitive.

Duke was handed in its notice and checked out of the "Going To Town" unit on Dec. 5 after two weeks. Bob Ripa, juggler, replaced the husband. "Going To Town" is one of Camp Shows' smaller units and does much of its traveling by bus. Restrictions by bus companies against animals brought about their nix of the tour.

ASCAP will come through 1942 with a financial story that will impress not only the members but outsiders as extraordinary when analyzed through the dubious licensing outlook that faced the organization when it emerged, highly defeated, in late 1941 from its 10-months battle with the radio interests. The Society is slated to distribute \$4,450,000 in royalties by the end of this year, a sum which is but 11% under ASCAP's peak drive year, namely, 1940, when the split among writers and publishers amounted to not quite \$5,000,000. What makes the recovery especially significant is the fact that radio during 1942 has been paying a commercial fee that is from 2 1/2 to 3% under that which prevailed for 1940. The margin of sustaining payments from radio will figure around \$500,000 less than it was for 1940.

Despite the sharp reduction in its contractual rates with radio, ASCAP might have been able to meet that 1940 distribution level if it hadn't repeated the past 11 months made certain heavy operating expenditures, such as replacing its system of lawyer district representation with its own organized offices. The budget now being set for 1943 in (Continued on page 25)

Reported D. C. May Declare Pix Biz 'Essential'

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—Discussions were held here over the possibility of declaring the picture regional director of the War Manpower Commission, and Screen Guild union members, that a week being predicated on the picture business being declared essential to the war effort.

It is understood here that such classification will soon be coming through. Union heads were told that the Government directive requires a 48-hour week for essential industries, with overtime to apply after 40 hours.

Studio unions are now working on 36-hour week basis, but there is some talk of working out a weekly guarantee for a certain number of men in each craft which would assure them liberal earnings.

The plan would work thusly: Producers would figure out the number of painters necessary over a certain period. If the figure is more than that for a 48-hour weekly guarantee for that number of men, it would then devolve upon the director to pick the men who would receive that guarantee.

'Misguided' Patriotism

Report from Washington that Melynn Douglas is now a private in the U. S. Army ties in with a forthcoming feature article in Collier's by its film-stage expert, Walter Winchell...

NOVELS, STAGE PLAYS MOSTLY A 20th

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Published novels and non-fiction, along with legit plays in production, are more than making up for the past year's program at 20th-Fox...

Fox's 'Russian People' has 50% interest in 'The Russian People', Theatre Guild production scheduled for Oct. 29...

'Eve of St. Mark' Contract details for the purchase of the screen rights to Maxwell Anderson's 'Eve of St. Mark' by 20th-Fox have not yet been cleared up...

Metro and Paramount have also been interested in the purchase of both studios balked at the late release date, January, 1944, which was one of the stipulations...

When Mervyn LeRoy was in New York he minimized the late release factor and expressed a strong interest in the film rights regardless...

My Pickford Lays Cornerstone By Proxy

Toronto, Dec. 8. Because of priorities on telephone lines, Mary Pickford was unable to participate in the laying of the cornerstone by Premier Gordon Goddard...

While he shivered in the icy blast blowing across nearby Woodbine Golf Club, the Premier read Miss Pickford's telegram which she was forced to send at the last minute...

Ain't Funny, McGee

Hollywood, Dec. 8. For his scripping of Government messages, Don Quinn has been breveted by Office of War Information. For his recent 'Fibber and Molly' script on gas rationing, he drew a nod from Douglas Jeffers, rubber czar...

WE RENEWS SHUMLIN AFTER 'RHINE' GANDER

Herman Shumlin will remain as a Broadway producer but is scheduled to direct at least one picture yearly for Washington that men of 38 or more will not be placed in uniform. Oscar Serlin was slated to be inducted early this week but his name on the list was skipped at the induction center...

Keye's Authors (Including Wife) to Coast Soon

Sylvia Fine (Mrs. Danny Kaye) and Max Liebman, who author much of Kaye's comedy material, are to head the Coast shortly to sit in on the preparation of the 'Let's Face It' feature film for Samuel Goldwyn. Don Hartman did the film script, based on an idea borrowed from the opening of 'Face It'...

Canteen Bond Giveaway

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Gift of two free \$25 War Bonds to service men was inaugurated as a highlight at the Hollywood canteen under sponsorship of the Motion Picture Committee for Hollywood. The event was held at the U. S. Department of Treasury...

U.S. IS FACTOR IN PIX PROSEC

Totalitarian Film Propaganda Below the Equator Practically Eliminated—South America Was Major Outlet for Fascist Ballyhoo

AMERICAN TIES CLOSER

Washington, Dec. 8. Axis-produced films, once a major method for the dissemination of German, Italian and Japanese propaganda in Latin America, have been eliminated from that continent. Credit for the smoothness and efficiency with which this has been accomplished must be shared by American motion picture companies with the State Department, Board of Economic Warfare and Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs...

OWI Writes D.C. That E. G. Robinson Did a Job

Washington, Dec. 8. Story of how Edward G. Robinson, during his recent Great Britain tour, 'entranced' Anthony Eden at a Glasgow dinner is told in a formal report received by a Washington man from an Office of War Information representative who traveled abroad with the film star...

Many Femmes

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Indications of how star-packed will be Metro's filming of 'Cry Havoc' are given in the early castings for the film version of the little Little Theatre stage sensation. Set as Joan Crawford did Merle Oberon, with Mervyn LeRoy directing, Yara about 15 nurses on Batnan has 15 characters, all femmes...

Hedda Hopper to Get Personal Report From Agency, V.P. on Why She Was Given Run-Around As Winchell Sub

Paging Mr. Nelson!

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Minsky influence is growing so potent in Hollywood that three studios are clutching at each other's G-strings for priority on the film title, 'Queen of Burlesque'...

DEADLINE THIS YR. 'S DEC. 31 FOR OSCARS

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Midnight, Dec. 31, has been set as the deadline for pictures eligible for 1942 Academy Awards. Heretofore studios have had until mid-Jan. to get under way for next year's film. First meeting of the rules committee has been set for Dec. 18 which will be every business forward...

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Robert W. Orr, v.p. in the Lennen & Mitchell agency, declared Monday (?) that he was going out to Hollywood next week to explain to Hedda Hopper, film colony columnist, how it happened that her engagement to Walter Winchell was suddenly cancelled. Also why, in addition to being blacked out for this spot, she won't go on the Blue Network in January for the same account...

Orr declined to go into the whereabouts of Winchell, but it was reported that the client overruled to shove the contemplated alliance with Miss Hopper. Orr would do anything that might have an untoward effect on as valuable a radio personality as Walter Winchell. If Miss Hopper were hired, then Carter's Little Liver Bird would have had no alternative but to move its Jimmy Field inning out of the Sunday 9:30-9:45 p.m. period. The Parker Family, which has held the latter slot for the past three years, was last week renewed for 1943...

BUT CAN HOLLYWOOD KEEP UP WITH HIM?

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Henry J. Kaiser's shipbuilding feats are being followed by the making of a high-budget picture to be produced by Republic under the title, 'Victory Fleet'. Kaiser's shipyard is in person but will have the okay on the general nature of the picture, and will be producing it in San Francisco simultaneously with other Pacific Coast cities, hooked up with Kaiser's shipyard in San Francisco. J. Regal, William S. Lee, and other Republic execs are in San Francisco to make arrangements for the picture...

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Larger Blocks or Mail-Order Film Selling Due to Gas Rationing?

Minneapolis, Dec. 8. Film salesmen here are busy trying to obtain 'C' cards on the grounds that their calling is essential because of the entertainment business of which they are an 'important part' as a 'moralite builder' in the eyes of the censor, as any of them has been able to get in a 'C' card.

With the 'B' cards, the salesmen will have to curtail their trips into the territory, it's stated. It will be impossible to make a trip every time a new group becomes available. For this reason, exchanges here hope that their companies will increase the size of their groups considerably or go back to the plan of selling an entire season's product, as provided in the invalid Minnesota statute which the film companies opposed.

Many of the towns in this territory are inaccessible by train or bus, it's pointed out. Moreover, sans automobiles, salesmen would be unable to cover as much ground as present. More salesmen undoubtedly will be required, according to the local exhibitors.

Some distributors are trying to figure out if it would be practicable to sell more by mail-order, working by telephone and mail. Tentative plans are being made for the winter and consideration is being given to other considerations.

Freeze Hurts More Than Gas

First day of gasoline rationing here witnessed an estimated drop of 10% or more in gas according to downtown house managers, but the dip was attributed more to the weather than to the much feared rationing restrictions. Ten below (Continued on page 18)

Auto Union Chief Argues Vs. Cuts in Documentary Film on Jap atrocities

Detroit, Dec. 8. Documentary and other films shouldn't be too nippy-pamby for the war workers.

In the argument of R. J. Thomas, International president of the United Automobile Workers (UAW), which has hundreds of thousands of members at work in the nation's major arsenals, when he protested to Mayor Edward J. Jeffries here against deletions from the film, "The Earth," which is being shown here against the censor's objection.

Thomas said that the picture is 'a feature presentation of the Japanese aggression in China,' and that it had been okayed in Detroit only because of the deletion of the entire purpose and effect of the film, although two of Detroit's suburbs—Hamtramck and River Rouge—had okayed it in the original form.

'Surely the people of Detroit can feature the units of war workers to the Mayor. Such films are an incentive to the war workers to give the maximum toward the winning of the war.'

Police Lt. Chazley Snyder, head of the censor body, said that certain gruesome parts of the film were ordered out because of 'the sensibilities of the audience.' It marks the first protest by a union in film leasing here, and, because of the size and number of the units, exhibitors probably will call upon the censors to reconsider.

WARNERS HOLDING 10 BIGGIES FOR RELEASE

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Ten high-budget pictures are in the vaults at Warners awaiting release in five to six months, in various stages of work and soon to be ready for distribution.

In addition, the Burbank lot has 10 shorts ready for release shortly after the first of the new year.

MORE CONTRACTS

Accents Cut

Two sequences associated with the British idiom were eliminated from the Ginger Rogers-Cary Grant starrer, "Once Upon a Housewife" (RKO), which last week ended at Radio City Music Hall.

Deletions were ordered by Gus Eysell, managing director, after opening day following complaints from a number of patrons and press criticism directed at the male star's derby-hat episode and Miss Rogers' Bronx accent.

CONSERVES BY ONE-DAY FOLD

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.

David Barrist, prominent Philly indie exhibitor, yesterday said he is mulling a plan to call a city-wide mass meeting of theatre operators to present his plan to close films one day a week to conserve film, fuel, strategic materials and manpower.

At the exhibs agree to the proposal, it is planned to petition the War Production Board to ask exhibitors to close their theatres one day a week. Barrist feels that unless the idea gets a Government stamp of approval, exhibitors are unlikely to go along. Local exhibs, who in the main are in favor of Barrist's idea, feel that the plan will work only if all exhibs go along. A few houses kept lighted on the off-day would break down the entire program.

Barrist's idea is to close down on Monday all theatres with a single box office. Only those exhibs who have their theatres in municipalities which prohibit Sunday films are against the plan. They feel that they cannot afford to keep closed both Sunday and Monday.

JOHN HARRIS ORDERED TO HOSPITAL FOR REST

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8.

John H. Harris, head of Harris Amuse. Co. here and the Arena Managers Association, was ordered to the Mercy hospital last week with strict orders that he physically not to receive any visitors or phone calls. Theatre execs has been suffering from acute laryngitis, aggravated by frequent complete loss of voice, and recently spent a week at its summer home in the Catskills, trying to clear up the ailment.

Upon return to Pittsburgh a few days ago, Harris became worse and he was immediately hospitalized. Infection started more than a month ago during Harris' hectic activity in connection with 'Teepees' engagement here. Last spring in Hollywood he was hospitalized with pneumonia, right after ice show opened there.

Robinson May Go to UA

United Artists is reported mulling new deals being offered to independent producers into the company. Among those understood considering a UA release tieup is Casey Robinson, ex-Warner writer now turned producer.

Greg Gears, currently on the Coast, may discuss a deal with Robinson, while there. Dave Weather, UA advertising man, published in New York for the Coast last Friday (4) to John Seers.

Need for Product Presents

Stalling of Past Seasons—Trend Away From Reissues and Repeats Also a Factor—Number of Releases Held Down

ONLY 9 WB'S SINCE SEPT.

Selling took a sharp rise in November, with result distributors are at present substantially ahead of last year at the same time, in some cases as much as 50%, it is claimed.

In sales and exhibition quarters, the vastly improved position on contract-acting as well as play-off of product credits to exhibitors factors which figured this season as against last when buyers heeded what is believed to have been an all-time high in stalling.

Greater need for product this fall has forced earlier deals. This has been largely due to fewer deliveries, notably on the part of larger distributors, as well as a stronger tendency away from reissues. In connection with the latter or so-called repeats, where an exhib picks up anything he may find in exchange vaults, not only have exhibs veered away from this type of product but distributors have gotten tougher.

Since the film companies themselves have tightened the reins on reissues, requests in connection have found themselves shorthanded on film supply and thus have had to buy the new pictures in order to keep going.

Additionally, there have been no serious breaks between distributors and chains this year, whereas last season (1941-42), several large circuits severed relations with distributors who had dealt with for years. Other breaks that had occurred the prior year in some cases were healed, but only after the season had gotten well under way.

More Buying Combos

Though there has been considerable grumbling concerning film pricing, this having the effect of depressing deals earlier this season, there has been no alarming trouble. Buying combinations have been formed, but not to the basic formula for the purpose of rendering satisfactory contracts for the purpose of buying power, the distributors have managed to get along with them all along. Among other things, from the distributor's point of view, when a deal is closed with a booking combine, the combine's return is figured on any deal that would finish them.

(Continued on page 22)

Only Uncle Sam's Patriotic Edict Can Undo Dual Habit, Say Indies

Detroit, Dec. 8. While the move for single features, launched at the recent convention in Hollywood, continues to gather momentum in this former stronghold of double features, exhibitors still figure that the transition can't be made without Government edict.

Basic reasons are not only the fear of the chiseling small theatre owner, but that unless the move is made through the exhibitors' order, the disastrous price revisions. Unless there is a patriotic appeal, such as the Government order, exhibitors point out that the small operator would have to take 'apprise' shall we say, the exhibitors' price. The idea seems to be that the six exhibitors to continue as mass entertainment and that the big houses at

Congressional Opposition to \$25,000 Ceiling Is Growing Apace in Wash.

As Solons Ready to Battle It in Jan.

MAYER, JOE SCHENCK EAST

Former on M-G Prod. Parleys—Schenck to Stay Until Xmas

Joseph M. Schenck and Louis B. Mayer have arrived in New York. Mayer, accompanied by Howard Strickling, is east to confer with Nicholas M. Schenck of Loew's, Inc., regarding a production schedule for the studio for the first six months of 1943. They will be here a week or 10.

Schenck came east on company business and personal matters and may stay until after Christmas.

SAG STANCE ON PRO RATA PAY

Screen Actors Guild officials have reportedly discussed plans to keep artists out of any studio which may take a pay on a weekly basis instead of an annual or per picture fee where such previously existed.

Some studios had been mulling plan to break down the income limit of \$25,000 annually to a weekly check of say \$1,200, payable for 52 weeks of work providing artists work through that period. On this basis stars would be compelled to turn out the usual number of pictures or more until they had cashed in their \$12,000 per picture, otherwise remaining off the studio payroll.

Understood that in such an eventuality SAG might call for a general walkout.

U. S. PIX EN ROUTE TO USSR FOR DISTRIBUTION

First shipment of American films for distribution in the USSR is en route to that country. Due to space limitations, the prints are regular 35 mm. shipped from the U. S. instead of via London as originally planned. Selection is neither as numerous nor as exclusive as anticipated.

Films will be screened in Moscow by Soviet film execs and their preferences as a bargain offer for Artlinko, U. S. distributor of Soviet films, made the original selections and will act as the middle man in any deals that are consummated.

Washington, Dec. 8. Congressional opposition to President Roosevelt's proposal to broaden the \$27,000 gross salary limitation to cover investment income has been snowballing this week.

Democratic Senator George, chairman of the powerful finance committee, said that the answer of Congress to the proposal to clip the income of the couple's clippings would be an emphatic 'No!' The new Congress that convenes next month, he said, would be more likely to pass legislation to repeal the \$27,000 gross salary ceiling set up by executive orders over treatment income. He had recommended last year that Congress set a limitation on incomes that would keep the total income at the \$25,000 net level but Congress refused to act on the recommendation and in October (Continued on page 23)

Blind-Checking 'Rampage' Burns Twin City Indies

Minneapolis, Dec. 8.

Twin City independent exhibitors are burned up because of some of the blind-checking and percentage engagement results as this is unfair for flat rental charges. The basis is 'make-up' of enough consideration is given to the spread in receipts. Because of the blind-checking picture and the exhibitors' production that constitutes the bulk of the releases, according to the exhibitors' plan.

The squawking exhibitors assert that the distributors are seeking to reduce their profits not only because they object to the blind-checking practice, but also, they say, because it makes the exhibitors' work as patrons' eyes. However, the checkers have been getting in on investments and now buy an admission ticket and check unenthusiastically from industry.

Most exhibitors in Minneapolis and St. Paul contend that they cannot do business with the exhibitors stand them more than 20 to 25% of their receipts. Figures being demanded for the new season are, however, amount to as much as 35%, it's asserted.

Some distributors here are justifying their blind-checking by asserting that they need the figures as a production cost. They also cite the exhibitors' stand that even some reputable exhibitors demanding adjustments have been caught in prevarications when reporting on business.

Stricter Censorship

Toronto, Dec. 8.

A stricter censorship of motion pictures was asked in a resolution passed by the Toronto branch of the Ontario Union of Holy Name (Catholic) Societies, with some 400 out of the 1,000 members of the Ontario Archdiocese McGuigan of Ontario.

No specific objections on any film were advanced and the proposed stricter censorship was blanket.

Dunlap, Rifkin, Thomas, Greenstreet

Will Recover; Seletsky's and Gross Widows Critical; 2 Others Succumb

While still seriously ill and likely to be laid up for a long time, Scott R. Dunlap, producer of westerns for Monogram, is expected to recover. Dunlap, who suffered a severe damage suffered in the Coconut Grove, Boston, fire Nov. 28. However, it is said doctors may find it necessary to col- lected been under an oxygen tent, to begin one of his lungs. Dunlap, who was not badly hurt as Dunlap and if complications do not set in, will also be all right.

Harry H. Thomas, New York-Philadelphia franchise holder for Monogram, whose eyesight has been saved by specialists, is coming along nicely. Starving yesterday (Tuesday) he was able to sit up.

Word received yesterday (Tuesday) by A. W. Smith, Jr., eastern sales manager for Warner Bros. and the company's branch manager at Boston, Mike Grassgreen, another victim of the fire, showing a considerable improvement. His lungs were treated on Monday (7) and the better the last few days. He was not as badly hurt as Dunlap and if complications do not set in, will also be all right.

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Mrs. Charles Stern, who succumbed Saturday night (6), and Mrs. O. A. Sander, who died in the fire at the Hotel Belmont, were the only casualties among show people since last Tuesday's fire. They were the wife of United Artists eastern district sales manager, while Mrs. St. Pierre's husband was an actor with P. B. Stern and St. Pierre were killed in the night of the catastrophe. Funeral services for Mrs. Sander were held Monday (7) in New York.

Silverman's Death
Providence, Dec. 8.
The United Jewish War Fund in Providence received an additional gift of \$1,500 as an aftermath of the Coconut Grove holocaust. The sum came from Archibald Silverman, owner of Providence's Silverman, who had been a member of the Buckeye League in Boston for many years because he had to attend the opening meeting of the Providence drive. Ed Weinger, a manager of the Coconut Grove, wanted to stay for the party but was unable to do so because of the fire and decided to return home with Silverman. The \$1,500 was in addition to another gift Silverman made to the fund.

Bu-chones Rites
Hollywood, Dec. 8.
Final rites for Charles (Buck) Jones, victim of the Coconut Grove fire in Boston, were held yesterday (Mon.) with private interment.

Honorary pallbearers were Harry Johnston, Charles J. Bigelow, Austin C. Sherman, Trem Carr, Leslie Selander, W. S. D. Dickey, Hugh McCullum and Dr. Dolney Cass.

Lewis Carroll not a Victim
Lewis Carroll, who missed being in the Boston category last night, only because he was in Portland, Me., doing advance exploitation on "Pittsburgh in the Sky," was not through the unfortunate experience of being identified as one of the unidentified victims of the morgue. Carroll had been occupied with the painful task of identifying the bodies of friends who were in Boston's film row who died in the fire. Sunday and Monday last week, he had some of the bodies of the Wednesday following several funeral services in Boston. Final that

WB Cutting 'Air Force' After Its D. C. Preview

After seeing a completed print of 'Air Force' in Washington last week, L. B. Warner, who is here planning a special screening for Government and Army authorities, decided that the film needed cutting and had the print shipped back to the Coast for that purpose.

John L. Warner, who is here planning a special screening for Government and Army authorities, decided that the film needed cutting and had the print shipped back to the Coast for that purpose.

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Hub Nitery Aftermath

Details on the Coconut Grove, Boston, fire, which was the worst throughout the land, are in the Nitery section.

50 FIRE DAMAGE

OF IMPRKE THEATRE

Milwaukee, Dec. 8.
Theatre managers here had a litery time Friday night (4), with the fire department responding to three different theatre alarms, although only one of the fires was serious, that at the Comet, an Independent night, which suffered a \$5,000 loss, and in which panic among 500 patrons was averted by a quick-thinking manager. Strangely enough, the attraction at the Comet was 'Rough Riders,' starring Buck Jones, who was a few hours before succumbed to burns suffered in the Coconut Grove fire in Boston.

Fire at the Comet started in a washroom where a patron had thrown a match on a lit cigarette into a receptacle. When Albert Hoehner, the manager, smelled smoke and at once ordered the production in the booth to stop the picture, then had his assistant, Roy Haack, make an announcement that the show was over. Hoehner could not be repaired in time to continue the performance and invited four men to step in to help him get their money back. They exited in orderly fashion and all were outside before they realized that a fire was responsible, although a few seconds later the place was enveloped in flames and smoke.

Other fires that same night were in the Wisconsin theatre building. The first place to bring out the fire department started from an apartment combustion in a basement closet, and it was extinguished without theatergoers knowing anything about it. The second fire that night in the same theatre started in a ventilating shaft, but also when the theatre had closed for the night, so caused little commotion.

466 Fire Threatens Del. Filmyer

Detroit, Dec. 8.
Police and firemen ordered the Mammoth theatre, No. 466, Michigan, emptied of its patrons, as the fire destroyed four nearby stores and four apartments. The 466-patrons were aware of the fire and the move was made to prevent any possible panic from starting in the house. The movie was halted when they were ordered out quickly.

The fire, which called in additional equipment from the Army at Selridge Field, was halted just short of the theatre. Nobody asked for a last part of the bill.

She'll Lead 'Em On

Hollywood, Dec. 8.
20th-Fox assigned Anna Sten to the job of starring role opposite the RKO Panix in 'School For Seducers.' Edward Ludwig directs and Lee Marimont produces.

It could not be located in Boston made the mistake identify all the more feasible.

The only error was that Carroll was kept busy all one day denying to relatives and friends that he was a fire victim. Carroll, the field exploitation representative for U. in the New England territory, only was in the Coconut Grove theatre disaster, but not Lewis Carroll.

Warner Stresses Need to Keep Screen As Entertainment; WAC Meet Points Up Industry's Wartime Transition

PRC Sets India Pact

Producers Releasing Corp. has inked a pact with Ashraf Ali Haji of Bombay, India, for distribution of its production, 'The East Deal,' starring Burma (the Japs are in this territory), starring Ashraf Ali Haji, Baluchistan, Bhutan and Nepal.

Contract is for all PRC product for 10 years, starting with 1940-41 and running through 1949-50. It was set by Robert D. Sucas, PRC foreign manager, and Haji, in New York.

Several salient points emerged from discussions during the film industry's annual meeting in New York, Monday (7), indicating the transformation of the industry as a result of the war. These are:

George J. Schaefer, chairman of the WAC, revealed that the Army and Navy recently asked for the delivery of 92,000,000 square feet of 16 mm. raw stock (approximately 1,000,000,000 feet length) which is more than the Eastman capacity for a full year. (A graphic illustration of the new stock transition.)

Fred Beaton, representing the Hollywood division of WAC, said that the change now going on in production was as great as when producers went from silent to sound.

Walter C. Ament, chairman of the new division, presented figures showing that 78 1/2% of all new reels clips from Dec. 8, 1941 to Nov. 19, 1942, were filmed in cooperation with U. S. policy in prosecution of the war and that newreels are now virtually 100% attuned to this policy.

Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-chairman of the WAC, reported that the "78 1/2%" of all new reels from Lowell Mellett, Coordinator of Government Films, stating that "we had better plan to go deeper" into film production.

Speaking on the necessity for safeguarding the industry's primary asset, it was stated that limited number of actual, informational films, four to nine minutes in length, is being produced. The industry shorts which recently ran in succession on the same program in a large theatre, were thought of as "a deep sigh" from the audience. Harmon added that such an audience policy of producing only a limited number of actual, informational films, four to nine minutes in length, is being produced. The industry shorts which recently ran in succession on the same program in a large theatre, were thought of as "a deep sigh" from the audience. Harmon added that such an audience policy of producing only a limited number of actual, informational films, four to nine minutes in length, is being produced.

'Single War Chest'
Harmon stated that the end of income tax on the industry was sighted probably within six months, when it is likely that there will be a single U. S. war chest.

Referring to raw stock, fuel, oil, gasoline, and air-conditioning products, Harmon said that a lighter situation will be expected by next winter; that it would not prove fatal to the industry; that "we will be able to continue to service the soldier, sailor and civilian." Touching on the newly imposed importance of the War Manpower Commission, Harmon said he hoped that, as a result of the value of the present services of our technical staff, the industry would be able to value of their possible contribution to the war effort elsewhere, where it was needed.

The WAC vice-chairman stated that there would be a marked increase in the number of women's Special Service Branch, which would facilitate the production of newreels. He mentioned in print of pictures to men in combat zones. He mentioned an instance (Continued on page 25)

WB PROFIT UP OVER \$3,000,000 TO \$8,555,512

Showing an increase of more than \$3,000,000 over the previous fiscal year, Warner Bros. operating profit for the fiscal year which ended last week was \$8,555,512, a 25% increase over the \$6,800,000 reported for the same year ending in August, 1941, the operating profit was \$5,429,302. The company noted that it had received \$5,245,754 as a result of the unforeseen of substantially all previously impounded money in Great Britain, the fourth quarter profit of \$1,812,837 rather obviously partly reflecting this. Last year the same quarter net was only \$995,857.

Warner earnings are equal to \$2.20 per common share as against \$1.38 in the previous fiscal year, after provision for current year's dividends on the preferred shares. Unpaid dividends on the preferred amounted to \$3,598 per share as against \$2,500 in the previous year. Warner's earnings were the greatest in more than 12 years, highest previous profit being for the fiscal year ending in 1937, peak of production was \$5,575,183, as reported. Showing this year was made despite a variety of \$82,500,000 for Federal income taxes as contrasted with only \$1,608,000 in the previous fiscal year.

Foreign income, after eliminating inter-company transactions, was \$119,271,564, as compared with \$102,293,170 in the previous year. The reserve for contingencies includes \$2,158,635 in respect of the net assets in foreign countries, which is consolidated in the report.

The report shows current assets of \$38,722,938 cash and \$29,099,888 current assets as of Aug. 31, 1942. A year earlier the current assets were \$28,747,292, and of this cash \$17,000,000, or 59.5%, was in Great Britain.

Warner reported listed that a British subsidiary was indebted to an English bank for \$2,125,000 (approximately) as of last Aug. 31, loan being guaranteed in full by Warner Bros. and secured by two British subsidiaries, and is secured by the company's investment in Associated British Pictures, which is reported as a subsidiary of the British subsidiaries.

NEW ANNUAL EARNINGS, 1936-42

1936	\$7,074,611	Net Profit
1937	\$7,101,605	"
1938	\$12,980,054	"
1939	\$6,291,748	"
1940	\$4,545,512	"
1941	\$6,800,000	"
1942	\$8,555,512	"

First quarter	\$1,278,316
Second quarter	1,509,228
Third quarter	3,172,213
Fourth quarter	995,857
1941 (1941 by Quarters)	8,554,512

1942 (1942 by Quarters)	\$2,078,801
Second quarter	1,723,854
Third quarter	1,588,820
Fourth quarter	1,162,723

Red Tape Chills WB on Entering Newsreel Prod.

While Warners has not indicated to the War Labor Control how much film it would require for its proposed newsreel, the company has run into so much red tape and lack of encouragement in official Washington that it is reported chilling on the project.

Meanwhile, in the face of the discouraging outlook, it is reported the launching of its own red tape. Warners is trying to buy out one of the others, but is under no doubt whether a deal can be swung.

Moreover, both in connection with developing its own newsreel, and in acquiring one of the others if the price was not reported as satisfactory. In WB are discouraging a reef of any kind in view of the uncertainties of further war stock cuts.

H. M. Warner East
Hollywood, Dec. 8.
Harry M. Warner, who is here planning a special screening for New York, where he will take up with his board of directors the matter of public purchase of the RKO Panix newsreel. The WB report, anxious to launch his own, but is under no doubt whether a deal can be swung.

SET \$100,000 BUDGET FOR WAC WORK IN '43

Budget of \$100,000 for 1943 was set by the War Activities Committee at annual meeting Monday (7) in New York. J. Schaefer was re-elected chairman and Francis Harmon vice-chairman and a new committee was set up to make arrangements on producers' distribution.

St. Fabian, WAC treasurer, was elected chairman of the theatres division. He was appointed honorary chairman of the division. Arthur Schaefer was re-elected chairman and Francis Harmon vice-chairman and a new committee was set up to make arrangements on producers' distribution.

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LIFE BEGINS AT 8:30

Hollywood, Dec. 4.
20th Century-Fox presents "Life Begins at 8:30" with a cast including: Robert Taylor, Joan Blondell, George Brent, etc.

"Life Begins at 8:30" is a film version of London play of two years ago, originally presented under the title of "The Light in Heart".

Woolley plays a former dramatic actor who is washed up in the big league...

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Woolley plays a former dramatic actor who is washed up in the big league...

dience attention throughout its extensive running time. There's plenty of dramatic aspects to attract customers, but picture carries the un-entertainment by having an American destroyer pick up a life-boat of turning youngsters over to the military...

Story is a basically usual one of a youth's regeneration when faced with social responsibilities. Taylor, socialite type officer from New York, is ordered to return to active duty when war hits. He's assigned as aide to cruiser and bludgeoned by the military...

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Miniature Reviews

"Life Begins at 8:30" (20th).
Monty Woolley as the protagonist in the regular runs of solo or bit-player.

"China Girl" (20th). Adventure picture in the Orient pre-Pearl Harbor; needs hype.
"Gorilla Man" (WB). Lesser quality leading title; like a Commando tale.

"Over My Dead Body" (20th). Comedy with leading title; like a Commando tale.
"Time to Riff" (20th). Latest entry for the Michael Shayne whodunit adventure series.

"We Are the Marines" (20th). March of Time and the Marines take the lead in this stirring and accomplished.
"American Empire" (UA). Belongs to the genre of the late George Richard Dix.

"Midnight on the Beach" (U). Song. Ritz Bros' zany program in OK filmical.
"Blind" (BWA). The Canyon. Rep. Roy Rogers and the cowboys in good western.

"Harrison's Report" (Mono). "Murder" mystery that is a mere average for low-budgeters.
"Very Good Year" (PRC). Very good western starring Buster Crabbe.

Second sequence tells the story of a tiny Chilean plane that longs to fly the Pacific across the straits between Mendoza and Santiago de Chile.
"Argentine picture. In which Goody is carried off from a group of Argentine pampas. At preview here there had been some carping by a few half-splitters...

Strongest and most effective sequence is that of the dramatic point of view, is the Brazilian actress who is kidnapped and named "Acureira do Brasil".
"Originality written some years ago by Carlos...

Photographic sequences are not as good as the rest of the film, with the exception of the last 15-20 minutes.
"Photographic sequences are not as good as the rest of the film, with the exception of the last 15-20 minutes. It's as if something else in the film that it made even national-minded Argentine...

executed in generally excellent.
Woolley has had almost no work since the scribbles, particularly in Argentine, and film has had a particularly strong background up with special openings in Latin capitals.

CHINA GIRL

Hollywood, Dec. 5.
20th-Fox release of Ben Hecht production.
"China Girl" (20th). Adventure picture in the Orient pre-Pearl Harbor; needs hype.

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which the commando officer is...
"China Girl" (20th). Adventure picture in the Orient pre-Pearl Harbor; needs hype.

OVER MY DEAD BODY

Hollywood, Dec. 4.
20th-Fox release of Walter Wallace production.
"Over My Dead Body" (20th). Comedy with leading title; like a Commando tale.

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Stand By For Action

Hollywood, Dec. 7.
20th Century-Fox presents "Stand By For Action" with a cast including: Robert Taylor, Joan Blondell, George Brent, etc.

"Stand By For Action" has the high seas in best Navy tradition, and a colorful black and white melodrama. Experts developed with maximum of patriotic flavor to make every American citizen feel the country's fleet and the officers in...

SALUDOS

(Songs)
(COLOR)
Buenos Aires, Dec. 2.
RKO presents "Saludos" with a cast including: Robert Taylor, Joan Blondell, George Brent, etc.

Designed especially for Latin America, showing Walt Disney's "Saludos" looks like not only a strong, potentially good builder, but a possible record of Disney's tour to the continent of South America. As he scribble it as a series of Disney cartoons, it is as strong with the same customer appeal as the hardy does it justice. As presented here in the Spanish market (Porto Rico) is a quick-moving, constantly changing production, with an ending in a rock finale, made most effective by the fact that it ran only 45 minutes.
"Result in Buenos Aires, as well as previous shows in Lima, Santiago, and Havana. It's being sold in the Argentine market.

Whether it'll have the same interest in the States is hard to tell since the cartoon is not yet shown. Chile has been particularly interested in the series, and the scenes and customs through the eyes of a young American boy, Walt Disney, which have been given one-episode.
"Latin American sound picture was cooked up entirely in Hollywood. Disney apparently had a long trip to South America while on his two-month tour. Film was suggested by, and has the approval of, Nelson G. Lamson, Chief of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

Pic opens with the Disney party playing a game of dominoes, while Spanish speaker, Alberto Soria, Hollywood correspondent for the magazine, "El Mundo," makes up the journey.
"Disney, Chilean, says he had a long trip to South America while on his two-month tour. Film was suggested by, and has the approval of, Nelson G. Lamson, Chief of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

GORILLA MAN

Hollywood, Dec. 7.
Warner Bros. production and review.
"Gorilla Man" (WB). Lesser quality leading title; like a Commando tale.

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WE ARE THE MARINES

Hollywood, Dec. 5.
20th-Fox release of March of Time production.
"We Are the Marines" (20th). March of Time and the Marines take the lead in this stirring and accomplished.
"Originality written some years ago by Carlos...

Storm, Holdovers: Irm Chl Trade;

Hedy Sweet 15G, 2d wk.; Major Plus L. Welk 39G H.O., 'Voyager' 17 1/2 G, 4th

Chicago, Dec. 8. Two days of snow followed by cold snap cut gross up for this week and affected all houses. Pre-Christmas big hit in 'The Snows' and with stores open Monday nights helping cinema trade.

Estimates for This Week Apollo (B&K) (1,500; 35-55-65-75) Thunder Birds (20th) and Girl Trouble (20th) (2d wk.) FR-74 500. Last week good \$6,000.

Palace (RKO) (2,500; 33-40-56-73) 'We Go Coon' (20th) Excellent \$11,000. Last week \$11,000. 'Falcon's Brother' (RKO) (3d wk.) \$10,000. 'The Great Escape' (20th) \$10,000.

Unkelt Artists (B&K) (1,700; 35-45-70) 'The White Horse' (20th) Held to good \$15,000. Last week \$11,000.

'GAL' OK 21 1/2 G. 'MOMMY'S ACE' Philadelphia, Dec. 8. First week of the shopping rush is beginning to make itself felt along the line, but the decline is not as sharp as the pre-Christmas sloughing of previous years.

Estimates for This Week Alden (WB) (2,500; 35-55-67-75) White Cargo (M-G) (2d wk.) \$12,000. 'The Great Escape' (20th) \$11,000.

Estimates for This Week Boyd (WB) (2,500; 35-56-67-80-75) 'My Gal' (M-G) Sold \$12,000 plus \$2,500 for 'The Snows' at Earle Sunday. Last week, 'Major and Minor' (Par) (3d wk.) held \$15,000.

Estimates for This Week Keltia (WB) (2,200; 35-46-57-68) 'The Snows' (WB) (2d run) Held \$17,000. 'Major and Minor' (Par) (3d wk.) Held \$15,000.

Still bringing in at nice \$15,000. 'Major and Minor' (Par) (3d wk.) 'Flying Forehead' (WB) (2d wk.) 'Flying Forehead' (WB) (2d wk.)

'SWAN GREAT' 'IAG IN CINCY'

Cincinnati, Dec. 8. General trade at downtown cinema's 'Swan Great' and 'IAG in Cincy' cause of heavy snowfall. Thus far the exhibs have not reckoned the effect of rain on the picture.

Estimates for This Week Albee (RKO) (3,300; 33-40-50-75) 'Black Swan' (20th) Excellent \$14,000. Last week, 'Never Lovelier' (RKO) good \$13,000.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30-45) 'The Snows' (WB) (2d run) Excellent \$11,000. Last week \$11,000. 'The Snows' (WB) (2d run) Excellent \$11,000.

Estimates for This Week 'Piper Leading Mom!' With Soccer 9,500. Loew's is leader with Pied Piper this week. Ice-Capades is offering the best picture.

Estimates for This Week 'Eileen Sweet \$25,000, 'klyn; 'Hadley' N.G. 15G Brooklyn, Dec. 8. My Sister Eileen paired with 'Pardon My Past' in the lead among the downtown deluxes this stanza.

Estimates for This Week 'Pardon My Past' (WB) (2,500; 35-55-65-75) Thunder Birds (20th) and Devil With Hitler (UA). Satisfactory \$12,000.

Estimates for This Week 'Madam Satan' (WB) (2,500; 35-55-65-75) 'The Snows' (WB) (2d run) Held \$17,000. 'Major and Minor' (Par) (3d wk.) Held \$15,000.

First Runs on Broadway (Subject to Change)

Week of Dec. 19 Actor: For Me and My Gal (M-G) (8th week). (Reviewed in 'Variety' Sept. 9.) 'Seven Days Leave' (RKO). (Reviewed in 'Variety' Oct. 14.) (Reviewed in 'Who Done It?') (2d week).

(Reviewed in 'Variety' Nov. 6.) (Reviewed in 'We Are the Music') (20th) (12 week). (Reviewed in current issue) Hollywood-Casablanca (WB) (2d week).

Motor: For Me and My Gal (M-G) (9th week). Critterium-Who Done It? (U) (2d week). (Reviewed in 'Variety' Nov. 18.) Brevit-Palm Beach Story (Par) (2d week).

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Early Xmas Buying Slows B'way, But Lovelier Fine 95G; A.&C., Wham 27G, 'Casablanca' Strong 27 1/2 G, 2d

With Christmas only a little more than two weeks off, several downtown bookers are withholding buying from a full attendance. However, the usual amount of Xmas buying is a fine boxoffice power, including 'Lovelier' (WB) (2d wk.).

A new one is 'You Were Never Lovelier' which ends its first week at the Music Hall tonight (Wednesday). It is selling exceptionally well for this time of the year at an indicated \$95,000 or more, and holds over.

Another that reached the straits during the past week, 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well. On the first seven days through last night, by the late Saturday, 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well.

The Strand continues its neck-to-neck struggle with 'Road to Morocco' and the Woody Herman band. While slipping slightly from the prior week, the fourth ending last night (Tuesday) was close to \$80,000, still socking Bob Wills and Swanee Rivers.

Another picture that is selling well for this time of the year at an indicated \$95,000 or more, and holds over. 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well.

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Comences second heat today (Wednesday) after blistering \$77,000 on first night. 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well.

Another that reached the straits during the past week, 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well. On the first seven days through last night, by the late Saturday, 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well.

The Strand continues its neck-to-neck struggle with 'Road to Morocco' and the Woody Herman band. While slipping slightly from the prior week, the fourth ending last night (Tuesday) was close to \$80,000, still socking Bob Wills and Swanee Rivers.

Another picture that is selling well for this time of the year at an indicated \$95,000 or more, and holds over. 'Who Done It?' (U) (2d week), is selling well.

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Wash. Slept Forte \$28,000, Topper In Frisco; Groove-Busse Solid 26C

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—George Washington Slept Here, only opener in the picture-circuit...

Key City Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week \$1,197,796 (Based on 28 cities, 187 theaters, chiefly first runs, including new)

Jim Stout \$21,000 In Newark, Iceland 17 1/2 In 2d, Witch's Fair 14 1/2

Newark, Dec. 8.—Lone standout this week is 'Gentleman Jim' carrying a hefty...

St. Louis Better After St. Bliz; 'Ox-Bow' Nice 16 1/2

St. Louis, Dec. 8.—A combo of the pre-latest on gas rationing and a storm and...

Rangers Rugged 19C In Two Seattle Spots; Journey \$10,000 H.O.

Seattle, Dec. 8.—Showmen are still awaiting the effect of gasoline rationing in these parts...

Wash. Slept Forte \$28,000, Topper In Frisco; Groove-Busse Solid 26C

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—George Washington Slept Here, only opener in the picture-circuit...

Jersey City Off But 'Jim' Okay At \$17,800

Jersey City, Dec. 8.—Pre-Christmas theater business on this usual year, with business among the first-runs generally...

L. A. Biz Bogs Howl but 'Cargo' Oke \$38,800 in 3 Houses; Wash., Mild 24C, 3-Spot H.O., Morocco 35C, 2d

Los Angeles, Dec. 8.—Gas rationing is starting to get in its ticks and the picture theatres is off around 15%...

Estimates for This Week

Loew's (Loew's) (2,200; 25-44-55-65) Married a Wife (U) and Countess (S) (Col.) Off to a poor start...

Broadway Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week \$189,590 (Based on 17 theatres)

Thunder Birds' Fine \$9,000 in Sad Lville; 'Gal' Mild 8C for H.O.

Louisville, Dec. 8.—Bad weather and cold temperatures over the weekend crimped takings along the local row...

Estimates for This Week

Carthay Circle (F-W) (1,516; 33-44-55-65) 'Bambi' (RKO) (8th wk) and 'Mrs. Miniver' (M-G) (8th wk)...

Wash. Slept Forte \$28,000, Topper In Frisco; Groove-Busse Solid 26C

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San Francisco, Dec. 8.—George Washington Slept Here, only opener in the picture-circuit...

NATIONAL OFFICE SURVEY Christmas Shopping Starts Earlier Than Usual, Cutting Into Current Biz—Storms, Holdovers Also Hurt

'Rockies' is bucking the tide stoutly with huge \$34,000 in Detroit, second Seattle, once \$35,000 in Philly...

Estimates for This Week

Blue Moon (Hamrick-Evergreen) (600; 40-50-85) 'Bambi' (RKO) (8th wk) and 'Mrs. Miniver' (M-G) (8th wk)...

Estimates for This Week

Blue Moon (Hamrick-Evergreen) (600; 40-50-85) 'Bambi' (RKO) (8th wk) and 'Mrs. Miniver' (M-G) (8th wk)...

Hempstead's 8 in '43

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—David Homeyer's 'The Sign of the Cross' attracted at RKO was renewed for his production...

When Peace Comes...

☞ There will be great significance in the part played by Show Business in the War.

☞ It will have carried the inspiration to United Nations' victory via Screen, Radio, Stage, Music and all the Liberal Arts.

☞ It will have been the ~~pace maker in War~~ Bond sales and War Relief drives.

☞ It will have been a most potent force in upholding national and servicemen's morale.

☞ It will have an unmatched record as a force for propaganda.

☞ It will be worthwhile putting on record.

**"Show Business
At War"**

THEME OF THE
37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER
of

VARIETY

To Be Published Late In December

SPECIAL
EXPLOITATION
ADVANTAGES

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES
PREVAIL

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent
to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK CHICAGO
184 W. 46th St. 54 W. Randolph St.
HOLLYWOOD LONDON
1706 No. Vine St. 8 St. Martin's Pl.

Just glimpse into "Arabian Nights"—no magic carpets



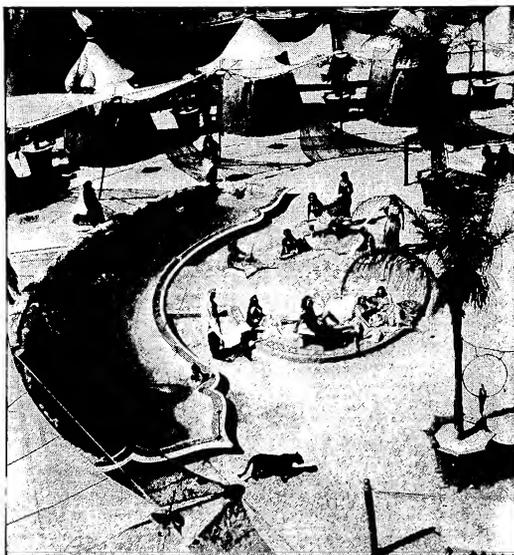
Haroun-al-Raschid, Caliph of Bagdad, and Sherazade, No. 1 glamour girl of all time, in her harem tent, shortly before he rescues her from slavery



The slave master auctions off the pretty captives brought from distant Bagdad to replenish the harems of the bidders



Following his fight with slave traders, Haroun-al-Raschid makes a thrilling getaway at the ancient gates of Bagdad



The harem beauties disport themselves in the big oriental fur-lined bathtub

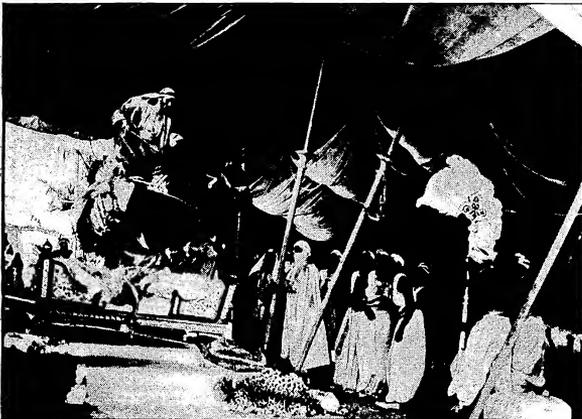
... just blood, sand and romance, in Technicolor



Some of the beauteous virgins of the harem on parade



engage in mortal combat



Sinbad leads the attack of Haroun-al-Raschid's men on the forces of Kamar-al-Shaman



Maria Montez as Sherazade (Just call me SHERA)



Haroun-al-Raschid's horsemen arrive at the crucial moment and join in the fray



WALTER WANGERS'
MIGHTY PRODUCTION

Arabian Nights

IN TECHNICOLOR

starring

JON HALL · MARIA MONTEZ · SABU

with
LEIF ERIKSON · BILLY GILBERT · EDGAR BARRIER
SHEMP HOWARD · THOMAS GOMEZ · TURHAN BEY
And These Bewitching Harem Queens
ELYSE KNOX · ACQUANETTA · CARMEN D'ANTONIO

Story and Screen Play, Michael Hogan · Additional Dialogue, True Boardman
Directed by John Rawlins · Produced by Walter Wanger

Heres the **PICTURE** from which
the **SONG SENSATION** was taken

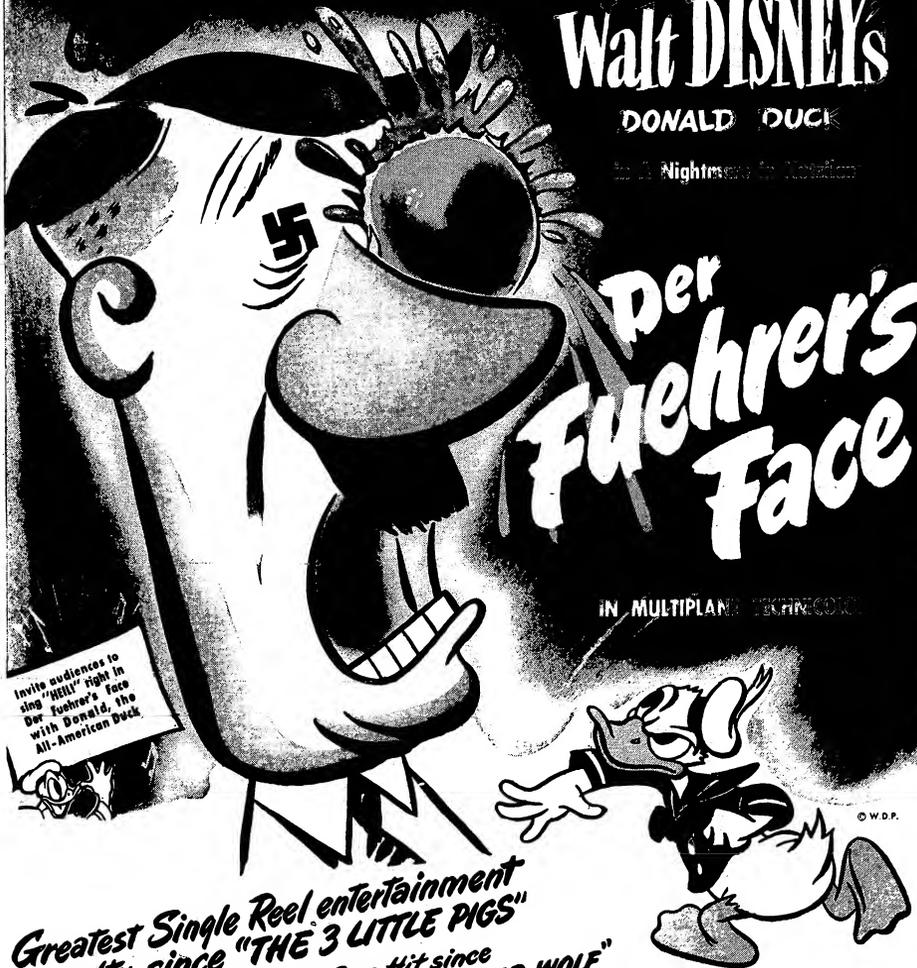
Walt **DISNEY'S**

DONALD DUCK

in 15 Minutes

Der
**Fuehrer's
Face**

IN MULTIPLANAR TECHNIQUE



Invite audiences to
sing "HELL" Fight in
Der Fuehrer's Face
with Donald, the
All-American Duck

*Greatest Single Reel entertainment
novelty since "THE 3 LITTLE PIGS"
Biggest Song Hit since
"WHO'S AFRAID OF THE BIG BAD WOLF"*

GENERAL RELEASE DATE - JAN. 1st
BY RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

© W.D.P.



It's an
Eye-Opener!



Did you see those receipts?

**WARNERS JACK BENNY AND
WARNERS ANN SHERIDAN IN
WARNERS GEORGE WASH
INGTON SLEPT HERE**

Horror
Thriller
Not Historical Mysterious

with CHARLES COBURN • PERCY KILBRIDE • HATTIE McDANIEL • WILLIAM TRACY • Directed by WILLIAM KEIGHLEY
Screen Play by Everett Freeman • From the Stage Play by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman • Produced by Sam Harris

BOND DRIVE! WEEK OF DEC. 7-13

Newark Suit Vs. Louis Kaufman And Six Others on This Week

Newark, Dec. 8.—Proceedings against Louis Kaufman, business manager, and six other officers of the Local 100 of the Picture Operators Union resume here tomorrow (Wed.) before Vice Chancellor Blewett. Five theatrical agents testified yesterday (Mon.) in Kaufman's defense.

Suit being brought by an insurgent group of union members which seeks to have Kaufman and his allies ousted as officers. The group named to supervise a new election: The Kaufman faction is charged with soliciting graft from union members in return for better jobs, and also entering into illicit wage agreements with Warren Dixon, Jr., theatrical manager by managers of five local and suburban houses recently claims the Schauler's testimony. Kaufman was approached by Kaufman's spokesman for graft not forced to retain operators against their wishes.

Vincent A. Schauler, cross-examined by Warren Dixon, Jr., theatrical counsel, is slated to be the first witness when trial resumes Wednesday. Schauler's testimony, given last September, involved George Gilligan, former pup of the local, who charged he was acting as union secretary in September, 1939, following a disagreement with Kaufman. Dispute arose over a three-year contract. Kaufman's testimony in the contract with theatre owners favored the one-year pact proposed by Gilligan. Schauler testified that when the three-year contract came before the local for a vote, he testified that he was acting between Kaufman and Gilligan and he informed later that he had not backed Gilligan. He further testified that when he saw Gilligan later he was making a mistake.

Schauler, a member of the local he said 30 years, said that so far as he knew Kaufman had no other members who disagreed with his policies, nor was he aware of any graft being taken by members for wage contract concessions.

PERMANENT SERIES OF SCRAP PIX SHOWS

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8.—His allies theatres in this territory have set a permanent series of scrap shows in response to Government's plea for continued cooperation from movie industry. They'll be held the first Thursday night of every month, and admission will be five pence of scrap or more.

Shows will be held Saturday (9) and next will be Jan. 2. Other circuits likely will be plotting similar shows in area.

\$45 for \$5 Junk Value
Zanesville, O., Dec. 8.—Tall electric sign weighing 800 pounds above the marquee of the Imperial has been dismantled and added to the Government's scrap pile at Erie, Pa. The Zanesville Theatre, admitted the deal was not exactly profitable. It cost him \$100 to have the sign taken down. As junk, the sign brought \$5, which he turned over to the War Chest.

ARCH MASON, MAYOR

N. S. Exhib Finally Wins Out—And By Large Plurality

Springhill, N. S., Dec. 8.—Archibald E. Macdonald, former mayor of the local Capitol, a pioneer exhibitor, has added to his extracurricular activities, and has been elected to the Springhill mayoralty. There were four aspirants, and Mason won by a large margin over his closest competitor.

The victory ends a series of political defeats for Mason, who is chairman of the arbitration board for exhibitors and distributors in the province, chairman of the board of the Independent Exhibitors of Canada, president of the Nova Scotia Film Association, and president of the Nova Scotia Fish & Game Association, and is a past president and founder of the Allied Exhibitors of Nova Scotia. He is also president and founder of the local Motion Picture Club for United Artists based at St. John, and supplying picture, equipment, accessories, on a drop basis to independent exhibitors. He was defeated for the provincial assembly last year and previously for the mayoralty.

M. P. ASSOCIATES NOW 350

Bill Rodgers and Ed Alperon Hypo Fraternal Org.

The Motion Picture Associates formed more than 20 years ago only for salesmen working in the New York exchanges but a few years ago expanded to take in salesmen in higher sales and theatre execs.

Drive, spearheaded by Rodgers and given considerable impetus by Ed Alperon, RKO's general theatre operator, has resulted in 175 new members and greatly strengthened the organization. The organization devoted to fraternal work and charity in the area served by the N. Y. film branches.

In addition to having a death benefit fund for members, the MPA also covers the distribution and exhibition branch who are in need financially, also in the procurement of positions. Harry Busbaum, 20th-Fox sales exec, is president and Jack Jills, RKO's N. Y. sales manager, is v.p.

Rodgers, in charge of distribution for Metro, who rounded up the vast majority of the new members, has been a member since earlier selling days. Alperon, who came into the picture last year, having been brought in 50 managers of RKO theatres.

FILMS VEER TO DISTASTEFUL STORIES

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—The industry is leaning to the distasteful in its story buys.

Latest is "Prodigal Woman," which supplies the material for the acquired "Gibson Girl," "Portrait of a Lady," "Government Girl," "Pretty Girl" and "Queen of the Night." Other story buys: "Monogram bought 'Red Bayonet'; RKO has bought 'The Story of the First Blood' from the founder of the first blood bank, to 20th-Fox.

Harry Rukin sold "Remember When" to Metro.

Paramount purchased "Five Little Ladies at War," by Arthur Dreifuss.

SPG's Bonus Complaint Postponed Until Thurs.

Following a hearing Monday afternoon (7) before the National arbitrator, who will decide whether members of the Screen Publicists Guild in Par are entitled to bonuses paid by the company, postponement was taken until tomorrow (Thursday) when the case will be heard by Arthur Keough, Par's legal head, to appear until then.

Keough was not present at the preliminary meeting before Diamond last week. He is represented by executive assistant to Barney Balaban, and George Barry, company attorney.

Due to the SPG matter, Par has asked for time to consider opening negotiations with the Screen Actors and Professional Employees Guild, which recently won an election to represent the white-collar Par music companies for white-collar.

Who Said They Could?

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—First picture to be produced in England under his new contract as producer-director at Republic will be "Bachelors Can't Have Babies." Picture will be based on a story written by Rogell in collaboration with Art Hurth.

U's Usual \$2

Universal's board of directors decided the usual \$2 quarterly dividend. The price of the stock in the meeting held last Thursday (3). U has been paying regularly on this \$9 dividend since starting \$2 payments about a year ago.

Divvy is payable Jan. 1 to stockholders on record Dec. 23.

One Kid Shoots His Companion During Jail-Break Scene at Cinema

Ain't Our Jesse

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—Tyronne Power looked to differentiate from Al Jolson, who had played that role for 20th-Fox that Harry Sherman is looking for an actor to play Jesse James. Power to play the James part in "Meet John Bonniwell." Idea is that the actor will be seen on the screen as a clean-shaven youth with a Power-ish glance and a Jolsonian smile.

P.S.: Jesse James wore whiskers and looked like a composite picture of Robert E. Lee, Ulysses S. Grant and William T. Sherman, none of whom could get into first base as a romantic lead in a picture.

Archibald Details Setup for Brit. Pic Propaganda in U. S.

Although he arrived in the U. S. from London last Oct. 14, illness prevented George Archibald, director of the Films Division of British Information Services, from assuming charge of his new duties in N. Y. until this week. He was taken ill with pneumonia coming across and was forced to enter the Johns Hopkins hospital for several weeks. Then he moved to North Carolina for more time to recuperate.

Archibald announced preliminary plans of his division, which will be charge with Tom Blair, who also came over from England as his assistant. The British War Information Service chief revealed that Sidney L. Bernstein, former films chief, had concluded a pact with the eight U. S. major and two minor distribution companies for England. Under this arrangement each will distribute one feature and two shorts to the British Information Services during the next 12 months. Bernstein now is honorary technical advisor to the film division of BMI.

First feature to be given the major companies under this "British Command" which covers the activities of the Coastal services in search of German submarines, which covers the activities of British Royal Air Force fighters in combating the Nazi planes, and the activities of the A. E. F. in camp and training in that country.

Archibald explained that two main channels of distribution will be employed by his film division in this country. The U. S. industry's War Activities Council distribution channel contract with the major distributors. Material handled and edited by the N. Y. office will be given the "Night Shift" are among the recent British-made subjects to be handled.

Archibald, who was formerly joint managing director for United Artists in Britain and a director of Odeon in England, is widely known in motion picture circles in England and to foreign distribution executives in the U. S. through his visits to the country. He left U. A. to do war work, and was assigned to the British Commissioner of Forthright Defense in Britain.

'Girl Crazy' Warm Up

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—Next Mickey Rooney-Judy Garland co-starrer, "Girl Crazy," goes into production in a few days. Four weeks of rehearsals, mostly on the musical end but many in the spoken word end, will have finished by Dec. 15. Busby Berkeley is directing the musical numbers under production supervision of Arthur Freed.

St. Louis, Dec. 8.

During the jail-break scene in "Through Different Eyes," Joseph Heston, who plays the murderer, was wounded by a 14-year-old companion Saturday (9) in the Shaw, a babe on the set. The incident, which occurred on the set, was held in the Coroner James Warren, son of a soldier at Camp Jackson, St. Louis. The excitement of the flicker he drew a snub-nosed 22-caliber revolver that he was then unloaded from the holster and pulled the trigger idly. He said the weapon snapped harshly several times and suddenly exploded.

Because of the noise in the scene Heston and the police were alerted of the tragedy but soon whippers of the shooting spread over the house and the room manager of the house, ordered an investigation. Heston was found slumped in his chair, and Joseph Warren in an adjoining one. Heston who had been shot beneath the heart died as he was being carried out of the theatre lobby.

Sills said that after the walling of Heston and the police were alerted he heard another shot and told the usher to investigate. Before the police arrived, Heston was carried the wounded youth out of the auditorium.

The police had to be in the trade for the weapon Friday (4) in a brand for a 22-caliber rifle and intended selling the rifle to Joseph Warren in an adjoining one. Heston who had been shot while examining the rifle was later helped police recover it from beneath a seat.

Frisco's Juve Edict

San Francisco, Dec. 8.—Frisko's juvenile delinquency drive has shaped up into a new curriculum proposal that will have no effect on theatre biz here.

Proposed ordinance, principal aim of which is to make theatre responsible for children's delinquency, shifts the curfew for all children under 16 to 10 p. m. for the present curfew of 10 p. m. for young adults, and midnight for young adults.

Authorities said new law would be invoked only when youngsters are seen loitering in public places, and that children going directly home following a picture show would not be bothered.

The ordinance was recommended by its police committee.

NLRB ORDERS SECRET BALLOT AT REPUBLIC

Washington, Dec. 8.—

Election by secret ballot among employees in the New York office of Republic Pictures was ordered by the National Labor Relations Board, for determining whether the picture studio should be Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild, Local 109, for the purpose of representing the employees.

Picture company refused to recognize the union as the exclusive bargaining agent. The union was certified by NLRB. A regional director's statement, introduced into evidence in the case, indicated that the union represents a substantial number of the employees.

Loew's Extra \$1.50 Melon

Loew's Inc., directors cut an extra dividend melon of \$1.50 for common stockholders last week being paid on the basis of a record set on record Dec. 18. This brings total payment this year to \$3.50 instead of the usual \$2 dividend because the directors had a 50c extra time payment. The extra \$1.50 and regular 50c are to be paid on the basis of the fourth year of the same on record year date with the same on record year date. Loew's previously had paid \$1.50 extra on the common. The corporation is currently paying this \$3.50 sum on the common currently.

FOR SHOWMEN WHO WANT
ACTION!



Gene *George* *Lynn*
TIERNEY • MONTGOMERY • BARI



CHINA GIRL

with

VICTOR McLAGLEN

and ALAN BAXTER • SIG RUMANN
MYRON McCORMICK • BOBBY BLAKE
ANN PENNINGTON • PHILIP AHN

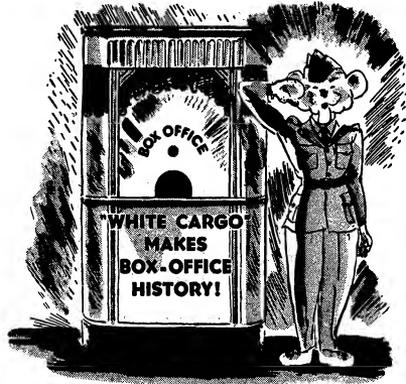
Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY
Produced and Written by BEN HECHT
Based on a Play by Melville Crossman

FEATURE WAR BONDS FOR XMAS!

A
20th
CENTURY-FOX
PICTURE



Judy Garland's joyous musical held over in 34 early engagements, tops famed "Miniver" in many spots, ahead of hearty "Honky Tonk" practically everywhere. 9th Week, Astor, N.Y.



New M-G-M records in Chicago (best at U. A. Theatre in 4 years!) and Philadelphia (best at Aldine since 1938) for the Hedy Lamarr-Walter Pidgeon smash romance. New York Capitol tops "Honky Tonk." Held-over 100%!



Wherever you go they're saying: "M-G-M has done it again!" Ronald Colman-Greer Garson in a film headed for the Hall of Fame. Press reviews, exhibitor praise prophesy another world-famed "Miniver" hit!



Watch trade press reviews! Greatest triumph of naval action since "Mutiny On Bounty." Robert Taylor, Brian Donlevy, Charles Laughton, Walter Brennan are superb! A dramatic spectacle with patriotic punch that lifts you to the skies!

FIRST LION OF DEFENSE!

Harmon Stresses

Continued from page 7

where the SSB tried to service troops in 65 combat areas with 21 prints.

'No Price Too High'

Touching on the difficulties confronting American business, Harmon said he felt that the price is too high to pay for freedom. We want to be reassured, however, that we shall have the liberty which we engaged in war for its preservation.

Scheffer outlined some of the obligations of the WAC, including the purchase of 4,700 film programs for the armed services. He said that 1,712 features and 2,202 shorts have been completed and that 380 features and 1,157 shorts were on order but that stock and laboratory processing priorities for the Army and Navy had held up deliveries.

At a meeting of the WAC division in Washington at which Scheffer and Harmon were present, the Special Services division was granted first 300,000 feet of 16 mm. stock and later 500,000 feet (as a result of Harmon's representation). Scheffer also pointed out that sufficient projection machines are not available and that the stock of the used-out-of-machines to turn them in for reconditioning and shipment is almost exhausted.

Si Fabian, reporting for the theatre division of the WAC, said that picture theatres were being asked to show Government films, as compared with some 12,000 at the outbreak of the war. William W. Brown, chairman of the Distribution Committee, later countered that, although Special Service shorts had been ordered from 6,000 to 12,000 bookings, it was not good enough. He held that if picture theatres were to be asked to show about every one of the films.

Oscar Doob, speaking on a budget and relations, said that "budget specialists are experienced money spenders." He then thanked Nick Howling (Doob) to give away his (Schenck's) tie to the WAC and announced that he would give up all his spare time to Loew's. Doob's proposal for a "Movies at War" campaign embracing all theatres and picture services, was temporarily pigeonholed, following discussion.

Acting

Fred Beaton, outlining activities of the Hollywood division of the WAC, said that up to October 1, 1941 Beaton had made a total of 114 appearances on live radio shows, transcriptions, spot shows, benefits, personal appearances, band drives, camp shows, both in America and overseas. He added that the Board of Directors of the American Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which was cooperating with the U. S. Signal Corps nine months before the war, has delivered 108 training films accepted and approved by the War Department, with 28 additional films on the way.

Beaton said that Col. M. E. Gillette, on the Coast had been announced that the Government would ask for between 1,500 and 2,000 new subjects for the coming year due to the increased size of the Army. These are to be produced on a non-profit basis. Some 30 films also have been produced in cooperation with the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for non-theatrical release in the 28 South American republics.

Permanents, Charities

Beaton cited the work of the Permanent Charities Committee in Hollywood. In his 1941 report, he said that "much of the success in the Japanese camp camps is due in a measure due to the infiltration tactics and the use of camouflage, particularly in the case of the individual soldier to which the studios contributed by providing space and material for groups of performers."

He also mentioned such varied activities as demonstrations for the use of studio material for creating smoke and fog, cataloging and impartment of studio fire-fighting apparatus, general training material for use in case of a major disaster; furnishing the Office of Strategic Services with 100,000 feet of 35 mm. film from studio libraries revealing important information on various types of war and assembly of pertinent material by the research departments for use of the war.

Harmon was re-elected as executive vice-chairman of the WAC and as its first general coordinator. Barney Balaban, in proposing Harmon's reappointment, said that "it would be important that all of us build rather than tear down our

coordinator's office, for to the extent that we work through Mr. Harmon we are going around him. We serve the best interests of our industry. Every time an industry leader from New York or Hollywood, or anywhere else, goes to Washington on his own without the clearance of the WAC coordinator on matters involving a war activity, we are adding to the confusion and hurting difficulty for the entire industry."

Resolution of thanks was also adopted to the four acting WAC division chairmen, Joseph Bernhard, William Scully, Monroe Greenhalgh and Joel Selman.

Among those present at the meeting were Guy Eysell, Fred Beaton, Bill Collins, Spyros Skouras, Bill Rodgers, Max Cohen, Harry Brandt, Sam E. Morris, Barney Balaban, Ed Kuykendall, N. Peter Rathvon, Oscar Doob, Adolph Zukor, Jack Cohn, Nick Schenck, Bob Willard, Charles Wick, Charles O'Connor, Phil Reisman, Robert J. O'Donnell, John Rosenfeld, Jr., George Harris, Nate Yamamoto, Herman Robbins and Arthur Mayer.

WAC's Press Setup

The national Public Relations Division of WAC for 1943, chairmaned by Oscar Doob, includes: Maurice Bergman, Mort Blumenthal, Harry Brandt, George Brown, Robert W. Campbell, William Compton, Howard Dietz, S. Charles Einfeld, Ernest Emerling, Alex Lovell, Robert G. Lipp, Vincent Trivette, John Hebert, Hal Horne, Charles Reed Jones, John Joseph, Lawrence Oscar, and the film industry, headed by the Mayor. Also Mess, James Butler, Silas F. Stadler, Howard Strickling, George Vincent, Trivette, Daguid, and others.

Barrett McCormick, chairman of the WAC, said that the American Red Cross, and Perry Leiber, chairman of the West Coast Public Relations Committee, are also members, as are the 31 Exchange Area publicity chairmen previously announced.

Hollywood, Dec. 8. Title role in "The Good Fellow," a Walter MacEwen production at Paramount, goes to Cecil Kellaway. Pictures will be an old stage piece by George S. Kaufman and Herman J. Mankiewicz, with George West and Hugh H. Ward, formerly of radio.

Late Judge Veder Sat On Pix Arbitrations

Former Federal Judge Van Vechter Veder, who died Friday (4) in New York at the age of 75, was chairman of the Appeal Board of the American Arbitration Assn., set up to decide cases of appeal brought by exhibitors under the arbitrating provisions of the consent decree. The other members of the board, both of them prominent attorneys, are Albert W. Putnam and George W. Alger. Last-mentioned was active in the RKO receivership reorganization.

Final film arbitration decision in which Judge Veder figured was made by the Appeal Board on Thursday (3), one relating to clearance in Philadelphia.

An expert on maritime law and the laws of slander and libel, Judge Veder was a member of the attorney's bar in Burlington, New York, Masten & Feary. He was also a member of the Harvard research group on international law.

Losses Clearance Fila Efforts of the operators of the Ambassador, Philadelphia, to reduce claims granted over it to the Bena there, one of the Warner houses, have failed. The Appeal Board of the American Arbitration Association, to which the case was taken, ruled the seven days clearance for not being granted.

Embassador, an independent house, wanted the clearance cut to one day.

Rationing Hits Coast Theatres But Grosses Still Higher Than Last Year

Los Angeles, Dec. 8. Gas—or the shortage of it—has taken some of the steam out of Coast film grosses, particularly in Hollywood—but compared to last year theatres are still generally ahead.

Comparisons between first week of gas rationing with same week last year reveal that theatres are still better off this year. Currently, area has been enjoying peak business. Improvement having been gained over past year to recent high levels.

Slump was felt in Hollywood immediately, trade dropping off noticeably on first day of rationing. However, drop was not such that losses staggered. Some of the theatres with extremely tight budgets. Those with strong picture trade felt gratefully though feeling slight decrease from normal trade. And in Hollywood it was the worst. But even at that it was not too bad. Grosses approximating last year's figures, and in some cases, exceeded those of last year.

Fox-West Coast's six deluxes suffered only slight drop. None was worse off than last year and some continued even better. Two Paramounts were well over last year. On the other hand, downtown houses, now augmented by another, the Wiltern, stayed within last year's figure. Pantheon and Hill street were off but mainly due to weak market. Hawaii's take abated those of last year.

Some of drop may be due to traditional pre-Xmas slump. However, on other hand, with downtown houses doing well currently, it's thought that only slight adverse effect there may be due to shopping crowds. If rationing happened at any other time than Xmas, downtown, too, would be better off.

may have been hit. In all, managers figure six of one and half dozen of another, and are awaiting close of this week when stacked tanks emptied out and the new norm must really start.

Neighborhoods, which had hoped to cash in on the situation, are finding themselves in reverse. Instead of improving they are worse off than ever. Crying loudly for past few months, they hoped for some first-run trade with stay-at-homes. First week has caused them to take a deep breath for many as are much as 50% off what had been previous poor. Downtown suburban area, off, too, and Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California report that unofficial cross-section check shows situation is same all over for the Indies. Like all the rest, ITO doesn't know the answer yet.

Loew's, Ltd., \$171,537 Net

Montreal, Dec. 6. Net profit of Loew's Theatres, Ltd. was \$171,537, before taxes for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, the company reported Friday (4). This compares with \$185,641 the previous year. Taxes were \$71,851 as against \$69,206, so net for the period, after taxes was \$99,686 compared with \$84,285. After credit of \$5,561 for previous year's income taxes, payment of 10% on the 7% preferred, earned surplus account was increased from \$754,824 to \$750,872. The previous year payment of 14% was made on the profit.

Working capital was reported at \$529,379 compared with \$455,822 the previous year-end.

Inside Staff—Pictures

Few people know that Col. W. Mason Wright, former coordinator between the Army and the film industry, once was a trouper in vaudeville. About 25 years ago Col. Wright and Tony Gordon appeared on the stage in support of Marie Dressler in a sketch written by Philander Johnson and directed by George Washington newspaper reporters. The sketch was called "For Country," and played two weeks and another at the Palaca in New York. It was a patriotic theme but was not successful. Col. Wright says his limo to be presented to the American public. Col. Wright is now on the way to the Far East on a military mission.

THE WEEK
Errol FLYNN in **GLORIA SMITH**
In Warner Bros. Hit
"GENTLEMAN JIM"
With
GLEN GRAY
And His Glee Lads Orsh.
With
Kenny Bargar & Pao Was Hunt
DEALERS ONLY
8'way at 47th St. STRAND

JUDY GARLAND
in
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
ASTOR 8'way Popular Price Continued Foot.

After publishing monthly without interruption for eight years, Rockefeller Center tabloid magazine announced it is ceasing publication, effective with the December edition. With the U. S. at war, it was explained earlier, that after a survey of various activities which Rockefeller Center, Inc. controls or sponsors, it was found that the mag could hardly be considered an essential activity in these streamlined days.

Pointing out in connection with decision to cease publication that there were less than 10,000 tenants when the magazine was launched and only six buildings completed, that now 38,000 have their business homes in the Center in its buildings.

A film producer on the Coast, who was classified as a 3-A, decided to visit the United States in order to handle a possible reclassification, since the producer support to relief. When he got to the board he discovered they had him marked as dead, having gotten him confused with another producer of the same name.

Though he may never have heard from the board, when they learned the producer was alive, they immediately paid no attention to support of his cause and reclassified him I-A, since his "father" receives independent income.

Last diplomatic objection to the Warners picture, "Casablanca," was removed when Vichy broke off its diplomatic relations with the United States. Up to that time there was international difficulty over the character played by Claude Rains, a no-good French Government official in the hands of the Vichy colonial city when the play is backgrounded to that Vichy. France, has been taken over by the Nazis, the picture is in general release without fear of diplomatic complications.

The third and concluding installment of Liberty magazine's story of Harry M. Warner, also plugs publicist S. Charles Einfeld in the issue. Author Fredrick Van Ryn says that Warner "went to an end to junkets for the duration) now spends money, not only on creating legitimate news but on making stories that popularize the Atlantic Charter, the needs of American troops, technique."

A man asked to give within three years the average age of all motion picture actors in a CBS show. "Thanks for the Yanks," replied "28." When he learned he was wrong, the quizee said he probably had made an estimate "too high." Quizmaster Bob Hawke countered that "the average age of all motion picture actors, is a nice age for a woman, particularly when she is 40."

JUDY GARLAND
in
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
ASTOR 8'way Popular Price Continued Foot.

ROCKWELL HODGSON
in
"THE ROYAL WEDDING"
A REAL ON THE ROYAL WEDDING
DEALERS ONLY
8'way at 47th St. STRAND

8-phonese Remorse Get to Meet! . . .
Victory WAR & BATTLE
7 DAYS LEAVE!
CAPITOL THEATRE

PARAMOUNT
JACK BENNY & ANN BROWN
in
"GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE"
"Whys and Hows of the Woman"
Mae HEEGLE & Robert NEWTON

PALACE 8'way & 47th St.
JACK BENNY & ANN BROWN
in
"GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE"
"Whys and Hows of the Woman"
Mae HEEGLE & Robert NEWTON

8RD WEEK
Sammy Kaye & Paul Bogart in **Berman & Henroid**
In Warner Bros. Hit
"CASABLANCA"
A Hal B. Wallis Production
Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ
HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
CineJouneau • 8'way & 51st St.

MUSIC HALL
BILLY DOUG
"YOU WERE NEVER LOVELIER"
Spotaneous Stage Productions

26th Week!
MICHAEL TODD'S
SPY GLASS PARTER
8'way at 47th St. STRAND

LOEW'S STATE Times
Last Times W.W.
BARRY BURTON
in
"JULIEN"
In French
CROSS & OLIVE
MELVILLE
HERMANA MARIANI

8'way Thru. 10
in
"FLYING DUTCHMAN"
JACK BENNY & ANN BROWN
in
"GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE"
"Whys and Hows of the Woman"
Mae HEEGLE & Robert NEWTON

STARS ON ICE
CENTER THEATRE 8-51st
8'way at 47th St. STRAND
CROSS & OLIVE
MELVILLE
HERMANA MARIANI

STARS AND SHOWS

Thompson Agency Centralizes Time-Buying Within Media Dept. To Better Service Its Clients

The J. Walter Thompson agency has reorganized its time-buying setup to the extent of making it an integral part of the radio department. Time-buying at Thompson since 1928 has functioned independently of the advertising department and had been part of the radio department. Under the new method of operation, Linaea Nelson, head time-buyer will come under the direct authority of Arno Johnson, who has just been named director of radio as well as research. Miss Nelson had previously reported to John U. Reber, in charge of the radio department.

The question of centralizing all media had been under consideration by Thompson officials for some time. There had been a growing opinion within the agency that the clients' interests would best be served if the radio phase of the account were dovetailed with the other media operations, and the latter placed in a position where they could profit from the wealth of merchant display angles and viewpoints gained in the use of the newest medium, radio.

Some agency men are of the opinion that such centralizing will be the accepted mode within the next few years.

Shirley Booth, Gardner And Stu Erwin Will Guest for Kate Smith

Ed Gardner and Shirley Booth, stars on the Blue network's Tuesday nights for Bristol-Myers, will guest Friday night (11) on the Kate Smith show on CBS for General Foods. However, they will not work together. Gardner will do comedy spot and Miss Booth will read a monolog condensed of "The Walrus," Dorothy Parker sketch. Miss Booth plays the lead in the original comedy of "My Sister Ellen," at the Blue theatre, N. Y.

Stuart Erwin will be the guest on the Kate Smith program Dec. 16, playing the lead in "The Sound of Your Voice," an original fantasy by Robert Presnell. For the Dec. 25 broadcast of the series, Charles Towne's "The Small One" will be read by Miss Smith and Ted Collins. It's a Christmas annual for the program. Miss Smith and Collins will play the leads in "Master Mag of America," an original by Paul Woodruff, for the dramatic spot on the Jan. 1 broadcast.

The series is directed by Harry Ackerman for the Young & Rubicam agency.

MARJORIE SPRIGGS NEW TREASURY RADIO HEAD

Marjorie L. Spriggs now heads the radio section of the Treasury Dept. in Washington. She is replacing Charles J. Gilchrist, who resigned to take a lieutenantcy in the Navy. She had headed the office of chief of women's and children's programs.

Miss Spriggs was formerly publicity director of WBEZ-Boston.

On 'Cavalcade' Production

Norris Houghton joined the radio staff of B.B. & O. as the program coordinator of the "Cavalcade of America" series. He had been a member of the legit production staff of USO-Camp Shows, Inc., and before that was director of dramatics at Princeton.

Good Enough

Buffalo, Dec. 8. Early this month WEBR purchased an organ, but hasn't been heard on the air yet. Reason: Station has never had an organist.

Perhaps Symphonist's Right Thing for Kids

Cleveland, Dec. 8. A list of juvenile programs, drawn up by the evaluation committee of the Radio Council of Greater Cleveland, has been released by organization president Mrs. Walter V. Magee. The report recommends programs for children presented on the five week week, but lists the following Saturday shows: "Let's Pretend," "Story Time," "Story Teller," "Little Blue Playhouse," "Pan-American Holiday," "God's Country." Sunday listings are: "Family Hour," "Wings Over Jordan," "Andre Kostelanetz and His Radio's Dog Club."

Radio Council, although including several adult programs, failed to exclude what it disregards such shows as Quiz Kids, "Band Wagon," N. Y. Philharmonic, NBC Orchestra, Cleveland Symphony and other cultural broadcasts.

Council held round table meeting on "Radio's Important Place in a World at War" in Higbee Lounge Friday (4). Industry representatives were Ralph Vorden, WGBR; Hal Metzger, WTAM; Eleanor Hansen, WPKM; and Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, traveling representative of the National Assn. of Broadcasters.

WALTER CASSELL TAKING PARKER'S SQUIBB SHOW

Walter Cassell, Metropolitan Operabarter, replaces Frank Parker on the Squibb program, starting Monday (14). He and Parker will participate in the latter's finale on Friday (11), which will originate at the Merchant Marine base at Sheepshead Bay, N. Y., where Parker will report for duty Monday.

Before the change at Metropolitan roster this fall, Cassell had been doing guest appearances on various commercial programs, the latest having been Sunday (8) on the Andre Kostelanetz show for Clear Channel.

Before the change at Metropolitan roster this fall, Cassell had been doing guest appearances on various commercial programs, the latest having been Sunday (8) on the Andre Kostelanetz show for Clear Channel.

Clear Channel Service Director Due for Army

Washington, Dec. 8. Victor Sholis, director of the Clear Channel Broadcasting Service, will soon go into the Army. He was deferred until Dec. 26 to wind up his business affairs.

Sholis organized his office in February, 1941, for the independent Clear Channel (7) stations in the country. Prior to entering radio, he had been special assistant to Harry Woodruff in the Department of Commerce.

Sholis may be succeeded by Allan B. Miller, his assistant.

AGCVS. SEE YOU IN THE BRIGHT LIGHTS

Figure Film Names Will Maintain at Least Occasional Radio Contact, Even If Gratis Because of 25G Income Ceiling — Some Cuffo Appearances Already

NEW FACES THREAT

The radio heads of several major advertising agencies harbor the belief that network commercial programs won't, after Jan. 1, suffer as severely near the drought in film name talent as is now generally anticipated. Agency officials feel that there will be quite a number of top Hollywoodies who will be inclined to maintain at intervals a radio contact with their fans, even if it means working without compensation. Several such non-salary cases, according to the agency men, have already occurred, and they are confident that many other established stars will be going on air by themselves with network commercials, particularly if the program's prestige and listening rating strikes them, as right.

The agency execs admit that the no-pay instances do have applied only to stars who had already committed their services for a broadcast, and found later on that their earnings for the current year were affected through the last period of 1941. The salary ceiling which went into effect last month made this stop operation limiting net income to \$25,000 takes effect Jan. 1.

These agency imperatives contend that regardless of the policies asserted by some studios toward radio, the average film name is going to recognize the advantage of an occasional air link.

If not, it will be okay with the agencies. They will find new people to take the place of current stars, and they will be able to find certain point in national prominence the film studios will start bidding for the latter's voice, with the result that those stars who elected to stay off the air will find themselves faced with competition from a contingent of fresh personalities. As the agency sees it, a film star, in order to maintain top popularity in these days, must keep himself or herself before a radio as well as a theatre audience.

Celling Still Problem

There appears to be no general agreement as to how to handle the artists as to the course to pursue under the Government's \$25,000 ceiling. The American Federation of Radio Artists (Continued on page 24)

Now That McNutt Is Manpowering Czar, WMC's Radio Dept. May Be Tops of All Govt. Bureaus

Premieres

Washington, Dec. 8. With Paul V. McNutt emerging as head of the nation's entire manpower setup last week, the War Manpower Commission radio department, under Laurence Hammond, director, will probably be drastically expanded as planned for the last several months. It will likely become the largest radio department of any Government bureau. Number of writers, directors and researchers will be added to the staff. Budget for the enlarged setup will be allocated this week by the Office of War Information.

'Cavalcade' Buys Agency Package With Producer

Hollywood, Dec. 8. First complete program packaged by a talent agency on the Coast has been bought by Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn for DuPont's "Cavalcade of America." The wrap-up are Hector Velez's script, "The Man Who Wouldn't Be President," Edward Arnold as star and 2. Wayne Griffin, radio head of the Berg and Mendelsohn agency.

The B&A agency will continue to wrap up other shows with talent drawn from its list. A second show for DuPont, involving Alan Ladd, is now in negotiation.

Griffin is proceeding on the theory that agency productive power will be hard hit by the draft and enlistments, and package program partially solve that problem, with producer and writer included in the deal.

CHI U FORUM MOVES SUN SPOT FOR WEST REVUE

Chicago University has agreed to move its Sunday afternoon "Round Table" program back a half hour to 2 p.m. and Westinghouse will debut a musical program in NBC's Sabbath 2:30-3 p.m. Jan. 10.

The cast of the "Festivehouse session" will comprise John Charles Thomas, Lon Murray choir, Mark Warnow orchestra and John Nesbitt as m.c.

James Clark, former WWJ and W4SD, Detroit, announcer, has completed officers' candidate training at Camp Robinson, Ark.

Sponsor Auditions, Buys and Puts Show on Air All in One Day

Jon Duffy With Marines As Combat Correspondent

San Francisco, Dec. 8. Jon Duffy, shortwave producer and news announcer at KWID, San Francisco, left yesterday (Monday) to join the Marines as a combat correspondent. He has been broadcast to Australia and the Far East for the last five months.

Before joining KWID, Duffy was assistant manager and program director of WVOZ, Mutual outlet in New Orleans, and previously was with WSMB, New Orleans, and WPC, Cincinnati.

War Manpower radio department has developed two different methods of getting its message across. One is through its own programs, "The Show of Tomorrow" and "Today," Sunday afternoons and "What's Your War Job?" Wednesday nights, both on the Blue network. It has also spotted messages and guests on various network commercial, and that these of the agency and local communities should work out their own manpower problems on the local front.

New project of the Manpower Commission involves a second show, by name commentators, for broadcast on local stations throughout the country. Kate Smith, Gabriel Heatter, Edwin C. Hill and Lowell Thomas are among those already making recordings. The agency normally employed to take jobs in war plants.

Collins, Off 'War Job', May Do Own 15-Min. Manpower Program

Ted Collins has withdrawn from the "What's Your War Job" program Wednesday nights on the Blue for the War Manpower Commission, and will probably do a 15-minute show on CBS for the Government agency, but working on the program with Raymond Rubicam and Laurence Hammond, of the WMC, and with CBS.

Reason Collins dropped off the program was difficulties in traveling from New York to the remote orientation spots without interfering with his own radio show. Kate Smith in her noon talk series on CBS for General Foods. Underneath, he has made arrangements with the food firm and Young & Rubicam, agency on the account, to take over the 15-minute slot from wherever he may be for the originators of forthcoming series "The New Manpower Show."

The new show, like the Collins spot, "What's Your War Job," will consist of interviews with war plant workers. Meanwhile Hammond is making a complete interview for "What's Your War Job," with Milo Boulton and Woody Herman's orchestra, in a portion originating in New York.

Wanted: a March King

Chicago. Editor, 'Variety': Even with radio as an instantaneous star maker there is no military band or orchestra, after a year at the moment, to plug a Christmas to Sousa's in the last war. How about airing the best, and polling for the winner?

Horace Kinsey.

Corning's Xmas Plug Corning Glass Works is going on a 12-day campaign of transcribed announcements to plug its Christmas tree ornaments. Starting date of the schedule is Dec. 13. B.B. & O. is the agency.

Nazis' Frequent Warnings Vs. 'Lies' Proves U. S. DX Is Getting Through

Washington, Dec. 8. American shortwave broadcasts to Axis-occupied Europe and Asia are being heard by the peoples there, Robert E. Sherwood, director of the Office of War Information, made known Monday (7).

Question most frequently asked about this country's psychological warfare is whether there can be any certainty that the people abroad are hearing the news broadcasts. Flaywright propagandist points out that no polls of opinion can be taken in the enemy-occupied countries.

"We get the answer from our enemies themselves," Sherwood stated, "from their increasing admissions to their own people to stop believing the lies that are told them by American and British and Russian and Chinese propagandists. Our enemies wouldn't be denying these 'lies' if their peoples in ever-increasing numbers had not heard or read them.

Distribution of American news in Europe is being made possible by the greater access to the vast facilities of the British Broadcasting Co., according to Sherwood. "Several times each day the people of Europe can hear the voice of American rebroadcast by the powerful battery of BBC transmitters, long wave as well as short wave," he stated.

Word is being gotten into occupied countries by other means, too. Sherwood cited the "friendly and valuable cooperation with the Royal Air Force." Within a month after Pearl Harbor, he said, the RAF was dropping millions of American leaflets which gave the text of President Roosevelt's first wartime report on the state of the nation.

This means of communication also was used simultaneously with President Roosevelt's address to the French people, which was broadcast from more than 50 transmitters on both sides of the Atlantic to herald arrival of an American Expeditionary Force in North Africa.

Power of Words

"Words can bolster the morale of our friends overseas, and thus increase their powers of resistance," Sherwood stated. "Words can disrupt the morale of our enemies, and thus decrease their powers of resistance."

Most remarkable achievement in psychological warfare, according to Sherwood, was that of the British in 1940-1941. Their confidence in meeting the enemy, the words they hurled into Europe, "confounded the all-conquering Nazis and sowed in their people the first seeds of doubt of their invincibility."

"Delivery of such great words to the peoples who must hear them has been the job of the various psychological warfare agencies of the United Nations," the overseas operations director asserted. "We have been sending the word over there by radio, by press services, by pamphlets, leaflets, posters, movies and even by word of mouth, which travels with mysterious speed and effectiveness and penetrates the stoutest walls of censorship and suppression that the Nazis, the Fascists or the fanatical militarists of Tokyo can build about their own and conquered countries."

FORD OF MEXICO IS STILL BROADCASTING

Mexico City, Dec. 8. Though it admits in its publicity that its business in Mexico has about gone the way it has in the U. S., the Ford Motor Co. of Mexico is maintaining interest in its trademark by a semi-weekly half-hour presentation at local station XEQ of "The Album of Melodies."

's rendition of songs and music by wanderer Guss Moreno and his orchestra.

Sales Mgr. Navy-Bound

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 8. LeMoine C. Wheeler, sales manager of WHEC, has enlisted in the Navy as a reserve lieutenant and is awaiting call to duty. During his absence his father, station v. p. Clarence Wheeler, and general manager Gumar Wiig will handle his chores.

Ford Cowing, former WHEC announcer now in the Army, is stationed at induction centre here.

RCA Votes Additional 20c Divvy on Common

Radio Corp. of America directorate last week declared an additional 20c on its common shares. Company has already paid 20c this year. While not payable until Jan. 27 in 1943, it is applicable only to stockholders on record at the close of business on next Dec. 18.

RCA also declared the usual 97½c on the first preferred and \$125 on the 'B' preferred, both covering the period from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31. Both of these divvys are payable on next Jan. 1 to stockholders on record Dec. 14.

Election of George K. Throckmorton, chairman of the RCA Manufacturing Co. executive committee, to the directorate also was announced by David Sarnoff, president of RCA.

BACK TO PRISON

KYW, Philly, to Air Institution Xmas Programs for 8th Year

Philadelphia, Dec. 8. KYW will broadcast two programs this Christmas from local prisons—eighth year that the local NBC-Red outlet has carried these shows.

The broadcasts feature inmate talent with a plea for funds for the Prison Welfare Society voiced by Judge Harry S. McDevitt. Money received goes to families of prisoners.

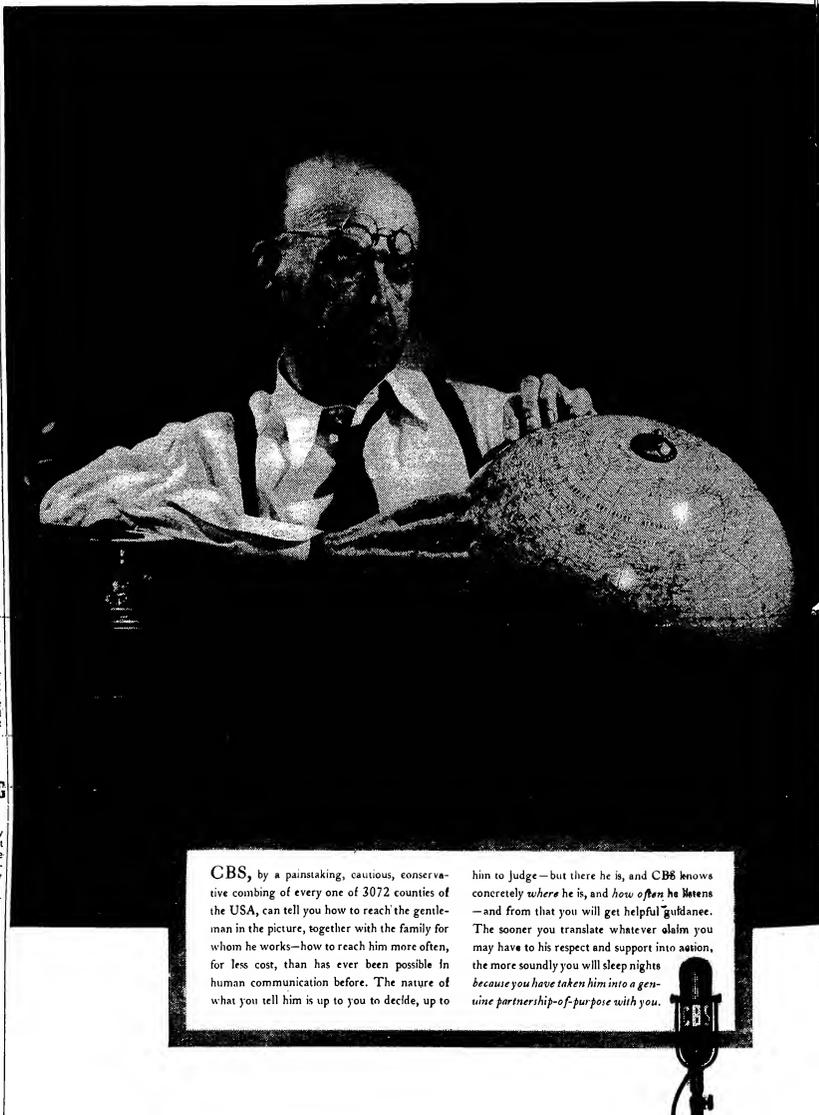
Charlotte, N. C.—WAIR added two new announcers, Larry Patrick and Jim Lister. Jack Lowe left to assume duties with WWDC, key station of the Atlantic Coast Network, in Washington.

Mutual's 910G

Gross in Oct. 5% Off 1941

The Mutual Network last month grossed \$910,167 from time sales. This represents a drop of 5% from the tally, \$957,535, which prevailed for November, 1941.

The network, however, is ahead by 38% on the first 11 months of the year. The accumulative total for 1942 is \$8,775,305, as compared to \$8,352,457 for the like period of '41.



CBS, by a painstaking, cautious, conservative combing of every one of 3072 counties of the USA, can tell you how to reach the gentleman in the picture, together with the family for whom he works—how to reach him more often, for less cost, than has ever been possible in human communication before. The nature of what you tell him is up to you to decide, up to

him to judge—but there he is, and CBS knows concretely where he is, and how often he listens—and from that you will get helpful guidance. The sooner you translate whatever claim you may have to his respect and support into action, the more soundly you will sleep nights because you have taken him into a genuine partnership-of-purpose with you.



HUNT FRESH SERIAL SLAITS

Too Hot for Daily, OK for Radio

Boston, Dec. 8. Joe Dinneen, Boston Globe columnist, wrote a factual account of the fire holocaust existing in local niteries that could repeat the Cocanot Grove holocaust, but his newspaper termed it too hot to print, so Dinneen delivered it on his daily broadcast over WORL.

Nightclub operators mentioned over the air threatened recourse through the courts, but their outbursts were suddenly stilled when the building department inspectors closed everyone of them until alterations were made.

From Radio to Modiste's, All Because of a Wife

Buffalo, Dec. 8. Floyd Keesee has resigned as sports announcer of WBNY here to open a dress shop in Providence, R. I. He expects to be called for Army duty, so he's getting the shop set for his wife to take over, if and when.

Keesee started a few years back on WMBO, Auburn, N. Y., where his father, Frederick L., is station manager.

Arthur Perles Moves Up

Arthur Perles, formerly in charge of CBS shortwave publicity, has been appointed assistant publicity director of the network, under George Crandall, director.

Before becoming press contact for the shortwave department, Perles was publicity copy editor for the network and previous to that was a newspaper man.

AGENCY SOLICITS NEW WRITERS

Compton Would Give Free Hand to Couple of Scripters for Experimental Purposes — Departure From Package Program Policy

TIRED OF A.K. IDEAS

The Compton agency, which handles several daytime serials for Procter & Gamble, is scouting around for a couple writers with fresh points of view on daytime radio dramatization who would be interested in doing some experimental work. The policy represents quite an innovation for this agency since it has heretofore confined its daytime serial operation to package programs bought on the outside.

The writers brought in would be given a free hand as far as plotting story and character forms and they would, of course, receive the editorial aid and guidance of Compton production executives. If a script developed from such an inside collaboration impresses Compton officials as having possibilities, it will be recorded and tested on various stations, or given a tryout with a live cast on some regional network.

What prompted the agency to adopt the experimental project was the realization that few new writers have cracked the daytime serial field in recent years. Clients and agencies have consequently had to lean on the same old coterie. These fall into three groups: (1) writers who have carved out a reputation and keep in the same groove year after year; (2) writers who swing from one program package producing firm to another and function merely as assembly-line workers on set program patterns; and (3) writers whom the parade passed by long ago.

The Compton idea is to recruit absolute beginners who have no preconceived notions and to give them full swing. From such newcomers might come a product that recognizes that the theme of all-out emotionality in daytime radio because of the fulfillment accorded listeners on the score by the war, and that the times call for a newer orientation of emotional concepts.

CRAWFORD RENEWS ON WMCA FOR 4TH YR.

Crawford Clothes renewed its schedule with WMCA, N. Y., for 52 weeks non-cancellable. Sponsor has over nine hours a week on the station, spread over everything but spot announcements, and has been a steady user of WMCA time for three years.

Half of Crawford's schedule consists of news, with the balance including variety, records, quiz and sports shows, all in quarter or half-hour blocks.

MacDonald New NBC V.P.

John H. MacDonald, financial officer of NBC, was last week elected a v.p. MacDonald came into NBC in 1932 through Tradeways, Inc., which was doing a research and reorganization job for the network at the time.

After the Tradeway assignment had been completed, MacDonald became the NBC budget officer, served as business manager of the recording division. He worked on the various problems arising from the separation of the Red and Blue networks.

It's right in his lap

The subject of the photograph is named John.

He is the Average American.

A very un-average person he is. He and his wife and kids (in the service or not) are 'what makes America go'. He works for somebody or other—maybe himself, even—but he runs the country. Increasingly it becomes apparent to him that his responsibilities and those of his kids are not limited by our national boundaries.

He runs the country?

Yes. What is perhaps more urgent is that HE RUNS YOU.

He's got the major problems of the world squarely in his lap. He realizes that if he doesn't tackle and solve them he will have to take orders from whoever tackles and solves them first. *He is thinking very hard these days.*

He doesn't like to sound off an opinion without plenty of facts to fortify his instincts.

He relies on radio, enormously and increasingly, for the facts and impressions on which he bases his judgments. He and his family listen some 5 hours a day. He is cagey as a fox about believing—or disbelieving—the information, argument and emotion he gets from the air. But out of his weighing, accepting and rejecting of everything he hears, he forms an opinion, and acts on it. This is called *public opinion*. Radio public opinion is 31 million families strong.

His personal opinion—no matter what the captains and the kings may say—will decide what happens to the USA in the factory, the military field, and the home.

He is not to be trifled with, nor deceived—especially on the air. He is "open to argument", and in the long run he is just. He is grateful for a good time, bountiful in his generosity, scornful of fraud—and loyal to tried friends.

He's not being tricky over your case with. In 28 million homes he and his family listen to CBS. After all, he's your boss.



AFRA, Networks Agree on 10% Raise In Sustaining Fees; WLB's OK Certain

Blanket increase of 10% in all sustaining fees for actors, singers and announcers has been tentatively agreed upon by the American Federation of Radio Artists and the four major networks. Boost is subject to approval by the War Labor Board but that is expected without difficulty, since it is covered in a cost-of-living index clause in the existing contract.

Number of minor complications in the deal remain to be worked out. One is to keep the revised rates in even amounts. For instance, where the existing fee is \$19, the 10% increase would bring it to \$20.90, involving considerable added book-keeping for the networks. In all such cases, some method is to be devised for setting the revised fee at an even amount. There are a number of other such minor wrinkles to be eliminated before actual signing of the agreement.

General raise of scales applies not only to performers receiving AFRA minimums, but also to staff artists already getting more than scale. However, such increases will be based on 10% of scale, not 10% of the artist's above-scale fee. There now appears to be some uncertainty

whether the boost will also apply to non-staff artists working at more than scale, but hired for single or per-program engagements. That will have to be settled at further negotiation.

The upward revision of the sustaining code was worked out after several weeks of confab. Opening of the existing contract, which expires Nov. 1, 1943, was permitted under the scale-of-living clause. Under a similar clause in the commercial contract, AFRA is slated to start negotiations about Jan. 15 with agencies for an upward revision of the commercial code. Sustaining increase is effective next Tuesday (15), but is conditional on the prospective rise in the network commercial scale.

Ashley With Lyons

With Wilson Tuttle slated for the Army Air Force, the A. & S. Lyons agency has brought Arthur Ashley in as a vice-president in charge of radio in its New York office. Ashley most recently has been operating his own production firm. Tuttle has applied for a berth with the Air Force Reserve and is awaiting word on the results of his exams.

Mont'l Churches Protest Commercial Replacement For Religious Program

Montreal, Dec. 8. Demand for the restoration to the churches of the Sunday evening hour, 7 to 8, on station CBM of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. has the official backing of all Protestant denominations in this city. It was stated in a resolution passed at a meeting of the executive committee of the Diocese of Montreal, Thursday (5), and forwarded to the governors of the CBC. (Time is currently filled by Jack Benny, 7 to 7:30, and by Department of Finance Show from 7:30 to 8 p.m.) The resolution reminds the management of the CBC that the church services, broadcast from Montreal for a period of over 15 years, have filled a very pressing need and that there have been strong protests from many people concerning the dropping of the evening services in favor of commercial programs.

Renew 2 on MBS

Pharmco has renewed for its "Double or Nothing" quiz on the Mutual network for another 12 weeks, effective Dec. 25. Another Mutual renewal of the past week is Conte's "Background to the News."

Tough Giveaways Last Week

Demand for gratis admission to broadcast studios generally exceeds the seats available, but that was in reverse early last week. Around 11 p. m. a guard in the rounds of the RCA Building in Radio City solicited persons to sit in on a start. He supplied the names of those in the show.

Reason for the stunt was not clear, but the general effect of the Boston broadcast was to help many people away from places of assemblage. A dinner party from the Rainbow Room, which is atop the RCA Building, though it was a gag. A showman in the group pointed out the guests who were jokingly said to be preferred going to CBS, where coffee is served.

NBC Continuing 'Parade of Stars' Bally Following Success With 125 Affiliates

Convinced of the success of the stunt, as attested by reports received from the network's 125 affiliated stations, NBC is arranging for a continuation of its 'Fall Parade of Stars' promotion campaign. The extension will be billed as the 'New Year's Parade of Stars.'

NBC will again distribute among its stations an elaborate series of recordings made by ad agencies for local plugging of their comcoms, singers, bands and other acts. The second campaign will likewise make use of car cards, merchandising catalogs, window displays, mats, newspaper ads, press notices, photos, continuities and spot announcements.

The reports at hand on the fall campaign show the aggregate circulation of 4,352 window posters,

3,965 counter cards, 49 billboard displays, 1,760 car and bus cards, 1,737 window displays, 1,377 lobby decorations, 2,357 newspaper advertisements, 52 radio spreads, 2,646 press notices, 661 newspaper feature spreads and 22 tabular placements in hotels and restaurants. The reports also disclosed many instances of exceptional local cooperation. In Richmond, Va., the mayor took off the week's series of 'Parade of Stars' features with a mile talk about the fine radio shows scheduled for the coming month.

Staff of G.E.'s Two Shortwave Divided Between WGY and Govt.

Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 8. The entire program personnel of General Electric's powerful shortwave, WGOE-WGSA and WGEA, by the Government Nov. 1, has been placed either in other GE departments or in the Government service. John R. Sheehan, former program head, is now assistant to F. P. Nelson, manager of the Bronze network. Linking the nation's shortwave outlets, Sheehan supervises the scheduling and transmission of programs in Spanish languages to Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa.

Four other ex-staffers are also working in the New York offices of the Office of War Information. Edward Beecher, who was French language announcer, is currently writing and announcing French programs; John Coovrin, Portuguese announcer, is editing news programs beamed to Brazil; Konstanty Plater is announcing programs for Polish listeners in the European and African war areas; Clayton Gough, English language announcer, is on the OWI news desk.

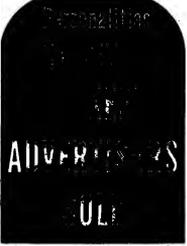
Two erstwhile GE shortwave employees, Vincent Spanish broadcaster, and Luis Gonzaga, Portuguese miker, are connected with the N. Y. office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs. Towar is news consultant and writer of special programs for South American dialers. Gonzaga is handling programs for Brazilian audience.

GE placed the other former WGOE-WGSA staff people in positions at the Schenectady plant. Elie Barret, who was Sheehan's assistant, and Gertrude Devan, Portuguese announcer, are working in the GE publicity department; Ed Barry and Jarvis B. Rice, English language announcers, moved over to veteran Dorothy Johnson, Sheehan's secretary, in the WGY control room, learning operation and working on scheduling and traffic assignments; Florence Lovell, also formerly in Sheehan's office, is in the GE office service department.

The OWI has two-thirds of the air time of all shortwave, while the CIAA has the remaining third. GE retains title to the two big air voices and its engineers continue to operate them.

New Texas Co-op Show

Austin, Texas, Dec. 8. A new cooperative program is being aired over KNOV here for a half-hour Monday through Friday titled "Minute Men of Austin." Broadcasts contain 15 minutes of music, drama and war news.



Says JOHN McDOLLE: (Sun Ray Cleaners) "We have opened as many as forty-five new accounts in one week... as many as ten calls directly following our participation on your program."

Using Helen Watts Schreiber, KSO

Says J. E. TONE: (Tone's Coffee)

"The new program really gave Tone's Pressure Peck Coffee its greatest momentum right from the start with the first week's broadcast."

Using News, KRNT

Says W. H. BISHOP: (Mrs. Clark's Dressing)

"This may sound surprising—but in the 13 weeks we have been on the air, our sales on this item have increased over 600%."

Using News, KSO

Nothing succeeds like success, and the success of KSO-KRNT is welling should be considered when buying radio time in Iowa.



Arranged with the De Witt Radio and Television. Represented by The K&K Agency

IT'S A FACT

34 advertisers who had never used radio, used WOR in 1942!

75 advertisers who had used radio, in New York or elsewhere, used WOR for the first time in 1942!

WOR

at 1440 Broadway, in New York

MEMBER OF THE MUTUAL BROADCASTING SYSTEM

AGES PURIFY SUNDAY AIR

TONING DOWN RADIO BLURBS

No Mention Permitted on Sabbath of Luxatives, Body Odor, Liquor Brands or Patent Medicine Cures

LIMIT LENGTH, TOO

Sydney, Dec. 8.

Australian Government has called on the commercial stations to put a silk hat and cutaway on their Sabbath Day programs. The new ukase is for a more cultural and intellectual atmosphere and a sharp toning down on the type and urgency of sales copy.

Beginning with Jan. 3, these stations most of all on Sunday must cut out all mention of laxatives, liquor brands, the b.o. angles in soap appeal and the effect of medicinals on the human body. The new rules for Sunday also apply to the running time of announcements. They are to be limited to 150 words per quarter hour.

Senator Ashley, who heads up radio for the Government, has suggested that a portion of the Sabbath be devoted by the commercial stations to lofty and uplifting programs. As it is, listeners have been complaining about the super-lolity air surrounding the Sunday schedules of the Government-operated non-advertising stations and giving preference to the much brighter fare offered by the commercial outlets. With a wartime economy and made of life imposing enough restraints of their own, listeners can't understand why the Government should go out of its way to augment the blue outlook of a Sunday.

Opposish Political Party Claims BBC Restricts Sale of Network Time

Montreal, Dec. 8.

Gordon Graydon, national chairman of the Conservative party, the official opposition in the Federal House at Ottawa, last week criticized what he terms restriction of Canadian Broadcasting Corp. to sell network time to the National Conservation convention committee.

Recent point-blank refusal of the Board of Governors at the new CBC manager of the CBC to permit the National Conservation convention committee to purchase a half-hour period of time over the national network has all the signs of the opening round in a major fight for the right of democratic freedom of speech over the air in Canada, the statement said. The Conservative party opens its convention at Winnipeg tomorrow (Wed) and will there put a leader and lay down its principles and political aims.

Rev. Dr. James S. Thomson, new CBC general manager, offered the newly-elected choice of the convention time on a sustaining basis at a date subsequent to the convention.

St. L. Radio Buyers

St. Louis, Dec. 8.

The Columbia Brewing Co. is currently bankrolling "The Shady Valley Follies," a hillbilly ensemble originating at KWVK and piped to 128 stations on the Mutual net.

The Italian Swiss Colony Wines, Asti, Cal., is sponsoring "Today in History," a twice-weekly historical program originating at KSD. Recorded music is included in the 15 mins. program.

Noneera is bankrolling the "Quiz of Two Cities" in which contestants from St. Louis and Kansas City compete for the cash awards. Quiz is conducted simultaneously with John Jacobs handling the KMOX end and William Shupley at KMBC. Current contract runs for 26 weeks.

Jerry Sears Replacing Don Bryan at WMCA

Jerry Sears, currently house conductor at NBC, shifts to WMCA on Dec. 27 as musical director of the station.

Replaces Don Bryan.

Kesten Resting

Paul Kesten, CBS v.p. and general manager, has gone off for a vacation of three weeks.

The boss, William S. Paley, noticed that Kesten looked work-worn and urged the g.m. to take a rest immediately.

MEX STATIONS MUST FILE INVENTORIES

Mexico City, Dec. 8.

All radio stations in Mexico have been given until Dec. 15 by the Ministry of Communications and Public Works, ruler of air affairs in this country, to register the amount and nature of their apparatus and receive a special permit for their functioning. This the ministry explains, is a wartime protective measure.

Stations that fail to register by the deadline will be regarded as clandestine and their apparatus and other equipment will be subject to confiscation by the government, the ministry warns.

WCAU, Philly, Buys 8-Story Building To House Its Television After War

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.

The WCAU Broadcasting Company last week purchased an eight-story building—the Ferry Building—at 10th and Chestnut streets, in the heart of the city. The price announced was \$505,000.

WCAU plans to house its television facilities there after the war. Until then the present tenants will not be disturbed. The additional space is needed by WCAU because its present building, situated nearby,

is completely filled by standard and P.M. broadcasting facilities.

The Ferry Building, built in 1904, was one of the city's early 'skyscrapers.' The property is assessed at \$1,029,600.

St. Louis—Lloyd Clay, continuity director for KMOX, has joined FBI in Washington. His departure makes eighth exec of this CBS outlet to join the war.



We live now in a new world of action. As America stripped the fabric of peacetime living from its people to prepare for bitter war, there were those who felt that advertising, as a symbol of more care-free days, could have no important part in winning that war. Now we know this is not so. For in the months since Pearl Harbor the words of our radio and the pages of our press have shown our real and stubborn strength. Competitive American enterprise, itself made stronger by the means which give it voice, fans the fury of a free people fighting for its very way of life . . . hurls its own shout of defiance at our enemies. This we believe: that no power on earth can bring us to our knees save a spirit of defeat. And history may well record tomorrow that Freedom's battle finally was won on a front lost to our enemies before a single bomb was dropped—the indomitable will to win of a free people inspired by the politically untrammelled, economically independent voice of its radio and press.

"Shout of Defiance"—a new book just off the press—presents significant observations on advertising in total war—ten by important business executives, three by government officials. And the comments of dealers on wartime advertising, surveyed in the WLW coverage area. A copy of "Shout of Defiance" will be mailed on request.



JERRY COLEMAN

Singing Master of Ceremonies

KEEP AHEAD With EDELBRUN Every Friday 7:30-3 P.M. SWEET

THANKS TO ROY DURSTINE CHARLES FUREY For Making This Possible

Also Thanks to HARRY MAVER HARRY MAVER FOR REPEAT ENGAGEMENTS EARLE THEATRE, Wash. and IZZY RAPAPORT LARRY GOLDE MICKY ALDRICH FOR REPEAT ENGAGEMENTS HIPPODROME THEATRE Baltimore.

A FEW PRESS NOTICES

VAHNETT, N. Y. New location to Jerry Cooper, a line of variations how ballads are being recorded. The new location is in the city of New York. He was featured with Ed Wynn's musical on Broadway last season.

WORLD TELEGRAM, N. Y.

Wynn down portrait in New Orleans with the show. He was featured in the Handsome Beauties, whose record was a success. He was featured in the past few years, was practically dead with the sound in the bit in his ears.

MIAMI HERALD

Has had picture role appearance of importance was with Dick Powell in "Fooling us" which was a success. He was featured in the past few years, was practically dead with the sound in the bit in his ears.

JERRY COLEMAN

TAPS AGENCY 1619 Broadway New York City Tel. Columbia 5-1566-6706

"THREE-THIRDS OF THE NEWS" Hosts: John Curtis, Robert St. John, Director, Blayne Brien, New York.

ANDREW BERGEN'S CO. Monday, 8 p. m. WJZ-Blue, New York (Lorenz & Mitchell)

Jerry Coleman in the Baugke-John Gunther-Robert St. John combination Saturday night. The program is a Government mission. If the amount happens to keep even, it is part of that high listening rating which will be maintained. It will be a lot of do-lets of reshuffling with this pin-chiller. Each of the three men in the program is a well-established name with plenty of my experience, and each commentator's opinion bears that indubitable sense of authority, but there isn't enough of authority or illustration to elevate the program to peg it above the average news-commentary.

The pattern of "Three-Thirds of the News" is undoubtedly looked good on paper and perhaps sounded impressive on any auditions recording. The three-way allocation called for one commentator to reel off the spot news, another to comment on the item and explain its significance, and a third to take an item also and give it color and pulse beat. The program didn't seem to come off. Baugke, who is one of the three, struck a true tempo and delivery which contrasted with the staccato style of Winchell. Gunther's treatment of the Tunisia situation was crisp and interesting, but most of his analysis sounded like a well-established name ranked as one of the finest color reporters in the business, earmarked himself in enlightening, if not quite pertinent, dissertation on the subject.

"Three-Thirds of the News" created in making the corners of the detour. It was a well-established name ranked as one of the finest color reporters in the business, earmarked himself in enlightening, if not quite pertinent, dissertation on the subject.

"FRANKLY MR. FEBISH" Monday, 8 p. m. CBS, Stratton, Julius Matthews, John Frank, Adolph Greene, Alvin Hammer, Judy Tavin, Betty Gordon, Elaine Kent

With Neal Hopkins Director: Lester Wall

Friday, 11:30 p. m. With the repair of radio receivers it is due to become a serious problem, due to lack of replacement parts and shortage of technicians.

As a straight spial on such a topic, it probably is a sure turnover, but it is something of a dramatic feature, and, as such things are, it is something of a dramatic feature.

"Hubbed Frankly Mr. Febish," the yarn told of the capture, trial and conviction of the little imp (those who know of the story will be getting into radio sets and putting them on the blink. Having successfully told a case on Febish, the radio repair man, Pete Parsons, delivered a lecture to the boys on what to do and not to do for best results, and it was a very interesting program was brightly written by Tom Bennett, chorus musical director, conducted by Paul Lavalle and directed by Lester Wall.

Joe Curtin was narrator, Chester Sweeney was announcer, and the repair man, and Julius Matthews, who sang a family lullaby suggestion. John Frank, Alvin Hammer, Judy Tavin and Betty Gordon, who sang as individuals, actors, not in the capacity of a musical comedy troupe, The Reivers. Hosts:

"TWO STORY THEATRE OF THE WEST"

Cast: Henry Hull, Betty Furness, William S. Millie, Dorothy Wright Director: Norman Livingston

Monday, 8 p. m. HOWARD CLOTHES Wednesday, 8:30 p. m. WOLFE, New York (Redfield-Johnstone)

Howard Clothes, which formerly starred Mildred Drummond, is now a well-known name in the clothing business. "True Story Theatre of the West" on a similar set. In this case the program was adapted from "True Story" with lyrics, with Betty Furness as the lead.

"Chapter caught was called 'Forensic' and the program was a grifter about how a baby's death was his mother's emotional life. There were several points glaringly unexplained or un-

Follow-up Comment

Jimmy Durante stuck his schnoz into the CBS Caravan Friday night (4) on Canal and stirred up a pretty hot pot of laughs. He and Zola was given a good script, and from that his comedy was poured to the hilt. The listener could just about see the comedy before he heard it.

"Thin Man" offered a passably absorbing murder whodunit Wednesday night (2) on NBC, but its romantic whimsy was a trifle coy. Parker Fung was starred as the character rural sheriff, while Claudia Morgan was the girl who is always getting sleuthing copy. As usual, there were several inferentially sexy lines. The Woodbury, which is a mixture via Sandomex is kinda corny, and its audience mikes are tuned too high.

"Easy Aces" was funny Wednesday night (2) on WJZ-Blue, as Goodman Ace was verbally hogtied by Mr. Keen. There were a couple of fast lines in there which were a little better. There was a standard crime story the same night, the only novelty being some scornful remarks of Charlie during the trial. The problems of youth are discussed in the same way as the "Sister" serial, via CBS, with two teen-age girls talking marriage. Part of the program was a good script, and Julius Funt now gets an A for his writing. Ernest Sternberger, discussing the Social Security in England, impressed the audience with his comparison of it with that in the Scandinavian countries.

"AN AMERICAN IN ENGLAND" Monday, 8 p. m. CBS, Norman Corwin, Writer and Director: Norman Corwin

Documentary 30 Min. Tuesday, 10 p. m. CBS last Tuesday (1) resumed for five broadcasts Norman Corwin's series on the economic and political condition of the British people. It was a well-written and well-acted piece, and it was a well-written and well-acted piece.

"Deliver Us From Evil" Monday, 8 p. m. CBS, Donald Crisp, Miss Moorehead, Walter Abel, Ben Holt, Norman Corwin, Robert Armstrong, and Bernard C. Schoenfeld; directed by Robert Keefe

War propaganda should take itself from the advertising of the United States; rather than their sleepy years. It is a well-written and well-acted piece, and it was a well-written and well-acted piece.

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"MURDER DETECTIVE" Monday, 8 p. m. CBS, Ripley Wilson, Director: Norman Harper, Bruce L. Chapman

WOLFE PILLS Monday, 8 p. m. WOLFE, New York (Click of Rex Zanoff's 'Secret Weapon' series, on which he debunks Axis 'Secret Weapons'.)

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JOHN BIRD & COMPANY SALT LAKE CITY

ONLY ONE STORE

5000 WATTS DAY AND NIGHT

IN THE SALT LAKE MARKET NBC's Parade of Stars keeps you listening to The Popular Station

22 AIR SHOWS MARK PEARL HARBOR

First anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor was given an extensive observance on various network and local shows over the week-end, through arrangements by mutual and W. A. R. common. Number of special programs were broadcast and many regular commercial shows were devoted to the subject. In addition, there were references to Pearl Harbor on countless other stations.

OWI schedule listed 22 specific shows treating the subject over the weekend. They included both comedy and sustaining, comedy, dramatic, musical, special events, quizzes and even religious programs. Several had pick-ups from Pearl Harbor and some also included remotes from other war zones and United Nations countries.

The Fred Waring program Monday night (7) on NBC for Chesterfield included the induction of 2,211 Naval Aviation cadets in 128 cities. 'Vox Pop' had pickups from Pearl Harbor, after Bruno-Zeltzer and the Rulaufrut & Rulaufrut Agency had agreed with Parks Johnson that he and Warren Hull should not fly to Honolulu to do the broadcast because it would use Clipper space that could otherwise accommodate 600 pounds of Christmas mail.

Complete list of shows carrying OWI-arranged Pearl Harbor material included Mutual's 'Radio Chapel', the Blue's 'Deliver Us from Evil', the 'Army Hour' on NBC, Mutual's American Legion program, Campbell's soup's 'Radio Reader's Digest' on CBS, Columbia's 'Report to the Nation', 'This Is Our Enemy' on Mutual, all Sunday; 'The Lesson of Pearl Harbor' on CBS, a memorial service by Archbishop Spellman on CBS, a Hawaiian war bond show on NBC, the Blue network's 'Men of and Sea of Air' and 'Honor the Dead', a special Requiem Mass on the same network, the Frank Parker-Sullivan show on CBS, Mutual's 'The Avengers', 'Vox Pop' on CBS, duPont's 'Cavalcade of America' on CBS, Lux 'Radio Theaters' on CBS, Mutual's special events 'America Today', Lady Esther's 'Screen Actors' on CBS, Fred Waring on NBC and ceremonies of scrapping the battleship Oregon on CBS, all Monday.

Three Small Towners On CBC's French Hookup

Montreal, Dec. 8. Extension of the French regional network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. by three stations affiliated to the net has been effected. They are CKRM, Rouyn; CKVD, Val D'Or; and CKD, Amos, bringing the total of stations up to 10 together with one short wave station. The extension became effective as of last week.

CBC is having 26 weeks of operetta and dramatic plays broadcast, starting with 'La Fille du Tambour-Major' Dec. 7 and with 'Bain-Cavell' Dec. 12. They are for an hour every Monday and Wednesday night and are being directed respectively by Georges Dufréne and Guy Maufette with local talent for singing and acting parts. Both will be sustaining.

New KEYS Owners

Corpus Christi, Texas, Dec. 8. Reorganization has taken place here of the Nueces Broadcasting Co., licensee of Station KEYE. H. H. Lockhart, present manager, and E. C. Hughes, commercial manager, have each purchased a quarter interest in the present partnership, which consists of Earl C. Dunn, local law enforcement officer, and Charles Rossi, oil operator.

Deal, which thus was approved by the Federal Communications Commission, gave Lockhart and Hughes their shares in the partnership for \$4,000 each, with Dunn and Rossi each also holding a quarter interest in the station.

KEYE operates with a power of 250 watts on a frequency of 1490 kilocycles full time.

Follow-up Comment

(Continued from page 32)

Smith broke up Ted Collins so completely on her noon program Wednesday (2) that he had to break off his spiel at one point. She picked it up but was obviously having trouble not to laugh. They didn't explain what happened. 'One Man's Family' continues in form Sunday nights on NBC, but suffers because all the characters talk and think alike week after week. But the integrated 'Fischmann's yeast commercial' at the close is a honey. . . . Marjorie Main is broadly comic and a welcome addition to the Bergen series Sunday nights. . . . Dr. William Axta was unpectacular, but quietly a shortwinded and impressive Wednesday night (2) on Freedom House Review; via WEVD, but transatlantic atmospheric m. . . the recorded talks of Herbert Morrison, Ambassador Wmatt and Lt. Com. Herbert Agar from London too murky for easy intelligibility. . . . The Man Who Missed a Year' drama by Neal Hopkins on NBC Sunday afternoon (6), was reasonably imaginative, though not always too clear in intention. But it achieved what was apparently its main idea, to crowd a record of the year since Pearl Harbor into a half-hour. Tom Bennett's score was a beauty.

Washington—Harriet Miller has joined the staff of WJWS, as assistant to Bob Ehrman, production chief. She was formerly with WINX and WSTP Minneapolis.

STATIONS HIT BY FALLING REVENUE MAY REQUIRE AID FROM GOVERNMENT

Storm Clips 3 Hours From Charlotte Station

Charlotte, N. C., Dec. 8. Station WBT, local CBS outlet, was off the air about three hours last Tuesday night (1) through the top section of the transmitter tower was toppled over during a tornado and electrical storm. Pending full repairs, the station is operating with emergency equipment. . . . Jess Willard, WBT manager, and staff engineers worked through wind, rain and mud to make the necessary repairs to get the station back on the air after the transmitter tower fell.

Philadelphia.—Betty Sheldon has taken a leave of absence from the WCAU news room to join her husband, Pvt. Wally Sheldon, stationed at Army technical school, Sioux Falls, S. D. Pvt. Sheldon is an ex-WCAU announcer. . . . Dayton Lumis, formerly of WCAM, Camden, N. J. has joined announcing staff of W98PH, WCAU's F-M station.

Payment for U. S. Programs, Loans or Tax Relief, Fly Says, Possible Solution for Keeping Some Broadcasters Solvent

Washington, Dec. 8. Some program must be worked out for continued broadcasting service by radio stations which are facing a falling off of revenue from advertising, Chairman James L. Fly of the Federal Communications Commission told newspapermen Monday (7).

FCC chairman said he did not know whether this could be done by loan, by payment for Government programs or through tax relief measures. He said he was reluctant to see the Government 'get any sort of stake in private broadcasting' such as would result from subsidizing stations with loans.

Chairman Fly was asked to comment on a report that the Internal Revenue Bureau is drafting an amendment to the tax law by which radio stations could deduct as busi-

ness expenses the time they devote to war bond selling and other Government announcements. He said that such a step would be a break for the stations, but that he could not take any position for or against a tax proposal.

He said, however, that he did not think that the reported tax proposal would be comprehensive enough to take care of the major problem of keeping stations on the air.

Worcester.—Philip Brook, acting chief announcer, has been made chief announcer at WTAG. He has been with station for three years, first as staff announcer and then as special events reporter. Vacant post of special events chief goes to Mike-man Bob Dixon, with Louis Chapin, Jr. recent addition to staff, named supervisor of sound effects department.



THE HEROES DEPART

With the Army welcoming 18-year-olds, with kids by the thousand rushing to enlist at once, it occurred to Westinghouse Station KYW that Philadelphia's first contingent deserved a real salute—and that Philadelphians deserved to hear and feel the mood of the departure.

So Will O'Brien's dance band, the singing Andrews Sisters, and the KYW audience dedicated a half hour at the railroad station to the war's youngest volunteers.

Dedicated? They never had a better time! The audience heard, not a sad farewell, but a picnic, a live session, and a block party all in one. The kids took over the music, the girls, the station, and the whole salute. Wisecracks and rumbas mixed hilariously with farewell kisses and catchy songs. And KYW's millions dried their tears, and laughed until the tears came back, and realized the war was in the right hands now.

Advertising men sense this mirror of America in Westinghouse programs. They recognize it as an essential public service, as the essence of modern showmanship, as a sure-fire audience guarantee.

WESTINGHOUSE RADIO STATIONS Inc
WOWO - WOL - WBEZ - WBEA - KTW - KOKA

OK B.O. Agam Features Week of Met Opera. Some Performances U.S.G.

By EDDY SMITH

The Metropolitan Opera Company's second week of the season (Dec. 2-7) was again featured by extraordinary performances of the first performers rolling up a profit at reduced prices. Artificially, however, the performances were hampered from the start. 'Lakme' opened the week Wednesday (2) to a sold-out house, but Lily Pons was forced to cancel due to a severe cold and Marie Wilkins, an opening soprano, substituted. The young soprano, having never sung the role before, did a highly creditable job in both acting and singing, convincing her audience. Her voice is pleasing texture, verges on falsetto in the upper registers, where the staccato work is not clear or true to pitch. It was obvious that she would crack on the high 'E' at the conclusion of the Bell Song, but since everyone expected it, she received a splendid hand nevertheless. Jacques van den Borgh, the French tenor, has his local debut without any ball of fire. His voice is small, mainly on the top tones. Elio Pinza was the vocal and dramatic star, with his huge booming voice dwarfing the vocal of the cast. Ira Petina provided an excellent Malika, and the ballet was a magnificent production. The chorus was a bit ragged. Wilfred Pelizer did a good job in the pit.

Pinza in Top Form

'Don Giovanni,' Thursday (3), featured the men, with Bruno Walter conducting. The acting was being done to keep the opera moving at a terrific clip. Elio Pinza's Don Giovanni receives varying degrees of the bass dominates the stage with his superb vocalism and swashbuckling acting. Salvatore Baccioni is without question the best Leporello the Met has had since the days of Chalispin. The acting in this role being done on an almost unapproachable plane. His 'Madama il catalogo' and Pinza's 'Madama il Vind' were the most applause of the evening.

Richard Crooks provided a creditable performance with 'Dalla and Pace' and 'Il Mio Tesoro' with a clear full line and excellent breath control. In his 'Mio Tesoro' he was frequently over of focus, but her mezzo-voice singing was exquisite. Charlotte Devorah sang with style, beauty and acting ability, but her voice can no longer cope with the role. Maria and Mark Harrell were just acceptable as Zerlina and Masetto.

'The Merry Widow,' Friday (4), returned to the repertoire after a absence since April 2, 1941, when Elio Pinza sang the role inside here. The Flaggat mantle was picked up by Helen Traubel, who sang a brilliant and convincing part. Well-trained and coached, the American soprano's superb voice cut over the orchestra in the first act, but for some reason after that she indulged in much pianissimo singing during the induction. Her singing in the first act was indicative of the fact that she will be able to cope with the role. Her singing in the second is more certain of herself. Dramatically, her figure is against her, her acting ability is without inspiration.

Lauritz Melchior's Tristan was a grandiose figure dramatically, and slightly over of focus as actual. Julius Huehn was in some vocal difficulties; Kerstin Thorborg sang a superbly brilliant and convincing part. Alexander Kipnis's Mark was, as usual, a highlight of the performance. The orchestra in this respect took interest in helping Miss Traubel, to the detriment of the orchestra, and the vocalists were somewhat hindered and could generally be heard above all the principals.

'The Bohemians' 'Traviata' (5), Traviata's first performance of the season, was given in Albany, receiving the title role for the first time in the U. S. The soprano proved one of the best of the season. Her singing, Met, looking well and acting with a simple grace that was thoroughly captivating.

Her singing was most brilliant in the upper registers, where the top notes were a liberating rang. Her portrayal of the tragic character, Kullman's Alfredo, is well sung, and she sang with excitement, and he looked well. Lawrence Tibbett, in generally good voice, did a

good job on 'Di Provenza il Mar' but wandered from pitch on the duet 'Dite all' Giovinetto' with Albanese. The soprano, having never sung with ample fire.

'Faust,' Saturday evening (6), was featured by the brilliant singing of Rosalind Pliska, who sang the role of the French tenor at the zenith of his powers in just about the best lyric tenor of the Met. His 'Iris' and 'Salut demeure' has not been duplicated for its power and brilliance since the local prime of Martelli, and his phrasing, diction, excellent costuming and acting ability made his performance stand out. Stefan Jepson sang generally well as Marguerite, but had considerable difficulty with her higher notes. Norman Cordon's Mephisto has improved vocally and his acting is excellent. Francesco Valentino was adequate as Valentine, and Ira Petina provided a sparkling Stiel. Wilfred Pelizer led the orchestra and again the ballet was outstanding.

Melton Clicks

'The Magic Flute,' repeated for the second time this season Monday (7), featured the vocal and dramatic star, with his huge booming voice dwarfing the vocal of the cast. Ira Petina provided an excellent Malika, and the ballet was a magnificent production. The chorus was a bit ragged. Wilfred Pelizer did a good job in the pit.

Don Brownlee was again an amusing Papageno; Elio Pinza a powerful Sarastro; Norman Cordon an excellent Papageno; and Alexander Kipnis a superbly brilliant and convincing Pamina. Bruno Walter conducted with blazing intensity.

Fine Singing in Chi

The semi-final of the Chicago Opera Co.'s 32d season was featured by the first of the best performances given Wednesday (2), with Grace Moore and Armand Tokoyan singing the title roles.

The soprano was in her best voice, with a clear full line and excellent breath control. In his 'Mio Tesoro' he was frequently over of focus, but her mezzo-voice singing was exquisite. Charlotte Devorah sang with style, beauty and acting ability, but her voice can no longer cope with the role. Maria and Mark Harrell were just acceptable as Zerlina and Masetto.

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Met's 1 1/2 G Profit

The Metropolitan Opera Co. of N. Y. closed its second week of the season with a net profit of \$83,500, or a net profit of approximately \$1,500. Six principal performers gave the five days, with estimates as follows:

- Wednesday (2), 'Lakme,' gross, \$12,500; profit, \$1,500.
- Thursday (3), 'Don Giovanni,' gross, \$11,000; broke even.
- Friday (4), 'The Merry Widow,' and 'Isolde,' gross, \$12,000; profit, \$1,000.
- Saturday afternoon (5), 'Traviata,' gross, \$12,500; profit, \$1,500.
- Saturday evening (6), 'Faust,' gross, \$11,000; profit, \$1,000.
- Sunday (7), 'Magic Flute,' gross, \$7,500; loss, \$3,500.

PLATE CASE FOR U.S. SING ON ORCH

Indianapolis, Dec. 8. Plans for a series of industrial concerts, to be sponsored by local plants and business firms for benefit of employees, are being developed by the Indianapolis Symphony orchestra as an answer to financial problems made acute by cancellation of its eastern tour and curtailment of other out-of-town activities by the orchestra.

Considerable interest has been shown in the idea since a successful test in a special concert bought by the Bell Telephone Co. and the U. S. Military Company, manufacturers of electric instruments, at the Murat theatre Nov. 30. The affair was open to employees of the plant and their friends and about 1,000 attracted to the concert understood to have paid the orchestra \$1,500 for the performance, which was most well received. The orchestra has the theatre for the season.

Fabien Seppik, who directed, arranged a pop program for the occasion, high-lighted by the world premiere of Aurora's new fantasia by Charles Wakefield Cadman, with the composer appearing as soloist. Other works, most probably never heard attended a symphony concert in quality, seemed to enjoy themselves.

Personnel and public relations men of other local industries have been invited to bring in requests for sponsoring similar concerts, both as a morale builder among their own personnel and as a civic contribution to the orchestra over the winter-time hump. Some of the volunteers which don't have enough employees to justify a concert singly, are considering doubling up for the purpose.

Concert Reviews

LOTTE LEBMANN

ROSE HALL, N. Y., Dec. 5, '42. If there is a greater lieder singer than Lotte Lehmann, she is hiding her talent in the past. The veteran Met soprano has stood head and shoulders above the contemporary. Admittedly his notes are not what they were 25 years ago, but the quality of the voice is fresh and youthful, the fine supralarynx control and the chest notes are rich and resonant. The fine intonation and superb phrasing of the singer also help her in her performance. The program was filled with Miss Lehmann's colleagues from the Met, was present demand and to receive numerous able encores. Eddy.

JAN SMETTERLIN

ROSE HALL, N. Y., Dec. 4, '42. Jan Smetterlin's recitals continue to improve in quality each season. It was a most recital up to date in his customary dexterity and fine musicianship with a deeper sense of rhythm. He underbrought his own playing skill to the music and both voice and piano were superb. Eddy.

Kaerue Conley, San Carlo Opera, has been engaged by the Chicago Opera Co. for 'Tales of Hoffman,' scheduled Friday (11).

New Opera Co. Loses \$150,000, But Enlivened by Slugging Soprano

New Opera Review

'MACBETH' OPERA COMPANY Broadway theatre, N. Y., Dec. 2, '42. Best of the season's offerings by far, with first hour in 'Macbeth' was the best from a vocal and artistic standpoint, and was presented in the most dramatic manner this year at the Met. One of Verdi's earlier works, it is crammed with powerful and melodious music. Why it had been neglected for over 80 years was the major opera company's a mystery. The performance brought back two of last season's stars, Florence Kirk, possessor of a full, rich soprano, and Walter, whose voice is the extent of most any baritone in the city. The soprano and tenor, nervous, sang well, but her acting, while improved, was still somewhat flat. Walter took first hour in the vocal and dramatic departments. Robert Wilks was excellent Banquo, and the Mexican possessed a good bass voice. The chorus was well sung, and the vocal, pleasant lyric tenor. The overall effect of the staging and acting was very effective. Conducting of Fritz Stetter was heavy-handed. Wednesday afternoon (5), in a repeat performance, Regina Resnik, soprano, was the star. It was her first appearance of the season as Lady Macbeth. Her voice is rich and powerful, and she has a commanding presence. She is a looker and a singer, and her acting is that of a suspense of a veteran. It was a most surprising debut in a trying part.

'Hub Symph' was right from AFM to Engage Tooters of Own Choice. Symphony orchestra conductors and managers can now inform musicians from any jurisdiction of the U. S. or Canada without permission of the local board under a contract signed Thursday (7) by James C. Petrillo, president of the local union, and the trustees of the Boston Symphony. New pact brings into AFM fold the 100,000 musicians in the country that has been non-union. The new pact was the chief stumbling block in the six months of negotiations carried on between Petrillo and Henry Jones, representing trustees of the Hub orchestra.

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St. L. Symph Unmindful Of War Restrictions

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. Joshua Heifetz had to cancel his two guest appearances which were with Fritz Reiner's Pittsburgh Symphony orchestra in Pittsburgh. Michael Rosenker's concertmaster with local symphony, was hastily substituted in the place of Heifetz. Heifetz was being made to bring Heifetz here in a last-minute effort.

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ARMY CAMP HAS ITS OWN CONCERT SERIES

Port Hancock, N. J., Dec. 6. The first concert of the series of the Army Camp, 22-year-old son of Major Orville Harold, considered one of the great American vocalists of the first U. S. Army concert series in the history of the country has been given. Concerts and operas are given once a month at the auditorium, and are open to all army and navy soldiers present each time. Corporal Harold, himself a singer, has built up a demand for to receive numerous able encores. Guest stars participated. Last performance was 'Carmen,' with Lily Djanel, of the Met, in the title role. Corporal Harold, himself a singer, has built up a demand for to receive numerous able encores. Guest stars participated.

The New Opera Co. closed its second N. Y. season yesterday (Tuesday) at the Broadway with a performance of 'Macbeth.' The company ran five weeks this year, in comparison to four last season, and the \$150,000 deficit of 1941 was equalized.

With the opera outfit's heads changing their office, the Broadway was something of a mad-house last week. One opera was announced, but upon scant notice another went on. It was 'Macbeth,' regarded as the company's best effort last season. As a result of the switch, there was said to have been less than \$300 in the house the first night. The second night, however, was a grand evening, the extra cost of stagehands and musicians for a week was recovered. The soprano and tenor, nervous, sang well, but her acting, while improved, was still somewhat flat. Walter took first hour in the vocal and dramatic departments. Robert Wilks was excellent Banquo, and the Mexican possessed a good bass voice. The chorus was well sung, and the vocal, pleasant lyric tenor. The overall effect of the staging and acting was very effective. Conducting of Fritz Stetter was heavy-handed.

'Macbeth' had its special excitement in the opera's acting, a leading performance by Florence Kirk, a legend soprano, and Hans Busch, the tenor, who sang the role of Macbeth in the first act. Heifetz was being made to bring Heifetz here in a last-minute effort.

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Symph Notes in English

Editor, 'Variety,' New York: More power to the opera-in-English fraternity, but why limit it to opera? Why not include in the composer's notations for symphonies, overtures and so on—English words? (The announcer says) that So-and-so's 'Third Symphony, First Movement' is also included in a program of English Wharfedale? How much does it support a dog that means?

Busse, \$26,000, in S. F., Stable, 19 1/2 G In Chi, Both Solid; Crosby Swings OK 22G in Philly, Basie, 17G, Newark

(Estimates for This Week)

Count Basie, Newark (Adams): 1, 950; 33-40-65-75-89)—With Mexican Sautiere Steve Chobin (RKO). Headline to nice \$17,000.

Henry Busse, San Francisco (Golden Gate): 2,850; 44-45-73)—Plus 'Strictly in Groove' (U). Solid 22G, mostly on band draw.

Milt Britton, Indianapolis (Keith's): 1,200; 28-31-41-55)—Plus 'Baby Face Merope' (PRC) and nets. Band, with no other name support and little help from film, will do fair \$4,500 in four days.

Bub Crosby, Philadelphia (Earle): 2,788; 25-46-61-68-75)—With 'Street of Chance' (Par) on screen. To Crosby's band goes most of the credit for good \$22,000 going into the till.

Glen Gray, New York (Strand): 2,750; 33-35-65-73-85-91-101)—With 'Gentleman Jim' (WB) on screen. Currently on second week looks 400-000 or bit over, good, although this represents considerable of a dip from its initial stanza's \$52,500. However, opening week included Thanksgiving '42.

Woody Herman, New York (Paramount): 3,600; 35-55-65-89-91-101)—With Hazel Scott, others, on stage. 'Road to Morocco' (Par) on screen. Begins fifth week today 'Weds 9 o'clock'; fourth through last night (Tuesday) hit close to \$60,000, very strong while third was \$75,000. Show remains through Christmas week for run of 49 days, longest in 16-year history of house.

Hal McIntyre, Boston (RKO Boston): 2,000; 33-44-53-75-89)—With Mary Small, Jackie Miles, others. 'Thunder Birds' (20th). Not too bright a show and week is generally off, only \$24,000.

Russ Morgan, Minneapolis (Orpheum): 2,800; 33-44-53)—With 'Swing Sweetswings' (M-G) and vaude. Initial bill of band. Fair \$14,000.

Ada Leonard, Los Angeles (Or-

pheum): 2,290; 33-44-55-65)—With 'Busse' Room' (WB) (1st run) and 'Mystery of Marie Roget' (U) (2d run). Band and stage show responsible for better portion of fair \$13,000.

Tony Pastor, Cleveland (Palace): 3,700; 40-60-70)—With 'Nightmare' (U) and Bonnie Baker, on stage. Average \$18,500, with not much help from picture.

Dick Rogers, New York (Stable): 36-44-55-75-99-91-101)—With 'Nightmare' (U) on screen. Business slow, with only about \$19,000 indicated, slender.

Dick Stabile, Chicago (Oriental): 3,200; 28-32-41-55)—Compled with 'Boss Big Town' (PRC). Nice \$19,500, with band virtually entire draw.

Lavrence Webb, Chicago (Chicago): 4,000; 35-55-73)—Plus 'Major and Minor' (Par), both second week. Fine \$39,000 for holdover session on this strong combo.

LOVE MOVING IN FROM S. F. AS PETRILLO AIDE

Eddie Love, former executive secretary of the San Francisco local of the American Federation of Musicians, has been appointed assistant to president James C. Petrillo. He will headquarter in New York.

Love takes the place of Leo Cluesman, who was recently elected executive secretary of the AFM, to replace the late Fred Birtwhistle.

Rockwell to Coast

Thomas G. Rockwell, president of General Amusement Corp., shows off from N. Y. tomorrow (Thurs.) for a six weeks stay in California. As usual, it's a combination vacation and big jaunt.

He has a large ranch at Duarte, near Los Angeles.

Was There Any Doubt?

Chicago, Dec. 8. James C. Petrillo, president, of the entire executive state of the Chicago Federation of Musicians, Local No. 10, were re-elected last week for a period of five years. Installation of officers January 12 will mark the beginning Petrillo's 21st year as president of the local.

Up until 1937 officers were elected for a two-year period. By-laws and constitution were changed at that time and present officers began their first five-year term in December of that year.

Lunceford Big At Ritz, \$1,604; Dunham Okay

(Estimates)

Sunny Dunham (Shubert T. New Haven): 1,000; 33-41-51)—One-day stand of band and vaude entitled an excellent 4,500 admissions at 75¢ top; okay.

Jimmy Lunceford (Ritz B. Bridgeport, Conn., Dec. 8). 1,604—Played in an estimated 1,338 dancers here at \$120; great.

McFarland Twins (Toleyn Pole B. Alhambra, Mass., Dec. 2-5). 1,000—Very straight weekend McFarland without general nose dive. To Coconut Grove area, playing to nice 5,000 total at \$145; fair to gross \$3,625.

Jerry Wald-Tony Brown (Waldor-Plymouth B., Boston, Dec. 4-5). 1,400 is favorite here and, teamed with local, has played to excellent 2,400 in two days at 85¢-75¢ for \$2,720, despite dip due to Grove fire.

Merby Woods (Brooklyn C. C. Philadelphia, Dec. 5). Drew nicely for a local band with 625 starters laying \$1.10 on the line per head.

Band Bookings

Charlie Barnet, Dec. 26, private party; Cleveland; 27, Nu-Elms Ballroom, Huntington, O.; 28, Arena, Toronto, Can.; 31, week, Orpheum theatre, Minneapolis; Jan. 15, week, Paradise theatre, Detroit; 22, week, Regal theatre, Chicago; 29, week, Circle theatre, Indianapolis; **Gray Garden**, Dec. 29, two weeks, Palomar Ballroom, Norfolk, Va.; **Jack Teagarden**, Dec. 15, private party, Wilmington, N. C.; 28, week, Casino, Augusta, Ga.; 18, Auld, Montgomery, Ala.; 19, Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala.; 20, Deham theatre, Dothan, Ala.; **Milt Britton**, Dec. 12, two weeks, Arizona Club, Phoenix; Ariz.; 28, indie, Paramount Studios, Hollywood, Calif.; **Fletcher Henderson**, Dec. 18, Del Rio Ballroom, Kankakee, Ill.; Feb. 5-18, New Kenmore hotel, Albany, N. Y.

The Hill, Dec. 18, Purdue U. Lafayette, Ind.; 26, Crystal Ballroom, Coloma, Michigan; 27, Arroyo, Gary, Ind.; **International Sweethearts of Rhythm**, Jan. 8, week, Apollo theatre, New York; 17, Turner's arena, Washington, D. C.; **Louis Prima**, Dec. 12, Sunnysbrook Ballroom, Posttown, Pa.; 14, Turner's arena, Washington, D. C.; 15, two weeks, Palomar Ballroom, Norfolk, Va.; **Frankie Masters**, Dec. 18, six days, Keith's theatre, Boston; 18, six days, Temple theatre, Rochester, N. Y.; **Shep Fields**, Dec. 15, three weeks, Roosevelt hotel, Washington, D. C.; **Johnny McGee**, Dec. 14, four weeks, Arcadia Ballroom, New York; **McFarland Twins**, Dec. 25, week, Loew's State, New York.

Jean Wald to Coast Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. **Jean Wald**, former leader of all-girl band here who gave up outfit some time ago to join Frederick Brown, has been transferred by the organization from its Chicago headquarters to Hollywood to set up a small dance unit dependent in the Coast outfit.

Charles Molina and band now in the El Dorado Room of the Commodore Perry hotel, Toledo.

Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge for bands performing in various New York hotels. Dinner business (-10 p.m.) not rated. Figures after name of hotel give room capacity and cover charge. Larger amount designates weekend and holiday price. This compilation is based on the period from Monday-Saturday.)

Band	Hotel	Cover	Weeks	Room	Total
Jean Wald	Astor (1,000; 75¢-81)	4	2,800	11,675	30,875
Ray Healy	Baltimore (300; \$1-1.50)	32	800	20,225	21,025
Vaughn Monroe	Commodore (100; \$1-1.50)	9	2,025	18,215	19,240
Lani McIntyre	Linxington (300; \$1-1.50)	43	1,800	67,650	69,450
Wally Brown	Lincoln (225; \$1.50-2)	6	1,400	4,500	5,900
Benny Goodman	New York (600; 75¢-1.00)	9	2,100	19,875	21,975
Bob Allen	Peninsula (250; 75¢-1.50)	9	1,800	15,775	17,575
Ray Healy	Waldor (100; \$1-1.50)	6	1,400	12,150	13,550
Xavier Cugat	Waldor (550; \$1-1.50)	1	3,000	3,000	3,000

* Asterisks indicate a supporting floor show, although the band is the major draw. 12 days.

Chicago

Griff Williams (Empire Room, Palmer House; 600; \$3-\$4.50 min.). Williams and band show headed by The Hartmanns terrific draw here, keeping the bill filled most of the time. **Art Kassel** (Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel; 300; \$1-2 min.). Kassel, a local favorite, drew around 1,800 last week.

Alvino Rey (Parthen Room, Sherman hotel; 800; \$1.25-\$2.50 min.). Finished 4-week run with 4,700 people during week. Never came up to draw of preceding bands.

Neil Bandrock (Empire Room, DeMarko hotel; \$2.50 min.). Building up as society favorite. With Renee DeMarko co-billed, room catered to 1,800 people last week.

Henry King (Marine Room, Edgewater Beach hotel; 1,100; \$1.25 min.). Business continues good here with 2,000 diners last week.

Los Angeles

Freddy Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-1.50). Not hit hard as others by gas rationing, but still drew down numbers to no lesser than 2,000 covers.

Joe Belcham (Belcham; 1,200; 50¢-1). Downtown hotels still filling due to gas pinch and this spot happily located for that. Weekend the saving grace for a count of around 3,000.

Boston

* (Cocoanut Grove fire caused the closing of all Boston nightclubs and hotel dining rooms with entertainment on Tuesday (1), but hotels were permitted to reopen Friday (4). Patrons were unaware of sudden unshuttering, which, along with city-wide closure over Holocaust, resulted in mere handful in attendance on Friday).

Eddy Oliver (Oval Room, Commodore; 300; 1 cover). Morton Downey, chief attraction, was headed for a record-breaking engagement, judging by opening weekend bill. But Grove disaster wrecked the opportunity, so that for Monday (Nov. 22) and Saturday (25), Downey with Oliver's band accounted for five 600 covers, considering circumstances.

Chick Floyd (Terrace Room, Hotel Statler; 450; 31 cover). On only week, Floyd did well to draw 1,000 covers over Friday-Saturday, four late nights, with above matter in view.

St. Louis

Nick Stuart (Club Continental, Hotel Jefferson; 800; \$1-2 min.). Beginning of gasoline rationing and ice storm that made streets dangerous for two days clipped bill at this downtown spot. Despite these setbacks Stuart, now in his 11th week, drew a total of 2,500. Phil D'Rev, ventiloquist, added to the floor show.

Minneapolis

Jimmy Richards (Minnesota Terrace; Nicollet hotel; \$1-\$1.50 min.). Sylvia Froos, heading three-act floor show, a sensation here although band is filling the bill. On acts are Robert and Lorraine Vernon. Final week for band and acts but Miss Froos being held over. Good 550 nightly average attendance.

Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

Gene Krupa (Palladium B., Hollywood, fourth week). Not like the old days any more and won't pass 16,000, even with the hefty weekend.

Freddy Slack (Coca Manana B. Culver City, Cal., sixth week). Far out there it takes parties to go to but punching away for the young 'uns. May ring up 3,500 on the week.

Jan Garber (Trianon B., Southgate, Cal., fourth week). When this band started to play in Los Angeles it was the same as the previous three record-breaking weeks the boom was lowered on trade and down came the count to 4,500.

Maxie Westall (Florentine Gardens N., Hollywood, ninth week). Hurt, but not badly by gas rationing, checking in with around 4,000. Nils Granlund's floor show the main draw.

Hal Casper (Casino B., Hollywood, first week). Ice show played up in the advertising, but it'll take a stronger combo than that to beat the gas-squeeze. Lucky to get past 2,000.

(Chicago)

Low Breese (Chez Pacer; 600; \$3-\$3.50 min.). Combination of Sophie Tucker and Low Breese doing big business here; 4,200 people last week.

Chicago Marx (Blackhawk; 500; \$1.25 min.). Looks like Marx is here for the duration. Entained 4,100 last week.

(Minneapolis)

Bob Owens (Happy Hour; 850; no cover or min.). Local band plus floor show filling in until Fletcher Henderson returns Dec. 23. Mild 300 average nightly attendance.

Playing Safe 2 Ways

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. Eddie Weitz, veteran Pittsburgh band leader, did two things before he showed off for the army over the weekend. He announced his engagement to Jerry Richards, who has been his vocalist for the last 12 years and then turned his outfit over to her for the duration.

She'll continue to sing with the orch as well as a bandleader. The old billing but adding 'directed by Jerry Richards.'

"RIDE ON"

and

"IT'S SAND, MAN"

Newest Columbia Record

COUNT BASIE

And His Orchestra

Par. Mel. MILTON ERBINS

Dir. William Morris Agency



CLORES

And Her Orchestra

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Opening Dec. 14 in Detroit's
BOOK CADILLAC HOTEL
(Indefinite Engagement)

*
SINCERE THANKS TO XAVIER CUGAT FOR MAKING
MY AMERICAN DEBUT SUCCESSFUL.

*
Music Corp. of America

Relief for the Agencies

Band agencies are breathing easier since last week's clarification of the recently enacted 62-6 net earnings law. The new provisions payments by bands will be controlled only by the amount of work secured for the bands (within the law's limits) each agency handles rather than a serious threat to the agencies. As originally understood, an agency couldn't receive in commissions from each leader more than \$6,700, which is 10% of the total gross a maestro could earn, to pocket a net of \$25,000.

Under the clarification of the law, items such as transportation, publicity, advertising, personal manager and all operating expenses are to continue to be included in the net. A leader with \$67,000 which a leader personally can earn to net 25% for himself. These exceptions, of course, are subject to the Treasury Department's okay, and are normal deductions that they can't be higher than the treasury normally allows for such items.

A bandleader will still have to keep accurate, weekly accounts of income and disbursements and know how much he has earned. Theatre owners and other employers will probably demand affidavits asserting an individual leader's personal earnings haven't surpassed the \$67,000 ceiling.

Lombardo, in Jan., Will Tee Off N. Y. Roxy's Name Band Policy

Roxy theatre, New York, will finally begin its long-awaited name band policy Jan. 13 or 20. It has signed Lombardo's orchestra for two weeks with options to play with the film "China Girl" (20th-Fox), starring Irene Tiersa. Lombardo is currently at the Roosevelt hotel, N. Y., from which he may decide to move to theatre.

Roxy was negotiating with Lombardo a couple months ago to tee off its then contemporary name band policy. It also talked with Tommy Tucker and almost signed that band, but disagreements over billing cancelled negotiations. Lombardo was to have been on the same bill.

Initial step toward employing name bands, in opposition to the Paramount and Strand, was taken by the Roxy several weeks ago, when it bought Raymond Scott seven-piece radio combination, which opened No. 11 for three weeks and made a fourth circuit, including the Strand in the Rockies' (20th). Scott's outfit is a CBS studio band and while it will be contracted to play with the Roxy's name policy, the group is used as an act given about 10-minute stage time. Lombardo has already been booked to return to the Roxy April 1.

The Roxy is negotiating for other bands to follow Lombardo. Its success in that respect appears assured, since the opposition Paramount and Strand, particularly, is loaded with band options. It is having difficulty in using. Usually long running name band circuit shows at that house the past couple months have created a backlog of bands for the Roxy, which after Tommy Tucker went after him.

Lombardo hasn't played a theatre in New York since he left there, but he was at the Strand. Prior to that date he was a Paramount standby.

Mrs. Stable Switching Band to GAC When Hubby Goes Into Navy

Dick Stable's agency will switch booking agency affiliations next week from Music Corp. of America to Grand Central Entertainment when Stable goes into the Coast Guard and Grace Barrie (Mrs. Stable) takes over as the new Stable singer for CG service last week, missing part of a several they stand at the Palace theatre, Cleveland. Miss Barrie directed the band in his absence.

Procedure of shifting a band from one agency to another under such circumstances as Stable's is simple. The contract with the old agency is name and, since he will no longer be booked, the agreement will be voided. Miss Barrie directed the band the outfit wherever she desires. Her situation occurred last year, when George Hall handed his band over to Dolly Dawn. Again, the band went from MCA to GAC.

GAC assumes the band's current Sunday (13). Band is currently at the Central theatre, Chicago, following which it will be rescheduled by MCA. Stable had been booked to open at the Trinson Ballroom, Southgate, (18), which has been cancelled.

Les Brown has been given an average two-week booking at the Chicago Theatre, Chicago, starting on Dec. 25.

Musical Truants?

Washington, Dec. 8. Shortage of musicians in this area is such that Local 161 is scrambling to find members who play melody makers such as 18. Washington is doing less contacting with solo, and holding out for dances. For the reason that union orchestras cannot be engaged.

ELLINGTON ON NEGRO MUSIC

Negro music has not developed further than it has because Negroes are not taking their music seriously, according to Duke Ellington, back in 1931 playing the piano, prior to a Carnegie Hall concert in January. He is devoting his time and future financial efforts to attempt to lead Negro jazz among the cultivated tastes of music lovers.

Ellington is maintaining that in a place like Harlem, a place where they have a chance to give their music original Negro conditions and an idiom already established, they turn to accepted "Tin Pan Alley" creations. Listen to Harlem jubilee and you'll find the latest Hit Parade tunes, with an occasional touch of original Negro musical expression. That doesn't mean that "Tin Pan Alley" doesn't play a role in Negro music. It does, as everyone knows. Rather, it means that until the time comes when the colored race takes its music seriously, Negro music will remain undeveloped and for the most part unlearned.

Speaking of his own composition, Ellington said that his music is not the surface of undeveloped material.

At his Carnegie Hall concert Ellington will play all original Negro compositions, some his own, including "American Lullaby" a work that Paul Whiteman performed a few years back at a Christmas concert at the same hall. Also for the first time Ellington will play a jazz symphony, composed of the themes taken from his original and new compositions. "Tin Pan Alley." The first movement will show the origin of Negro music, with an arrangement of "Swing" as background; the second will show the development of early American jazz; the third will be a swing, and then a futuristic finale, all four parts tied together with the best of the original tonal.

It's Evan Jones Now

Paul Sparr's pianist and arranger, Evan Jones, is now maestro of the Hotel Sparr orchestra at the Hotel St. Regis, N. Y.

Sparr has joined the Navy. He was long at the hotel's Viceroy Roof and Lido Room.

Unfair in Chi

Chicago, Dec. 8. The Chicago Federation of Musicians has placed Frank Minnick, doing business as Frank's Theatrical and Amusement, J. J. Hammond, Louis Cohen; Block & Hyman, and Jack Ganas on the unfair list of booking agents.

Reopening Campaign to Get Army Clearance of Buses for Bands

Another attempt is being made by J. J. Hammond to work out a plan under which traveling bands will be allowed the use of buses by the Office of Defense Transportation. Hammond, who has been handling negotiations between the ODT and USO-Camp Shows, Inc. on the subject, went to Washington again yesterday to let the ODT officials cover the ground he, and the USO lost several weeks ago, when the army refused to let the ODT allow buses. That was just before the opening of the African campaign. Hammond says the time had planned and okayed by the ODT. Bands operating through the southern and southwest routes will be allowed buses upon apply for

Despite Draft and Other Depletions, Name Leaders Hold their Mastery

It's Capt. Miller Officially

Glenn Miller graduated from Officer's Training School, Fort Meade, Md. Friday afternoon, under Captain's commission. Next day he left for Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala., to report for duty with the Air Force. His duties will be of morale and musical nature. Miller is first in the Army Specialist Corps several months ago and was shifted over to the regular army when the former was abolished. During his six weeks of study at Fort Meade he developed pneumonia, was shipped home and later recovered fully in a military hospital.

51 BANDS FOR COCA-COLA'S XMAS SHOW

Total of 51 bands will be used by the Coca-Cola company on its dance music marathon on the Blue Room show at the Waldorf Astoria originate in army camps all over the country in 15-minute periods from noon until midnight the name of the title "Uncle Sam's Xmas Tree." No commercials in Coca-Cola's behalf will be used. This is strictly a gesture on the manufacturer's part.

Broadcasts will be carried on 42 Blue outlets. All the time has been cleared except the 7-8:30 P. M. which will be opened to WJZ, N. Y., which may be opened to other stations.

Since the 12-hour or more broadcast was first planned, the job of coordinating and routing the bands to various parts of the country for pickups has been a daily chore for executives of Music Corp. of America and the D'Arcy agency. Before the job was complete the latter part of last week they were walking in circles. In only a few instances did they fail to post a band. To cover these spots there may be two or three repeats by bands aired earlier. All bands will do a three-hour show of the camp. They will go to organizations. Some of the outlets among the 51 bought will not broadcast. Hammond is clearing the discrepancy between the total and 48 quarter hours. They'll just entertain trainees.

U Signs Benny Carter For Gloria Jean Film

Benny Carter's orch has been signed by University for the new Gloria Jean film, which starts shooting about Jan. 13. Carter auditioned 100 bands and picked out probably the first time a band had been brought onto a lot for such a purpose.

Carter's outfit was formed only about four months ago. It's currently at the Swing Club, Hollywood.

The gradual elimination by enlistment or induction of name maestros, and the general shortage of b.o. bands, have not resulted in increased interest in lower bracket bands during the past year. Bookers and managers were of the opinion that, as a certain percentage of upper class crews lost their leaders and were disbanded, lesser known outfits would automatically acquire increased recognition thereby making them better money earners. Fact that the public isn't going for orchestra substitutes the theory that the top bands would remain frozen in their positions for an extended period. This opinion was based earlier this year on the curtailment of shellac by the War Production Board and the consequent shortage of record posters to new talent. Of course, since Aug. 1 and Petrillo's ban on a general recording and transcriptions, no one has had an opportunity to record.

The top outfits have more than managed to maintain their positions without recordings. The majority of them are being booked by bookers which the band business fees carries more weight in upholding and increasing their positions than recordings. The fact that many of the best band names have spent a great deal of money in advertising is another reason for the shortage of bands in the rest of the country.

Lyman Reorganizes Orchestra; Opening At Lincoln, N. Y., Jan. 8

Abe Lyman is reorganizing his band during the past few weeks to follow the current Mitchell Ayres band into the Lincoln hotel, N. Y. Ayres is leaving for the Coast Guard Jan. 2, shifting to the Roseland Ballroom, N. Y., the next night, after which he will be booked at the Lincoln for five days. Lyman is to open Jan. 8.

Lyman's booking is for eight weeks, and will include the Waldorf Astoria, Stan Kenton comes in March 5 for four weeks. This is the latter's first N. Y. engagement. He will be Roseland Ballroom on his first trip into N. Y.

Lyman disbanded his original orchestra several months ago because he expected to go into the Army. High blood pressure and a slight nerve condition kept him out. His new band is about 50% staffed.

BOSTON BALLROOMS CONTINUE OPERATION

Boston, Dec. 8. While night clubs and hotel dining rooms with dancing and entertainment have been closed, the inspection unit on fire hazards when the ballrooms continued to operate.

However, Ray Galvin, at the Rayburn blood pressure and a slight nerve condition kept him out. His new band is about 50% staffed. All decorations came down, "creak" of the floorboards, and the fire smoking by the dancers permitted only in certain safe areas. Inspectors found that the ballrooms contained twice as many exits as the law required.

Maine Legislation Threat August 6, Me. Dec. 8. Maine's dancehall law, which the Legislature convenes Jan. 1, if a measure to be presented to the Legislature by the commissioner of insurance, is approved. Having in mind the recent Boston situation, the Perkins stated that the inspection division of the department should be given authority to require the insurance and decoration of dance places.

N. Y. Local 802 Incumbents Win Nearly Clean Sweep; Lose Only 2 Bd. Posts

For the first time in eight years N. Y. local 802 of the American Federation of Musicians has two representatives of the opposition sitting in office as a result of the regular bi-annual election held Thursday (3). The administration, known as the Blue ticket, scored a clean sweep of the major berths and lost only one post each on the executive and local boards to the opposition, or Unity ticket. The election, run by the Honest Ballot Association, turned out 6,500 votes.

Closest balloting was for the presidency, with Jack Rosenberg, the incumbent, losing out Dave Gushoff by score of 3,594 to 3,038. Dick McCann, v.p. came through over Bob Patterson by a count of 3,687 to 2,924. Willie Feinberg, secretary, had the biggest majority in whipping Sammy Kramer by a score of 3,809 to 2,747. Harry Suber, treasurer, did almost as good in downing Nick Vitale by 3,876 to 2,794.

On the executive board, Emil Bazar, incumbent, was high man with 3,656 votes. Max Arons, also an incumbent, was top man in the scoring for the trial board with 3,881 ballots. The two Unity men who won were Al Ruderman, elected to the executive board, and Irving Bloom, to the trial board. Both are important posts, since these boards actually ride herd on all union affairs and, for the first time since the incumbents took office eight years ago, there will be opposition men sitting in on all the confabs. The membership is known to be expecting minority reports from these men on all controversial matters.

The election count was not com-

Spitalny's Concert

Phil Spitalny and his all-girl orch are reading a concert at Town Hall, N. Y., Dec. 22.

Proceeds to the Baptist Home for Aged.

Sleepwalking Musician Nearly Jazzes Up Show Navy Orch's Embarkation

Artie Shaw and his Navy supporters were put on a spot last week, less than 24 hours before Shaw and his band were to leave for an overseas base. Ray Heath, trombonist with the outfit, was caught sleep-walking. Since the Navy prefers musicians who don't "take nocturnal strolls," Shaw was obliged to replace him. In less than 24 hours he plucked Tasso Harris from Vaughn Monroe's orchestra and had him in uniform with the band.

Heath originally was a member of Monroe's crew, temporarily replaced at the time by Joe Orlando, who in turn gave way to Harris. When Harris was hurriedly replaced the latter with Shaw, Orlando again jumped in with Monroe, who had been up all night, went on record with statements about winning a hard election fairly and squarely, and calling for an end to factionalism.

Band Review

ERNIE HECKSCHER'S ORCH (14)
With Norma Rose
Hotel Peabody, Memphis
Latest sweet-cloyed orch to come from the West Coast and click in the Miami Beach Waller area is that of Ernie Heckscher. Stanford grad now making his first foray east of the Rockies, Heckscher's present combi has been together about five months and is plenty pleasing to the ear. Band is smooth, with a single brass and a violin section of three men, three saxes, bass fiddle, two pianos and drums. Heckscher is at the piano and sounds a lot like Henry King or Nat Brandwynne.

Maestro features an electric harp, something brand new in this sector, to excellent effect. Instrument provokes a lot of commercial curiosity and is a musical asset as well.

Norma Rose, the thrust, is a singer and choreo a neat dity. Boys in service like her, call her "San Antonio Rose," which doesn't hurt her appeal any.

Gang has a knockout arrangement on "Prize the Lord and Pass the Ammunition," opening with a choir chant idea and zipping into rhytmic stuff on swinging strings. Too bad if it couldn't be recorded; would have made Heckscher on the jukebox job.

Troupe goes back to the Coast around New Year's, but has an offer to come back to the Peabody in the spring. Should go places and soon, leader having developed a personnel setup claimed to be draft-proof.

Upbeat

Edythe Wray has joined Wally Stoefler orch as vocalist at Vogue Terrace, Pittsburgh.

Allice Gerber, former singer with Rusty Williams orch, now doing a single at Music Bar, Pittsburgh.

Griff Williams orch has been signed for an indefinite run in the Empire Room of the Palmer House. (Continued on page 40)

Inside Stuff—Orchestras

Tony Pastor and his band showed Paramount, Hammond, Inc., No. 29 minus instruments. Band was making the jump from Cincinnati to Hammond, when, unbeknown to Pastor and the others, who were traveling by private auto, the instrument truck broke down and did not arrive until several hours later.

In the meantime it came time for the show and go on and, in order to satisfy the patrons that the band was there and would play later, the curtains were parted showing the men seated but sans instruments. A mad scramble to borrow instruments was made between shows by Larry Stein, Warner district manager, who got them from surrounding towns and from the house orchestra, which enabled Pastor to play the second matinee show. The instrument truck arrived later and everything was all right for the first evening show.

At Paramount in Hammond has been successful with a name band policy every Sunday. Last Sunday (6) Ina Ray Hutton and her band was the attraction and led over Dick Jurgens, December 20; Chuck Foster, December 27, and Stan Kenton on January 10.

When "This is the Army" played Washington the seven regular musicians at the National theatre were given a layoff until August. Under the National Defense Act of 1918, Less than 101 of the Musicians' Union could have appealed to the War Department for reimbursement of musicians, since the military are not permitted to employ more than 100 civilian enterprises. James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, had promised to cooperate with 'Army' and was against any appeal for 948. He settled the controversy by writing his personal check for the National orchestra, each musician getting his customary week's pay.

Negotiations are nearly complete for Joe Glaser to take over management of Van Alexander's orchestra, which is booked on Columbia and Radio Artists. Contract is to be signed later this week.

Glaser has been gradually enlarging his stable of white bands that have been in the country. Once known as a manager of Negro talent exclusively, he now handles more okey than colored.

10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country, as reported by operators to 'Variety.' Names of more than one band or vocalist after the title indicates, in order of popularity, whose recordings are being played. Figures and names in parenthesis indicate the number of weeks each song has been in the listings and respective publishers.)

1. White Christmas (8) (Berlin).....	Ching Crosby.....	Decca
2. When Lights Go On (7) (CLP).....	Belle Spivak.....	Columbia
3. When Lights Go On (7) (CLP).....	Vaughn Monroe.....	Victor
4. Five or Six (8) (Leeds).....	Les Brown.....	Okeh
5. Prase Lord (8) (Famous).....	Andrews Sisters.....	Decca
6. Dearly Beloved (3) (Clappell).....	Freddie Slack.....	Capitol
7. Why Don't You Fall Love (4) (Harms).....	Kay Kyser.....	Columbia
8. Manhattan Serenade (5) (Robbins).....	Mary Marx.....	Decca
9. There Are Such Things (2) (Yankee).....	Alvino Rey.....	Victor
10. Had Craziest Dream (1) (BVC).....	Glenn Miller.....	Victor
	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
	Harry James.....	Columbia
	Connie Boswell.....	Decca
	Dick Jurgens.....	Okeh
	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
	Harry James.....	Columbia
	Tommy Dorsey.....	Victor
	Harry James.....	Columbia
	Tony Martin.....	Decca

OTHER FAVORITES

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity. Tunes with number of weeks in parenthesis are fading, others gaining.)

My Devotion (15) (Santley).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
Feather's Pace (7) (Southern).....	Vaughn Monroe.....	Victor
	Spike Jones.....	Bluebird
Srip Polka (17) (Morris).....	Andrews Sisters.....	Decca
	Johnny Mercer.....	Capitol
Brazil (Southern).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
There'll Never Be Another You (Miller).....	Les Brown.....	Okeh
Moonlight Becomes You (Famous).....	Sammy Kaye.....	Victor
Here Comes Navy (Shapiro).....	Bing Crosby.....	Decca
This Is Army (Army).....	Kay Kyser.....	Columbia
For Me My Gal (Miller).....	Andrews Sisters.....	Decca
Street Dreams (Miller).....	Hal McIntyre.....	Victor
Serenade Blue (BVC).....	Judy Garland.....	Decca
	Guy Lombardo.....	Victor
	Tommy Dorsey.....	Decca
	Inkpops.....	Decca
	Benny Goodman.....	Columbia
	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca

South American Sellers

Buenos Aires, Dec. 1. Argentine, U. S. and Brazilian numbers ran neck and neck on South American best-seller lists during last half of November.

Following best 10, compiled from data obtained from dealers headquartered in Buenos Aires, represents leaders not only in this country but for adjoining S. A. republics.

1. Inesemblement (French).....	Ray Ventura.....	Odeon
2. Amour—Amour (Mex) Corrido.....	Eduardo Armani.....	Victor
3. Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree (U. S.).....	Pedro Vargas.....	Victor
4. Lejos de Buenos Aires (Arg) Tango.....	Oswaldo Norton.....	Odeon
5. Jingle, Jangle, Jingle (U. S.).....	Glenn Miller.....	Victor
6. Pape Baldasar (Arg) Milonga.....	Andrews Sisters.....	Odeon
7. Always in My Heart (U. S.).....	Antal Trosti (Pichuco).....	Victor
8. Carinhoso (Brazilian) Samba.....	Miguel Calo.....	Odeon
9. Derniere Baverie (French).....	Eduardo Armani.....	Victor
10. Baique No Noro (Brazilian) Samba.....	Merry Marx.....	Odeon
	Hugo del Carril.....	Victor
	Eugenio Nobile.....	Odeon
	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Odeon
	Jan Savary.....	Victor
	Eddy Duchin.....	Columbia
	Pedro Vargas.....	Victor
	Ray Ventura.....	Victor
	Eduardo Armani.....	Victor
	Hawaiian Serenaders.....	Victor
	L. Baptista.....	Victor



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Now That ASCAP Pubs Are Back On Profit Basis, Wage Freezing Prevents Employes From Cashing In

The loss of profits experienced by the ASCAP faction of the music publishing industry during the fight with radio in 1941 has created a perplexing problem in connection with the Presidential wage-freezing order. Publishers who have made it a practice of distributing year-end bonuses among certain of their employes now find that they can't resume the bonus arrangements which prevailed in their organizations before 1941.

Because of the ASCAP-radio battle, these publishers were practicing a policy of business for 18 months. When it came to balancing the books at the end of 1941, there were no profits from which to extract bonuses, the payment of which constituted part and parcel of compensation agreements particularly in the case of professional managers. With their business back this year on a solid profit basis, such publishers had planned to reinstate bonuses a la 1940 style, but the latest regulations issued by the War Labor Board prohibits that very procedure. The WLB holds that the distribution of bonuses is permissible providing this has been a regular arrangement and that the amount of the bonus is not greater than that received during the preceding year.

Not Encouraging
Inquiries in the New York office of the WLB last week elicited information that is not encouraging to the music industry. Those looking forward to the old bonus division, WLB spokesmen are looking for the ASCAP section of the music business to be in a state of suspended animosity during almost all of 1942, the resumption of a deferred compensation arrangement would be regarded as in violation of the Presidential order. Publishers, however, have the privilege, it was learned, to file an application for extension of the rule. Such applications run to 10 pages and the requirements are that they be filed in triplicate.

Phase of the situation that particularly bothers publishers is the possibility of their professional men leaving them for other connections and thereby overcoming the compensation restriction imposed by the Government wage-freeze. Even though their new employers could offer a bonus inducement, there is nothing in the Presidential order to prevent them from getting more money than they have enjoyed from their previous jobs.

TOSSES SUIT ON 'VAMP' FROM N. Y. SUPREME CT.

Byron Gay last week lost in the New York supreme court suit to compel the Robbins Music Corp. and Leo Feist, Inc., to account to him for all the mechanical rights on "The Vamp." Acting on a brief made by music industry counsel for Robbins-Feist, Justice Carroll G. Water, held that the action was barred by the statute of limitations and dismissed the plea for an accounting.

Gay claimed that when he made a deal for "The Vamp" with Will Kipper of the Chicago publisher, the (Gay) reserved the mechanical picture rights. Kipper sold the song to Feist five years ago. Gay's suit was inspired by the fact that Robbins, which controls Feist, had issued a special recording release on the tune to 20th Century-Fox for use in the musical, "Rose of Washington Square." Justice Water, in a lengthy decision, stated that the basis of the action was not in the original contract, but rather an infringement of copyright.

FISCHER MUST PAY TOBANI HEIRS \$5,000

Carl Fischer, Inc., will now have to pay the \$5,000 claimed by the heirs of Theodore Tobani. The N. Y. circuit court of appeals last week denied Fischer's plea that the \$5,000 judgment granted by a lower court be vacated. Two of the judges on the circuit court dissented, but there was no written opinion.

Fischer, in 1928, entered into an agreement with Tobani, a staff arranger, covering the renewal rights to works composed by Tobani. By the terms of this contract, Tobani was to receive a certain sum weekly as long as he lived and it was stipulated that in the event of his death, his surviving wife would receive \$5,000. Mrs. Tobani's death was announced last week. Fischer took the position that the \$5,000 commitment has thereby been violated. The wife died in 1934 and the husband, a year later.

Senate's Petrillo Probe Is Now Set for Jan. 12

Washington, Dec. 8.—Much-posponed appearance of James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, before the Senate investigation subcommittee has again been delayed. Senator D. Worth Clark of Idaho, chairman of the subcommittee, subcommittee appointed to investigate the recording ban imposed by the WFLM is announced that Jan. 12 has now been definitely set as the date for the beginning of the hearings.

Petrillo is due to be the first witness. Herbert M. Bingham, Washington attorney, has been appointed as special counsel for the inquiry. Senator Clark, who is the author of the investigation resolution under which the hearings are authorized, had previously set Dec. 7 as the start of the hearings.

Postponement seemed advisable, according to Senator Clark, because the closing votes of the Congress would find many Senators absent from Washington. Subcommittee chairman held out the possibility that it would be impossible to get a quorum of his subcommittee for hearings before the new Congress opens. He thought it wise to duck the possible necessity of carrying the hearings over into the next Congressional session.

Russe Film Music On Wax Part of New Vogue

Obviously trying to cash in on the sudden wave of popularity of Russian film music, producers have placed some of the tunes from the films on the record album market, with the idea of capturing the county recording and distributing the records. A typical album includes songs from "Circus from Stenirg," "One Day in Soviet Russia," "Red Tanka," "Alexander Nevsky" and "The Song of the Volga Boatmen." To aid the unfamiliar, Russian lyrics their English translations were placed on the inside front cover of the album.

Benece Russell authored "The Kremlin Song," being published by L. Wolfe Gilbert.

TERMS FOR CAFES, HOTELS BEING SET

New Plan Will Displace Non-Fee Blanket License BMI Originally Issued to Such Operations—Low Terms to Obviate Policing

150-200G ANNUALLY

Broadcast Music, Inc., has completed preliminary plans for entering the general licensing field, with the latter taking in hotels, cafes and ballrooms. The terms are being worked in discussions with the trade associations of these various user groups. It will be the first time that BMI has sought to collect a performance fee from any source other than broadcasting. In the case of motion pictures BMI issues a two-fold license, to producers, covering performance as well as synchronization, which obviates the necessity of the exhibitor to get his own license from BMI.

Several months after its inception BMI issued blanket licenses to hotels, cafes and ballrooms on a scale that will be so reasonable to users that the cost and expense of policing can be entirely avoided. BMI figures that it will collect over \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year from general licensing.

Ralph Peer, a BMI affiliate, closed his new deal with that organization last week. He guarantees that BMI on performing fees is somewhat over \$100,000 a year. The catalogs involved are the International, Melodivine and the American Performing Rights Society, the last the repository for Mexican, Brazilian, Argentinian and other Latin-American music.

Franc Waxman, Max Steiner, Adolph Deutch and Frederick Holter drew scoring jobs on "Edge of Darkness." The investment of "The Twin," "Action in the North Atlantic" and "Background to Danger," respectively, at Warners.

Coast Songwriter Group Moves To Block New ASCAP Rating Plan

Hollywood, Dec. 8.—Counsel has been retained by a group of songwriters to question ASCAP's revised classification system, soon to be voted on by the society's membership. Notice has been served on the society's board of directors and John Paine, general manager, that any attempt to put the proposed plan into effect will be legally contested.

Edward Thorpe, attorney, set forth the following grounds for action in his letter to ASCAP's board last week:

- (1) When the 10-year contracts were signed by these members, they intended and understood that the classification system then in existence would continue during the life of the contract.
- (2) That the pending ratification of the by-law amendment necessary to enable the new plan to be put into effect is being obtained by misrepresentation. At the local membership meeting on Dec. 20, the membership was officially informed that the Attorney General of U. S. was not in immediate adoption of a new plan. While the Attorney General has since then stated in a

Music Publishers Beginning to Feel Effects of Recording Ban; Miss Disc Ballyhoo of New Numbers

Best Sheet Music Sellers
Week ending Dec. 5

White Christmas	.....	Berlin
Sat Spangled Banner	.....	Miller
Lights Go On	.....	CLP
Prize Lord	.....	Famous
5 by 7	.....	Leeds
There's a New Sensation	.....	Yankee
There Such Things	.....	Leslie
Deeply Beloved	.....	Chappell
Army Air Corps	.....	Fischer
Manhattan Serenade	.....	Hobbs
Penn. Polka	.....	Shapiro
Don't Let You	.....	Robins
My Dearest	.....	Feist
My Devotion	.....	Santly
Fuehrer's Face	.....	Southey

BMI Deal With SPA Now Hinges On Technicality

Broadcast Music, Inc., will sign a basic agreement with the Songwriters Protective Assn. as soon as the latter organization has no revised its anti-bulk provision in the contract so as to exempt performing rights. The desired change is merely a technical one.

In the SPA's contracts with ASCAP publishers, allowance is made for the sale of bulk rights through the Society, with the prohibition against bulk deals in such cases applying only to the licensing of synchronization uses. BMI last week denied that the present negotiations with SPA were proceeding on the basis that BMI would be agreeable to the writer's retaining the ownership of the copyright and continuing its contractual relations with the publishing and mechanical rights, as specifically covered by the writer to the publisher.

Music publishers have begun to feel the effects of the American Federation of Musicians' ban on phonograph records. The pubs are complaining that the advance play of new numbers enjoyed through records is now sorely missed, particularly in the case of novelty songs. Writers are voicing a similar disappointment. They have in the past found it much easier to place a novelty tune with a publisher because of the disposition of recording companies to take the manuscript of a novelty directly from a writer and record it. A tieup of this sort would facilitate acceptance by a publisher, since the latter could count on the disc royalty to cover the song's publication expense.

Where the publishers are experiencing the exploitation pinch especially in the deprivation of the jukebox outlet. The impression common among the pubs is that a ban in force at the moment is far more potential than it is. The impression of a listener. If a person spends a minute to hear a song, he will be more inclined to spend a few minutes on a piano copy than a dial-writer, who gets an earful of the same song while the jukebox outlet. A tieup of the current situation as regards the exploitation of new songs that is restricted to listening audiences of (Continued on page 40)

WB GALE TALK DEAL FOR ABB CATALOG

The Warners Bros. music publishing group and Moe Gale, as partner in the deal, are in process of negotiating for the purchase of the Ager, Yellen & Bornstein catalog. The reported price is \$400,000. If the proposed purchase is through the publication of the only official of the firm that will go along with the new owners.

Involved in the discussion is the ABB catalog, which includes several titles of Milton Ager's numbers. One of the more used numbers in the ABB catalog is "Happy Days Are Here Again."

Official Signal Corps Song By Mrs. Olmstead

Hollywood. Editor, "Variety": Some weeks ago an item appeared in "Variety" about Feist receiving a War Dept. nod naming "The Message Got Through" as the official tune of the Signal Corps. Actually "The Song of the Signal Corps" written by Mrs. Dawson Olmstead, wife of the present Chief Signal Corps, has been the official Signal Corps song since it was published by Sam Fox Pub. Co.—Ed. Some weeks ago it was Feist who submitted the song to the Signal Corps in Washington, which replied that it was not in immediate consideration being dedicated to the Corps, but that it could not be named the official song. The misunderstanding which followed was no fault of anyone, especially not Feist. It was Feist who helped immeasurably if you could correct the foregoing item. Mrs. Olmstead wrote both the words and music. Lee Mortimer.

The Groaner in the African Field

(Following is a supplementary anecdote by the author of the recent two-part story in the *Solempnet* on Bing Crosby, labeled in the national map 'The King of the Crooners'.)

By M. ALLEN SMITH

Not long ago I was trying to establish the extent of Bing Crosby's influence throughout the world working on the assumption that of all entertainers The Groaner is the most widely known. During this investigation I called on Jack Kapp, president of the company, which issues the Crosby records. I asked Kapp if he had any method of demonstrating the global character of Crosby's popularity. He studied the matter a while, then got up and went prowling in his files. Finally he found a letter that came from a certain European exporter who had just emigrated from the African wilds. This man said that he had been roaming through Tanganyika territory for months and that an important part of his equipment was a portable phonograph and 50 Bing Crosby recordings.

He told how his safari train would arrive at a native kraal, how he would immediately set up the phonograph and start a Crosby recital. It was his quickest and surest way of gaining the confidence of the natives. Sometimes when the expedition camped over night in the bush he wrote, his native porters would ask for a Crosby recital and he'd play the phonograph for hours at a stretch. Thus the natives learned the songs—the only English they knew—and as they trudged forward through the wild country they would sing Crosby music. After Crosby Number 1, they tried to copy Bing's style as they swung out with 'I Wish I Were Aladdin' or 'Go Fly a Kite.'

Part of O.W.I.'s New War Song Tips Already Tried in Music Biz

Music publishers last week received a new batch of suggestions for war-effort songs from the O.W.I. board. The information and suggestions were transmitted through the Music Publishers Protective League.

The OWI wrote that songs could be helpful in putting over the Government's current campaign for transportation conservation. The letter even suggested a title, 'Wrap It Up.' It also suggested a theme of transportation conservation.

The OWI's communication concluded with: 'Some other important themes right now are the theme of the war worker (including the woman war worker); the fundamental raising theme, which is a theme of sacrifice; the theme of conservation. This last means taking care of what we have, making things last, making things do. It is a necessary theme, because we are putting all our metals and all our industry into the weapons our fighting men must have to win the war. Careful treatment of the theme, if done without getting along with help, helps keep us rolling toward victory.'

Publisher comment on the OWI OWI theme was this: 'The war effort wasn't aware of what the business has already done on the conservation war-work theme. It's a good idea. For instance, there's been 'I Can Do Without Sugar, But I Can't Do Without You' and 'Kissie the Riveter.'

FETE DR. BLACK ON HIS 10TH ANNI WITH NBC

Dr. Frank Black was given a dinner at the 21 Club last Saturday night (6) in celebration of his 10th anniversary as NBC director of music. Among the speakers were Dan Aykroyd, who was chairman, and Walter Dymosch.

Dr. Black to the various tributes. Dr. Black is one of the foremost growth of music appreciation in the United States since the advent of radio. He said that music can be a powerful influence in the morale of the armed forces.

Feel Disc Ban

Continued from page 38
The ban up to 1 a.m. strike. To the publishers this is an audience that would be least inclined to follow up on the musical fancy with a visit to a sheet music publisher.

One publisher, who has been consistent in his resistance to the ban, unless settled in the near future, won't damage their business seriously; they're just whistling in the dark.' This same pub held that the time wasn't far off when radio stations which specialize in recording would also feel the pinch. Such stations will make the discovery that they can't get away with recording the old ones over and over again and had turned to the network outlets for newer material.

Out on the Upbeat

Continued from page 38
Chicago, immediately following the week's engagement of the Glenn and Joe Reichman's orchestra, which opens Jan. 7.

Buster Lodge, near Monroe, Mich., operated by Chuck Segnella and Fred Berman, has been closed by suspension by the liquor board for violations.

Sande Williams, orch leader at the Raleigh Room, Hotel Warwick, N. Y., is enlisting in the Army. Place will be taken by Roy Wesley.

Bob Dennis, sax player in Harle Dick's band, play in the Grand bow Room, Hotel Willard, Toledo, is now in the Navy. Corwin Brandt replaced him.

Henry Zetler is new pianist with Piccolo Pete band at Nut House, Pittsburgh, succeeding Count Wally who has gone to work in defense plant.

Joe Lesack has taken piano spot.

Inside Stuff—Music

Walter Doyle, songwriter who has been inactive since 1939 due to a head condition, and who has been in and out of the Phila. Naval hospital in recent years, recently got a call from his draft board to appear for a physical. The Veterans' Bureau, to whom Doyle appealed, notified the draft board that the songwriter was rated as permanently disabled, but received word back that 'regardless of your ideas to the contrary, the Service System Service is not interested in the findings of the Veterans Bureau.'

Doyle says it took Washington intervention to straighten the matter out. 'I'm most proud of it. Doyle was highly, by your recent note that Bert Gordon, the Mad Russian, received a similar call from his draft board despite a wound stripe from the last war.'

Dixie Holt, N. Y., asserts that it is not making any attempt to keep music publisher's contact men from its new Plantation Room, regardless of what Bert Gordon, the Mad Russian, received a similar call from one entering, whether alone or escorted. Dixie makes this claim in answer to a story in last week's 'Variety' that songwriters were being asked to steer clear of the Plantation Room if they were unescorted.

Trickle of new releases by disk companies has forced newspaper record reviewers attempting to keep up weekly departments to include hillbilly, cowboy and race platters, hitherto skipped by average critics.

NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following tabulation of popular music performances embraces all four networks—NBC, CBS, Blue and Mutual—as represented by WCAP, WJZ, WABC and WOR, N. Y. Compilation herewith covers week beginning Monday through Sunday, Nov. 30-Dec. 6, from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m., and is based on reports by Accurate Reporting Service's regular source for music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER	TOTAL
White Christmas—'Holiday Inn'	Berlin	35
When I'm 'Behind 8 Ball'	Warner	35
Starlight Sonata	BMI	25
Why Don't You Fall In Love With Me?	Harms	25
Just Getting Started—'Springtime'	Warner	25
The Soldier of My Dreams	National	23
Praise the Lord and Pass the Cakes	Famous	21
God Beloved—'You Are Never Lovelier'	Warner	21
Manhattan Serenade	Robbins	20
A Touch of Texas—'Seven Days Leave'	Southern	18
Daybreak—'Miss Jones'	Warner	18
Moonlight Becomes You—'Road to Morocco'	Famous	18
There Are Such Things	Yankee	18
When the Sun Goes Down	Southern	18
Rose Ann of Charing Cross	Shapiro	17
Velvet Moon	Wilmark	17
Get Meek of Chickens—'Seven Days Leave'	Southern	16
There'll Never Be Another You—'Iceland'	Morris	15
Pennsylvania Polka	Shapiro	15
Get Meek of Chickens—'Seven Days Leave'	Southern	15
The Steam Is on the Beam	Crawford	15
Constantly—'Road to Morocco'	Paramount	15
Get Meek of Chickens—'Seven Days Leave'	Southern	15
Street Dreams	Miller	15
Top of the World	Miller	15
For and My Gal—'Me and My Gal'	Miller	15
I'd Care a Little Bit Less	Feist	15
Moonlight Blue	Warner	15
Every Night About This Time	Warlock	15
'This Is the Army, Mr. Jones'	Army	15
My Blue Heaven	Warner	15
Bye-Bye Light of the Silvery Moon	Remick	15
Brazil	Southern	15
Hip Hip Hokey	Witmark	15
Serenade in Blue—'Orchestra Wives'	BVC	15
You'd Be So Nice to Come Home To	Chappell	15
Get Meek of Chickens—'Seven Days Leave'	Southern	15
Rosie the Riveter	Warner	15
Three Dreams—'Road to Morocco'	Southern	15
When You're a Long Long Way from Home	B-way	15
I Boy In Khaki	ABC	15
My Blue Heaven	Warner	15
If I Ever Get Back to Hannah	Mutual	15
I Met Her on Monday	Warner	15
Caricature—'New Doodle Dance'	Atlas	15
Paradise Day	Warner	15
American Prayer	Paramount	15
My Blue Heaven	Warner	15
Gals of Love	Mutual	15
I Lift My Heart at the Siege Door Canteen	Army	15
Please Think of Me	Witmark	15
Romance a La Mode	Remick	15
Sentimental Feeling	Benny	15
With a Pack on His Back	Benny	15

*Musical. *This is the Army' publishing subid.

permanently with Max Adkins' house band at Stanley, Pittsburgh, replacing Glenn Runno, now in the Army.

Baren Elliott band renewed at Bill Green's, Pittsburgh, until after first of year. Outing, doubling from staff job at station WCAE, has been at Green's for two months.

Lonel Hampton returning east shortly from long Coast sojourn; will be replaced by Sam Donahue, 2nd week, and Paradise, Detroit, Jan. 1 week.

Sunny Donham loses his vocalist, Ray Kellogg, to the Army today (9).

Teddy Powell band has been held over at the Dixie hotel, New York.

3 MUSTS FOR YOUR BOOKS
I BURNED A MATCH | MUMBLE JUMBLE
(from end to end)
OGECHEE RIVER LULLABY
WALTER DOYLE'S SONGS
RYVOC, Inc. 1585 W. 47th St. (ASCAP)

Vanity Off-the-Air Recording Now A Big Biz for Audio-Scriptions

Tell a guy you have a recording of a speech he's made on the radio and he won't sleep comfortably until he's bought the waxing and listened to it himself. That's the principle Ezekiel Rabinowitz discovered a couple years ago and it's been paying dividends ever since. Rabinowitz operates Audio-Scriptions, Inc., New York, which keeps eight recording machines running simultaneously every day, waxing waves from the ether.

First time you call someone to tell him you have a recording of his speech which he may buy, Rabinowitz has found, he'll almost invariably say, 'he doesn't have a phonograph to play it back and doesn't want it. Then, anytime from an hour to a year later, he'll suddenly discover that he does have a phonograph and asks that the recording be sent him.

'Most people seem to be too modest,' the off-the-air needling specialist explains, 'to admit that they want to hear the sound of their own voice.' But the knowledge that a recording exists apparently preys on them. Finally, they get the idea. If any more and I get a special delivery letter or a long-distance phone call to send the record right out.'

Charles F. Kettering, v.p. in charge of research for General Motors, was one of the bashful types who's now a regular Audio-Scriptions customer. Rabinowitz recorded 10 of Kettering's speeches over a period of several years. After each speech he'd

send the GM biggie a card asking him if he'd like to buy a recording of it. At first Kettering would reply with testy letters, then he gave up replying altogether. Then he recorded all 10 recordings at one time.

Rocketteller a Customer
John D. Rocketteller, Jr., phoned Audio-Scriptions himself to order an etching of one of his infrequent radio appearances. Rabinowitz figures the millionaire was ashamed to have his secretary call because he feared she'd think he was vain.

But not all of Rabinowitz's recordings are made at random on the chance that the speaker will want to buy a pressing. 'A large part of the biz is taken off-the-air waxings of important shows. The participants have a real professional interest in knowing how they sounded or want to keep a permanent file of their daily or weekly broadcasts.'

The vanity sales, however, are by far the most lucrative and Rabinowitz sold some 5,000 such discs last year. One of his angles is to watch the death notices in papers in large cities throughout the country. Whenever he sees an obit on someone whose voice he has etched, he writes a note to the family. It's a 99-to-1 shot that they'll order the disc or discs out of sentiment.

Vanity platters bring \$4.50 for one side (3 1/2 minutes), \$5.50 for two sides and \$8.50 to \$10 for four sides, which would be a 15-minute disc.

(Continued on page 42)

MILLER MUSIC, INC.
is honored to be designated the publishers of the beloved Ralph Rainger's last big picture song hit, written with Leo Robin.

TAKE IT FROM THEE

From the million-dollar 20th Century-Fox technical picture, "Conny Island"

A "Proven" Best Bet For Every Type of Program
STREET OF DREAMS
Lyric by Sam M. Lewis Music by Victor Young

MILLER MUSIC, Inc. 1629 Broadway New York
HAROLD WALD, Prof. Mgr. GEORGE DALIN, Asst. Prof. Mgr.

CRIMINALS

Midnight Bar Curfew, Gas Rationing Lethal Blows to Niteries on Coast

By JACK HELLMAN
Los Angeles, Dec. 8. The up of one-two, the Sunday punch plug utilities talk about, smacked the niter operators of this village fish on the button—not once, but twice. First wallop that sent them staggering back to the coast was gas rationing, which eliminates all non-essential travel. State Board of Equalization then decreed a hay-bath which sent the punch-drunk niteries rolling in the resin with a rulling that closes all drink dispensaries at the stroke of midnight.

Most of the spots might have survived the first blow, but not the second. Real drinking in the better spots generally begins around midnight and ends at all least 12 to 2 a. m. curfew. Taverns can't get by on dinner trade alone, and with the late-bottle service gone, the better kettles will sound for better than half of the spots around town after the holiday cleanup. The spots are looking forward to the biggest New Year's eve in years—the dying ring of operator and customer alike.

The crushing Equalization order, superintended by Army officials, sizes up night spots and dances a busy; hard liquor to be sold only during the hours of 10 a. m. and midnight, applying to both bars and night clubs; quaffers; to men in uniform drinks may be served over the bar only between 10 and 11 p. m. and after midnight; package sales to the military between 5 and 8 p. m. Beer also will be sold only on the order.

Not a Spot That Won't Be Hit
There's not a spot in town that isn't being hit by the curfew. Those that survive will have to get along on meagre trade, as the spenders, who are not fortunate, will be 'B' or 'C' gas stickers for their windshield, will be closely watched by A-1A spotters for fuel efficiency, and non-essential travel. One of the earliest victims of the gas squeeze is in California institutions, where the niteries have been operating but they're boarded up for the winter. In other months an air fresco food program will be a curiosity.

Hot spots and dances, already up to 40% under normal trade, will be major casualties after the big blizzard's end. Those in the valley, on the Sunset county strip and off the beaten paths of transportation, will be hardest hit. Bracket act of these times is the scheduled reopening of Ciro's Dec. 24 by Herman Hoyer and Marcel Lameux, who recently deserted Earl Carroll to entrepreneur on their own. Both were arrested niteries, and they should know better. The Mocombo and Intimate Strip spots, which their big play on 11 a. m. to curfew time, will have just cause to take their place at the wailing wall. Supper-innec is all their best stops.

Most eviled of all the better sites in the city is Bill's in Midtown. With all hotels fast filling, due to the move downtown from the old sections, it is the only one located within a block of a dozen car lines and bus runs, there is every reason to believe that this inn will escape the withering hand. In Hollywood the trade will have to be split with Earl Carroll, the Palladium and Florentine Gardens. The others won't matter much if they're still around.

Hot Spots
Pittsburg, Dec. 8. Niteries and theatres don't know for sure whether it is gas rationing or the sub-zero weather that they do know that the bottom fell out of everything here last week. In other sections, it is the same story these dark days in October, 1939. Fix houses were practically empty and the following town's hot spots were virtually put on the help alone.

The opinion was that those three gallons weekly had the most to do with the collapse, for not only did the highway close down in the neck, but so did the downtown.

(Continued on page 42)

Uphold Chi Cafe Nixes

Chicago, Dec. 8. Suspensions against Rhumba Casino, Brass Rail, Capitol Cocktail lounge and the Hollywood Show Lounge, all in the Loop, were upheld last week by the city license appeal commission.

Licenses of the spots, all owned by Milton Schwartz and Albert Greenberg, were revoked July 28 by Mayor Kelly after it was reported by Police Commissioner James P. Allman and Capt. Thomas Duffy that the Rhumba Casino has sold liquor to minors.

LACK OF TALENT HITS NEW YR.'S EVE PLANS

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 8. Hotels here are holding up on reservations for New Year's parties because of difficulty in getting bands and entertainers because of transit problems, etc.

One prominent club already has cancelled its usually elaborate holiday soiree, and other night spots are worrying about talent, with entertainers reported hard to lure from New York and musicians scarce. The situation is true in many key cities.

RKO Palace theatre is lining up a New Year's vaudeville show with local orchestra, but the Temple is experiencing delay in getting both Christmas and New Year's stage units. Other theatres plan to stick to straight films.

Detroit Gets the Nix
Detroit, Dec. 8. State Liquor Control Commission has ruled all spots will have to shutter at 10 p. m. on Christmas Eve. Post-10 p. m. shows will be allowed to continue to 2 a. m. on Christmas and on New Year's Eve could go around the clock from 7 a. m. Dec. 31 until 2 a. m. on Jan. 2.

Pitt Roadery Raided, Nab Woman Owner, 4 Gals; No Charges

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. Club 51, one of Pittsburgh's smartest roadhouses, was raided early Saturday morning (6) by county detectives, who arrested the owner and four girls. Led by Charles W. Leith, former assistant city editor of the Post-Gazette and now chief of Lehigh County detectives, 12 "leuths" conducted the raid under instructions by District Attorney Russell H. Adamson.

Leith, owner and operator of the club, and the four girls were arrested for operating a house of no charges, who were placed against any of them. When detectives raided the club they found about a woman found in an upstairs room.

Club 51 is on the site of the old Towne Club, which was a woman gambling casino, which was raided and shut down in 1936 when it failed to follow town's ban on hot spots in closing for a few nights' following disastrous St. Patrick's Day flood here that year.

Nix Grandstand got a new seven-story, 100,000-sq-ft. building on the floor show at Florentine Gardens, Hollywood.

CAESAR'S RESTAURANT APPLIES FIRE

Modified Activity Marks Return After Cocoanut Grove Disaster—Dancing Out Except in Hotels—Toll Mounts to 503 Deaths

By RUDOLPH ELLE, JR.
Boston, Dec. 8. A week, virtually the hour, after the Cocoanut Grove fire, the city officials lifted the ban on 1,100 restaurants, hotels and taverns on Saturday night. The major night clubs, however, 35 of them, remained sealed.

All dancing by patrons except in hotels was still prohibited and will remain so until dance floors have been given a thorough check and the decorations, fire-exits and other possible fire hazards. Yet dance spots in Boston's downtown district division after the gloomiest week.

The Double O.O.

Municipal authorities throughout the nation are stepping up their inspection of all places of entertainment, notably night clubs.

Decorations particularly are getting the veto of the fire commissions. Was a decoration, a flimsy artificial palm accidentally set afire, which brought about the Boston Cocoanut Grove disaster that cost over 500 lives. Adequate emergency exits have been among the items that have been ordered, installed in niteries all over the country, along with fire extinguishers and other safety devices. Most of the attention, of course, is being paid to the fire exits.

Authorities have taught the authorities that these, of all the entertainment spots, will be the most negligent in adhering to the regulations.

Many niteries have been ordered shut awaiting renovations that conform to fire regulations.

In recent history, swarmed into the available night spots, and although there was noticeable restraint, the atmosphere hardly reflected the gloominess of the appalling catastrophe of Nov. 28.

Meanwhile, grand jury proceedings against the fire victims are to fix the blame on those criminally negligent, and as each witness completes his testimony, the extent of the scandal became increasingly apparent. Few facts have emerged, so far, but the grand jury is so thorough such glaring mistakes as the employment of an unlicensed amateur as a fire warden, which will doubtless cut heavily when all the returns are in. Authorities insist that the investigation will not fizzle out, and the press is pushing hard for a complete show-down.

Twenty thousand members of partnerships who were thrown out of work as a result of the fire of hardship still obtains, for the 'A' niteries, or those which obviously have the largest entertainment payroll, are indefinitely closed. Managers, headed by Mickey Redstone who has a record of 100 days of hardship, have agreed to pay salaries of more than 60 for two weeks, at least in Lyndhurst, a majority of most of the big niteries will be allowed to resume.

Twenty thousand members of partnerships which hire their talent on a weekly basis without contract and which are unable to work, are still thrown out of work. One girl, a hotel, was reported to have collapsed in Lyndhurst. Her recovery, of course, expected, but the offer of the American Guild of Variety Artists.

(Continued on page 44)

AGVA Exec Secs Fume Over 'Brushoff' By 4 A's on Naming National Leader

Veloz-Yolanda 96, St. L.

St. Louis, Dec. 8. Veloz and Yolanda suffered along with other entertainers underdogs last week when their bug was besieged by bad weather. On top of this, gasoline rationing program became effective during the engagement. Wound up one week stand at the American theatre Saturday (6) with an estimated gross of \$9,000 for eight performances. Even the spots tossed by the crisis could not offset the combo of weather and the timidity of autoists.

B'WAY CAPITOL AGAIN MULLS STAGE SHOWS

Warlike boom may finally catapult the Capitol, Metro's Broadway showcase into a stage policy. Whether it's to be bands or straight vaudeville is as indefinite as is the proposal, especially in the light of the fact that the Capitol endeavor to make itself a worthy showcase for 20th-Fox product.

Capitol, however, has been selling away its top product to the Music Hall ('Mrs. Miniver,' 'Philadelphia Story,' 'Woman of the Year,' 'Band Harvest,' etc.), but the RKO may force a switch at the Cap. RKO's new show, starting today (Wed), with 'Life Begins at 8:30,' has Hal LeRoy, Mary Healy, Rudy Davis and Mary Byrne and Naidi toping RKO's long-deferred name bandshow policy teas off in January with Guy Lombardo.

The Broadway Strand and Paramount, however, are still mulling the idea of a stage show. The Strand's orchestra crop sewed up, plus renewal options, which has been a steady performer. RKO's further complicated by the death of bands because of the draft and the new Hollywood financial crisis.

Central, B'way, Back To Grind Films After 'Girl' Shows Floperoo

The Central, Brandt house on Broadway, returned to a grind film policy last week after two months of minor 'girl' shows and disappointing business. Howard Hughes' management, and got into the black only once, in a few weeks.

When the 'girl' showroids were attributed to bluenose activities which prohibited advertising and the Billings 'Blow Bombshell,' but when the marquee promise of epilogue display failed to be realized, the word got around and b.o. inside went in, according to reports.

With grind film policy house is claiming a profit.

USO Negro Unit Shaken Up in Midwest Mishap

Omaha, Dec. 8. Unit 73, 'Swingin' On Down,' of USO-Camp shows cancelled its Dec. 10 show at Fort Crook, outside Omaha, after the bus carrying the troupe overturned in a severe storm. No one was injured, but the troupe is as per schedule after the brief stop.

Cast of the all-Negro show consists of Lee Norman or girl, Peters Sisters (3), Cook and M. Brown, Evans and Burns, and Michel Mayfield.

Executive secretaries of locals in the American Guild of Variety Artists checked out of New York last weekend fuming over an alleged breach of faith by the international board of the Associated Actors and Artists of America. The AGVA branch had said it was coming from the country, huddled in N. Y. for three days, claim they brought out country plans for organizational revisions and settled on Carl Dennis, exec secretary of the AGVA local in Detroit, as their candidate for the job of national exec secretary of AGVA. Their report and recommendations were submitted to the 4A's board Friday (4), which promptly tabled it until it had a chance to nullify the executive matters covered in the report.

This action sent the exec secretaries home to a hot war, with finally their first collective interest in the national, and the parent union, to their way of thinking is sidestepping their help. It's no secret, on the other hand, that the 4A's is convinced that many of the AGVA locals are extravagant and shy about fulfilling their financial obligations. It's also no secret, but delinquent in their per capita dues, while some of them just refuse to pay.

In particular, the local executives are dissatisfied with the way the 4A's stepped into the Arthur Wirtz-AGVA dispute after the recent Chicago conflag of the midwest exec secretaries. It's also no secret, but a detachment to Indianapolis to pull the Wirtz-Scola Benite arena ice show that was playing there.

Cafe Packages Built by MCA To Offset Names

Charlie Miller and Jack Bertelli, Music Corp. of America v.p.s, are building a new line of cafe package shows for niteries. It is aimed to replace the paucity of big names. The MCA packages will embrace especially written songs, skits, fully cast, even into the band to go with the revue. They would be rotated, as miniature roadshows. Idea is also to make 'em adaptable for presentation houses.

WALTERS REOPENING 2 MIAMI NITERIES

Lou Walters is reopening his Latin Quarter, Miami, Dec. 18 despite the Army takeover of the building. Walters has a number of enough officers, men and femme visitors to make it worthwhile. He's reopening a new line of cafe package shows, it's the same show which is closing this week to make room for new revue at the Latin Quarter on Broadway, Mazzone's Apaches. Bob Fuller 6, Carol King, Helene Keane, and other stars. Walters is planning to open a new show in Miami with 'X's' which she's the first to open in the city.

Walters is reopening his Casanova, a more intimate Miami Beach spot, the next day (19), with a show at Fort Crook, outside Omaha, after the bus carrying the troupe overturned in a severe storm. No one was injured, but the troupe is as per schedule after the brief stop.

Cast of the all-Negro show consists of Lee Norman or girl, Peters Sisters (3), Cook and M. Brown, Evans and Burns, and Michel Mayfield.

Gale and N. Y. Par in Compromise

On Ink Spots RKO One-Nighters

Moe Gale, manager of the Ink Spots; Bob Weisman and Harry Levine, manager, conductor and booker, respectively, of the N. Y. Paramount theatre, adjusted their respective Monday and Tuesday bookings of the quartet into a week of one-nighters in RKO nabe houses around N. Y. Paramount, and projected to showing the quartet in the RKO house, on the grounds that N. Y. Par has indicated its future services which the local showings would injure. According to Gale and the Par execs worked out an adjustment of the Spots' salary for their next Par appearance. Before the settlement, however, Gale had been ordered to cancel the RKO bookings by James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians. Petrillo entered into it because of his Form B contract, which all theatres are now using (Ink Spots are AFM members). This contract does not carry a clause giving any theatre protection of time and distance on bookings. Prior to Form B, Par's contracts stipulated that bookings by the theatre couldn't play another house within 50 miles for 60 days and 30 days after when Petrillo brought forth Form B, he couldn't stand for any changes or clauses, but assured the theatre owners that he would give them nominal play-date protection. When the Par complained about the Ink Spots bookings, Petrillo cracked down on Gale, ordering him to cancel the quartet and the Tiny Bradshaw band. Gale admitted error in that the Par's permission wasn't asked for the RKO bookings, and the dates were allowed to proceed when he agreed to adjust the Ink Spots' future Par salary.

AGVA Gets Pay Squawk Vs. Helen Reynolds

Complaint has been filed with the American Guild of Variety Artists in Chicago against Lucille Keating and Helene Reynolds, owner of the skating act bearing her name now playing at the Erling theatre. Miss Biggs charges that, as a Reynolds skater, she opened with the "Princesses" in 1940, worked to \$400 a week, at a salary of \$25 per week and that the last week of July, 1942, she even had an increase to \$50 per week. Less social security deductions which gave her a net of \$22.50 and \$27 a week.

According to standards set by AGVA a minimum of \$45 per week is paid to chorus girls on the road.

Edwards Quits in Chi As Exec Sec of AGVA To Resume Dance Act

Cincinnati, Dec. 8. R. E. "Bobby" Edwards, executive secretary of the American Guild of Variety Artists local here, has resigned his post Jan. 16 to revive his old dancing act of Bobby Edwards and Co.

Edwards has been with AGVA since its inception.

No successor has yet been named.

'Ice-Capades' Not \$55,000 in New Haven

New Haven, Dec. 8. "Ice-Capades" moved out of town after sticking for 13 performances in 11 days. It was longest stand here in the history of this blade revue and show did approximately same gross as a year ago on nine-performances stand. Although turnstiles registered only two complete sell-outs, overall attendance was okay. Take for the run was an estimated \$55,000, better than satisfactory.

Aided to the above gross was a "Red-foe-for-a-bomber" stand-out mat which crashed thru with a stupendous \$410,000 worth in the single show. This figure has nothing of its kind held here and passes similar state projects by a substantial margin.

Eric Waite, principal with the show, left east here for army service. Jackson and Lyman, comedy pair, due to follow soon.

Show does a week in Montreal currently, then hops to Ottawa and Boston. Quitt is making fewer and longer stands this season, usually with a couple of days break to cover transportation difficulties.

Francis Renault Joins Count Berni Vici Unit

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. Francis Renault, old-tima female impersonator who's been working around here in small nightclubs, joined the Count Berni Vici unit now in Johnson, Pa. Renault is a former member of the Count Berni era and at one time earned as much as \$5,500 weekly when two-a-day shows were in his hey-day.

His last local appearance was at the Liberty Cafe, a small spot on the North Side, for Eddie Papp. He's now 50.

NO SOLUTION YET IN AGVA-L&E STRIKE

American Guild of Variety Artists' strike against Leon & Edwina in New York continues to dawdle along with the final solution yet to be reached. The L&E unit was formally appointed by the Associated Actors & Artists of America.

There was a two-hour conference last Wednesday (7) between the nitty ops and 4A's committee, but this was called off in the last minute when Lawrence Tibbett, chairman of the committee, had an unexpected detour to the city. The meeting since then the matter has been discussed only at the 4A's board meetings. The L&E unit's representatives are Emily Holt, Henry Jaffe, Florence Marston, Walter Grezza and Edwina. For none of whom are AGVA people.

Murphy to Versailles; N. Y. Riomamba All Set

Supporting Eliza Maxwell at the City Versailles, in the George Hale show which opens at that N. Y. nitty next Thursday (17), will be Deo Murphy, Carol & Sherrod sister dance team, Marina, songstress from the Waldorf, and Emil Cole. The latter has already announced and show did approximately same gross as a year ago on nine-performances stand. Although turnstiles registered only two complete sell-outs, overall attendance was okay. Take for the run was an estimated \$55,000, better than satisfactory.

Murphy first had been announced for the new Riomamba, N. Y. which opens at the Waldorf. Linton, which is the old Polish Pavilion. Linton Well is operating later. Jane Frome heads the cast. Russell Markert did the decor. Ann Graham, Chicago, Kay Drexler, ex-N.Y. nitty, and the Chas. G. Gentry, Randolph Co. show. Dorothy Fog staging, the girls all from Conover's model agency. Irwin Graham wrote the special songs.

Nat Nazarro, Jr., Seeks To Have Name Legalized

Pittsburgh, Dec. 8. Nat Nazarro, Jr., former musical comedy and vaude dancing star and present executive secretary of local chapter of the American Guild of Variety Artists, has petitioned common pleas court here last week for the legal right to use that name instead of the name of James Simpson, given him at birth and baptism. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Simpson, of Philadelphia, petition also seek for legal change of his wife's name to Marjorie L. Nazarro. She's the former Mrs. Mary Nazarro, singer. They were married two years ago.

Nazarro, now 39, was adopted when 7 by a family named Isaacson who then used the family name of Nazarro. According to the petition, Nazarro said he never knew the name he's ever since. Judge Thomas M. Marshall set a hearing for Feb. 2. Nazarro's foster-father is Nat Nazarro, longtime boiler act of the better-known colored actor.

Josie Houston Replaces 'Norman in 'Show Time'

Josephine Houston goes into "Show Time" two-a-days at the Broad-Bway, N. Y. Dec. 10, replacing Lucille Norman, Metro singer, returning to the Coast.

Josie Houston will double from radio, retaining her Blue network shows.

We Three open at Hotel Roosevelt Friday, Dec. 10, Pittsburgh, Monday (14), replacing the Four Stylists.

Inside Stuff—Vaude-Nitty

James G. Balsam, general manager of Harris Amuse. Co. in Pittsburgh, has gone on tour for a few weeks with the 'Icecapades' as road director for the pink extravaganza in the absence of Norman Prescott, who has mother. Balsam is expected to be the leading wood for the 'Icecapades' and is controlled by John H. Harris, head of theatre company, through his post as president manager of the show.

Prescott is expected to rejoin 'Icecapades' around first of year, at which time Balsam will return to his Pitt post.

Coca-Cola has been touring its own camp shows, one a week of one-nighters, in Florida, where the jumps from the east coast to the west coast are made in a matter of days.

Units are intended for institutional build-up. Dick Humber headed one show; last week Frankie Masters headed another. Act are of standard Broadway material. Guy Saxe, Stan Kavanagh and Dixie Dunbar, who traveled with Masters.

Nitty Gas Ration

Continued from page 41

The casualties have started to come in already. Fine, one of the oldest dine-and-dance places in the county, about 15 miles from heart of Golden Triangle, announced that it would be open in the future for meals only and that music and entertainment were cut out entirely.

Legue Terrace, town's newest theatre, has had to close for good. Around 1,000, took extra space in the newspapers to tell the public that its \$150,000 worth of improvements had been eliminated in favor of a \$1 per person minimum. Nut house in Millville was hastily renovating a second floor room above the Senator theatre downtown and hopes to get the next week into the city.

Bill George, district's leading dance impresario, whose business has been in the city for 10 years been one of the most successful operations in the county, had already dropped a second floor room above the Senator theatre downtown and hopes to get the next week into the city.

George's business has been in the city for 10 years been one of the most successful operations in the county, had already dropped a second floor room above the Senator theatre downtown and hopes to get the next week into the city.

As for the smaller spots on the highways, they're just trying to hang on until New Year's Eve, after which time they'll probably be gone. Downtown clubs figure the best way to survive is to cut back on public transportation again. That's what they earnestly hope anyway. Last show really took the wind out of their sails, especially after recent boom in trade all along the belt.

The Influence in Louisville

War rationing, and fact that war workers must hit the hay earlier in order to get to work in the morning, is having an odd influence on schedules on local night clubs in the suburbs. Silver Slipper, in Louisville, has had a two o'clock closing hour for years. Couple nights ago, following permission before the 1 o'clock floor show, all the patrons left, not a single person was on hand to be entertained. Proprietor told the orch they might as well go home.

But the influence of the war is on weekends, which is creating some talk of several of the popular spots going to a four-day-bid schedule through Sunday, and closing up first part of the week. They figure that the expense saved on the four-day floor show during the dull part of the week may mean the difference between staying in business and folding up.

CARMEN AMAYA SET FOR N. Y. LA CONGA

Carmen Amaya returns to the New York nitty at La Conga, co-located George Price, on Dec. 10, her first cake booking since she came to N. Y. attention when Monks Procer booked her into his Manhattan debut Beschamber on Broadway.

She's in for four weeks at a straight, opening around 11 o'clock by Music Corp. of America.

Miss Amaya does concert this week at the Carnegie, and then fills in two weeks in nitties before the Conga booking.

USO NEWFOUNDLAND UNIT BACK IN U. S.

A vaude unit that had been in Newfoundland for USO-Camp Shows returned to New York early this week after a 28-day trip. Cast consisted of Ross Brown, Jimmy Thompson, Maude Hillon Co., Gypsy Marston, and the Four Stylists. Bill Wayne and Tony Martucci orch.

Rips went right out with the Camp Shows unit, going to town as replacement for Rollo & Verna Pickert.

Saranac Lake By Happy Benway

Saranac, N. Y., Dec. 8. Martha McCreedy did a hopper over knocking off the \$11 question "Can You Top This Program" Going into War Saving Stamps, wows Martha.

Jerry (Loo's circuit) Sager and Colin Tracy gave the cake a thrill with an unannounced visit to the lodge during Thanksgiving. Both are ex-roguesters who made the grade here.

Frank Conlin (Zenero the Clown) is going to be a major operations, left for his Birmingham, Ala. show.

Harold Wilkins, ex-producer and m.c., who saw years of service at this colony and managed to get his Uncle Sam in Iceland, got an honorable discharge from the service. Too many stomach ailments.

General reports: Russ Louden out sick weekly for mild exercise. Helen O'Reilly still manages her dress shop, Benny Resler adding poundage between rest periods. Pauline Russell back on the job after a hospital siege. Arthur Alvarez announcing for local WJLB, artist here fighting recent setback.

Local radio, this writer still abed, Percy Wentrich oak in Chicago.

Bob (Legit) Cosgrova back at the Will Rogers sanatorium after a two-week stay in Boston and Fletcher, Mass.

First time in years Lake Placid is not supporting a nite spot. (Write to those who are ill).

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Direction: ROGER MURREL

Woes of USO Units Mount

Jacked-Up Hotel Prices, Lack of Accommodations Among Other Handicaps

USO-Camp Shows troupes, accustomed to poor working conditions while on the road, are running into additional handicaps on the new season, as indicated by a couple.

This unit, which just went to New England, paid for a room in a boarding house; last year the tariff was \$1. Accommodations were no better than last season, but with no other spot available near the camp, there was no alternative but to take the gouge. Some of the troupe slept on cots in the living room; the house was that crowded.

Now the troupe is looking ahead to the hotel in Mobile, Ala., where last year the manager refused to honor its reservations. At that spot they arrived after a long bus jaunt to find no rooms, none available anywhere else in town and no chance to change and wash before driving to the camp and showing the money. Manager of the troupe finally phoned the commandant of the company, in turn, called the hotel in question. Only then did the hostelry rent them two rooms. Six beds bunked in one, eight men crowded into the other, all at \$2 a head. One girl, a name player, wanted a room for herself and had to shell out \$6. All this for the privilege of just washing and resting, since the troupe had to move on after the show.

HARTMANS, CAVALERO IN NEW WALDORF SHOW

The Hartmans will top the new Woodward Room show at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York, Jan. 8, when a new band, Carmen Cavallero's, also goes in. It's the first time in this spot for Cavallero. Heretofore he's been at the Rainbow Room, where he first came to attention.

Susan Miller, doubling from "Beat the Band," may also be in the new show, to fill the singing spot. Xero, one of Cavallero's band goes on tour at that time, to make room for Cavallero.

Mayris Chaney Sets Own Musical Accomp.

San Francisco, Dec. 8.

Mayris Chaney, dancing protégée of Brianor Roosevelt, organized her own musical accomp for the engagement of herself and partner, Julio Alvarez, here at the Persian Room of the Six Francis Drake hotel. Installed Hershey Martin as director of seven-piece orch, which features singing of Manda Lane, and two pianos, operated by Glenn Hubbard and Dick Eoy.

Entire Persian Room show is being staged by Miss Chaney, since it consists of the band and the Chaney and Alvarez dance team.

Chi Awaits OK By Mayor On Gals at Bars

Chicago, Dec. 8.

City council approved an ordinance last week restoring the right of women to drink at bars, providing they are accompanied by male escorts. The ordinance forbidding women to drink at bars was passed last August, its intention being to protect men of the armed forces from women of doubtful repute and hostesses. Since then so many service men who have been unable to get seats at tables because of the crowds that the law became more unpopular every day.

The amended ordinance which will become effective by Dec. 22 undoubtedly will have been unannounced when the bar against women at bars went into effect last August. Cocktail lounge operators complained that the law was keeping women out of their places entirely and that business was affected from \$100 to \$500 a night. Performers suffered, too, their acts not going over so well because of the lack of feminine patrons, indications that the women were good audiences.

Argentinita Troupe Quits Priorities in Chi

Chicago, Dec. 8.

Argentinita, her sister, Pilar Lopez and Federico Rey left the cast of "Priorities 1942" on Sunday (6).

When Rey, whose real name is Freddy Witkop, was ordered back to New York to receive his final army physical examination, the Spanish language, descriptive of his dancing partner of three seasons, decided to leave also for three weeks' rest and rehearsal before starting on a concert tour immediately after Christmas. Witkop, incidentally, is also a stage designer.

It is doubtful that any replacement will be made as the show is now running 12 to 15 minutes overtime.

Playhouse, Port., Ore., Quits Vaude, Jux Pix

Seattle, Dec. 8.

The Playhouse (Evergreen), Portland will discontinue vaude. Len Mantell of Bert Levey offices here reports. It'll close stage shows Dec. 29, with pictures continuing. Levey office had booked.

House gave stage shows a six-week trial.

Milton Rosen and Everett Carter will "Foil Sweep With Guns" to be sung in "Don Winslow of the Coast Guard" in Universal.

Vanity Recording

Continued from page 42

program. Most people, Rabinowitz has learned, don't give a darn about anyone else on the show but themselves and a large part of his business is excerpting particular parts of longer shows for the person involved in that special program.

Keeps Originals

Audio-Scripts never lets an original disc out of its hands, although selling copies. There has been ordered almost 150,000 sides, containing nearly 175,000 items. In addition, Rabinowitz has obtained recordings of voices of many famous comedians—William Fennell (1941), Woodrow Wilson (1931), Thomas A. Edison (1908), Amelia Earhart (1935), Will Rogers (1936) and Hugh Douglas Corrigan (1938) (six and nine discs of others). He values the entire library at well over \$500,000. Seventy-five to 100 new voices are added daily.

Prices vary on copies of the well known names, according to the importance of the particular speech and the variety of copies. A copy of the modern day stuff, however, goes for \$2 or slightly less per item. The William Jennings Bryan speech in 1901 on religion brings \$3.25 for each of its two 12-inch discs. Page Plus 2000, the 1937 Easter Palm benediction in 1939 is still in Berlin is \$5.50 for two sides.

There's a steady demand for the recordings of famous people by the general public and the press, such as March of Time, which try to imitate actual voices.

President Roosevelt's larynx product is the best preserved in Rabinowitz's library with well over 100 recordings. There still are 1937 sides and run 115 hours. Churchill is represented with 35 speeches. Incidentally, the President's library at Hyde Park, where all the Roosevelt state papers are preserved, is negotiating a complete sale to the President's heirs.

Longest single event recorded was the coronation of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1937. It ran for 13½ hours and filled 104 sides, priced at \$50 for each side, and faced record. All of the nobles at the ceremonies bought sets at \$95 each, which provided one of the Scripps' major killings. In fact, the coronation holds the record as Rabinowitz's best seller. There's a constant demand for it from museums, colleges and other educational organizations.

King George's and Queen Elizabeth's tour of the United States and Canada in 1939 fills 157 discs, but consist of many different speeches, greetings, descriptions, parades and the like from scattered locales. The Republican National Convention in 1936 took 111 discs, priced at \$50 in 1940. Democrats are much longer winded, eating into 216 waxes in 1936 and 181 in 1940.

Following the Duke of Windsor's abdication, Rabinowitz sent him a recording of the famed final speech for free. He ordered another copy, however, on May 19, 1941, an album-length recording of the speech. It even goes into the market with a regular 70-cent disc issue.

Customers come to Rabinowitz from strange places, one recently having arrived from Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek. She made a special and Rabinowitz sent her the usual postcard addressed to Chungking, informing her that he had recorded it and she could buy it.

J. McCoplin, chairman of the board of Mutual and prez of WOR, was another recent customer. He was R. Howard's approval. Coventry, who wanted a description he had broadcast of the Nazi demagogue in English.

Eugene Burns, night editor of the Associated Press in Honolulu, recently wrote for the Dec. 8 (L.I.) broadcast of March of Time. He was impressed on the show and wanted to hear what kind of voice MGT gave him.

Owners of famed racehorses are good customers. They are the regular patrons of races in which their nags ran. When they have a winner, they often buy a whole set of copies to send all their friends. Airings of important prize fights also bring in a bevy of orders.

Rabinowitz is a Ukrainian who used to practice law in Istanbul. He drifted from that into newspaper work and helped organize the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

23 In Colored Troupe Overcome By Monoxide While Sleeping in Bus

WAAC Who Went AWOL Found As Burley Stripper

Des Moines, Dec. 8.

After feasting her for five days as an 'exotic glamour girl from Hollywood' and giving her a strip turn, Pete DeCenzie, manager of the Casino burley house here, learned that Amber d'Gorge was a WAAC who had gone AWOL. Her real name, he learned from several other WAACs who identified her at the "Thanksgiving matinee show, is Catherine Greynoye.

Col. J. A. Hoag, commandant at the Fort Des Moines Army post, has ordered an investigation into the girl's five-day disappearance but intimated that no punishment would be meted out as 'she probably didn't realize her responsibility.'

DeCenzie said the girl came to him asking for a tryout and saying she had been stranded by another show. When he discovered she had talent as a dancer he decided to feature her. 'She went over big, too,' DeCenzie said, expressing regret at losing her.

HOLD THAT ASSEMBLY LINE!

Akron, O., Dec. 8.

Curley Burns, long a figure in midwest tabloids and more recently of night clubs, and Johnny Berkeheimer, m.c. in this territory, have taken jobs in the Goodyear aircraft plant.

Earl Carroll says:

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The Most Beautiful Girls in the World

EXCELLEN'T GROSSES

IN SAN DIEGO, LOS ANGELES, SALT LAKE CITY and OMAHA.

ORIENTAL, CHICAGO, THIS WEEK

ADAMS THEATRE, NEWARK, NEXT WEEK

R.K.O., BOSTON, TO FOLLOW

MILES INGALLS

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WIT AND HUMOR

The DiGATANOS

"Fashions in Dance"

DECEMBER 10

LOEW'S STATE

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So many thanks to ALL who made our stay in Chicago since it TIME' a grand memory.

Jayne & Adam

THE BATTLE OF THE LEGITIMATE?

A BAD EXAMPLE

'Wine, Women and Song' is not a martyr. It's an example.

It's an example of how cupidity by one or a few, in the theatre as well as elsewhere, can jeopardize the livelihood of many. In this instance, by the threat of general censorship of one of liberalism's strongholds.

Thus, while the closing of 'Wine' is no more significant, in itself, than the closing of a pornographic book, its effects are dangerous because it heartens the pressure groups and frightens the weak. The closing of 'Wine' has already nearly resulted in the closing of 'Native Son' in a sudden, mistaken anxiety by Lee Shubert.

Shubert was made to realize his 'mistake' by strong protests against the forced closing of the sociological 'Native Son.' This same Shubert, however, failed to heed the warnings that 'Wine' was strictly dirty burlesque, pandering to the lowest tastes. Even if not identified with the actual production, he could have taken proper action as 'Wine's' landlord.

By waiting until a General Sessions Court jury closed the same Shubert in the theatre legitimate theatre. He made matters still worse by his sudden, if short-lived, capitulation to a pressure group that demanded the closing of 'Native Son.' The only possible complaint against the Richard Wright drama is that it poses a serious problem that must be solved if democracy is not to be a mockery.

Shubert wouldn't fold a palpably dirty show until it was folded for him and his Ambassador theatre's license was revoked. Yet, without official action, he didn't hesitate to order the eviction of 'Native Son.' Why?

Equity Considers Boost in Minimums, Basing Plan on Upped Living Costs

Increasing minimum salary for legit again is being mulled by Equity although the actors have a basic agreement with the managers which extends until Sept. 1, 1943 and stipulates there shall be no changes in the Union contract. However, there is provision in the pact where, by Equity could seek an increase before that date from the League of New York Theatres, which had made the pact for the managers. Clause provides that if the cost of living increased 15%, application for an increase is in order. Claimed that living costs have risen over 17% since the agreement was signed.

Because of the jump in hotel rents and meals, especially war in industry centers. Equity was considering a plan for extra compensation in such stands, but more recently the idea of raising the minimum appears to have been substituted. Present plan requires actors by actors who have returned to New York after playing densely populated cities during the fall.

When Equity raised the minimum from \$40 to \$50 weekly three seasons ago, there was a minimum of \$20. Equitaries are wondering if actors getting \$75 or more will be asked to work there should the \$50 minimum be upped.

Another angle being discussed concerns young actors and newcomers. Felt by some that the present minimum is sufficient for them, but if it is raised, it is arranged it is possible that pay classifications within Equity will reappear. There are some who are producing to prefer juniors. Equity thereupon passed a rule restricting transfers from using more than 10% of juniors in casts. Then the pay of the younger players was raised to \$20, but not below a minimum of \$15. Understood that if the managers are not for an increase, the same will apply to seniors, which may start agitation among the juniors.

Agents-Mgrs. Union In Arbitration Meet

First arbitration session between the agents-managers union and the producers with Prof. Paul Brisenden presiding, in their dispute over increasing salaries, is slated for Friday (11) at the Commodore hotel, N. Y., at 10 a. m.

Understood that the first meeting will be more or less of a get-together, with one or more subsequent huddles.

USO Would Increase Performances For Legits Playing Camps

USO-Camp Shows proposes upping the number of legit performances weekly in Army camps, and twice nightly, or 12 times weekly, the usual schedule for eight performances weekly, one performance nightly and, according to Lawrence Phillips, of the USO outfit, there are over 600,000 and 800,000 men in training camps and USO shows the performances on the present schedule.

Equity has been asked to okay the twice-nightly trick, but is not seen inclined to agree with the idea, although being reported to have taken the same stand. Legit actors are given regular standard contracts for eight performances weekly. Stipulated that if asked to appear additional times, they are to be paid one-eighth extra for each such performance.

Equity feels that the additional pay should be given for extra USO performances. Most of its members in USO casts are getting more than \$50 or slightly more. Equity is playing the camp is more difficult than ordinary road-shows. Stated, along with the USO fund, have contributed to the USO, along with the amount involved. If one-eighth extra is paid, it is not too much for the special, when the USO says that 12-performances weeks would only occur occasionally.

THE 'WINE' MIX GUES SPECULATION

La Guardia Action Indicates Other Shows Face Clean-up—Todd Given Warning on 'Star and Garter'

SUBBERTS CITY

Broadway is guessing whether another wave of censorship will come following the conviction of I. H. Heck, who sentenced 'Wine, Women and Song' at the Ambassador. Two of his employees were also guilty of contributing to an indecent performance. Mayor La Guardia entered the situation immediately upon hearing the result of the trial, ordering License Commissioner Paul Moss to suspend the theatre's permit.

The Mayor, who was active with Moss last year in the campaign against burlesque, which resulted in

Stage Mgr.'s Spot

Question of a stage manager's share of the profits for the material in a show is being studied by the Actors Equity legal staff. If investigation indicates the stage manager is merely an employee without authority in matters of show-up or taste, Equity will present its findings to the District Attorney and the Judge, for their consideration with Herman Shapiro, stage manager of the recent 'Wine, Women and Song' come up for arbitration Dec. 17.

Show was under American Guild of Variety Artists jurisdiction, but Equity is taking the lead in the stage manager question, as most stage managers are in legit shows under Equity jurisdiction. Moss is also being presented by Equity to its parent union, the Associated Actors & Artists of America, for possible action.

licenses being denied several houses in the theatre zone mentioned by Shuberts, who operate the Ambassador. La Guardia is quoted as saying the Shuberts 'have a pretty good reputation . . . but . . . we gave them warning before we moved it, and they didn't listen.' (Continued on page 55)

MORE AID FOR STOCK BY PIC COS.

Interest in stocks backed by major film firms has been increasing lately, with the development and polishing of talent a general objective of the financing. Equi will do manpower. 20th-Fox appears to be in the forefront of the idea, and the studio has already considered stock as a valuable adjunct, as he did when with Metro. Plans to increase its interests in legit groups, having bought 50% of 'The Russian People,' being headed by the Theatre Guild. It also has half of 'Something For The Boys,' being produced by Michael Todd, while Columbia Miller has the film firm's backing for 'Flare Path and Highland Fling.'

Generations ago a play called 'My Girl Friday' played the Republic, where it was rated a 'bust' and boys of the nature the cops pinched the actors. A girl appeared on stage in a bathing suit and the charge was 'indecent exposure.' Magistrate promptly issued an order that the theatre be closed for three weeks for farepours of censorship involving such plays as 'The God of Venenence,' 'The Captive,' 'Pleasure Man' and 'Sex.'

After the arrest 'Friday' drew big business for about five weeks, then faded fast, for it was rated a poor show. 'Wine' was ready to fold the very week that complaints were filed, attendance afterwards perking up towards capacity with the publicity.

Shubert Rescinds 'Native Son' Fold After Closing Notice Causes Furore

De Liagre to Produce Play by Stanley Young

Stanley Young, editor of the book publishing firm of Harcourt-Brace, has placed a play with Alfred de Liagre, which the latter intends to produce on Broadway later this season.

Report Shuberts Delayed 'Firefy' in Boston Due To Publicity on Nitory Fire

The comedy, titled 'Ask My Friend, Sandy,' it concerns a young soldier, a book publisher and his wife, Roland Young is slated for the lead role.

'The Firefy' revived for the road by the Shuberts did not open on Monday last week in Boston because of reported transportation delay. Another reason for getting back to the theatre last Wednesday evening is said to have been the theory of the management that because of the show's title, attendance would be cramped, in face of the Hub's disaster at Copley Grove fire.

J. J. Shubert asked Equity for the privilege of deducting three-eighths pay because of the three missed performances. Equity ruled that such deduction could be made on the salaries of those players getting more than \$100 weekly, but that full pay must be given the others and the chorus.

The Willow and 'W' was another Boston start last week, although reported from Philadelphia to have been withdrawn following the press and puny business. 'Willow' opened there to an exuberant press but despite the Philly reversal, business was quite light. However, the drama, erroneously, described as the 'newly produced' Broadway and bows in at the Windsor Thursday (10).

WINTER SOLDIERS FOR B'WAY APPEARS COLD

Plan proposed last week to bring 'Winter Soldiers,' a war drama at the New York Theatre, Green Street, is being cold. Idea to run the play and the profits over to the American Theatre Wing evidently turned sour when met with a number of snags. It is a multi-casted play but the settings are flimsy and the understanding with the scenic artists is that if 'Soldiers' comes up, a new production would have to be mounted in the event the actors would get at least minimum salaries and other union conditions would be met.

'Soldiers' is an experimental show put on by the New School of Social Work, which has the big cast in New York. Play was accorded the \$1,500 Sidney Howard Memorial reward, but that money was quickly absorbed in expenses. 'Soldiers' got a fair press.

Concerned over the 'Wine, Women and Song' conviction and cancellation of the Ambassador theatre II, Shubert insisted that a week's closing notice for 'Native Son' be posted Saturday (8) at the Majestic, acting also controlled by the Shuberts, but Monday (7) did a switch and relinquished the show, conceding to Equity a repeat date on Broadway at top prices, lost money last week and so did the house. Will J. J. Leventhal and the Brandt brothers, who operate 'Son,' guarantee the theatre, the gross fell under the stop limit, and Shubert demanded the show cease, although it was planned to keep it going for the Christmas holidays. 'Son' management, however, conceded to Shubert's wishes to close.

Closing order caused a furore on Broadway. An emergency meeting was held at the office of the League of New York Theatres, with managers Equity, Dramatic Guild, and others present. Other organizations also voiced their protests. Equity, however, was represented by Howard Lindsay, Russell Cross and Elmer Rice offered to shoulder the losses that this order to keep it going, thus countering the moves of outside pressure groups intent on censorship. William Leventhal. (Continued on page 52)

26-Year-Old Hedgerow Player Given 2 Years For Draft Evasion

Philadelphia, Dec. 8. Michael DeBausset, 26-year-old Hedgerow Theatre actor, was sentenced to two years in Federal Penitentiary for failure to register for draft evasion. Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in Federal Court told the somewhat flustered actor to join a troupe that his claim of being a conscientious objector was 'unsubstantiated.' In an address, DeBausset said: 'There is a total lack of the religious background of my father. I don't know I can do but send you to prison.' Three other members of Hedgerow Theatre have been sent to 'confinement camps. DeBausset was born in Russia.

JED PROUTY ADDED TO TODD'S 'SOMETHING'

Jed Prouty was being pacted by Michael DeBausset. 26-year-old Hedgerow Theatre actor, was sentenced to two years in Federal Penitentiary for failure to register for draft evasion. Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in Federal Court told the somewhat flustered actor to join a troupe that his claim of being a conscientious objector was 'unsubstantiated.' In an address, DeBausset said: 'There is a total lack of the religious background of my father. I don't know I can do but send you to prison.' Three other members of Hedgerow Theatre have been sent to 'confinement camps. DeBausset was born in Russia.

Snow Freezes Chi B.O.; 'Priorities' Still Has Priority, 19C; 'Claudia' \$8,000

Chicago, Dec. 8.—First heavy snow of the season, with temperatures down near zero, has, basically, had little effect on the show and raised havoc with patronage. Start of gas rationing in Chicago has another effect on the show, by curtailing the Loop at night. 'Priorities of 1948' continued to lead in receipts, with 'Porgy and Bess' and 'Good Night Ladies' next in line.

Estimates for Last Week: 'Good Night Ladies' (11th week), \$11,000; 'Porgy and Bess' (9th week), \$10,000; 'Priorities of 1948' (11th week), \$8,000; 'Claudia' (11th week), \$7,275. Skidded considerably to \$5,200.

'Maid in Ozark', Great Northern (11th week), \$500; 'Still Rollin' (4th week), \$1,000; 'Dropkick' (3rd week), \$1,000; 'The New Year's Eve' (1st week), \$1,000.

'Foxy and Bess', Studebaker (6th week), \$1,000; '330', Patronage dropping but advance sale kept show last week around \$18,000.

'Friedrich' Exchange (5th week), \$1,000; '275', Still the town's leader; did \$18,000.

'Company', Selwyn (1,000; \$2,200). No. 2 company played here last season. This one has gone to the Broadway cast with Dorothy McGuire and Donald Cook. Offered to \$8,000.

G-S Operettas Fair \$8,400 in Lonely Philly

Philadelphia, Dec. 8.—There was some light attraction in the city on the night of earlier-than-expected closings of 'The Gaiety Girl' and 'Follies' on the previous Saturday. Last week's opera company, the Philadelphia Opera Co., offering Gilbert and Sullivan repertory at the Locust St. theatre, closed last week with \$8,400, a claimed profitable and encouraging factor that was improved all week, with Saturday night complete sellout. 'Follies' house was the Wednesday matinee, with \$2,000, \$1,000 as the offering.

Decision will be made late this afternoon (Thursday, the 9th) as to continuance of sales made before the Monday curtain.

'3 Sisters' 29C Ind. C. Despite Mixed Reviews

Washington, Dec. 8.—Katharine Cornell's 'Three Sisters' met with mixed notice from critics, but that didn't affect the box office last week, as the Broadway revival sold out before the company arrived. Gross was a few dollars above \$20,000, and \$20,000, which Miss Cornell achieved when she set the record at the same theatre with 'Doctor's Dilemma'.

Max Gordon's production of 'The Dougherty' is currently showing at \$2 top. Popular-price scale appeal was shown when the play rang up \$20,000, and \$20,000, for the Monday curtain.

Russian Embassy is deeply interested in 'The Russian People' which has Dec. 14. Mme. Yvonne, wife of the Soviet Ambassador, will again be guest critic for the Washington Post. That Konstantin Simonov's 'The Three Sisters' and Gene Cheekov 'What an Amusement' are being so much more interested in projecting dramatically Russia of today. This is the case with the official blessing of Stalin.

Rural Canada Starved For Legit 'Neters Of 'Arsenic' Sock \$12,000

Toronto, Dec. 8.—With a week open between the two weeks' holdover at the Royal Alexandra of Frank McCoy's special company of 'Arsenic and Old Lace' and 'It's going into the Lafayette, Detroit, for an indefinite run commencing last night (Monday), production tested out the Ontario theatre market by following the Toronto circuit. The first series of split engagements that, at \$2 top, grossed \$12,000 and proved that the Toronto market is starved for stage productions and that the needs of North McCoy-barnstormed adjacent cities to Toronto in a whirlwind tour that grossed over \$100,000. Immediately after the Lafayette engagement in Detroit, McCoy's company is to play the Royal Alexandra, Toronto, for another fortnight's engagement.

Kind of a blizzard that started the company but the steady building on 'It's going into the Lafayette' and 'Arsenic and Old Lace' at the Royal Alexandra last week, with 1,252-seats sealed at \$2.50 top, the latter production, which is the Shubert hit, 'Father' went into the Detroit circuit. The latter stage heart business in Toronto this time on word-of-mouth inasmuch as conditions in its stable stage and flat floor, proved unsuitable for the needs of North McCoy reception definitely hurt the gross on second visit of 'Father'.

Karloff-'Arsenic'—\$9,200 Milwaukee, Dec. 8.—Although he was on last year, 'Arsenic and Old Lace' will be the first revival of the Broadway show theatre for three nights and a

Zorn Modest \$4,200 In 4 Shows at Indpls.

Indianapolis, Dec. 8.—For 'The Murder, with Zorn' took a modest \$4,200 in four performances here at English's 1000. Dec. 14-16 at \$6.75 top in spite of good reviews. A national competition was a rallying competition among from critics.

Theatre played to standing room only and \$3,000 in nine days at English's 1000 in a national series at English's Dec. 8.

'ARMY IN 19C' 'ARSENIC' SRO, 'CINCINNATI'

Cincinnati, Dec. 8.—Cincy's theatre, on the air and radio clan, plus city officials, tendered a party honoring Irving Berlin in the Netherlands Plaza hotel Sunday night. Mayor James Carlisle Stewart and Nelson Trowbridge, \$2,000 claimed profitable and encouraging factor that was improved all week, with Saturday night complete sellout.

Berlin's all-soldier show, 'This Is the Army', has an advance sale for its week's engagement, which opened at \$2 top, \$17,000, at the Cincinnati Theatre. Sealed capacity is \$40,000. Standees and extra chairs \$51,000.

'FRENCH 25G' 'IN STRONG NET'

Detroit, Dec. 8.—'FRENCH' is currently showing at \$2 top. Popular-price scale appeal was shown when the play rang up \$20,000, and \$20,000, for the Monday curtain.

Russian Embassy is deeply interested in 'The Russian People' which has Dec. 14. Mme. Yvonne, wife of the Soviet Ambassador, will again be guest critic for the Washington Post. That Konstantin Simonov's 'The Three Sisters' and Gene Cheekov 'What an Amusement' are being so much more interested in projecting dramatically Russia of today. This is the case with the official blessing of Stalin.

Swanson-Lederer 5G Poor Balto Week

Baltimore, Dec. 8.—'Three Curtains' with Gloria Swanson and Francis Lederer starring, opened at Ford's last week and grossed approximately \$5,000. Reception by local critic, who predicted a good run, but for the first time since 'The Three Curtains' (1937) has been a disappointment. The show is currently showing at \$2 top, \$12,000.

'Papa' 5G, Cincy

Cincinnati, Dec. 8.—'Papa Is All', with Jessie Royce Landis grossed approximately \$5,000 below expectations, on four performances here at the first night of the 1,300-seat Cox theatre. Top was \$2.50.

In the last half, and at the same scale, the house grossed approximately \$7,000. The show is currently showing at \$2 top, \$12,000.

Sunday matinee, and with chairs put into the orchestra pit for one performance, turned in a practical capacity gross on the engagement estimated at \$9,200, at \$2.75 top.

'B'way Spotty; 'Skin' Capacity \$23,500; 'Pirate' Sock 23G. 'Band' Off to \$14,500. 'May Close; 'Lifetime', 'R.U.R.' Are Out

Broadway slipped last week, which is usual for the period following Thanksgiving, but there were few winners. 'The Band' (11th week), especially those high-grossing hits among them, were the only shows to show business, some being aided by advance sales.

No arrivals last week were quick folds. 'Lifetime' being withdrawn from the Belasco after very good run and earnings profit right along; dipped last week to \$4,000 estimated.

'Without Love', St. James (4th week) (C-1,320; \$3.20). Up in the big money with capacity registered right along for a count of more than \$2,000.

'Yankee Point', Lescage (3d week) (C-1,042; \$3.30). Picked up slightly, but with capacity registered right along for second week estimated around \$4,500.

'Claudia', For return engagement (original date 58 weeks) (27th week) (C-1,185; \$1.85). Not much better than even break, with takings around \$6,000, or slightly more, last week.

'Native Son' (Majestic (return date 19th week) (C-1,175; \$2.00) around \$6,000; publicly over closing last week, but with capacity registered right along for second week estimated around \$4,500.

'Counselor-at-Law', Royal (2d week) (D-1,017; \$3.30). Very good holdover with capacity registered right here; with pace around \$13,500 is quite satisfactory.

'R. U. R.', Barrymore (D-1,014; \$3.30). Opened Thursday (3) and taken off, but with capacity registered and little coin after opening; four performances.

'Vaude-Reviews' (Show Time) Broadhurst (12th week) (D-1,145; \$2.75). Holding its very good money for vaude unit, with most of the coin drawn last week; \$19,000, which is plenty.

'Wines, Women and Song', Ambassador (1,200; \$1.65). Was suddenly withdrawn from the stage after playing 10 weeks; ordered off on management was convicted of sponsoring illegal gambling; had been doing well at around \$14,000.

RATIONING UPSETS L. A. B. O., 'BLACKOUTS' 11G

Los Angeles, Dec. 8.—Gas rationing has finally slowed up City Hall at \$400 in 1000 second week. Light nut saves the show and unless rationing damages further, will stick around. Show caught on as expected following holdover at the Belasco, was also affected in eighth week, attracting mild \$6,000.

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Biltmore, downtown, opens Xmas party with road show of 'Chocolate Soldier'.

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'Widow' NG 6G, Buf.

Buffalo, Dec. 8.—With an advance press not helping matters, the Merry Widow took a nose-dive at the Erlanger last week, with \$2.20 top, grossing slightly over \$6,000, poor for this show.

OLD LITHOGRAPHS FROM MELODRAMAS AND 'MUSICAL SHOWS OF THE GAY 90'S'

Dance assortment of 26+42 and 14x21 Posters available for Bars, Raskahler, Play, Opera, etc.

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8/2 VOU CLAYTON M. S. FARLEY, Hollywood

NEW YORK AND KINGS TROW A POSEY TO THREE-PRES. WALLACE

who put that office into the city's post office. Direction: Wm. Morris

Literati

Newspaper Shortage In 1943
Widespread changes in format and in size of U. S. newspapers and magazines are likely to result as a result of the move now under way to cut production of newspaper and other newsprint mills. The War Relocation Authority has scheduled a meeting in Washington tomorrow (10) to study methods for reducing the amount of newsprint.

Questionnaire is now in preparation for information from newsprint mills regarding the type and quantity of pulp used by mills; preparation of an alternate newsprint. To date there has been no restriction on consumption of newsprint but there has been a restriction put on production of newsprint. In Canada all newspapers and magazines will be subject to questionnaires Nov. 28 to supply information to the Canadian War Relocation Authority. Proposals to establish quotas for publications.

U. S. and Canadian authorities are following similar lines in view of the closely linked American market. Most important newsprint mills in Canada have been out of operation for some time, due to manufacturing shortages. Shortages are necessitated by wartime emergencies. In addition to labor and power control, use of chemicals has also been a factor.

Reynolds' 5th Book
Kenton Reynolds has just completed his fifth volume which is based on his own experiences. "Dieppee: Deers Heaters" which Random House is rushing for publication under the title "Wounded Don't Cry," this is also a French theme, his second on that subject. "Wounded Don't Cry" has also a French theme, his second on that subject.

The three books in the "Stars Are Neutral" sold best, some 60,000 copies to date. "Wounded" second best, 50,000 copies. "Wounded" and "Lamar Trotti" is currently in New York awaiting word from the publisher. Later did the prodig for the film, akin to the one he did for Walter Pidgeon in "Eagle Squadron" and Trotti will script it and produce it for Fox. Reynolds is remaining in Hollywood after his return to New York will probably go over again for Colliers when the second front on the European continent opens.

"This Is Your America"
Literary Classics, Inc. is publishing a group of three books entitled "This Is Your America," composed entirely of feature articles and editorials that have appeared in the leading newspapers during the past few years. Selections being made by Gordon Simmonds and R. J. Meyer, assisted by a panel of Columbia University graduates.

Authors of articles kudoed for the books will be paid at the rate of \$500 per book, a prestige credit for the newspaper. Thousands of articles from hundreds of newspapers have been reviewed and some drafts accepted. Books will be issued Jan. 1943.

Andy Kelley of Washington Star and two Sunday leads, one on "This Army" and the other on George S. Kaufman, are selected.

H. Allen Smith's New One
H. Allen Smith's new book, "Life In a Potty Knife Factory," sequel to "How Man on a Toy Mole" is due for February publication via Doubleday. Dawn, which also issues "Tumble-Down," is still selling. Author Smith describes "Potty Knife Factory" as a very literary "non-fiction" work. Writer is also doing a profile on William F. Carey, former president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Wardhouse's Cuban Blog
Fred Wardhouse, N. Y. Sun columnist, has been signed by E. J. Lipincott Co. to write a blog of George M. Cohan.

Wardhouse is scheduled for publication next autumn, is tentatively titled "George M. Cohan: 50 Years in the American Theatre." Wardhouse is planning to go to Chicago, Boston, Providence and other cities for ma-

terial relating to Cohan and has been offered the cooperation of many of the latter's friends and former associates in New York.

Morehouse among 'Gentlemen of the Press.' 48 Minutes Past Eight, American edition of the book.

Bob Muesel Abroad
Bob Muesel, who's been doing a New York column ("Bigtown Medicine") in the New York Sun, is now abroad with working assignment. His column will be dropped for the time being. He's on the N. Y. World Telegram.

Associated Press also juggled his New York column recently. It felt, as UP does, that the hinterlands are no longer interested in the trivia of lighter days. George Tucker, who did the AP pillar, is in Cairo now.

Plat Ys, Axis—Via Fleeton
Ed Braden, pulp agent, and Leo Margulies, ed Thrill Pulp, get published with letters in N. Y. Herald Tribune. Braden is doing a lot of help work effort, and plots will aid in beating Hitler and Hitler.

Witcraft contact with American Astrology mag for years. "Arise, Astrology Mag," gets exclusive use of star material, from certain writers who cannot write for other magazines. He is favored by good rates. Paul G. Clancy, ed, points in current no. of "Arise" to the fact that the publisher came to within a day of it. At present time astrology is enjoying a revival.

Robert Carson's New Book
There Go the Ships; in Sat. Eve. Post and in the New York Herald Tribune features him as 'able bodied seaman' and in book as 'able bodied seaman' and in book as 'able bodied seaman' and in book as 'able bodied seaman'.

Lollie News with Hearst
Louella Parsons returns to the Coast from New York tomorrow (10) to start a new syndicate, a new three-year pact with King Features Syndicate. Starting in 1943, she will be writing for the Hearst Herald-Examiner. When Hearst took it over Arthur Brisbane and Lollie Parsons were the first to be fired. Lollie returned to the Hearst fold in 1922.

Fete Scully on Coast
Frank Scully, banqueter recently in Los Angeles on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the publication of his long-range "Fun in Bed" series. Scully has a desire to do a "Fun in Bed for Service Men," the whole job to be completed by author, publisher, printers, paper salesmen, woodcutters, etc.

Tom Mole is a little doubtful, however, as to how far he'd get with such a "complete annihilation of the profit." Lollie Parsons will be shot for the idea, he remarked.

"Fun in Bed" books are up in the air. Scully has a desire to do a "Fun in Bed for Service Men," the whole job to be completed by author, publisher, printers, paper salesmen, woodcutters, etc.

N.Y. Telegraph Employs Vote Guide
New York Morning Telegraph employees have voted 85 to 15 for the Newspaper Guild shop, with all except those having power to employ being participating in the recent balloting. Negotiations for an initial contract between the "Rampage Publications," sheet's management, and the Newspaper Guild of New York, is now pending.

Contract proposals include a Guild year-end bonus of \$1,000. No overtime pay, no pay cuts, graduated increases, holidays, severance pay, sick leave with pay, work release clause and other conditions prevalent in the industry. Demands set forth minimum wages of \$80 a week for handicappers, with

other minimums ranging from \$21 for copy boys to \$70 for editors, copy readers and rewrite men.

LITERATI OBITS
Frank H. Black, former Santa Clara, Calif., newspaper publisher, died Dec. 1 in his Santa Clara home. He was 72. Editor and publisher of Kerman (Calif.) News for more than 15 years. Died 1 after long illness.

Clarence Roberts, 52, editor of the Oklahoma Farmer Stockman, died Dec. 4 in Stratton, Okla.

Edgar E. Bergzmann, 45, controller of Macfadden Publications, Inc., died Dec. 4 in New York City. He was born in San Francisco; he was drama critic for The Call-Bulletin for a short time in Illinois.

Michael E. Sanders, 84, dean of Scranton's newspaper met, died Dec. 4 in Stratton, Pa.

Louis Antoville, 69, one of the founders of The Jewish Daily Forward, died Nov. 28 in New York.

Frank H. Stanton, 80, assistant Sunday editor of The Boston Globe for 24 years, a member of the staff paper's editorial staff, died Dec. 2 in Arlington, Mass.

John C. Springer, 66, former editor and more recently professor of law at the University of Michigan, died Dec. 2 (Continued on page 55)

Current Road Shows

(Dec. 9-19)

'Angel Street' (2 Co.)—Plymouth, Boston (12-12); Court Square, Springfield, Mass. (14-15); Bushnell Auditorium, Hartford (16); Metropolitan, Providence (17).

'Arsenic and Old Lace' (1st Co.)—Nixon, Pittsburgh (9-12); Colonial, Boston (13-14).

'Arsenic and Old Lace' (3d Co.)—Lafayette, Detroit (9-19).

'Blackouts of 1942' (vaude)—Elgin, Springfield (10-12); Court Square, Springfield, Mass. (14-15); Municipal Auditorium, Chicago (9-19).

Corn Is Green—Metropolitan, Boston (12-13); Mayfair, Portland, Ore. (14-17).

'Joy Haver'—Music Box, Hollywood (9-12).

'Doughnuts' (troupe)—National, Washington (9-12); Ford's, Baltimore (13-14).

'The Boys' (troupe)—Majestic, Boston (9-19).

'Flare Path' (troupe)—Shubert, New Haven (17-19) (premier).

'Good Night Ladies'—Blackstone, Chicago (12-13).

'Good Night Ladies'—Blackstone, Chicago (12-13).

'Her First Murder' (troupe)—Bijou, Knoxville, Tenn. (9); Erlanger, Atlanta (10-11); Temple, Birmingham (12-13); Grand Opera House, Orleans (14-15); Municipal Auditorium, Chicago (16); Robinson, Louisville, Ky. (17); Auditorium, Memphis (18-19).

'Hey, Kook!' (troupe)—Belasco, Los Angeles (12-13).

'Junior Miss' (2d Co.)—Harris, Chicago (9-19).

'Junior Miss' (3d Co.)—Wilbur, Boston (12-13).

'Lady in the Dark'—Cass, Detroit (9-19).

'Ladies with Father' (2d Co.)—Hanna, Cleveland (9-19).

'Maid in the Oaks'—Grand Northern, Chicago (9-19).

'Milk and Honey'—Auditorium, Milwaukee (9-12); Cox, Cleveland (14-19).

'Priorities as Best'—Vaude-Belasco, Los Angeles (12-13).

'Rustian People' (troupe)—National, Washington (14-19) (premier).

'Something for the Boys' (troupe)—Shubert, Boston (14-19) (premier).

'Spring Again'—Erlanger, Buffalo (9-12); Nixon, Pittsburgh (14-19) (premier).

'This Is the Army'—Toll Auditorium, Cincinnati (9-12); Municipal Auditorium, St. Louis (14-19).

'Three Curtains' (troupe)—Walnut, Philadelphia (9-12); Court Square, Springfield, Mass. (16); Erlanger, Buffalo (17-19).

'The Boys' (troupe)—Ford's, Baltimore (9-12); Forrest, Philadelphia (14-19).

'Road'—American, St. Louis (14-19).

'Watch on the Rhine'—Colonial, Atlanta (10-12); Michigan, Lansing, Mich. (11); Keith's, Grand Rapids (12); Paramount, Toledo (14); Philadelphia, Philadelphia (15); Kalamazoo (16); Michigan, Jackson, Mich. (17).

Show in Rehearsal

'The Little Man'—A. M. Woods. 'Dark River'—Hed Hertz. 'Sweet Charlie'—Leon Shubert. 'New Shoes'—Anson Sullivan. 'Joy Haver'—Leo Shubert. Henry Kraus. 'Write Them a Child'—John C. Willson. 'Flare Path'—Gilbert Miller. 'You'll See Stars'—David Cramer. 'The Russian People'—Theatre Guild. 'Something For the Boys'—Michael Todd. 'Love of St. Mark' (road)—Playwrights.

J. AUGUSTUS KEOGH, HIT BY AUTO, DIES

J. Augustus Keogh, veteran legit actor and director, died Nov. 30 in Walnut Ridge, Ark. of injuries sustained when struck by a auto as he was en route to the stage. Keogh had been hit the day before his death. Stapleton Kent, director of the production, said Keogh's past pending the arrival of a replacement.

Keogh was born in Dublin, Ireland, began his stage career in England at 17. In 1916 he returned to Dublin where he managed the Grand Theatre of the Abbey Theatre and held the post for three years. He moved to the U. S. in 1920 and became his American debut with Augustin Dunham in "Juno and the Paycock," which he appears with William Gillette, E. H. Sothern and Margaret Anglin.

At various times, in addition to his acting, Keogh was director of the Boston Repertory Theatre, the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and in 1938 he became the director of the Irish Repertory Players of New York. He was brought back for burial in New York.

Civil A. Keogh, a brother, survives.

'Native Son'

Continued from page 49

For the 'Son' managers, thereupon stated they would bear the bill. Shubert was asked to explain the matter, and was quoted saying, "I wanted to avoid trouble." On Monday, after he admitted acting too hastily in stating that he had been 'misguided,' but, upon being faced by Sam Zolotow, theatrical reporter of the New Times, who quoted the manager, Shubert uttered his 'misquoted' statement to indicate he was unimpaired.

League's Statement

The League gave out a statement to the effect that Shubert agreed to withdraw the closing notice following the protests of organizations and individuals. Sense of the meeting was that Shubert's statement should be so decided by due process of law, not voluntarily or because of pressure.

'Son' as a novel was a best seller by the subject writer, Richard Wright, being dramatized by Paul Green, the colored dealing with the Negro race problem. The play was originally produced at the St. James, N. Y., by Orson Welles and John Houseman, but has since been produced highly praised by some critics, and again when it returned to Broadway, New York, because of the present process which had been dropped.

Shubert has presented the play to the N. Y. neighborhoods, also on tour to some profit, and it is expected that because of the present process attendance will jump. Takings in the big Majestic were high at \$10,000, but business has been dropping. Under \$8,000, lost said to have been over \$1,000.

Shubert has agreed to confer with theatre people this afternoon (9) at City Hall to consider the Negro race problem. It is a kind of censorship. National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has sent a telegram to Mayor protesting the closing notice on 'Son,' Mayor replying: "I am sorry."

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CASTING AGENTS SLOW PAYING EQUITY FEES

Annual fee of \$25 which Equity requires from legit casting agents was due Dec. 1 but there was no rush to pay. The board ordered that eight agents check the majority of castings, by Equity, holding back until their association's meeting tomorrow (10) because so authorized to operate. Equity has no specific deadline for the payment of agency fees, which have been authorized to operate. Last year the coin was checked in bulk by means of a check from the association. Equity declining to accept and insisting that each agent pay individually.

Schnebbe's 7th Term As Treasurers Prez

The 33rd annual meeting of the Treasurers Club will be held Saturday night (12) at the Edison hotel, New York City. The club has six and six new members of the board to serve for two years will be voted upon.

Except for the directors, there is no opposition ticket. Allen J. Schnebbe is president for the seventh consecutive term, although he had indicated a desire to step aside. Other officers: Irving J. Engel, v. p.; Leo Solomon, treasurer; Thurston Wilkins, financial secretary; and William J. McCleary, recording secretary.

There are 12 candidates for the other five: Louis A. Berger, Arthur Feine, Jerome B. Flynn, Walter C. Heyer, Richard J. Liddy, Harry J. Martin, Walter G. O'Connor, Edgar S. Perry, Peter Spector and Howard W. Winkler.

Springfield, Mass., Has Hooking Trouble

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 8. It's either a legit feast or famine here. Forced to postpone "The Fire" until the 15th, the Playboys of Springfield had to move fast this week to promote two shows next week. The 12th and 13th of the "Angel Street" company headed by Ernest Conroy, and the 14th and 15th of "McGrath" that has been playing at the Plymouth theatre, Boston.

"The Fire" will be the "angel" the Playboys will offer. "Three Curtains" starring Gloria Swanson and Francis Lederer, will be the "angel" of the summer season. "Three Curtains" offers the one acters, "The Maid of Destiny" by George Bernard Shaw, "The Old Lady Shows Her Medals" by James W. Barry, and "Playboys" by Arthur Wing Pinero.

Local Playgoers have been hard hit by cancellations and have been able to see only a few shows. Ernest Conroy in Gilbert and Sullivan shows start for this season. "Fire" starting late to Boston, extended its run.

Current London Shows

London, Dec. 8.
'Aren't Men Backers', Garrick.
'Bole of A. H. C. G. G.', Haymarket.
'Best Bib & Tucker', Palladium.
'Blithe Spirit', Duchess.
'Claudia', St. Martin's.
'Dancing Years', Adelphi.
'Doctor's Dilemma', Haymarket.
'The Fire', Plymouth.
'Flare Path', Apollo.
'Fine and Dandy', Savilla.
'The Girl in the Red Velvet', Phoenix.
'Get Lost of This', Wales.
'Home and Beauty', Playhouse.
'The House of Bernard Alba', Phoenix.
'Lila's Paes II', Hippodrome.
'Lillian Stoll', St. Martin's.
'The Maid of Destiny', Garrick.
'Man Who Came to Dinner', Savoy.
'Men in Shadow', Vaudeville.
'The Merry Widow', Ambassador.
'Marling Star', Globe.
'Murder Without Crime', Comedy.
'The Night of the Hunter', Ambassador.
'Quiet Week-End', Wyndham.
'Wild Rose', Prince.
'Walls Without Bar', Cambridge.
'Watch on the Rhine', Aldwych.
'Venus Comes Town', Whitehall.

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM ROY... leader... pianist... died Dec. 7...

Dublin, Ireland, and later a director of the Irish Repertory...

JOHN R. NEFF... newspaper man and playwright...

MICHAEL KEARNEY... pioneer... died at his home in Medina Dec. 4...

MARSHALL W. GISELMAN... concert... died at his home in New York...

HUGH HOFFMAN... film writer on the Coast, died Dec. 5...

HAROLD CHAMBERLAIN... former... died Dec. 2 at Muskegon...

OLIE NORTHLAKE... retired actress of musical comedy and vaudeville...

ALFRED P. ZANETTI... former... died Dec. 3 in Springfield, Mass.

PAUL SPARKS... casting director... died Dec. 8 in Monrovia, Calif.

MARGO MERIAT... former Broadway actress known as Marjorie...

F. W. SHAVER... former owner and operator of several film houses...

HOWARD GUY... Howard... died in Boston...

GERARD GUSTAVE LAUREYNS... former associate of Houdini...

JESSE F. BURETT... died Nov. 25, 55, former model...

CHARLES LLOYD... program director of the Oakland radio...

LOUIS F. SCOTT... musician... died in Hempstead, L. I., Dec. 6...

FRANK CLAYTON WALKER... pioneer... died Dec. 3 in Hollywood after a long illness.

MILIT SILVERMAN... sister of...

Frances Payne, singer-pianist, died in New York Dec. 8.

Mother of Martin G. Smith, Toledo...

Decision Reserved On N. Y. Screen Test Suit

N. Y. Supreme court Justice... heard arguments on a motion for a preliminary injunction...

MARRIAGES

Henry K. Kader to Lydia Krause... in New York, N. Y., Nov. 28...

Alma Hoffman to Sgt. David L. Hoffman... in New York, N. Y., Nov. 26...

Dorothy Dolores Leonard... to Francis Regina, Sask., at Saskatoon, Nov. 28...

Jeanette Bopps to Frank J. Riley... in Detroit, Nov. 20...

Ed A. Bride to the daughter of... in Detroit, Nov. 20...

Madia Perova to Reginald Gardner... in Beverly Hills, both are in films.

BIRTHS

Lieku, and Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., daughter, Dec. 1, in New York...

Mr. and Mrs. Bern Hall, son, Dec. 1, in N. Y.

Duelli, Sloan & Pearce, book publisher...

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin J. Littman, son, Pittsburgh, Dec. 2...

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Welch, daughter, Dec. 2...

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Minsky, son, Pittsburgh, Nov. 28...

Mr. and Mrs. John Dembeck, son, in Detroit, Nov. 18...

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dotter, daughter...

Mr. and Mrs. John Rothwell, daughter, in Santa Monica, Cal.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Saggiembi, daughter in N. Y., Dec. 7...

Bills Next Week

Continued from page 49... Rankin Lattow, Hamilton G. (9), Joe...

SAN FRANCISCO

Police Hotel (Room) Del Courney... San Francisco Hotel...

Axing the Axis

Continued from page 49... country for instance which was hit between 20 and 25 Axis pro...

PITTSBURGH

Ednie Krushnick, Wally... Pittsburgh... Mrs. M. and Mrs. L...

Root & La Monte, Jack McCarty, Bill...

Phono Records, Establin, Fleming, The Vagabond...

Establin

Phono Records, Establin, Fleming...

Uncle Sam's Roll Call

Continued from page 4

years manager of the Circle and previously with Paramount-Public, reported duty at the 10th Air Corps Training, Ky. Dec. 1 as a first lieutenant in the special service corps. He is expected to be stationed at Camp Perry, O., to manage post theater.

George Shull, Indianapolis Public Relations writer, formerly photo editor with Associated Press in New York, on overseas assignment with OWI.

Daniel Penrod, telepublic salesman, Fort Benning, Ga.

Tom McKean, former with Vitaphone and son of Claude McKean, Vitaphone branch manager, promotion to first lieutenant at Camp Atterley, Ore.

chain number 744, while the home office has given up 182 and the exchange office at Schuber from the Burbank studio is 442.

Cost Recruits
 Hollywood, Dec. 8.
 Henry Brill, assistant film director, Coast Guard.

Frank Pratt, sound technician, Army Signal Corps.

William Wright, screen actor, Army.

Freddie Bartholome, screen actor, Coast Guard.

Fred J. Feldkamp, Hollywood editor of Fawcett's Spot magazine, U. S. Marine.

Herbert R. Gelbspan, with Hal Reach studios in N. Y. prior to his assignment into the Army last February, has been commissioned a 2d. lieutenant.

Chris Mick, studio unit manager, Army.

Irving Lippman, still photographer, Coast Guard.

Leonard Murphy, casting director, Coast Guard.

Gene Moore, cameraman, Army Signal Corps.

A. C. Lyles, studio press agent, Army Air Force.

Paul Love, cameraman, Navy.

Al Frederickson, studio technician, Navy.

Wesley Tribby, sound engineer, Army.

Broderick Crawford, screen actor, Army.

Guinn Williams, screen actor, Army.

Wilmor, studio makeup, Army.

Ed Thompson, theatre operator, Army Signal Corps.

Erin La Bionisera, screen actress, W.A.C.S.

Danny Baker, film editor, Army Air Force.

Irwin Nathan, film editor, Army Air Force.

Edmond O'Brien, screen actor, Army.

Genevieve Bush, film inspector, W.A.S.

Herbert Robinson, studio technician, Navy.

Bob Perkins, exchange manager, Army Air Force.

Genevieve Bush, cartoon animator, Army.

Mary Chamberlain, studio projectionist, Army.

Leo Taulo, light theatre manager, Army.

George Petchenikoff, studio technician, Army.

William B. Thomas, screen actor, Army.

Washington, Dec. 8.
 What's wrong with the Treasury Dept. posters displayed in motion picture theatres? The month's furtherance of the war sales show a child with a gun. Give us a girl, give us a girl, 'Make sure he grows up free man.'

What's wrong? The little girl is a girl, one Linda Peterson, free man.

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Capra's 'Prelude to War'

114 Prints Will Make Sure Every Man in the Service Sees It

Censorship

Continued from page 49

carry it out. Then he indicated that the Army would be sure to give every attention of city officials, and that he was working on a plan to give the film and prints to make certain that every man in training saw it as many days in the field as were sent to all units overseas.

"Prelude to War" has a commentary recited by Walter Huston, though he never appears. It covers the territory of the OWI feature. The World at War; but Col. Capra used marching feet as a symphony, where he recast the other Capra touches, which make it dramatic and powerful.

Covers the rest of America is in global war, and actually is in lectures prepared by college professors during the war. Soldiers would think they were to sleep in the lectures, hence they were made visual.

Army officials say that Capra did a magnificent job in a one-hour feature that soldiers will see on duty tours. What Congress will think about it is another question. One of the committees on Capitol Hill is studying the bill, and it is expected that the things will be scanned. Congress has complaints about the bill, and it is expected that the military are spending money on pictures and that they are not getting the value of it.

Todd Warned
 Michael Todd has queried Moss about his 'Star and Garter,' and he would know Larry Shubert. He says Rose Lee as a leading player. LaGuardia has said that Moss told him that he had a copy of the film. He means he'll have to use some soap or disinfectant if he wants to stay in business. He is no hero. He asked for it and he now knows it. 'Garter' is a \$40-top review, but before it opened the show was referred to as burlesque. When 'Wine' was first produced, Equity threatened to sue Shubert. He threatened to compete with Garter, which is recognized as legal, by playing 'Wine' on a bill at \$185 top. It was decided that AGVA had jurisdiction over 'Wine,' yet the Sargent and his associates were not a legit because it was booked into a legit house.

Shubert and Weinberger before walking out are quoted classifying other shows on Broadway which would be subject to complaint. Weinberger is counsel for the Managerial League of N. Y. Theatre, from which Todd promptly withdrew with caustic comments. He objected to the mention of his show, along with 'Wine' and 'The House of Blue Leaves' whose members, Todd said, should be protected. When asked to explain how come he represented 'Wine,' Weinberger said he had the right to be retained by outside clients, but it was apparent that his firm came into the case on behalf of the House of Blue Leaves.

Complaint by Moss quickly followed remarks by Archbishop Spellman, who said that the show was objectionable, those mentioned being 'Wine,' 'Star and Garter,' 'By Jupiter' and 'Native Son.' Management of the shows named do not deny that attractions are subject to censorship.

Spot Closed Promptly
 Immediately after the announcement Judge Owen W. Bohan determined that the show close immediately. It was closed Thursday night. Bohan said that the show was objectionable, as a condition for continuing play for Herk, Samuel Punt, the House of Blue Leaves, and Shubert, stage manager. They are subject to imprisonment of from 30 to 60 days, and fines of \$500 each. Sentence will be handed down Dec. 17.

Shubert has for years advocated playing shows that are questioned on grounds of morality up to the point where they are prohibited by the Censorship Society. La Guardia talked it over with Bert Lyell, Equity boss, and the result was that Shubert would probably be formulated shortly.

The House attorney has said no decision has been made as to whether to appeal the 'Wine' conviction and the House will probably appeal the sentence. Along Broadway there is a feeling that fines of \$500 may be suspended, whereas there may be suspended, fines of \$500 being one factor.

Fastest Job of Motion Picture Distribution Was Handed to Army Motion Picture Service Last Week

There were 114 prints of "Prelude to War," Capra's first picture for the Army. "Prelude to War" and "The World at War" are the first to make certain that every man in training saw it as many days in the field as were sent to all units overseas.

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John Grierson's National Film Board of Canada made the best documentaries and one of the worst. Former are 'Inside Fighting China' and 'The Russian Ally' both released through United Artists in this country; and the latter 'Quebec—Path of Conquest.' The Chinese and Russian pictures effectively portray the role of these two great nations in the present anti-Axis struggle. 'Quebec' endeavors to take on valiance by showing how the Nazis were driven back, and quickly saw a dull retreat and a butting of the French-Canadian population.

'The Russian Ally' and 'The Fighting British in India' both made by the British Ministry of Information. The first is a crudely polished. The latter is a credit to Polish airmen in the RAF as reported in the diary of a Polish pilot who was shot down by a French Navy; somewhat dated by events at Toulon, shows how the French Navy escaped and how to join the Fighting French units of the British Navy.

What is wrong from the program to be the most interesting film of the lot was not completed in time. The diary of a Polish airmen and a symphony composed by Friedrich Smolnik, played by the Czechoslovakia orchestra, are among the best of the war. It is a history of Czechoslovakia told by means of a symphony, with the visual film fitted to it.

Godman Doubling

Benny Godman doesn't leave the New Yorker. N. Y., until Jan. 1, when he will probably be doubling on the 4th.

Godman will double on the New Yorker theatre, N. Y., when it opens Dec. 30 to the hotel, for the four days including New Year's eve.

SUNBROCK SUES ON ST. LOUIS RODEO

St. Louis, Dec. 8.

Larry Sunbrock has sued a suit in the local Circuit Court against Thomas N. Packs, wrestling and book promoter here, and FFC Chief Joseph W. Morgan, asking for a refund of funds in connection with the recent Thrill Show and Rodeo which netted the firm's pension fund approximately \$50,000.

It is the suit who falls to the hand in the promotion and in whom Sunbrock pronounced similar shiftings in the East-Louis arena, mixed efforts Sunbrock made to the local show.

The Fire Chief scotched Sunbrock's claims by asserting that he would know Larry Sunbrock saw him. I didn't know what agreements he had with Packs, but I know his name but on a simple contract we have with Packs or with any of the acts that appeared at the rodeo.

Ed Thompson, theatre operator, Army Signal Corps.
 Erin La Bionisera, screen actress, W.A.C.S.
 Danny Baker, film editor, Army Air Force.
 Irwin Nathan, film editor, Army Air Force.
 Edmond O'Brien, screen actor, Army.
 Genevieve Bush, film inspector, W.A.S.
 Herbert Robinson, studio technician, Navy.
 Bob Perkins, exchange manager, Army Air Force.
 Genevieve Bush, cartoon animator, Army.
 Mary Chamberlain, studio projectionist, Army.
 Leo Taulo, light theatre manager, Army.
 George Petchenikoff, studio technician, Army.
 William B. Thomas, screen actor, Army.
 Sidney Salkow, film director, Army.
 Bill Thompson, film cutter, Army Signal Corps.

Max Fawcett, Hollywood studio story chief, Army.
 Bob Scheutz, manager NBC recording division in Hollywood, in Navy.
 Gale Gordon, radio actor, Coast Guard.
 Page Gilman of 'One Man's Army' Army.
 Genevieve Groves, sound engineer, Army Air Force.
 Ben Guterman, assistant film producer, Army Air Force.
 Kaye Meade, studio cameraman, Army Signal Corps.
 William Wright, screen actor, Army Air Force.
 Francis Scheid, sound engineer, Army Air Force.

Canadian Resorts Hit
 By Ban on Ski Trains
 Ottawa, Dec. 8.
 Although most of the Laurentian mountain resorts have decided to remain open this season, government ban on ski trains is expected to curtail the season. Laurentian resorts have prospered in recent years with special train, planes and motor transfers from all eastern Canadian cities, and even from Boston and New York.

Some ski trains beyond 50 miles also hurting.

Circus Aerialist Hurt
 Chicago, Dec. 8.
 Viola Rooks, 35, circus aerialist, was severely injured Sunday (29) while performing a high wire act during a matinee performance at an indoor circus in the Hammond Circle, Hammond, Ind. She fell 25 feet.

More than 2,500 spectators watched the accident. Miss Rooks is suffering skull, arm and leg fractures and internal injuries.

Literati
 Continued from page 32
 at Georgetown University, died Dec. 2.
 Andrew M. Lawrence, 77, retired editor and publisher, died Nov. 28 in San Francisco. Examiner's managing editor, he subsequently published for William R. Hearst the Chicago American, Chicago Examiner and San Francisco Journal.

Count Cassel de Bonny de Sales, 46, French respondent in the United States and author of the recent best seller, 'The Making of a Hero,' died Dec. 8 in New York. He was anti-Vichy.

M. E. Sanders, 48, dean of working men's organizations in America at his retirement a year ago, died of a splinter (Pa.) hospital. Dec 4 as a result of injuries suffered in a fall at his home a month ago. Sanders was retired on pension after 38 years with Scanton Times.

Charles S. Zack, 51, news editor of the Springfield Daily News until he retired last year, died in Springfield, Mass., Dec. 8.

CHATTER
 Reported that one prominent N. Y. daily column may be sacrificed. Kay Campbell named fashion editor of 'Fashion Home,' one of the Crown mag.

Spot. Fawcett monthly picture magazine. Photo Story with the January issue.
 Los Angeles Times is dropping its Los Angeles magazine as a result of shortage of zinc for engraving.
 Jack Malloy, managing editor of the New York Herald Tribune, is back in Los Angeles for Hearst conferences.
 William Dwight, managing editor of the New York Times, is back in Los Angeles on leave from the paper to act as assistant to the managing editor of War Shipping Administration.
 William R. Hearst paused in Los Angeles for a session with his general counsel, J. Edgar Hoover, en route to Mexico City for his winter season.
 Harry Crocker preceded the Chicago, Ill. News, and will probably make arrangements for welcome and home-coming.

Killgallen's guest column, pitching-hitting for Walter Winchell, was one of the best to date, apart from the editorial by James M. Latta. Latta's one does several, but is in inviting guests to fill in while Winchell is in the States. James M. Latta, daughter Dorothy Killgallen on how to do a B.W. col.

Bob Finkel at OES
 Pittsburgh, Dec. 8.
 Robert Finkel, an assistant director at Republic at time of his induction several days ago, has been pointed to officer's candidate school at Fort Monmouth, N. J. A graduate of Carnegie Tech, Fawcett, Finkel is the son of Bill Finkel, Southside exhibitor here. Before going with Rep. he was on tour teaming with John Vlahos on several Mesquiteur scripts at Monroeville.

Harold (Buddy) Broudy, son of David Broudy, Staines theatre music director for a long time, conductor of the house orchestra there, promoted from lieutenant to captain at Fort Monroe, Va. He's with coast artillery.

Providence Fall in Navy
 Providence, Dec. 8.
 John Kane, assistant manager and treasurer of RKO Albany, has been in the Navy, yeoman, second class.
 William Morton, publicity director of the RKO-Albany, has been in the Navy for four years, is now chief petty officer in the Coast Guard. Mrs. Morton has taken over the Albany publicity post.

Ozlie Ross in Coast
 Seattle, Dec. 8.
 Ozlie Ross, most recently emcee at Capital, Portland, and before that at Coast roadhouse, has been in the Army, at Fort Lewis.

Hamblen on Active Duty
 T. Edward Hamblen, producer of 'The Focus' on Broadway, is reported somewhere in the Pacific as a lieutenant 1, g. with the Naval Air Command Intelligence.

Complimented into the Navy last June, Lieut. Hamblen staged a reunion at Quantico, R. I., based on his training period.

Dener's Newest
 Denver, Dec. 8.
 Metro exchange losing two to the Chicago, Clark and Clark at Bartfield Field, La.
 Mix Fawcett, assistant booker, taking Navy. He is in the Army.
 James O'Brien, manager the Chief, Colorado Springs, Army.

Richard Dekker, recently manager Victory here, Navy and gone to San Diego for training.

Pitt's Newest
 Pittsburg, Dec. 8.
 Ellis Gusk, sax player with Maurice Spitznagel orch, Army.
 Eddie Wells, band leader, Army.
 Mills McKeown, operator at Anthony, Army.
 James Weyrauch, son of Eina Weyrauch, of WE exchange, Navy.
 Gabe Rubin, owner of Art Cinema, Army.
 Tom Ray, of 20th-Fox exchange, Army.

Elmer Guy Ogletti, Jr., son of Leebrecht Ogletti, promoted to first lieutenant in Air Corps at Bartfield Field, La.

Max Fawcett, manager of W.E.'s Squelch Hill theatre, Army. He's a brother-in-law of Joe Miller, agent.

James Weyrauch, son of Eina Weyrauch, of WE exchange, Navy.
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 Gale Gordon, radio actor, Coast Guard.
 Page Gilman of 'One Man's Army' Army.
 Genevieve Groves, sound engineer, Army Air Force.
 Ben Guterman, assistant film producer, Army Air Force.
 Kaye Meade, studio cameraman, Army Signal Corps.
 William Wright, screen actor, Army Air Force.
 Francis Scheid, sound engineer, Army Air Force.

Canadian Resorts Hit
 By Ban on Ski Trains
 Ottawa, Dec. 8.
 Although most of the Laurentian mountain resorts have decided to remain open this season, government ban on ski trains is expected to curtail the season. Laurentian resorts have prospered in recent years with special train, planes and motor transfers from all eastern Canadian cities, and even from Boston and New York.

Some ski trains beyond 50 miles also hurting.

Circus Aerialist Hurt
 Chicago, Dec. 8.
 Viola Rooks, 35, circus aerialist, was severely injured Sunday (29) while performing a high wire act during a matinee performance at an indoor circus in the Hammond Circle, Hammond, Ind. She fell 25 feet.

More than 2,500 spectators watched the accident. Miss Rooks is suffering skull, arm and leg fractures and internal injuries.

Literati
 Continued from page 32
 at Georgetown University, died Dec. 2.
 Andrew M. Lawrence, 77, retired editor and publisher, died Nov. 28 in San Francisco. Examiner's managing editor, he subsequently published for William R. Hearst the Chicago American, Chicago Examiner and San Francisco Journal.

Count Cassel de Bonny de Sales, 46, French respondent in the United States and author of the recent best seller, 'The Making of a Hero,' died Dec. 8 in New York. He was anti-Vichy.

M. E. Sanders, 48, dean of working men's organizations in America at his retirement a year ago, died of a splinter (Pa.) hospital. Dec 4 as a result of injuries suffered in a fall at his home a month ago. Sanders was retired on pension after 38 years with Scanton Times.

Charles S. Zack, 51, news editor of the Springfield Daily News until he retired last year, died in Springfield, Mass., Dec. 8.

CHATTER
 Reported that one prominent N. Y. daily column may be sacrificed. Kay Campbell named fashion editor of 'Fashion Home,' one of the Crown mag.

Spot. Fawcett monthly picture magazine. Photo Story with the January issue.
 Los Angeles Times is dropping its Los Angeles magazine as a result of shortage of zinc for engraving.
 Jack Malloy, managing editor of the New York Herald Tribune, is back in Los Angeles for Hearst conferences.
 William Dwight, managing editor of the New York Times, is back in Los Angeles on leave from the paper to act as assistant to the managing editor of War Shipping Administration.
 William R. Hearst paused in Los Angeles for a session with his general counsel, J. Edgar Hoover, en route to Mexico City for his winter season.
 Harry Crocker preceded the Chicago, Ill. News, and will probably make arrangements for welcome and home-coming.

Killgallen's guest column, pitching-hitting for Walter Winchell, was one of the best to date, apart from the editorial by James M. Latta. Latta's one does several, but is in inviting guests to fill in while Winchell is in the States. James M. Latta, daughter Dorothy Killgallen on how to do a B.W. col.

THERE IS NO RATIONING OF

Champagne Music!



HELD OVER FOR A
2ND WEEK AT
CHICAGO THEATRE
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ENGAGEMENT AT
THE TRIANON BALLROOM
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WANT LIVE TO COLLECT

Despite Pre-Xmas, U.S. Niteries Boom Terrifically; Eve Biz Looms Socko

Despite pre-Xmas, niterie trade continues to boom nationally. The defense workers are the answer, money is freer, and they're the nous-tyr niche of World War II. In Manhattan it's particularly noticeable as the zoot-suit and open-collar trade has a fast and free buck to spend in theatres and cafes. And, invariably, it's the niteries which get the preference. They also roll up in taxis to the hit shows early Saturday mornings, and at first the boxoffice men used to caution them that "the cheapest seats we have for Saturday night are \$1.85." Invariably the defense workers' pride was hurt, stating, "We want four of the best seats," as they peeled off \$4.80 and \$5.50 a copy. The royalty of seeing the open-airs sometimes overtly appreciative of the shows more often not knowing when to laugh or applaud, has now worn off, both from the perspective of the players and managers alike. So far as the cafes are concerned, everything with girls gets 'em. Latin Quarter, on Broadway, is an example, that spot doing better than \$20,000 gross.

Only paradox is the slow advance booking pace for New Year's Eve, which, however, is certainly a last minute proposition. Across the country certain key cities are balls of fire. Chicago is one. Washington is under-nitified, having only the hotels and the Troika whereas it could stand some new spots, and probably all would do well. Florida is finished, ah. (Continued on page 47)

Home Landers Empty, Coasters Flock To Well-Laden Eateries

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Despite gasoline rationing in the Los Angeles area, local deluxe restaurants and eateries are getting a hefty play. Situated where developed where the restaurant operators are getting such a brisk play that they are beginning to keep supplies in the kitchen. Diners start coming at around 8:30, continuing until near midnight. In the Hollywood Yine sector Friday (11) night, Mike Lamb's Brown Derby, Melody Lane and later started himself for 11:30 p.m., with booths and tables still crowded at midnight. Major reason for the heavy play is current shortage of foodstuffs in the Los Angeles area. Government officials claim that district has used up December meat allotment, and the public cannot get beef, pork or lamb in the markets except in dribbles. Result is people are flocking to restaurants, which keep open as long as supplies are in the larders.

Femmes Like It Rough

Two young women went to the boxoffice of the Music Box, N. Y., last Thursday at matinee time and demanded the music back on their 'Star and Garter' tickets. They said that they heard the show, which has been drawing big femma patronage, had been cleaned up following censorship talk in connection with the 'Wine, Women and Song' indecency convictions.

\$22.50 Convert For Opening Of Giro's, Mex City

Mexico City, Dec. 15. Giro's opened to big biz here last week (P) at the Hotel Reforma, frontline local hotelery, with a function that was tops for the social season. Socialites by the score and folk high in government, political and diplomatic circles attended in such numbers that the spot, with a normal capacity for 200, was taxed far beyond its capacity. A C. Blumenthal and his 27 Mexican associates have made Giro's an intimate spot with a mural stressing feminine nudity by Diego Rivera. Despite the publicity, ex-King Carol of Romania is expected for here. The crowd of promoters proved that it couldn't be done. Blumenthal says that the floor (Continued on page 47)

JOLSON'S 'SONNY BOY' NOW A NITERY SINGER

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Billy Vallie, young singer and m.c. who turned up around here in small niteries through the tri-state area several weeks ago, was revealed few days ago as former Davey Lee, child star who was 'Sonny Boy' to Al Jolson and later starred himself for WB in a picture based on the baby character. He returned Vallie's identity when he came down from nearby McKeesport, where he's currently appearing at Onyx Club, to a weekly luncheon of Pittsburgh Lions Club. Billy's mother said she's been doing coffee work for last six years.

BAND TO PLAY WAR FRONTS

'AEF Circuit' Will Eventually Include Top Yank Stars and Orchestras in the Flesh

WAR DEPT. OK American soldiers at off shore and foreign bases won't even have to turn a shortwave dial to hear their favorite Jive music—a swing band is going to visit them personally. Plans are virtually complete for the shipping of an American music crew overseas, with Coca-Cola bankrolling the project. The soft drink outfit has already received an okay from the War Department to proceed with the idea and the band is currently being organized. Tour will cover at least 16 weeks. (Continued on page 21)

ON-SPOT BATTLE RECORDING SEEN

Boston, Dec. 15. The Army is to take transcription equipment into battlefields, Capt. Jack Harris, of the Radio and Army Music Division, revealed to representatives of 35 New England stations attending the First District meeting of the Warrenton Service of Broadcasters at Statler hotel here last Wednesday and Thursday (8-10). The transcriptions are expected to aid in many military purposes, and there is the possibility that war correspondents may be permitted to use the service. The recordings, subject to the approval of Army authorities, will be played back over radio stations, explained Capt. Harris. Oscar Serlin has thus far received 37 letters as a result of his ad in the Nov. 25 issue of 'Variety', in which he put in bid for Hollywood talent who may be thinking of making Broadway appearances because of the \$25,000 salary ceiling. Serlin specifically had in mind the casting of 'The Family', slated for 8-10. (Continued on page 45)

37 Answer Serlin Ad In 'Variety' to Quit Coast for B'way Show

New War Pix Themes May Veer To 'We're on the Offensive' Now

Ain't It The Truth

The draft and war industry's inroads have resulted in a sign being posted in an Eighth avenue eatery, N. Y. It reads: "Don't abuse the help. It's easier to get customers."

Allied Victories Boost Show Biz In Latin America

By RAY JOSEPHS Montevideo, Dec. 15. United Nations' successes in North Africa, on the Russian front and in the Solomons, have been quickly barometered in show biz throughout Latin America. Concurrently, Berlin takeover of occupied France has also had a strong effect on French stage and screen exhibition in all the Latin Republics, with special emphasis in Argentina, Uruguay and Chile, the last remaining hemisphere 'neutrals'. Experienced diplomatic observers, who lack such public pulse checks as the Gallup poll and forthright editorial opinion, have long used response to newswires as the most effective diagnosis of Latin reactions. Since the Yanku blitz in North Africa and subsequent developments, sympathy for Dr. Samuel has risen sharply. Applause for F.D.R., Prime Minister Churchill and Winston Churchill, Arthur, which had started to fall off when the headlines were clouded, has now shot up to shattering proportions. Important to note that even in Latin American courts, a possibility is being (Continued on page 45)

F.D.R.'S XMAS MESSAGE VIA SPENCER TRACY

Washington, Dec. 15. Spencer Tracy was invited and accepted an offer from the Office of Information to read President Roosevelt's message to troops overseas on Christmas morning. The suite message will first be delivered to soldiers in England and Ireland, with a possibility it may be flown to North Africa. The Metro star is a veteran of the last war and some thought his presence in Washington was in quest of a commission. Tracy denied this, saying it is personal business, and that Johns Hopkins doctors, after a check-up decided he was in good health, accepted the OWI assignment.

Dramatization of the 'blood, sweat and tears' motif in pictures has become dated, according to expert propaganda analysts engaged in British and U. S. Government activities, with the result that a number of important film properties based on this theme may not be made out to be as profitable as anticipated. Informed quarters point to the change from the 'we can take it' philosophy to 'offensive' thinking as a healthy sign. Production departments at several studios have also noted the tendency, with result that majors are alert to themes in which the history-in-the-making, time element figures too prominently. 'War Themes. In general, most now stand careful scrutiny before production. While low-priced war material is still being produced, the major comes remain wary of long range themes upon which new fictitious narratives must be superimposed. A considerable number of war stories, therefore, still remain in the open market without being put on screen. Homefronts are viewing with considerable alarm the filing up of long ranges, feeling being that the boxoffice appeal of such yarns may (Continued on page 45)

Berlin's 'Xmas' Puts All Other Xmas Times On the Bum This Year

Heavy sales of various recordings of Irving Berlin's smash 'White Christmas' according to record distributors, 'tended to undermine this year's Christmas sales run for recordings of other Xmas tunes. This applies to Bing Crosby's discing of 'Xmas' particularly, which is the biggest seller and which has cut into annual sales of his 'Silent Night' and 'Adesse Fidelis' (along with other artists' versions of 'Ingle Bells', 'Santa Claus is Coming', etc., are also in sales. It is claimed, 'Xmas' is the biggest hit the music industry has had in years, so far as sheet music is concerned, and if the recording business was normal its record sales would have soared among the all-time highs. At it is, Crosby's version will be his all-time best seller. Ditto Charlie Chaplin's 'Columbia' picture. 'Xmas' men are certain the melody will become an annual holiday standard.

TYPED Hollywood, Dec. 15. Betty Grable's next starrer for 20th-Fox is 'The Big Girl'. Title refers to practice of servicemen pinning up pic of wives clipped from magazines and newspapers.

Irving Berlin's 'This Is the Army' And Uncle Sam's War Show Each Gross \$1 Million; Latter Folds Dec. 20

Washington, Dec. 15. Army War Show, which appeared before 3,500,000 people in 16 major cities and earned more than \$1,000,000 for the Army Emergency Relief, will be disbanded at the close of its Atlanta performance on Dec. 20, the War Department announced Saturday afternoon.

After final showing, the 2,000 officers and men in the cast, who represent every branch of the service, will be sent to Fort Belvoir, Ill., and the cast has declared that it is eager to get into action and that it wants to put on its next show in Los Angeles.

Organized as a task force under the command of Col. W. T. Bala, the Army War Show opened its tour on June 12 in Baltimore. Since then it has given 95 performances, with an average attendance of 20,000 persons for each performance.

At Chicago's Soldiers Field, 152,462 persons saw the show in 11 days, an average of 82,551 a day.

Berlin's 'Army' Passes \$1,000,000 B.O. in St. L.

St. Louis, Dec. 15. Irving Berlin's all-solder show, "This Is the Army," has passed a sellout for its one-week stand in the opera house of the Municipal Grand Theatre in St. Louis (Mo.). Army auditors with the show assert that the take for the road tour that began in Washington, D. C., has included Baltimore, Pittsburgh, Boston, Cleveland and Cincinnati and the local stand has netted the \$1,000,000 mark. This figure does not include the New York date.

When the ticket sale began almost one week before opening, double lines extended for two solid blocks every ticket.

The admiral scale for opening night was \$165 to \$11, with the opening performance in "Lady in the Evening" for the balance of the performances.

48,235 in Cincy
Cincinnati, Dec. 15. With Muriel angelus in "Merry Widow" in the 1,300-seat Cincy box seat at \$2.75 top, Cinx is reminding its normal day patrons of the following last week's all-time high, record of a capacity \$48,235, after six performances of "This Is the Army" at the 2,500-seat Taft theatre.

Usual Xmas-week full next week, then four weeks of shows starting Dec. 28 when Gertrude Lawrence in "Lady in the Evening" tenants the Taft for six night performances and two matinees at \$2.75 top.

Take on Irving Berlin's all-solder "Army" could have been a couple thousand dollars higher with the sale of standing room and use of extra chairs, which were passed up. The night's gross, however, was \$7, had 682 front orchestra and logs seats selling for \$11 each, giving an \$11,000 start. Top for other night shows was \$3.30.

'Army' 2560 in Detroit
Detroit, Dec. 15. Heading for the biggest gross it will hit for any comparable period on the road, Irving Berlin's "This Is the Army," was a sellout here in the first three days the tickets were opened. The soldier show booked into the huge Masonic auditorium here for 18 performances over the holidays and the first night, Dec. 21, and for the New Year's Eve show.

First day's ticket sale for "Army" was \$850, and the box office squad had to put in a call to local post for 20 M.P.'s to help control the crowd.

Harry Friedman Joins
MCA's Coast Pic Setup
Hollywood, Dec. 15. Harry Friedman, attorney with the William Morris agency and more recently a partner in the Nat Goldstein office, has joined the associative staff of Music Corp. of America.

Friedman was called for the handling of MCA's motion picture division.

Levin's Sagebrusher
Hollywood, Dec. 15. Columbia has signed Henry Levin to a director contract, his first assignment a western.

Levin is a stage director formerly associated with Brock Pemberton. He also directed at a strawhat in Gloucester, Mass.

EXTRAS TAKE PROTEST TO CAL'S NEW GOV.

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Requests for a State investigation of the film extra problem and a general shakeup of Central Casting Corp. are being made by Hollywood's atmosphere players on the eve of a change of administration in the state. Extras contend that living costs have advanced far beyond any wage increases they have received in the past.

It is reported unlikely that Governor-elect Earl Warren will pay any attention to the demands until he takes office shortly after the New Year. Whether he will take any action then depends on evidence produced by the extra leaders.

November, with another banner month for extras, with earnings totaling \$30,245. Placements reached 20,000 and average daily wage \$11.78.

New Payoff System
All major companies are setting up a 24-hour payroll system for 5,000 extras, which goes to the State Welfare Commissioner for approval. Currently extras draw pay after each day's work, but new Federal 5% withholding tax makes such arrangement illegal.

Commissioner will be asked to waive State law requiring daily payroll to extra workers.

INCOME TAX LIENS But Madeleine Carroll Confront Sues; Supports 51 War Orphans

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Income tax liens amounting to \$160,000 have been filed against a number of picture people. Among those Treasury claims short-changed by the Government are: Michia Auer, \$11,500; William Cagney, \$8,023; Patsy Kelly, \$4,374; and Harry Edger, \$8,250.

On the other side of the ledger, Madeleine Carroll is suing the government for overcharges of \$400 exemption on each of 51 French war orphans she supports.



It will cost money to defeat Germany, Japan and Italy. Our government calls on you to help now.

Buy war savings bonds or stamps today. Buy them every day if you can. But buy them on a regular basis.

Tighten Curfew Law on Enemy Aliens in Films

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Enemy aliens are exactly that and nothing more in the opinion of the Wartime Civil Control, regardless of efforts by certain studios to wangle special dispensations for actors on location work. Net result of the wangling is a more drastic limitation of the 8 p.m. curfew.

New rule, continuing the time element, prohibits all enemy alien film workers from wandering more than five miles from their homes without special permission. Even with special permission the limit is 15 miles, and they must be checked in at home by an FBI operative at 8 p.m.

The only reason for special permission will be necessary location work for actors, technicians or others connected with a traveling unit within the 15-mile area.

In answer to numerous requests for exceptions to the curfew law in individual cases, the WCC told them all that the Army makes no exceptions. One studio was told that "shipbuilding is more important" than the war effort than picture making. There are no enemy aliens on the night shift.

When seven aliens bound for locations were yanked off a train by Federal agents, the studio explained that there was no attempt at evasion but that the rule had not been sufficiently clarified. There is no longer any doubt.

George Jessel Laments The Missing New Yorkers

Never before has the show business been as unpredictable as this year. For example, before the season started it was the opinion of almost all the actors, managers and agents that this would be a season for musicals. "Look at the record," they said. "Every time there is a war people don't want drama but don't want things on the front pages of every newspaper. Abandon—that's the order of the day. Gals, sat songs and comedy scenes." All right, this is what has happened. All the musicals only "Star and Gaiters" and "The Best of the Best" and the box office successes are "Eve of St. Mark," a vivid, blood-warming story of Batavia, and Thornton Wilder's "Skin of Your Teeth," which makes you do nothing but think or you don't know what it's all about. The next hit I'm sure will be "Three Sisters," from the Russian by Chekhov. Oh, you want gals and hoke, do you?

Then we have another theatrical treat in the show business, a vaudeville melange with 10 people and no sketches. In four of the acts there isn't a word of dialog or song. I talk for about an hour, incidentally, about the same things I talked about last year in the same theatre. After we opened and the newspaper notices were good this was the opinion of the gang around Sardi's: "Sure that show will do business. The Bronx and Broadway like Jessel. It's a New York show." Oh, is it? We have played in less New Yorkers than any other show I have ever played in. [Title is "Showtime"—Ed.]

Tourists Only?
And here we get to another strange theatrical phenomenon. We are playing to hardly any New Yorkers at all and I venture to say that the same thing is happening in all the theatres in the same theatre. After we opened and the newspaper notices were good this was the opinion of the gang around Sardi's: "Sure that show will do business. The Bronx and Broadway like Jessel. It's a New York show." Oh, is it? We have played in less New Yorkers than any other show I have ever played in. [Title is "Showtime"—Ed.]

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Why isn't the New Yorker going to the theatre? His isn't the gasoline problem. I cannot answer.

But to think New York is becoming colder every day, while the Provincetowns, Uticas and Des Moines are paying attention to Saroyan. In short, while the folks from out of town are humming "Give My Regards to Broadway," the New Yorker is saying "I do it!"

FDR's Birthday Ball, Per Usual, But Theatre Collections for U.N.

Washington, Dec. 15. President's Birthday Ball Celebration for 1943 will not have theatre collections this year, because the United Nations drive in January coincides with the Infantile Paralysis event. Picture executives feel two strikes within a week, the night and overtax pic execs. The mingling theatre collection netted almost \$2,000.

Washington celebration, and that in New York will be staged as usual. Some discussion about abandoning the fetes, but President Roosevelt made it plain that he considers a health conserving instrument and ordered the Foundation campaigns as in the past.

Washington's celebration will be held as usual upon Hollywood's contribution. Planned to have the main event in the new Statler hotel on 16th street, but was assigned this year to make it easier for visiting stars.

Main banquet and midnight show at Capitol, Earle and Howard theatres will be staged on Friday, Jan. 24. Hotel balls are scheduled for 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. Show will be held earlier with Roy Rogers of Republic Pictures already booked.

March of Dimes will be conducted as in the past.

Barton MacLanes' Fight
For Their 2 Children
Memphis, Dec. 15. Barton MacLane, film actor, has won bit-wink custody of their two minor children from his former wife's struggle. Two children, the case finally reached the point of preliminary action last week when Barton MacLane brought a filed an answer and cross-bill here.

Probate Court to his petition seeking to get the children who are wards of the court.

The answer, filed by attorneys J. Farrar and Charles A. Rond, denies that the actor has contributed to the support of the children in any way since 1932 and alleges that their divorce decree in New York in 1930 forbade his re-marrying without permission of the New York court. She charged that MacLane had been denied here because the MacLane's present marriage is illegal.

Custody of the children is likewise sought by Mrs. Stewart. Her serve on MacLane as a non-resident of Memphis. His original action had been filed here because the children are being maintained here in a private home by the court as its wards.

Mrs. Stewart is a resident of Memphis.

Patsy Ruth Miller,
Lt. John Lee Mahin,
Hubby, in Auto Crash
Chicago, Dec. 15. Patsy Ruth Miller, former motion picture star, was injured Sunday night (13) when an automobile in which she was riding crashed into a building. She suffered slight injuries but the three other persons in the automobile were injured seriously.

One of these was Lt. John Lee Mahin, 40, her husband and former Hollywood writer, a member of the U. S. Army Air Forces. He was injured on their way to the Dearborn Station from where Lt. Mahin was to depart for overseas duty.

Mrs. Miller was to return to her home in Encino, Cal.

ESTABROK UPPED TO
PROD. STATUS AT M-G
Hollywood, Dec. 15. Howard Estabrook, Metro screen playwright, was upped to producer of U. S. Army Air Forces picture "The Story of the Story" which was originally intended for Jack Chertok, who has left the lot.

March of Dimes' cooperating Washington committee in the roundup of stars.

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March of Dimes' cooperating Washington committee in the roundup of stars.



ABBOTT AND COSTELLO
"Bud Abbott and Lou Costello are two boys who can do no wrong—in the estimation of millions of doing fans." —Bosley Crowther—N. Y. Times"

Now on National Release in "Who Done It"
Universal Pictures
Under Personal Management of: EDWARD SHERMAN
Capeel Cigarettes, NBC

Basil Dean Secures U. S. Pledges From British Actors to Fill Need For Talent on U. K. Morale Shows

Faced with a dearth of performers in the British Isles, Basil Dean, president of British Entertainments National Services Assn., has made a request to British talent in the States to help bring to England as soon as possible to do shows for ENSA. Latter group is the British equivalent of the USO-Camp Shows, and is financed to the tune of \$2,000,000 annually.

At an interview in New York last Friday (11), Dean told of the serious situation that confronts ENSA at a time when it is necessary to expand its entertainment activities. ENSA, Dean said, has 310 units giving 3,790 shows a week to service men in England and overseas, in addition to performing for workers in steel mills, shipyards, war factories, etc.

In order to expand its program to provide entertainment for coal miners, farm workers and air wardens, Dean explained that ENSA needs another 1,500 performers. Partial solution to its problem, he said, is to recruit British artists in this country to England for limited tours, and he is asking them to return as soon as their U. S. commitments permit.

Produced Results

RAF instructors in Canada are also in need of entertainers. The ENSA press said, and he would like to send some British and U. S. talent there.

Dean revealed his mission has already produced results, with Gertrude Lawrence and Gracie Fields both promising to return to England, probably in the summer, and Colin Clive going back within the next few weeks to become a field agent for ENSA. He was a captain in the British Army in the past war and, after a refresher course, will be recommissioned and stationed in the Middle East area.

In addition, Dean said, ENSA anticipates that performers at home now pending at the end of the war year to the association will enlarge these pledges, while plans are worked out to keep the same percentage.

'Lady' May Go to London, With Lawrence Starred, Under Hyton Auspices

'Lady in the Dark' is a possibility for London next summer, and if the plan goes through Gertrude Lawrence, starred in the play, and on tour with the play, will be similarly presented in her home country. She is currently in the States due back on Broadway sometime after the Chicago engagement at the Lyric Theatre.

Basil Dean, the English showman from New York, has proposed the London showing, which, if the understanding would be under the direction of Jack Hyton.

Marion Colby to Coast For Possible Film Deal

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Singer Marion Colby cut her original two-week engagement here at the Lyric in half to go to the Coast office of Frederick Brothers, her agents, to hurry west for possible major studio contracts. She closed her Thursday night (10) and left immediately for Hollywood. Marion Francis replacing her at the local unit.

Colby gal was in 'Meet the People' in Chicago, taking over spot opening here by Virginia O'Brien, recently made warbler, now under contract to Metro.

Freak Shortage

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Hollywood is short of freaks, according to Metro studios who prowled the town for sidewalk characters needed for 'Private Miss Jones'.

Most of the old circus oddities, they reported, were working in airplane plants and other munitions factories, while fat ladies are wearing whistles to make up for the shortage of male Santa Clauses in the department stores.

NAZIS TO GO OFF PEEVE TO S.A. PIX MART

The Berlin radio last week took time out from its general run of propaganda to blast at Hollywood films. Dr. Goebbels' boys, with their usual melody, declared: "The European film is culturally very superior to American one." The "gentle" to explain that Hollywood's product has "completely lost its prestige in Europe." It was also disclosed that the Nazis are making nothing new but propaganda and technical education.

The broadcast was made in Spanish and beamed at both the United States and Latin America. It apparently was designed primarily for Latin audiences, however, to curb the American East ear.

Cantinflas Hurt in Fight As He Helps Capture Killer in Mexico City

Mexico City, Dec. 8. 'Cantinflas' (Mario Moreno), Mexico's ace comedian, played a realistic dramatic role recently when he captured near his home a man who had stabbed to death another in a street fight.

The comic had just gotten out of his car at his front door when he saw two men scuffling in the semi-darkness. One of the combatants dropped, and the other, flashing a knife, started to run. 'Cantinflas' struggled with him, and the dim of combat brought a cop who disarmed the killer. Moreno suffered bad cuts on arms and hands.

The assailant was identified as Jose-carro Bajerono, 37, a jobless bricklayer, and his victim was Luis Ramirez Ochoa, 32, a baker.

Ashton Stevens Proves Good Trailer for Comics

Chicago, Dec. 15. A letter from Marie Ladd to Ashton Stevens, dean of American critics, which Stevens ran in his column in the Chicago Herald-Examiner following the opening of 'Primitives of 1942' in St. Chi has resulted in a letter to Stevens from the Coast office of Frederick Brothers, Ladd gagged on Stevens' approval of Lou Ladd, who is the Howard, Bert Wheeler and Gene Sheldon.

The quartet came back with a column. This was followed by another rib-blower by Paul Hartman. Finally Ben Bernic, who attended the 'Primitives' opening with Stevens, came through with a column burbling up at the critics: the four took it him.

METRO, 20TH, BOTH BIDDING

Star Depletion and Potential Raw Film Cuts Dignity Urgency for Strictest Play Choices

NO PRICE LIMITS?

Metro is entering the play market on Broadway via strong bidding for desirable properties. In a move to meet the action shown recently by 20th-Fox in grabbing off screen rights to a number of leg productions. Also involved in the current competition for play is increased backing of leg production by the major companies.

To offset the potential loss of marquee names via the draft and the income ceiling restrictions, all majors plan to concentrate heavily on big budget product next year and seek important literary properties as an alternative to provide the box-

(Continued on page 46)

WPB Spotting War Contributions By Pix and Radio

Washington, Dec. 15.

The War Production Board, working in the Office of War Information, is putting show business in the spotlight this (Wed.) afternoon. Rubber Director William Jeffers and the foremost rubber tire manufacturers will be shown in how motion pictures and radio help propagate the Government's salvage jobs.

Through the Campaigns & Media Division of WPB, highlights from the Newstates, March Prince, Eddie Cantor, Fibber McGee & Molly, Bob Hope and kindred type radio programs, will be re-recorded for benefit of the tycoon.

Prom Committee Buys Prima, but Neglects To Provide Balroom

Louis Prima's orchestra found itself last week (Friday) in the unusual position of having been hired by the Chicago Herald-Examiner for Maryland, but without a place to play. It seems that a committee of students bought Prima's services from Music Corp. of America for \$850 for the night, but neglected to school the school grounds was to be arranged. The committee discovered the auditorium on the school grounds was not used for something else that evening.

Prima had cancelled one date and refused three days in the Cleveland Herald-Examiner, which he hit the ceiling. After \$850 he was to be paid, plus being forced to 'lay' off that night (no dates can be filled on such short notice) plus having to pay his men for the evening, meant the difference between a losing and profitable 10-day run, which he finished over the weekend.

COWARD COMING OVER?

Noel Coward, author, director-producer and star of 'In Which We Serve' is being urged by the Coast office of distributing war material in U. S. shortly before or just after the picture opens at the Capitol, N. Y., Dec. 23.

He-Man, Fighting Words in Coward's 'Serve' (UA) and March of Time's Pic, Marines, May Revise Prod. Formulas

Stand-ins Out

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Abbott & Costello are checking show business for the duration of the war, but not the A. & C. Chuckers are Norman Abbott, nephew and stand-in for Bud, and Pat Costello, brother and stand-in for Lou.

Norman goes into the Merchant Marine and Pat into the Navy.

Controversy over fighting words ordered eliminated from two films ('In Which We Serve' and 'We Are the Marines') by the Hays office last week stirred fears in industry quarters that the profanity issue might touch off another anti-film crusade by religious-social and other pressure groups. At the same time execs of major companies took cognizance of the fact that salty language has come into more frequent use because of war-themed material which calls for authentic expression.

Members of the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors Association will likely weigh all considerations shortly in order to arrive at a satisfactory formula.

Belief prevailed, however, that current development would require drastic handling to 'body' itself, including unofficial censorship groups. Radio newscasters and commentators meantime gave the subject a strong impetus via references noted over major networks and independent outlets.

In scissoring 'Serve' the Hays office finally permitted words such as 'damn,' 'handful to 'body,' 'hell' and 'God' to be retained. Edward C. Hatery, president of United Artists, a co-producer of 'Two Cities Films, British producers of the film, noted that 'United Artists has resisted all calls required by the authorities (in the U. S.) to handle the profanity. The only elimination in 'Serve' are 'bastard' and the insulting references to the Italian race, as understood that Lowell Mellett suggested that the dialog

(Continued on page 46)

ERROL FLYNN TOPS CAMPS IN NOV.

Washington, Dec. 15.

Soldiers in the camp theatres went for Errol Flynn in a big way and 'Gentleman Jim' was top grosser in November according to the boxoffice tabulation of Army Motion Picture Service.

The six service champions in order names were 'Gentleman Jim' (WB), 'Forest Rangers' (Par), 'Springtime in the Rockies' (RKO), Abbott & Costello's 'Who Done It?' (U), 'Seven Days Leave' (Columbia), 'You Were Never Lovelier' (CLO).

In November 'Road to Morocco' with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby arrived at the military theatres and business to date is sensational. This comedy will fight it out for the December championship with 'The Black Swan,' in which Tyrone Power is starring.

Hillbilly Film Fan Comes Formal, Wears Shoes—and Forgets 'Em

Baltimore, Dec. 15.

Topper of all stories going the rounds here about lack of rustles from the backwoods attracted by war work and subsequent big dough, broke this week at the Mayfair. The only customer, unaccustomed to new-fangled store shoes, took them off to enjoy the film in comfort, and soon fell asleep. Waking up with a start, he left, forgetting to put the clasp-hoppers on his feet. After walking for about a block he remembered the shoes and came back for them, but more bawdy in the meantime. The character kept looking around and marvelling at the expansion of the walls and general broad view. House manager, taking a wild stab, suggested the next door emporium, and after the shoeing shoes there without further ado.

Payoff line, however, came with sudden downpour which greeted the exit of the searching party. The hillbilly cracked, 'Think I'll carry 'em until the rain stops!'

Rooney, 2 Native Stars Top Faves in Mexico

Mexico City, Dec. 9.

Checkup of cinemas reveals that Mexico has three No. 1 plays: favorites. One is Mickey Rooney, who draws more boxoffice in this country than any other U. S. pic player. The other two are Mexicans, Fernando Soler and Sara Garcia.

LIEUT. COL. ZANUCK BACK FROM AFRICA

Washington, Dec. 15.

Lt. Col. Darryl F. Zanuck, who has been out with the U. S. Signal Corps in Africa, is returning here today (Tuesday) for a conference with War Department officials.

Col. Zanuck came here from LaGuardia Airfield, N. Y., where he arrived this morning.

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Subscription: \$10 a Year, \$3 a Month. Single Copies: 10 Cents. Vol. 149 No. 1 INDEX Bills: 40 Cigarette: 45 Exploitation: 46 Film Reviews: 16 Home Reviews: 18 Inside—Legit: 42 Inside—Orchestra: 34 Inside—Pictures: 6 Legitimate: 41 Liter: 47 Music: 33 Night Club Reviews: 38 Obituary: 48 Orchestra: 33 Photos: 48 Radio: 24 Radio Reviews: 30 Vaudeville: 37 War Activities: 4 DAILY VARIETY Published in Hollywood by The Variety Company, Inc. 110 a year—\$3 foreign

Theatre Wing's Merchants Marine Club in N. Y. Due to Open Jan. 4

American Theatre Wing's Merchant Marine Club, 100 E. 42nd St., N. Y., will officially open Jan. 4. Many notables will attend the opening.

Wing's newest activity is marked with the same generosity by donors that attended the success of the nearby Stage Door. There will be five rooms, some for games and other recreations, entertainment being along the lines of the Canteen. Around 2,000 seamen of the merchant marine can be accommodated nightly.

Wing's committee for the Club is headed by John Golden and Mrs. Albee. Bernard Shaw, chairman, Constance Collier, who originated the idea, is among the active workers.

Wing is acting in collaboration with the Civilian Defense Registration Committee, the National United Seamen's Service, which Madeleine Carroll is a leader, and the Victory Guild, a Jewish group.

Later organization has been active in raising funds for the Wing, with the help of the National United Seamen's Service, which Madeleine Carroll is a leader, and the Victory Guild, a Jewish group.

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If You Tote a Violin, And Your Hair Is Turnin' Silver, Morgan Wants You

Minneapolis, Dec. 15. Russ Morgan believes he has found solution to the problem created by his loss of men to the armed forces. It's the employment of more fiddle players, he says, are in greater supply because they're usually older men outside the draft.

Morgan lost three of his brass sections—Woody, Tommy and Steve Benorio—to Uncle Sam during his Orpheum theatre engagements. During the two days they were filled in with three local musicians, but in Burlington, Ia., this will take three months. This will bring the Morgan violin section up to six men.

2,000 ARMY SHORTS IN 1943 FILM BIZ GOAL

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Film industry's contribution to the building of the war machine will be topped to 1,500, and probably 2,000, Army training shorts for the next 12 months under an agreement between the producers and Col. M. E. Gillette, commanding officer of the Signal Corps Photographic Center at Ft. Belvoir, Ill.

A special committee appointed to expedite the patriotic output consists of J. Mankiewicz, B. Kahane, M. J. Siegel and Cliff Work.

Law Ayres in Texas Med. Unit. 15. Motion picture star Law Ayres is now stationed in the Evacuation Hospital, at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, after completing the surgical technique course at Camp Berkeley in Abilene (Texas). Ayres reported here.

400 Chi Theatres Drive For Soldiers' Comforts

Chicago, Dec. 15. The 400 film houses in Chicago and suburbs are conducting a drive for coats, cigars and razor blades for men in the armed forces. Thirty million film rolls collect a goodly number of cakes and cookies and wreaths which are delivered to the Chicago Service Men's Club.

The theatres are running special trailers on their screens appealing to their patrons for contributions and have installed boxes for collections in their lobbies.

4,000 in Armed Services From Picture Colony

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Hollywood and work is represented by 4,000 artists and workers in the U. S. armed forces, according to figures released by the Screen Directors Guild. The force represents 25% of the industry's roster; here are 18,000 of 35,000 employees are male. Survey lists actors in the military or naval service number nearly 900; executives and producers, 40, while sales, writers and cameramen and technicians.

It was also disclosed that the picture industry, in addition to its war and entertainment activities, has contributed in the past year \$1,829,484 to various charities.

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Uncle Sam's Roll Call

It's Major Ben Lyon Now
Ben Lyon was sworn into the American Air Force in London Yesterday. His rank is that of major. Actor has been in England several years, acting in films, radio and legit with his wife, Bebe Daniels.

Bill Puchacki Killed.
Northampton, Mass., Dec. 15. William W. Puchacki, assistant manager of the Plaza here before his induction on March 5, 1941, was killed in the South Pacific, according to work received by his parents.

When last heard from he was in New Caledonia. Also surviving are four sisters and two brothers. On the same day that work arrived of Puchacki's death, was the passing of his chum, Francis S. Ananitis, of this city, who was inducted the same day.

Glen Naves, Spartaian.
Spartanburg, S. C., Dec. 15. Glen W. Naves, Spartanburg area publicity correspondent, Naval Reserve, is a member of the 4888 Central Postal Directory (C. P. D.) at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He has been in the service for 10 years with the Acme Photo Service. Gebman took over the reins Monday (14).

Gebman Vice Sullivan.
Post of Ed Sullivan, head of the photographic department at Paramount at his home office, who had been inducted into the army, has been filled by Frank Gebman for 10 years with the Acme Photo Service. Gebman took over the reins Monday (14).

Add: Crawford and 'Big Boy' Atlantic City, Dec. 15.
Among new arrivals at this resort are Army Air Force aviators training center are Pvt. Broderick Crawford, 36, and Pvt. Guinn ('Big Boy') Williams, 4, who has often essayed the role of hard-boiled sergeant in war pictures.

INDUCT TONY MARTIN INTO THE ARMY DEC. 30

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Tony Martin is scheduled for induction into the Army Dec. 30. The singer, who was discharged from the Navy after the court mart, from Martin, prior to his Navy assignment, has his draft registration for immediate active service.

Bootlegging Again?

Port Bragg, N. C., Dec. 10. The latest brasserie news is the new rationing of whiskey on a localized state-wide scale. It calls for ration books that allow civilians must get their coupons through their commanding officers. All I can see happening out of this is a real old-fashioned bootlegging spree as there are too many soldiers in this vicinity who will want their bootleg whiskey to get it—even if it's good old rotgut a 1928. I'm willing to bet that within two weeks the state will be overrun with those fine specialists who know how to make 22 pints out of one good quart of whiskey before long well be involved in one of the dumbest bootlegging messes since World War days.

A Soldier from Broadway.

Cantor's Gift

When the new Miami Red Cross building opens next week it will give an Eddie Cantor's room. Billy Reed, ex-m.c., now the yeoman entertainment assistant at the local radio station, heard about the Red Cross' lack of dough for furnishings.

Heicker to Cantor brought a check by return mail.

Plaque for Ben Kelley

Seattle, Dec. 15. Impressive ceremony took place at the Blue Mouse (Hannick-Evergreen) on Dec. 7, when a plaque was dedicated to Ben Kelley, former manager, who was killed in action of Honolulu, early last spring. A naval chaplain conducted the dedication, with sailors and executives of the theatre chain present. Kelley has been placed in the theatre foyer.

New York Contingent
Sidney Salkow, Columbia Pictures director, reports at Quantico, Va., Jan. 1.
Joe Kozer, Irving, N. J., comedian in the Army.
Del Casino, bandleader, Navy, as boxing instructor.

Milwaukee, Dec. 15.
Fred Miller and Donald Patoka, of the WTMJ-TV station, have enlisted in the army air forces, the former as a bombardier, the latter as a member of the "Four Tornado" group, just recruited by the Naval Air Corps.

Pitt's Bell Call
Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Milton Broadus, former Columbia Pictures actor, reports at Quantico, Va., Jan. 1.
Stanley theatre musician, made actor, serving sergeant at Fort McLean, in the Army.
Anthony Dellino, who has often acted as a member of the "Four Tornado" group, just recruited by the Naval Air Corps.

Nathan Rosen, U. S. worker, army, private, son of Dr. David, the of Patime in L'bookmaster manager of the New York Theatre.
James Rizza, Port shipper, army.
Irving Stein, 20th shipper, army.
John Barber, manager of Grand in Huntington, Pa., army.
Ben Rosenberg, son of M. A. Rosenberg, radio exhibitor and member of National Allied, army glider service.
Anthony Dellino, of Liberty theatre in Salisbury, army.
Tom Anas, son of N. G. Anas,

H Wood's Victory Committee Spotted 1,141 Players in 1st Yr's Operation

Broadway Dimouts Foster More Hoodlumism, Charge
Nightly dimouts in Times Square district has been spotted by Women and children being molested, according to action ordered by Police Lt. Lewis and J. Valentine. First word of annoyances came in a complaint filed by a businessman who was molested on 42d St. after a performance at the Metropolitan opera house last week.

Complaint charged lack of proper police protection. Valentine turned it over to Chief Inspector Louis J. Costuma for "immediate attention and appropriate action." Valentine urged that the police be uniformed men, policemen and plainclothesmen until 2 a.m. Patrolmen then take over.

Factor Backs Frisco Canteen

San Francisco, Dec. 15. Convinced there was little likelihood of making any progress under the present leadership of the campaign to Stage Door Frisco, one group of show people is now seeking formation of a committee that would bring new elements into the drive.

Support is being lined up for a new setup that would give a voice to representatives of the theatrical union, as well as to other key show people.

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Hollywood, Dec. 15. In the first year of its existence the Hollywood Victory Committee has sent 100 stars of screen, stage and radio to help build up America's wartime morale, the biggest number in any one place anywhere. Work of the committee is disclosed in its first annual report, published by the industry Service Bureau.

Report shows that the committee has pressed about 150 USO camps in Army, Air Force and Coast and Guard camps along the Pacific Coast and in desert areas of California, New Mexico and Arizona at the request of the War Department. In addition, the USO Camp Four Shows performed the War Camps in the past year.

Overseas, nine players have put on shows for 474 USO camps in Ireland and 14 have planned to perform bases in Alaska, the Aleutian Islands, the British Isles, the South American continent, the Panama Canal Zone and various outposts in the Caribbean Sea. In the September War Camp Four Shows, the USO Camp Four Shows performed the War Camps in the past year.

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NAMES TO ENTERTAIN SERVICEMEN IN K. C.

Kansas City, Dec. 18. A double-header Christmas party for all men in the armed forces now training here will be sponsored jointly by the Kansas City Canteen, the Kansas City Star and various service organizations Christmas Day, in the Municipal Auditorium. The show stage show will include a dance at night.

The cast for the two-hour stage show will be being topped. Lorie, who has also been connected with the legitimate theatre here, is understood to have pledged every cooperation.

Jim Claire, representative for the American Theatre Wing, is still figured as the person to add prestige to the project, and assure cooperation of the American Theatre Wing.

Barney Ford, a former A. F. for Billy Rose and a member of the Canteen committee that has been more or less slumbering, has been working for a long time on idea of a Canteen here, and expects to bring the various elements together under the new setup.

Theatrical unions are not represented on present committee, and dissident boys consider their support highly important for a successful Canteen.

Miss Claire, who recently returned from the east, reported that Brock Brown, head of the American Theatre Wing, and Armina Marshall Langer will be out there shortly as reps of American Theatre Wing to talk over Canteen situation.

From Out of the West
Hollywood, Dec. 15. Lewis Davis, studio technician, Stanley York, film cutter, Army. James Vinnico, film exhibitor. Marjorie Simmons, studio press agent. Arthur Brandon, screen actor, Marines.

David Street, screen actor, Army. Fred Friedman, studio technician, Army. Herb Westrate, still photographer, Army Air Corps. Jack Greenhalgh, cameraman, Army Air Force. Ed Hogan, screen writer, Army. David Arvey, studio press agent, Army Air Force. Fred Friedman, radio producer, Army. Robert E. Lee, radio writer, Army. George Thomas, Jr., studio press agent, Army. Tom Anas, studio technician, Navy. (Continued on page 44)

N. Y. to L. A.

Whitcomb Bolton. Jack Cohn. Ted Cott. Charlie Einfield. Louis Gifford. L. Wolfe Gilbert. Andre Kostelanetz. Yella Frank. Harry Link. L. B. Mayer. Robert M. Lewis. Phil Perlberg. Mitchell Rowson. Louis Gifford. L. Wolfe Gilbert. Marian Shockley. Mrs. E. H. Schneider. Howard Strickling. Joe Schenck. Rocco Sisti. Hal Wallis. George Zachary. Bernice Zaonick.

L. A. to N. Y.

Phil Berg. John Brahm. Matty Fox. Florence Freedman. Leon Fromkes. Edward A. Golden. Yella Frank. Arthur Kober. Arthur S. Lyons. LeRoy Lee Mortimer. Harold M. Shaw. Florar Murr. Irving Repper. Charles Rosenberg. Major Alex P. DeSvernly. Bill Stern. Mrs. E. H. Schneider. Walter Schwartz. Mrs. E. H. Schneider. Orville Wallace.

Wait and See 25G Attitude

The current whodunit on the \$25,000 ceiling and what it does to contract renewals is being brushed off almost universally with what has now become a cliché: 'Oh, we can always rely on our stars to pull in, so don't let it worry about you.'

The mental reservation, and later audibly uttered in course of such palaver, is that the Byrnes edict may be kayored completely in January by the new Congress. And when that's what's afoot thinking, the general attitude is one of let's-wait-another-a-weeks.

D.C. Solons Plan 'Rider to Aid Move For Repeal of 25G Ceiling in Jan.

Washington, Dec. 15. Stage is being set on Capitol Hill for repeal of the \$25,000 net salary ceiling by the new Congress that convenes after the first of the year. During the past few days House finance leaders have been laying their plans for receding the salary limitation put into effect by the President's executive order. Finance leaders of the Senate were outspoken in their denunciation of the proposal to limit investment income and at the same time spoke of repealing the present salary limitation.

Part of the repeal proposed in the last few days by House finance leaders is to attach a "rider" to next year's Finance bill. It is considered an important piece of legislation. Strategy of attaching a rider to an important piece of legislation

Cues From D. C.

It appears likely that tax experts of the Joint Legislative Committee will justify the policies during 1943. This group is now preparing statistics and other material for use by members of the House Ways and Means and the Senate Finance committees.

As a result of the changed political situation, it appears likely that the recommendations of the Congressional tax experts will be followed more carefully, especially taking precedence over Treasury tax experts.

In East, H. M. Warner May Finally Dispose Of WB Newsreel Paraver

Harry M. Warner has arrived in New York and a final decision with regard to a newsreel from the company may be made at this time. Unless Warner succeeds in concluding the RKO-Pathe, the thought of a Warner reel will be dropped due largely to raw stock, technician and other problems. Harold S. Barford, assistant secretary of WB, stated at the annual stockholders meeting in Wilmington Monday (14) that the company had decided it was impractical to get out a newsreel for itself.

According to inside, RKO wants about \$5,000,000 for the Pathe newsreel. Originally Warner offered \$2,000,000.

Although some Warner executives have been chilly toward a newsreel since the beginning, Harry Warner is said to be difficult to discourage now. He has said he feels that newsreels now are too routine and that WB, if it had one, could do much additional good for the industry as well as aid the war effort in a larger measure than now.

Joseph H. Hazen, v.p. and attorney for Warner, returned to N. Y. Monday Dec. 15, and will probably be west to report to studio heads on his orientation course at Ft. Leavenworth, Kas., where he did in the east two weeks ago.

NATIONAL THEATRES MANPOWER PROBLEMS

Attention was again given for manpower problems at the meeting of National Theatres execs in New York last week. In from the Coast to confer with employes were Charles Skouras, Charles Buckley and Tom Page. Joe Schenck was also in from employes and mainly Charles Skouras, prior to 20th-Fox board of directors meeting scheduled for Dec. 22.

With some 350 men from the Fox West Coast circuit already in the employ of National Theatres as theatre managers on a more extensive scale appears likely. Women also have been employed mainly in subordinate posts in theatre operation—as ushers, assistant managers, restrooms, etc., but increasing manpower drain portends assignments to more important spots.

REPORT MELLETT OFFERING HELP

Coordinator of Gov't Films Understood As Suggesting That Sufficient Raw Stock Be Diverted From OWI and Victory Shorts Program For Proposed WPB 25% Slash

REELS 'ESSENTIAL'

Lovell Mellett is reported moving to avert a threatened reduction in newsreel production by diverting raw film stock allocations from Office of War Information and Victory shorts in sufficient quantity to make up for the newly proposed 25% War Production Board cut affecting newsreels, slated to become effective Jan. 1.

Move is considered unprecedented inasmuch as an official of Mellett's prominence is, according to all reports, placing results achieved through private enterprise, by a part or ahead of Government film activities. Mellett's action is also viewed as a spur, if any were needed, for increased cooperation from the film industry.

Mellett, from Systems, believes that newsreels, which are now virtually 100% attuned to the official OWI releases, as per Walter C. Amies' report before the War Activities Committee last Monday (12)—should not be curtailed. The Coordinator of Government Films has apparently found Mellett's views to be of great importance on the propaganda front, taking precedence even over official OWI releases.

Controversy over classification of 'March of Time' with 20th-Fox figuring it as a newsreel at the War Production Board taking the stand that it is a regular subject for which 20th shorts are film allocated for feature production, would thus be solved also if the Mellett suggestion is adopted, as appears likely.

\$250,000,000 Feet of Film Newsreels have until now been exempt from the WPB allocation regulations, but are slated to become subject to the same quota as (Continued on page 23)

War Manpower Commission to OK Pix Classifications As 'Essential'

Washington, Dec. 15. With the first few weeks of the War Manpower Commission will formally and publicly recognize the production of entertainment features as essential to the war effort. At the same time, WMC will certify to the Selective Service Bureau 11 occupational types of personnel engaged in the production of entertainment features as essential occupations.

The class of occupations WMC will certify are: animator, cameraman, cutter, equipment maintenance technician, floor manager, film editor, technician, process and effect technician, production set technician, production supervisor, sound engineer, technical writer, production set architect.

This list of 'critical occupations' in the entertainment picture industry was prepared by the Manpower Commission in response to a request by industry leaders by Dr. Collis Stockton, after weeks of consideration and discussion with representatives of the motion picture industry. It is understood that the list of occupational types submitted by the industry to WMC originally was lengthy one and covered about 75 occupations which the industry re-

Producers Seek Ruling Permitting Revision of Talent Pacts So Stars Would Work Full Year For \$67,200 Top

Nothing Official—Yet

No official regulations covering the downward revision in raw film stock allocations effective Jan. 1 have yet been received by film distributors. The 11 majors affected, however, are figuring schedules based on the verbal rulings handed down in consultation with War Production Board Officials in Washington recently.

New regulations, providing for the 25% reduction in raw stock for the first quarter in 1943 (as compared with 1941 consumption), are expected shortly.

IAITSE Anxious Over WMC Inroads on Show Labor; Many Over 38

While no general transfer of manpower in the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees appears an immediate prospect, the fact that the vast majority of its members are over 38 years old and thus might be conscripted for war industry or agricultural work is giving the I.A. some concern.

Anxiety is heightened by doubt in IA quarters on the one hand, as to whether union members in show business can be exempted as essential, and on the other, how replacement can be satisfactorily effected in the event that it becomes necessary on any scale of appreciable proportions in the I.A. some concern.

Richard F. Walsh, president of the I.A. and Louis Krouse, executive secretary, were in Washington on Friday (11) trying to find out what might happen. According to Walsh, the I.A. has a record with war industry figures in Washington but failed to come back with any concrete information. The I.A. had stated he and Krouse did not see Paul V. McNutt, head of the War Manpower Commission.

Surplus in N. Y. Though admittedly it is difficult to tell what may be appropriate (Continued on page 23)

Industry topers last week discussed revision of studio talent contracts with U. S. Treasury Department officials in Washington with a view to obtaining a ruling whereby the \$67,200 salary limit could be broken down on a weekly pro rata salary basis of approximately \$1,300. If establishment of such a formula, which Treasury officials have so far indicated is out of their province, stars would be obliged to turn out the usual number of pictures or more annually, or earn considerably less than the \$67,200 maximum allowed. Instead of being paid \$5,000 weekly, stars would be obliged to only \$1,300 weekly (if on the studio contract lists) and would thus have to work weeks instead of eight to ten \$40,000.

Under such a revision of contracts, for which producers are seeking a formula acceptable to the authority, stars on the studio contract would have to work a full year to earn a salary which may now be paid for a single picture. Freelance players, however, would be able to negotiate terms on single or multiple picture deals.

Apparently aware of the move by the producers to avert the rapidly approaching contract crisis via revisions, Screen Actors Guild officers have already been meeting to consider any attempt to put the \$67,200 ceiling on a weekly pro rata basis. SAG's first plan is to get stars from studios seeking to enforce pro rata salary terms.

John L. Sullivan, secretary of the Treasury, has already stated that his department could not act as an arbitrator or offer an opinion on the subject of an existing (Continued on page 23)

WB TO SELL 'ARMY' AT RECORD RENTAL TERMS

This is the 'Army' will be the highest percentage in the history of Warner Bros. Under plans, with the company figuring a rental of \$100,000 for the picture of 'Gone With the Wind.' 'Gone' got as much as 75% and was played at advanced admissions on a twice-daily basis when first made available.

WB expects to start filming of 'Army' Feb. 1, immediately after the work finishes its Los Angeles engagement. The picture is expected when people from the legit cast have completed their work in the film version. The show will go out on additional dates.

The Army is said to be interestingly gripping it going as long as possible.

Warner has not set up a budget to cover the production of 'This is Army' but in view of the fact lists is donated, the figure is expected to be \$1,000,000. Hal Wallis, who will produce, and Michael Curtiz, director, will go off to Hollywood to start filming. It is believed his share so that Army's production will get all the starry. Unions have to donate their time.

Warner is practically sure of Ginger Rogers for the 'Eliot Clark' and is angling to get Clark Gable, who will have to secure leave from the army in order to accept.

Wilkie's Talk Today

Strong turnout of show biz execs is expected for Wendell Wilkie's address at the annual meeting of the Conference of Christians and Jews to-day (Wed.) at the Astor Hotel, New York.

J. Robert Rubin, Metro, is handling invitations for industry.

ANOTHER 'CLARIFICATION' Reported that the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue may shortly issue a three-page clarification of the 21-page clarification of the wage and salary regulations issued last week.

Clarification was designed to decrease the chance of a Presidential veto if the repeal is proposed. A separate bill it is probable that the President would veto the measure. Where the rider is attached to a bill the President would have to veto the whole measure, since he cannot disapprove of any part of a bill. He has to accept or veto the bill in its entirety.

Proposal to attach a rider came from Representative Wm. C. Cramer, Oklahoma Democrat, who is a member of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. At the same time it was reported that the House Appropriations Committee was also weighing the advisability of attaching a repealer to the big Treasury-Post Office (Continued on page 23)

3 Boston Nitory Fire Victims Improve Fast. S. R. Dunlap Still NSG

Harry H. Thomas, in control of the sales franchises for the New York and Philadelphia areas, who was among those injured in the Coconut Grove nightclub fire in Boston, today (Wednesday). He will return to N. Y. but probably will take two weeks or longer to recuperate from his burns.

Steve Dunlap, producer of westerns for Mono, who's in the Boston City hospital, will remain there inactively, under the care of specialists obtained for him by Mono. He is coming along rapidly but his lungs were only slowly improving. He may never permanently heal, requiring Dunlap to follow a careful diet for the rest of his life. He is now able to take moderate food nourishment.

The condition of Herman Bitkin, Mono v.p. controlling the New England franchise, may be improved and he most likely will be on his feet before Dunlap is. Likewise Joe Grossberg, Boston branch manager for 20th-Fox, suffering from both burns and lung injury, is rallying nicely.

Fingerpointing at Well-Heated Theatres, Cafes Bothers Owners

Detroit, Dec. 15. Theatre owners here are beginning to get concerned over the odd turns that public opinion has taken since the matter of oil rationing. "What came into this 'voice of the people' sentiment of the news columns in these parts was the best that theatre, night club and bar racket could do to counter the effect of the general public could have over their homes.

While the gas rationing program for home conservation has been accepted readily enough, there has been plenty of squawking in the midst about fuel oil rationing. The entertainment spots don't like the idea of taking anything out of the whippings boys. Plenty of theatres and clubs have been closed down not only because they know what direction the future slashes will take—the report is that fuel oil allocations will be cut still further—if officials take note of the public clamor. They don't like such public cracks as "Why do we have to go to the theatres to keep warm... Even if we keep warm with liquor in the saloons, what are our children going to do?"

Exhibits Co-operation In Conserving Film Sought by U's Scully

Chicago, Dec. 15. Exhibitors should be made to understand the responsibility they must share in the conservation and the handling of the film. Mrs. A. Scully, general sales manager, Universal, told those at the district and national sales conference being held here last Friday (11) and Saturday (12). Scully stated that the reduction in positive film was a matter of vital concern to exhibitors as well as producers and distributors. Universal would use its sales force to educate exhibitors. She stated that the entire industry extending itself in every way to cooperate with the many emergencies arising from the war effort, he said, "nothing becomes more important than the exhibitor's complete understanding of the entire film conservation project. We believe that our sales organization can clarify for exhibitors many of the problems involved and it is for this reason that we will make a concerted effort through our entire sales organization to give the best information available on the subject to our exhibitors. We are convinced that extended playing time will greatly obviate some of the normal inconveniences that might arise under the present limitations."

Perlberg, Wurtzel Back To Coast This Week

East to o.s. 'Eve of St. Mark, on Broadway' and ex Dorothy McGuire, the original 'Claudia' in the picture, which he will direct for Fox, William Perlberg returns to the Coast tomorrow (Thursday). He leaves off one day to see his wife, with Miss McGuire, who will recreate her stage original in the film "Claudia" which will star the David O. Selznick deal. So Wurtzel is another 20th-Fox production executive returning this weekend, and Joe Schick was slated to return last night (Tuesday) to the company with "The Sign of Howard Strickling but is staying on a spell. Still another film exec to the Coast this weekend is Jack Coch, Columbia Pic's v.p., who departs Friday (15).

B'klyn 'Monoppy' Suit Da Pron's Hotfoot

A suit was filed in N. Y. supreme court yesterday (Tuesday) by the 39th Ave. Court, owner of the Gloria theatre, Brooklyn, to recover damages and attorney's fees from Randolph Amers, Corp., Louis Frisch, Sam Rinzler, William W. 20th-Fox, Warner, Paramount, RKO and Universal. Defendants are charged with "copying" in the Brooklyn area.

Studio Contracts

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Gunther Frisch inked shorts director contract at Metro. Lew Seawall signed by 20th-Fox. David Bruce shifted from Warners to Universal under a new player contract. Mike Simmons inked pact to script short subjects at Metro. Robert S. Baker handed screen writing ticket by 20th-Fox. Jennifer Hoyt's player ticket renewed by Metro. John Hubbard inked new two-picture pact with Republic. Charles Dickson signed to write serials at Republic. Mary McLeod drew player contract at Metro. Beila, ice skater, signed five-year player ticket at Monogram. Shirley Johnson's player option lifted by Columbia.

Ducking the Sluffs

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Exhibits here, trying to buy stuff studio to get over the pre-holiday slump, are getting a roughshod at exchanges. Filmmakers are holding back on reissues and oldies. They figure operators at retailing film will get better deals later on fresh product.

Suspected Incendiary Blaze Damages Globe Theatre, Holyoke, Mass.

Holyoke, Mass., Dec. 15. Two-alarm fire, believed to be of incendiary origin, damaged the Globe early Sunday (13) and spread first row of seats, burned and floor occupant of the Globe Association Bldg., 16-28 Suffolk street. Estimates place the total damage at \$30,000 with a replacement cost of about \$40,000. Chief John H. Rohan said origin was in a rear alleyway. The fire was running away from the building a short time before. The incendiary nature of the section was burned out and the sound equipment damaged beyond repair. The first row of seats were burned and the remainder scorched. Theaters in town are a test of the projection machinery and it was found to be in workable condition. The theatre was operated for many years by the late Dennis M. Reardon, a former professional baseball player and umpire. It is now conducted by the trustees of the Globe Theatre, assisted by Mrs. Josephine Reardon, his widow, and Mrs. Kathleen Weller. This was the second major theatre here here for incendiary fire at the Victory last January.

WURTZEL'S FORECAST Yet Producer's Emphasis On Stories And Funnies Casts

Envisioning a swing over to greater dependence on strong screen stories, as well as the use of new talent and more girls as a means of overcoming the loss of male stars, Sol M. Wurtzel, veteran executive producer with 20th-Fox, in N. Y. for home-office duties, expressed optimism over his ability of the industry to handle the man-power problem resulting from the war. He has been in town for about two weeks and plans returning to Hollywood this week. Wurtzel pointed to the manner in which the U. S. film business had overcome other difficult problems in the past as forecasting ability to handle the man-power situation. The inventory setup at the studios now permits a sufficient backlog of pictures to carry over for nearly a year, as well as allows most companies about 12 months to adapt themselves to the new situation, he said. "By that time, most producers hope to have developed new talent, adopted stories requiring less emphasis on young male stars or changed over to more stress on the story according to Wurtzel." "The 'Gee Hooey' and 'Doo-Gee' as illustrating how stories with large female casts can fill the gap.

Theatre Couldn't Open For Wayne, Ind. Dec. 15

Opening of a new picture house in the rolling mill district was prevented last week by job of the fire and building departments. The theatre, which the theatre was to be opened was not properly equipped with exits, and state regulations on exit lights and bolts on other safeguards had not been met. Cincinnati, Dec. 15. An echo of the blizzard which fire disaster sounded here Saturday (12) when its fire department inspected the building and found violations in the downtown section with violations of the city building code. Several exit lights and bolts on doors. Five persons involved are the Empire. Bill. State Queen and her friends. Penalties range for \$5 to \$500.

One of the bulge men in Hollywood is Louis Da Pron, dance director at Universal, who is creating new routines for the stage and playing a comic role in 'Solid Smiles' at the theatre.

His dance routine comes include "Senders," "Lies of Romance" and "He's My Guy."

Inside Stuff—Pictures

The possibility that it will be necessary to "curtail motion picture theaters" and to make a further cut in railroad traffic, in order to get fuel oil into homes, was mentioned by William Boyd, Jr., of the American Petroleum Industry Committee, in an interview with Earl Godwin on "Watch the World Go By" over the Blue Network. Boyd asserted he took the outlook for sufficient oil and gasoline in the west was too bright, even when the pipe line from Texas to Illinois is completed (a month or so) after the scheduled opening of the new line announced and a second "parallel" line was installed. He repeated that every possible building and home should "convert to coal."

Charlie Chaplin told a N. Y. Times man he was marked for assassination by a Japanese military clique in Tokyo in 1932, in explaining his hurried departure from the city over the Blue Network. Chaplin asserted he owes his life to the fact that the night he was scheduled to be slain he attended a wrestling match with a son of Premier Togo's. Inukushima, a Japanese agent, was scheduled to further foment war between Japan and the United States. The night the Black Dragon Society of Tokyo invaded the Premier's home and murdered him, Chaplin attended the wrestling match with the Premier's son. This was in May 1932. Chaplin further asserts when his name was found on a murder list prepared by the terrorists he fled Japan.

Water Wanger authored an article 'Hollywood and the Intellectuals,' in the Dec. 3 issue of The Saturday Review of Literature, in which he cited the great value of motion pictures during wartime. In this he pointed up the vast value of instructive and propaganda films.

Passing of Helen Westley makes the third great character actress to die in recent weeks. May Robson and Edna May Oliver were the other two distinguished thespians of stage, screen and radio.

Fox's N. Y. Office Party

20th-Fox's New York office party was held at the Astor hotel next Thursday afternoon (24). Spyro Skafar, business agent of professional executives will be on the receiving line. Kaveler Cugat's orchestra and other entertainment in charge of Jack Partington, of the Roxy theatre, in charge of professional entertainers. Some of the regular parties are being arranged in 22 bar offices.

BUDD'S PLAN TO MCNUITT AT WMC

The pattern covering wartime free-lance work has been developed in effect for some 600,000 workers in the Detroit zone last week and shortly to be applied nationally by Paul V. McNutt, head of the War Manpower Commission in Washington, who was devised during the World War by Ralph W. Budd, executive of Warner Bros.

Budd, now in charge of the personnel department of WB, was representative of the U. S. Employment Service for the Waterbury, Conn. district when World War I was being waged. He is now working on procedures that can be applied to the picture industry when it is necessary. This remains a secret so far.

When he was with the U. S. Employment Service, Budd originated what is known as the Waterbury plan which was credited with reducing labor turnover by 200% in 1918.

Budd submitted details of the system he invented to McNutt last July and was told that his plan was being studied for possible use in the picture industry as a current war measure. The details originated by Budd more than 25 years ago embraced a series of reports, records and the like to be used by the U. S. Employment Service, as well as by employers and employees. Data for record-keeping were to be developed on newly-employed workers and their employment records, those going out to other companies and cards for employers and workers to permit rehiring through the U. S. Employment Service. A certification card, credentials on leaving employ, etc.

The Budd plan proved highly effective in the World War I in holding workers to one job, averting continual traveling around in search of something better.

Before coming to Warners, Budd also was active in detective agency work for the U. S. War Relocation Authority and as mayor of Wyckoff, N. J., a job that did not interfere with his Warner circuit. Supreme Court Justice John F. Scales last Thursday (10) denied the motion of attorney Jack London, to represent himself for the reinstatement Mayor Fiorella LaGuardia and Police Commissioner Lewis Valentine from stopping bingo and domino games in New York's theatres. Judge Carlew ruled 'New York has not stopped a day of any annual the it is a good day' and the decision was affirmed.

Skouras Would Restrain Firm With Similar Name From 'Unfair' Competition

Skouras Theatre Corp., on Friday (10) filed suit for an injunction to restrain use of the name and for damages against Skouras Holding Corp. and John Skouras in N. Y. The Skouras Theatre, in its complaint alleges that the defendants, because of their use of the name, are unfairly competing with them. Skouras claims that it has 68 theatres in the metropolitan area and that the defendants plan to open theatres in the same sector. The defendants filed their certificate of incorporation in May, 1942.

YET PRODUCER'S EMPHASIS ON STORIES AND FUNNIES CASTS

Envisioning a swing over to greater dependence on strong screen stories, as well as the use of new talent and more girls as a means of overcoming the loss of male stars, Sol M. Wurtzel, veteran executive producer with 20th-Fox, in N. Y. for home-office duties, expressed optimism over his ability of the industry to handle the man-power problem resulting from the war. He has been in town for about two weeks and plans returning to Hollywood this week. Wurtzel pointed to the manner in which the U. S. film business had overcome other difficult problems in the past as forecasting ability to handle the man-power situation. The inventory setup at the studios now permits a sufficient backlog of pictures to carry over for nearly a year, as well as allows most companies about 12 months to adapt themselves to the new situation, he said. "By that time, most producers hope to have developed new talent, adopted stories requiring less emphasis on young male stars or changed over to more stress on the story according to Wurtzel." "The 'Gee Hooey' and 'Doo-Gee' as illustrating how stories with large female casts can fill the gap.

America's Top Humorists including

- Fred Allen
- Milton Berle
- George Jessel
- Joe Laurie, Jr.
- Gypsy Rose Lee
- Groucho Marx
- Ward Morehouse
- J. C. Nugent
- Louis Sobol
- H. Allen Smith
- Jerome Weidman

Show Business at War

37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Shorty Fleming Put On 3 Yr. Probation; Kaufman Trial On

Newark, Dec. 15. James Shorty Fleming, sentenced by Judge Van Ripper to serve six months in the Essex County penitentiary, but sentence was suspended. Fleming was put on probation for three years. He is to make restitution provided. Wurtzel pointed to the manner in which the U. S. film business had overcome other difficult problems in the past as forecasting ability to handle the man-power situation. The inventory setup at the studios now permits a sufficient backlog of pictures to carry over for nearly a year, as well as allows most companies about 12 months to adapt themselves to the new situation, he said. "By that time, most producers hope to have developed new talent, adopted stories requiring less emphasis on young male stars or changed over to more stress on the story according to Wurtzel." "The 'Gee Hooey' and 'Doo-Gee' as illustrating how stories with large female casts can fill the gap.

New By Laws Protect WB Officials Vs. Suits

A resolution to amend the by-laws of Warner Bros., indemnifying any officers or directors of the company in liability under suits which name them as individuals, was passed at the annual meeting of the company on Monday (14) in Wilmington, Del. This action follows at a somewhat late date on the heels of the Georgia E. Browne-Willie Bloch convictions and stockholder actions that were brought against the company. Warner personally responsible for extortion money handed out. Similar suits will be brought against other film companies.

At the annual meeting in Wilmington the directors of the company expire Dec. 31, were reelected. They are Stanleigh P. Friedman, v.p. and attorney Joseph H. Hazzard, president and member of the legal staff; Samuel Carisle, assistant treasurer; Morris Wolf, Philadelphia attorney; and presenting Warners there; and Charles S. Guggenheimer, banker. The board of directors members have another year to go and include Harry M. Jack and Major Albert Berman, president of the company, and Catchings and Robert W. Perkins. Election of officers of WB for the coming year will be held late today (Wed.), under terms, by the board of directors. No changes are expected.

Tax Consultant in LATSE Mess Convicted by N. Y. Federal Jury

After deliberating an hour, a N. Y. federal district court jury late yesterday (15) convicted Martin A. Hirsch, a tax consultant of Brooklyn, N. Y., who was placed on trial on charges of perjuring himself to frustrate an inquiry into funds of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees. Hirsch faces a maximum sentence of two years in prison, plus a fine of \$2,000. On motion of Boris Koteliansky, assistant U. S. attorney, Judge Alfred C. Cox, who presided at the trial, granted a motion to defer sentence until Dec.

Hirsch can be of great assistance in the film industry racketeer investigation. Koteliansky explained to the court.

Testimony during the two-day trial showed that Hirsch, 43, of corner U. S. Treasury Department area, had been convicted and jailed for four months back in 1935 on a \$10 extortion involving an income taxpayer. It was further disclosed that he had posted bail of \$10,000 for Arthur 'Tootsie' Herbert, chicken market racketeer.

Hirsch was described by Koteliansky as a "well known" \$55,000 a year racketeer, former associate of Brock Dean, former agent of the IATSE.

He said the false statement attributed to Hirsch concerned his disbursement of \$10,000 in 1935 to him after \$10,000 had been deducted by the Government to cover a tax imposed on Hirsch. Hirsch pleaded guilty to extortion charges. Case is outgrowth of Federal grand jury's IATSE sweep and subsequent conviction of George E. Browne and Willie Bluff for extorting large amounts of money from the film industry. Dean was a first defendant in case.

SOPEG AND PAR NEGOTIATING

Negotiations between the Screen Office of Professional Employees Guild and Paramount, covering wild-coliarities in the Par home office music subsidiaries, will begin tomorrow (Thursday) in New York. This follows a preliminary report a few minutes held last week, at which union and Par representatives met each other.

The demands of SOPEG have not been made public, it is expected that a minimum 10% increase, retroactive last spring, may be made, plus provisions for severance pay, as obtained from other majors.

Arthur Israel, Jr., executive assistant to Barney Balaban, president of the company, and Paul Ratbourn, head of the statistical department who handles certain executive matters also for Balaban, will represent Par in the negotiations. Dave Golden, president of SOPEG, and Phil Phelan, organizer, will sit in for SOPEG.

'Birthday' 1st Tinter For Lubitsch at 20th

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Ernst Lubitsch, director of his first Technicolor picture in 'Birthday', slated to roll late in January at 20th Fox. Studio now has five tinters on its future slate in addition to two in work.

'Birthday' the future colored films are "Flin Fish," Greenwich Village, "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" and "Big of Paradise." In production are a "Coney Island" and "Hello, Hello."

Seton Miller, Producer

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Paramount signed Seton I. Miller, former scripter, to a producer-writer contract and gave him his choice of six stories for his first production job.

Miller's last writing work was 'Heart of the City', produced by Lester Cowan.

U WINS CAIN'S PLAGIARISM SUIT

Hollywood, Dec. 15.

James R. Cain lost his plagiarism suit against Universal when the Federal court ruled that the studio's 'Come' was not lifted from his book, 'Serenade.' The judge overruled the studio's contention that Cain's book is not amenable to copyright because it is immoral and sacrilegious. Another ruling by Judge Leon R. Yorkovich stated the scenarist is responsible for the story of a picture up to the time of two years after the film's last release. Contended by defense attorneys it is now more than two years since the script was written, which exempted the scenarist under the statute of limitations.

Hayites Meet Thurs.

Meeting of the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors Assn. directorate, originally scheduled for last Dec. 9, will be held tomorrow (Thursday). Charles F. Cox, MPDPA vice-president, arrived in N. Y. yesterday (Tuesday) for the session.

Besides passing on the MPDPA budget for 1943, selection of an industry public relations spokesman will fill the spot vacated by Eddie Rodden, now in the service, and the matter of several public relations representatives in the field may come up for consideration.

Now What'll We Call It

Hollywood, Dec. 15. 'Forever Yours', the Deanna Durbin starlet at Universal, washed up the production schedule after five months of shooting.

Now the studio is hunting a new title for releasing purposes. There is a legal technicality in the clearance of 'Forever Yours.'

BLUMENFELD-McNERNEY WORKING OUT WB DEAL

Joe Blumenfeld and D. J. McNERNEY, operators of the first group of five Warner pictures this season, the company sold the second batch, under a better deal, to the F.W.C. chain. The third group of five from Warners is in negotiation and so far as Blumenfeld is concerned remains under discussion.

From the Warner side, it appears that the sale of film in the San Francisco area is a question of the best possible terms as well as outlet; same deal with the F.W.C. people. Blumenfeld is concerned remains under discussion. Warners, who formerly had sold all of F.W.C. stock over its product to the Blumenfeld chain three years ago when it was having a product sale with the F.W.C. people. Blumenfeld string was then smaller than it is now. At present, with recent takeover of the T. & D. theatre in Oakland, it has 23 houses.

U Sells Two to F.W.C.

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Pantages-Hillstreet combo is so loaded with future bookings that Universal, whose pictures the houses received, have waived 'Arabian Night' and 'Pittsburgh.'

A deal was immediately closed with Fox-West Coast, filling three-day date at Chinese, State and Ritz.

Garfield Farmed Out

Hollywood, Dec. 15. John Garfield, recently suspended by Warners, goes back on the payroll as loanout to co-star with Maureen O'Hara in 'The Fallen Sparrow' at RKO.

Robert Foy produces, Wallace Roberts, stars, in January.

Further Cut in Gas Allowances May Bring About Extra Exchanges

Take a humorous journey with

Al Jolson

in his entertainment treatise to U. S. servicemen's overseas bases

'Show Business at War'

37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

STUDIO UNIONS PLEDGE NO STRIKES

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Resolution banning all strikes in the film industry for the duration of the war, adopted by the Conference of Studio Unions through the medium of endorsing a no-strike policy of the AFL. The IATSE will arbitrate disputes and the Conference will use Government agencies in settling controversies with studios.

Both organizations control nearly 20,000 studio workers. The few indie organizations not represented have no-strike clauses in their contracts with producers.

'Cover' Credits Cohn

Hollywood, Dec. 15. For the first time in a long period Harry Cohn is assigning personal producer credit to himself in the forthcoming Columbia picture, 'Cover Girl.'

Rita Hayworth starlet is being hustled through the writing mill for early production, with Paul Gangelin and Marion Parmont scripting Erwin Gelsey's story.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE
37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER
of
VARIETY
To Be Published Late In December

Special Advertising Rates Prevail
Special Exploitation Advantages
Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK	HOLLYWOOD	CHICAGO	LONDON
154 W. 46th St.	1708 No. Vine St.	54 W. Randolph St.	8 St. Martin's Pl.

A problem ever since gas rationing began in 18 eastern states earlier this year, the 25% reduction in the allowance to holders of the 'A' cards, and the 10% reduction in the amount of the gas restrictions to the entire country recently are creating plenty of alarm in distribution quarters.

Situation is so acute with traveling by salesman now cut by 50% and more that reported distributors will be forced to open extra exchanges, reducing the size of territories.

While salesmen are reported to have been chiseling as much as they could up to now, in order to keep their cars rolling, in covering smaller territories such as around New York, it has recently become almost impossible to get renewals of 'C' cards. This has left the film peddler with only 'A' and 'B' cards, entitling them to eight gallons a week. Together with the new cut under the 'A' cards from four to two gallons weekly, the indications that 'C' cards are out for all sellers in the future, it appears that exchange rates for "over-accounts" in the past.

Further Cut
While on the one hand it is reported in industry quarters that the rationing of gas in covering territories relax on gasoline for salesmen, on the other hand Saul Herzog, attorney for the dealers, is expected to call a Dealers Conference, predicts an even further reduction from the allowance under 'A' and 'B' cards as of Dec. 1.

A proposal is said to have been made that the rationing of gas for men of all kinds that would roll a car 7,000 miles on the year or an allowance of 100 gallons of gas used last year, whichever is smaller. This would help somewhat, should it be adopted. There are over 700,000 traveling salesmen in the 'U' States.

As prevalent under the 'A' and 'B' cards, entitling salesmen to seven gallons weekly, the peddler can travel only 40% of miles a week, based upon getting 15 miles to the gallon. Many in the past have traveled more than that in one day.

Question of further allowance in gas for sellers brings up the matter of whether the recipient is rationing gas for his own use or for defense manufacture is one thing while a salesman handling film or an exploitation man is another.

May Mean Larger Blocks

Problem may result in the selling of larger blocks than five, as being pursued by some distributors, so that it will not be necessary to cover accounts as often. However, even in covering given territories, salesmen pointed out, the car problem is a previous one.

Pointed out that in such large territories as those sold out of exchanges in Boston, Atlanta, Minneapolis, Dallas and Salt Lake City, salesmen will not be able to scratch the warrent by automobile with the Dec. 1 rationing blanketing the entire country. This also goes for exploitation men, many of whom cover several exchange zones.

Trains and buses, now being used to some extent along the eastern seaboard and elsewhere, will also be relied upon in much greater measure, but due to the heavy transportation load now being carried, many difficulties crop up in that direction, also.

Additionally, in the larger, less-populated exchange zones, railroad and bus service is not as extensive in certain parts of the country, even if seats can be obtained. Not only that, but there are many smaller towns not penetrated by railroads, and dubious bus or other service must be depended upon. This will involve areas of the country, with salesmen in many cases forced to lay over in various towns rather than be able to go on to the next town, as would in their cars when able to light out for another town at will.

The average salesman in the past has been burning up a car a year, with result the wear and tear on the gas rationing, making it almost impossible to have a lot of them in questionable operating shape.

A SMASH OPENING... AND THE FIFTH DAY BIGGER THAN THE FIRST!

World Premiere Engagement Breaks Every Record at the Princess Theatre, Montreal!

FRANK BUCK

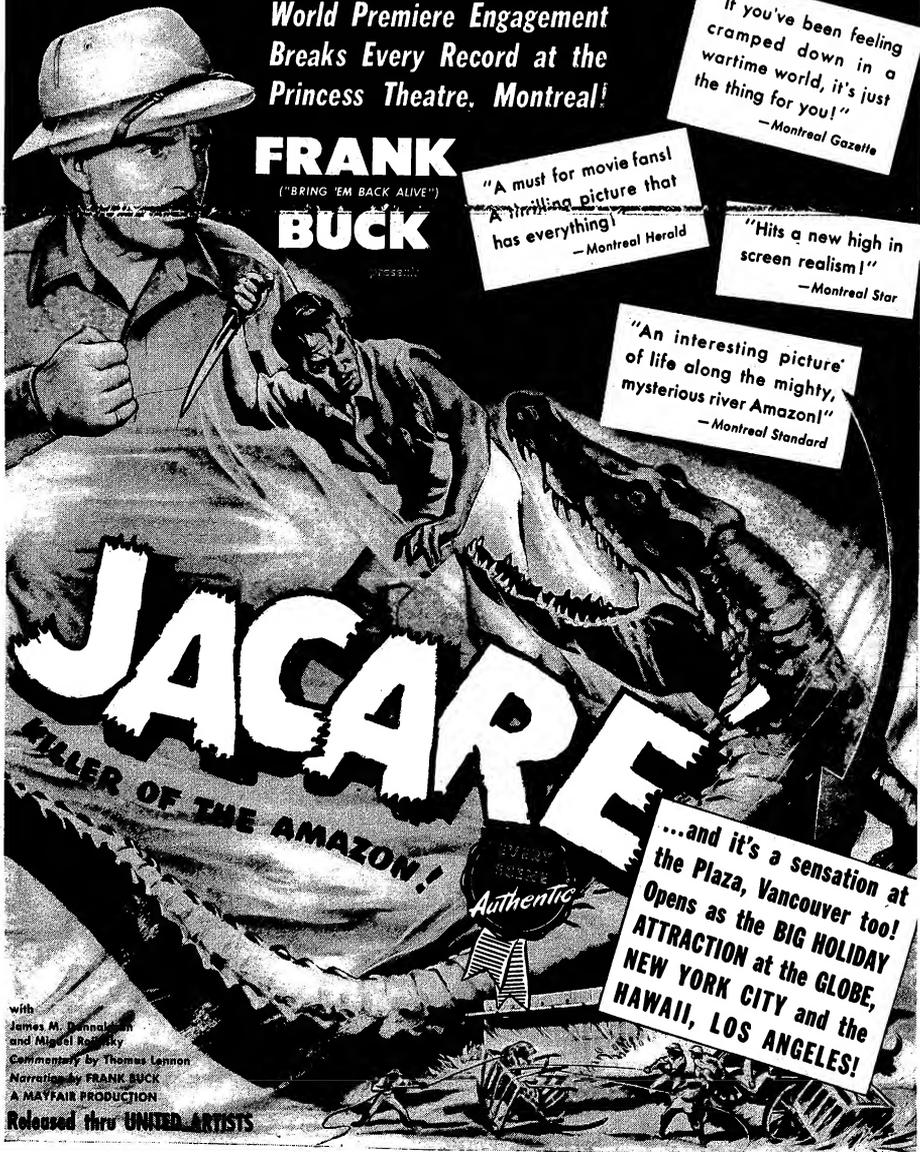
("BRING 'EM BACK ALIVE")

"A must for movie fans! A thrilling picture that has everything!"
—Montreal Herald

"If you've been feeling cramped down in a wartime world, it's just the thing for you!"
—Montreal Gazette

"Hits a new high in screen realism!"
—Montreal Star

"An interesting picture of life along the mighty, mysterious river Amazon!"
—Montreal Standard

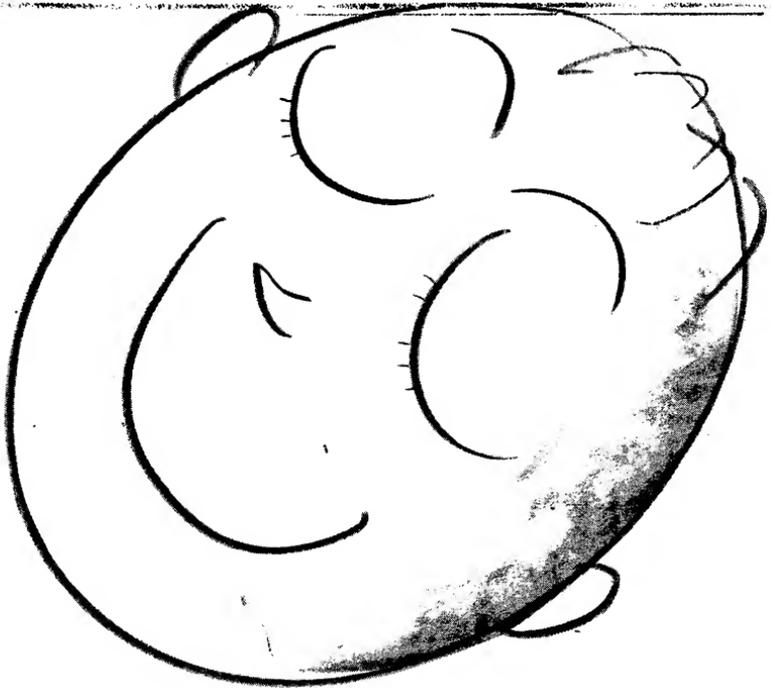


...and it's a sensation at the Plaza, Vancouver too! Opens as the BIG HOLIDAY ATTRACTION at the GLOBE, NEW YORK CITY and the HAWAII, LOS ANGELES!

with James M. Dannahefer and Miguel Roaigky
Commentary by Thomas Lennon
Narration by FRANK BUCK
A MAYFAIR PRODUCTION

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

I'm dreaming of
a Warner Xmas



Which one will you have, Men?

'YANKEE DOODLE DANDY'! 'CASABLANCA'! 'GEO. WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE'!
'GENTLEMAN JIM'! 'FLYING FORTRESS'! 'NOW, VOYAGER'! 'YOU CAN'T ESCAPE
FOREVER'! 'DESPERATE JOURNEY'! 'ACROSS THE PACIFIC'! *Next* → 'AIR FORCE'!

Morocco Socko \$30,000, Leader In Frisco; Falcon-Slack Stout \$25,000

San Francisco, Dec. 15. New entries at the first runs are... Morocco Socko... Falcon-Slack Stout...

Key City Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week... (Based on 28 cities, 182 theaters)...

Done It Pacemaker In Seattle, Huge 15G, Despite Biz Decline

Seattle, Dec. 15. The effect of gasoline rationing plump is knocking down grosses all over the country...

'Loverly' Lively \$27,500 in 2 L.A. 'Slops But Life at 8:30; Morocco Big 2 1/2 G, 3d In 3 Houses; Morocco Big 2 1/2 G, 3d

Broadway Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week... (Based on 27 cities, 184 theaters)...

Los Angeles, Dec. 15. Trade currently is holding up fairly well... Morocco Big 2 1/2 G, 3d...

'MOROCCO' BIG 19G IN BALTO

Baltimore, Dec. 15. There's a slight seasonal lull but the strong production is offsetting any serious inroads...

'MAJOR' WOW 18G, D.C., 2D

Washington, Dec. 15. Xmas is putting the bite on the boxoffices currently. 'Major and 'Mum's Tomb'...

Flying Tigers Suitable \$16,500 in Oke Newark; 'Cargo' Wham at 18 1/2

Newark, Dec. 15. Combo of Hedy Lueder and 'White Cargo' has the SRO sign at the first run...

NATONAL OFFICE SURVEY

Business hit the slacks in many localities this week. gas rationing, usual Xmas shopping and storms being singled out for blame...

Gas Rationing, Bad Weather, Pre-Xmas Buying Blamed For Offish Theatre Biz—'Cargo' Best Currently

\$23,000 in Boston, strong second Det. week, pert fifth Chi session and die in Denver and Buffalo. MANY NEWCOMERS FARE BADLY...

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Washington, Dec. 15. Xmas is putting the bite on the boxoffices currently. 'Major and 'Mum's Tomb'...

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Washington, Dec. 15. Xmas is putting the bite on the boxoffices currently. 'Major and 'Mum's Tomb'...

HEDY NICE \$17,000 IN N. J.; 'RANGERS' DITTO

Jersey City, Dec. 15. 'White Cargo' at Loew's is garnering the top coin this week...

'CARGO' PICKS UP SPEED

A bit uneven in the previous week, 'Cargo' is getting \$20,500 to lead St. Louis, nice in Indianapolis, pretty \$17,000 in Providence...

'CARGO' PICKS UP SPEED

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'MAJOR' WOW 18G, D.C., 2D

Washington, Dec. 15. Xmas is putting the bite on the boxoffices currently. 'Major and 'Mum's Tomb'...

Hot Sands For Anne

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Anne Baxter shifts from 20th-Fox to Paramount...

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食笋者毋忘种竹之人

CHINESE EPIGRAM:

**"WHEN EATING
SPROUTS REMEMBER
THE MAN WHO
PLANTED THEM!"**

American Translation:

**"Healthy box-offices
enjoy a steady diet
of Vitamin M-G-M!"**



HEADLINES OF LEADERSHIP!

★ **"REUNION IN FRANCE" NEW M-G-M SCOOP!**

Perfect timing for a breath-taking drama of the underground movement in France! Showmanship brings you France in revolt! (*Joan Crawford, John Wayne, Philip Dorn*).

★ **"STAND BY FOR ACTION" TERRIFIC SEND-OFF!**

Variety says: "Robert Taylor, Charles Laughton, Brian Donlevy, marquee brilliance. Will smack theatre box-offices for heavy grosses and hold-overs." *Showmen's Trade Review* says: "For entire family. A natural. Stand by for box-office action." *Hollywood Reporter* says: "Box-office depth bomb. Has everything for top grosses." *Film Daily* says: "Stirring, patriotic, solid box-office entertainment."

★ **"KEEPER OF THE FLAME" PREVIEW SENSATION!**

Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn return to your box-office with an even greater hit than "Woman of the Year." That was the consensus of opinion of this week's preview audience that sat enthralled and tense at this best-seller on the screen!

★ **"RANDOM HARVEST" STARTS MUSIC HALL CAREER!**

Preceded by the biggest promotion campaign within industry memory Ronald Colman — Greer Garson in "Random Harvest" captures show world attention at famed Radio City Music Hall. (*The unique magazine campaign is the talk of the industry!*)

★ **"FOR ME AND MY GAL" • "WHITE CARGO" SRO HITS!**

Continuing their record-breaking pace in big cities, small towns, they're hold-over delights because they're what the public wants!

GIVE BONDS
FOR A
RED, WHITE
AND BLUE
XMAS!

Metro-GOLDMINE-Mayer

Philly Biz Takes Dive but 'Gal' OK \$16,500 on 2d; 'Birds' Meagre \$13,500

Philadelphia, Dec. 15. The bottom appears to have dropped out of theatrical grosses being caused by Xmas spending...

Estimates for This Week: Atlanta (WB) (1,300; 34-45-57-68-73)...

'FIND YOU' TOPPER IN OHAMA, 'Gal' \$16,500

Omaha, Dec. 15. Omaha with 'Somewhere I'll Find You' is doing stand-out business this week...

'Cargo-Trail' Okay 20G Dual, Brooklyn

Brooklyn, Dec. 15. Strongest of the attractions in downtown sector of the city...

Major Torrid \$16,200. Port.; 'Rangers' \$13,000

Portland, Ore., Dec. 15. Pre-Christmas slump is felt in some spots but business is better than usual for this season...

'Rookies' Tall \$11,000. Topper in Mid Mpls.; 'Tank Eton' So-So 7-8G

Minneapolis, Dec. 15. Approach of Christmas, cold weather and possibly gossamer rationing are getting in their ticks...

'Navy' Scandals' Unit Hot \$20,000 In Sagging Pitt.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Side here really getting it from all sides here this week...

'Swan' Solid \$11,000 In Indpls.; 'Cargo' \$10,800

Indianapolis, Dec. 15. Pre-Christmas slump is on here with business picture spotty at day...

'Cargo' Hot \$20,500 In St. Louis; 'Swan' 12-6G

St. Louis, Dec. 15. 'White Cargo' is big at Lowe's and will be the best grosser...

'Bambi' - 'Surgeon' Brisk \$15,000 In Det.; 'Wings' 18G, 'Rockies' 22G, 2d

Detroit, Dec. 15. Christmas shopping and gas rationing to slight extent are denting loop grosses here but not in line...

'Whistling' Off-Key \$8,500 In Cincinnati

Cincinnati, Dec. 15. Yule shopping and gas rationing are giving the theatres a bad time...

'S'wan' Midish \$9,000 In L'ville; 'Cargo' 12G

Louisville, Dec. 15. Takings are far from terrific this week, but everything considered they are still maintaining a profitable...

Estimates for This Week

Brown (Fourth Avenue-Low's) (1,800; 15-30-40)...

Estimates for This Week: Adams (Baltimore) (1,700; 50-65)...

Estimates for This Week: Atlanta (WB) (1,300; 34-45-57-68-73)...

Indie Exhibs Now Loading Up On Lesser Film For Fear of Shortage

While it appeared inevitable that numerous independent exhibitors would be hard hit on production fronts this year because of the number of holdovers and long extended runs in key spots, paradoxically the indie distributor, however, did not figure to benefit from such situation, has not done so.

As the last fall independent distributors obtained numerous product deals (this also was true of regular distributors) selling in blocks-of-five) be certain exhibitors wanted to maintain steady operations. There is no such thing this season. With nothing to purchase before they had buying blocks before being screened and no cut-and-dried stipulation on buying underwritten this season, indie exhibitors to book up loads of indie product is lacking.

With many indie exhibitors this year it is not a matter of deals for product but when such offers do come will be available for them to show in their theatres. This has resulted from the huge increase in first-run and second-run spots plus the length of extended runs in such areas.

Attitude of the distributor, especially those with many circuits, is not as liberal as that he is entitled to get as much playing time as he can out of the exhibitor. When it is realized that he obtains the bulk of his total film rental from such accounts, it can be seen how he considers good business for him to run a picture out of first-run theatres simply as a matter of course. Stronger product in some instances, coupled with stronger benefits resulting from increased attendance and fewer flow of money, has hiked the number of holdovers and extended runs in key distributor feels, of course, is no fault of his.

The Film Element
In recent months the situation has become so bad that numerous indies have felt fortunate if they had any picture to exhibit. With a couple of weeks playing time added to first-run accounts before they are scheduled and additional time being put along all around the line, the subsequent-run accounts figuring in the picture feature within a month now discovers it is nearly two months before it reaches him. As a result, a number of reactions will start getting out to the subsequent indies but even then they are convinced the pictures will be badly milked.

Probably the prize example of what the situation is going to independent operators, even in larger theatres, cropped out in Brooklyn recently. A deluxe indie cinema, rarely well known for the quality of screen fare and its A operation plus NKO product for one half and split with the other half, is now a weak indie picture the first half of the week and the second half of the last half. It is the first time the theatre ever played a foreign-made picture.

Another house in that neighborhood which has shown this year a major company production in the 1942-43 lineup is the season. It is where in Greater New York exhibitors are cropping out in even more dramatic fashion. Circuit exhibitors struggle to make up for programs. The slow clearance for subsequent runs is producing the expected thing, a concerted demand by these exhibitors that the value of product has been considerably diminished if they have to wait three or four weeks longer to play the picture after it has finished first-run accounts.

Fremen Rule Out Lobby Tinsel As Too Hazardous
Because of the extreme care in safeguarding night clubs, theatres in the place of the lobby are now an aftermath of the Boston Cough-Grove disaster, the elaborate lobby arrays are being United Artists for the opening of 'Jacare' at the Globe, N. Y. was ruled out by the Boston dealers for the annual array in the theatre lobby hazardous.

The array was lined up at a cost of about \$2,000.

Warnerites to Coast

Charles Einfield left New York Friday (11) for the Coast accompanied by Mitchell Roemer, a publicity director, and Whitney Bolton, liaison publicity representative between indie and Warner. Bolton will return east in January for the premiere of 'Air Force' at the Hollywood circuit for sometime between 8 and 15.

H. B. Wallis, who left N. Y. for Cincinnati on Thursday (10) to confer with Irving Berlin on filming 'This Is the Army,' arrived on the Coast over the weekend and will immediately start preparing a production of 'Army.'

Anyway, Sol Lesser And Chita Got Plenty Of Free Press Space

Washington, Dec. 13. Office of Economic Stabilization here today announced that it will allow Hollywood's controversy concerning Chita, the Tarzan chimpanzee.

Story from Hollywood is that Sol Lesser, who is making a film starring Chita and Johnny Weismuller, reports that when it was learned that Chita is an animal or actor, Lesser announced that he was getting in touch with Economic Stabilization Director James F. Byrne to get a ruling straight from Washington.

At Byrne's White House office it was said that if the matter is brought to them it will be tossed right back to Hollywood. Hugh Duckert, chief of the animal stabilization office for the area that embraces Hollywood, is supposed to know all about the animal and its behavior, and also about the safety regulations that affect them.

GIVE MARINES OPENING 48-HOUR RADIO BALLY

Contrasted with having to run a complete ad-publicity-exploitation campaign before the public, March 2 of 20th Century Fox undertook an intensive spot radio bally for the Dec. 12 New York opening of 'We Are the Marines,' second feature made by M. T. Result was that Hal Roach and Albert Sinden, stars of the picture, were featured in Time, respectively, and Jack Pegler, of Lord & Thomas, lined up some 400 radio spots. The picture is on N. Y. radio stations, all aligned to broadcast in 48 hours. Many of the spots were made by the Brook Van Voorhis, known as the 'Mark of Time' voice.

The picture, which preceded opening of 'Marines' at the Globe theatre included special interviews with the film's writer, Arthur Loeb, Jack Glenn, director of the film. Special break for the picture on the Dec. 12 N. Y. network show was spotted Thursday (10) night.

Metro's Slick Mag Ads

Metro inaugurated an unusually smart slant in its advertising treatment of 'Random Harvest' in 13 national papers. Instead of the usual, versally-accepted style of layout, the displays actually simulate a copy of the magazine in which the copy appears. The text written by the flight writers of those mags, such as 'Flight Bidwin in Ladies Home Journal' and 'The Duke of York' in 'Ladies' Saturday. Octavus Roy Cohen in Collier's and Rex Stout in the 'New Yorker' were the authors of the art. The magazines selected have a combined readership of 1,200,000.

'Voodoo' Got 'Em

Memphis, Dec. 13. Ben Rogers, student assistant manager at the Warner, was slightly injured Saturday night when a crowd of people tried to jam their way into the Warner for a special midnight showing of 'Voodoo' during the regular late feature.

Pressure from a crowd that extended all the way across the Mississippi river in the brookside window, a piece of it landing in Rogers' eye. An usher also suffered a broken eye.

Dimout Juice Saving Nil Compared to Theatre Loss in Advertising

Although it was believed among theatre operators that dimout regulations would be relaxed, especially during the winter months when there is less danger of air raids, the retentive attitude of the Metropolitan Police is being their, as in New York, still does not effect much saving in costs of juice, according to several estimates.

Operators, as well as engineers, point out that the saving may run into minor amounts to several hundred dollars, but that whatever is saved is more than offset by the cost of advertising in the form of signs or marquee. Thus, while a theatre might save on electricity and bulbs, it may be losing twice as much in business due to the dimouts.

According to a film engineering source, the reduction in the use of electric power may be averaging about 8% for theatres. However, the amount of power varies in accordance with the number of daylight hours when used and may be in operation; also in line with the amount used for cooling systems. Some theatres require less power in the summer than in other years, making comparisons difficult.

There are many theatres that are burning more juice on marquees, outer signs and in lobbies than prior to the dimout. The amount of power increases the increase in electricity rates, though pointed out that where private utilities are supplying power, the cost is generally higher. In New York City, one-cent and a fraction is the lowest rate at which juice can be obtained, cost ranges up to 16, with a result a cutdown in the amount of power desired in the cost per kilowatt hour. In other words, a theatre, now using less than one kilowatt, may be paying a cent or more per kilowatt, thus jarring up the figures and making it hard to make a comparison.

In the summer, more power is used from cooling systems, because signs and marquee can be kept on much longer than in December when days are shortest.

Pic P.A.'s in Service Retain Guild Rights

Hollywood, Dec. 13. Film press agents who have entered full-time service with the picture industry are members of the Screen Publicists Guild, under a referendum now in progress to retain their rights. The Guild will not interrupt the active membership of any member of the Screen Publicist Guild in the event of a start of such service. There shall be no suspension of dues and assessments of members who are temporarily transferred to full-time membership meetings shall be sent to all members in war service.

2-for-1's in Rock

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 15. Rochester theatre men are reported stirred up over 2-for-1 tickets sold in the city by the theatre owned by Howard Karolik, Strand. The tickets, which may be had for the asking, are for the first two showings Wednesdays and Thursdays for two persons on payment of a single admission ticket. The tickets are now in use, making actual cost of admission 75c, whereas regular price is \$1.50. The Strand has 'Big Bug' Tuesdays and Fridays.

Not Essential' Exhib-Distributors Go More 'n' More for 'Emes

Since the exhibition and film distribution branches of the picture business are not likely to find many of the customary 'bread and butter' industries, under which the War Manpower Commission has placed major circuits and districts are prepared to increase their manpower during the coming months by more general employment of women.

All reports from circuit operators indicate that the problem also is finding adequate manpower for theatres which has reached an acute stage since the war. The film industry has been hit hard in executive posts. Apart from the drain on manpower from military service, film execs also anticipate additional loss of manpower when the P.M.C. calls up all white workers from non-essential to essential industries.

Various Government officials have already issued several warnings employers to arrange now to take over jobs of such quality as possible. The film industry manager, however, meantime, has drawn up a list of studio workers considered essential to the industry, including cameramen, film cutters, sound engineers, grip, electricians, and animators. The list of the best workmen reported in Variety, were that these workers are not advertising in the industry. Among those included in the list are technicians, cameramen, film cutters, sound engineers, grip, electricians, and animators. The list of the best workmen reported in Variety, were that these workers are not advertising in the industry. Among those included in the list are technicians, cameramen, film cutters, sound engineers, grip, electricians, and animators.

'Chappie' Chaps Out

St. Louis, Dec. 15. The sale of the Saunders, Harvard, Ill., to the B.K. & K. Theatre Co., has the capacity for 15 years. Chapin who was connected with the theatre for 15 years. In 1907 he began as a prop boy and succeeded as usher, projectionist, and stage manager. His successor is Louis Simonini, B.K. & K. Theatre Co., and operates a house at Hinsdale, Ill. Hilda Chavontone has succeeded Paul Meadows as manager of the theatre. Spring Valley, Ill. Russell is also a member of the staff. Pasquale Maggini, manager of the Town, Prophetstown, Ill., sporting a Stetson hat, succeeded in securing the job of manager of the theatre.

The Empress, Decatur, Ill., 100% facilitating.

D. M. Dillenbeck the new manager of the Empress, Decatur, Ill., formerly was associated with the State Theatre. He recently received a citation for outstanding theatre management during the war. He is the manager of 1942 McGovern & Arvin giving their Ritz, Dec., Ill., facilitating job.

Mr. Geo. Meulstein, Salt Lake City, Dec. 13. Roxey (Foley) Brigham, who temporarily without manager since manager of the Empress resigned to become mortician.

Joe Anstad's Love Worcester, Dec. 15. Gertrude Tracy for setting up as assistant manager of Loew's Poli Palace in Pittsburgh. Tracy has been for many years manager of the Loew's Poli Palace. Ansted granted Tracy a license to manage the theatre. Foley of Worcester promised to assist in the effort to have Tracy, Poli manager, vice Miss Tracy.

Luella Beahy Albany, Dec. 15. C. J. Latta, New York City, film manager for Warner Bros. Theatres, the new Chief Barker of the Albany Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., who has been the post of assistant zone manager of the theatre. Latta, who has been the first Chief Barker under the reorganized setup, was tipped to succeed in the city. Latta is the son of G. Golding, Golding, divisional manager of the theatre. Latta advanced from first assistant to chief when Silver went to Pittsburgh.

George Smith, western division chief manager for Paramount, has returned to his desk after a lengthy tour of duty in the film fields.

Writes Back from Toronto Warner's sales executive returned to the homeoffice Monday (14) after the short-term assignment in Toronto at which plans were laid for a special Canadian selling drive to bring in the Christmas season on the border, a first prize of \$1,000 was awarded to the winner. (Continued on page 19)

Eastman, who was an assistant Barker, became a key figure. Joseph Shuman, former divisional bookseller, has been chosen secretary. These offices are under the management of Alexander of 200-Fox, Artie Newman of Republic, Paul S. Krumenacker of United Artists, and an assistant zone manager of Warner Bros. Theatres, who has been the head booker in the WB zone office here, comprise the board of directors.

Parsons associates gave luncheon Friday (11) to Ed Sullivan, head of the photographic department, who presided at the luncheon.

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Axis Propagandists Give the Switch to UA's OK Bally on Coward Pic

Elimination ordered by the Hays office last Wednesday (12) declared a controversy between the Italians and United Artists, the U. S. distributors of the British propaganda picture, 'The Italian Job,' which has drawn attention during the past week from the short-term contractors on both Italy and Spain. The picture was by the latter was picked from a stockpile dispatch.

Rome last Wednesday (12) declared the details somewhat confused and exaggerated the importance of the British picture, 'The Italian Job,' to the people of the Italian Empire and in English to North America. Radio Rome last Wednesday (12) declared the details somewhat confused and exaggerated the importance of the British picture, 'The Italian Job,' to the people of the Italian Empire and in English to North America. Radio Rome last Wednesday (12) declared the details somewhat confused and exaggerated the importance of the British picture, 'The Italian Job,' to the people of the Italian Empire and in English to North America.

The New York State Censorship Bureau refused to pass a British propaganda film, illustrative of the Italian race, 'The Italian Job,' which has drawn attention during the past week from the short-term contractors on both Italy and Spain. The picture was by the latter was picked from a stockpile dispatch.

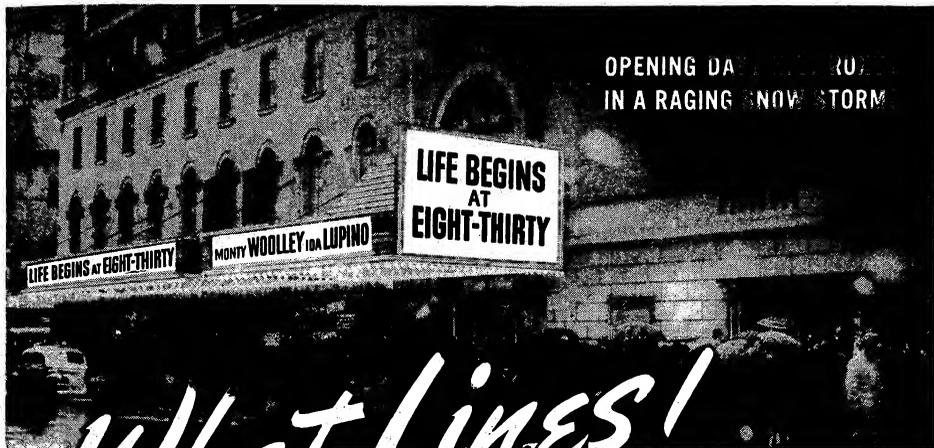
The Diker at Malaga, Spain, used a Stetson (Italian news agency) dispatch dated from Stockholm. It said that U. S. censors had rejected the picture, 'The Italian Job,' as propaganda. The picture was by the latter was picked from a stockpile dispatch.

SPG ASKING PAY TILTS FOR FORGED SERVICES

Because added duties have been assigned to members of the National Screen Publicists Guild, largely as a result of men going into the service, the Guild is asking for a special financial demands upon the heads of public-advertising departments in New York for increases in pay in accordance with the price of goods.

What has been made a special request for a public-advertising department claiming that it was temporarily in need of added work, so far no raises have been passed out.

As a result of the price increase of SPG, of which Lawrence Lipnick of Columbia is chairman, has been asked to meet on Thursday (14) to discuss action. Hearings on arbitration of the SPG dispute will be held on Thursday (14) with increased-cost-of-living benefits to all employees except its officers. The Guild has been paid off over \$200 weekly, have been put off Friday (18), due to illness of Lawrence Lipnick, chairman of SPG. A prior postponement had been requested of Austin C. Krough, v.p. and legal head of Par.



What Lines!

"SUREFIRE BET" ... *The Hollywood Reporter*

"WILL CATCH COIN" ... *Variety*

"A BOXOFFICE HYPO" ... *Boxoffice*

"MONEY MAKER" ... *Daily Variety*

"SOCK BOX-OFFICE" ... *Film Daily*

**20TH
CENTURY-FOX**

FEATURE WAR BONDS AS XMAS GIFTS!

TENNESSEE JOHNSON

Hollywood, Dec. 15. A Major episode of J. Edgar Hoover's... Tennessee Johnson... Lincoln... the president... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Tennessee Johnson combines fact and fancy in presenting the cinematic... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Despite procreative performers... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Decidedly episodic script unfolds... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

The Commandos Strike at Dawn... Columbia release of Lester Cowan... John Farlow... Robert Hoover...

Out of the welter of headlines has... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

This production has been endowed... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

taken by the pic, since it deals with... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

It is when 'The Commandos' at... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'The Great Impersonator' (U)... Okay spy meller for bookings... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Dawn on the Great Divide' (Mono)... Last of the Buck Jones... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Quiet Please, Murder' (R)... Quiet release of Ralph Dierker... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Keeper of the Flame' (R)... First of this unusual detective... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

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Novel by I. A. R. Wylie might read... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Audience might well question the... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Miniature Reviews

'Tennessee Johnson' (M-G)... Columbia produced biographic... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'The Commandos Strike At Dawn'... Columbia release of Lester Cowan... John Farlow... Robert Hoover...

'Keeper of the Flame' (M-G)... Needs all the b.o. left of Spencer... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Quiet Please, Murder' (R)... Quiet thriller meller... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Ice-Capades Revue' (Rep.)... Lively ice musical geared for... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

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ICE-CAPEDES REVUE

Republic release of Robert North... feature Jerry Colonna, Barbara Jo... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'The Commandos Strike At Dawn'... Columbia release of Lester Cowan... John Farlow... Robert Hoover...

'Keeper of the Flame' (M-G)... Needs all the b.o. left of Spencer... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'Quiet Please, Murder' (R)... Quiet thriller meller... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

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checked in suspense until he's... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

Dawn on the Great Divide

Republic release of Bob D'Amico... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

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'Keeper of the Flame' (R)... First of this unusual detective... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

'The Commandos Strike at Dawn'... Columbia release of Lester Cowan... John Farlow... Robert Hoover...

TITLE CHANGES

'The Crime Smasher' is release... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

The Great Impersonation

Republic release of Robert North... feature Jerry Colonna, Barbara Jo... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

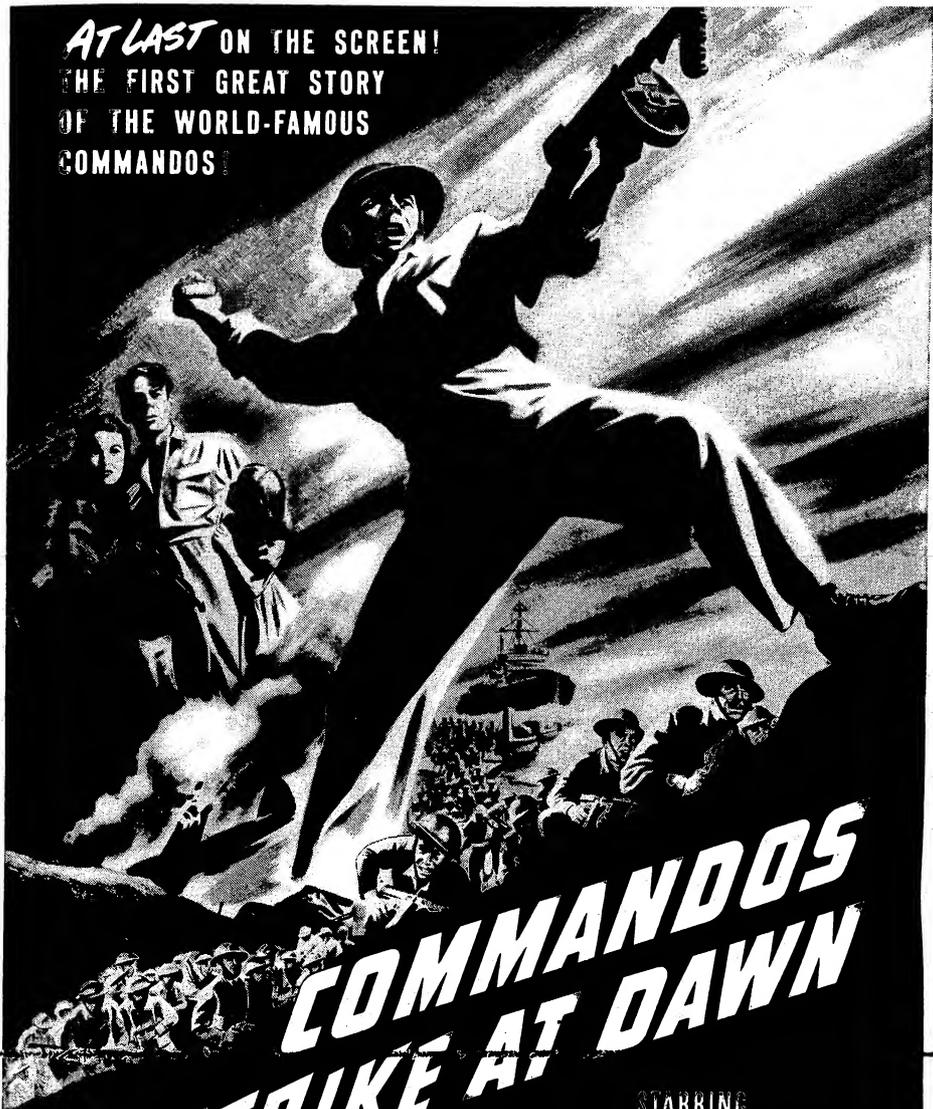
Universal modernizes and retitles... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

CITY OF SILENT MEN

Blondeiee Release Corp. release of... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

This one is a sleeper; a good job... Tennessee Johnson... Abraham Lincoln to the presidency... overworked ally, despite career... and rates as dubious box...

AT LAST ON THE SCREEN!
THE FIRST GREAT STORY
OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS
COMMANDOS



COMMANDOS
STRIKE AT DAWN

STARRING

HIS MOST
DYNAMIC
ROLE

PAUL MUNI



with **Anna Lee • Lillian Gish • Sir Cedric Hardwicke • Robert Coote**
Based on the C. S. Forester Cosmopolitan Magazine Story . . . Screen play by Irwin Shaw
Directed by **JOHN FARROW** • A **LESTER COWAN** PRODUCTION • A **COLUMBIA** PICTURE

SELL 'EM THE GREATEST CHRISTMAS GIFT OF ALL . . . U. S. WAR BONDS

STATE, N. Y.

Cross & Dunn, Borrah Mineevich's 'Flying Turtles' (10), The Dictators' 'Condoes' (10), The Heros' 'Hymno Rag' (Rep).

Show here originally was booked as a six-acter but with only five turns when it opened Thursday night...

Pat Boyer and his troupe of five... vet singing team of Cross and Dunn, who retain the technique of the old vaude days...

Apparently no one ever tires of Borrah Mineevich's 'fascals', the ragamuffin harmonica playing...

The fascals, who were in the picture, 'Always in My Heart' (WB), the earlier version of the song...

Clayton opening spot are the Heros, five girl trapézists, one of whom, an audience plant performs...

CAPITOL WASH.

Levi Parker, Sara Ann McCabe, Nils and Nardine, Chaz Chase, The Four Rockettes, Mabel...

With 'White Cargo' bounding for a new sensation, Bob Moore and Loo's debut stage show, already booked...

Levi Parker is fresh from a camp tour with 'Hilltoppiano'...

Chaz Chase is still chewing up his act and does his own songs...

RKO, BOSTON

Bob Crosby, Ray (4), Wesley Farny, Billy Gray, Wm. Morris, Ray & Trent, 'Sin Town' (10).

A solid band and a tidy set of specialties lift this band show into a top-notch department...

ROXY, N. Y.

Hal Le Roy, Mary Healy, Rufe Davis, Bob Taylor, Fred...

Roxy theatre has increased the budget for its current season...

EARLE, PHILLY

Jerry Wald (10) with Anita Beggs, Slim Trio, Jack Gifford, Seven Sweethearts (M-G).

Jerry Wald introduces his hostesses, Anita Beggs and...

With Wald's clarinet leading, the orchestra sets up a routine...

Johnny Bond lays aside his horn to handle the vocals...

CHICAGO, CHI

Dick Jordan, (10) with Harry Cool, Buddy Moreno, Mabel...

Their packin' 'em in this week and whatever business is done can be had on Chicago...

HIPP, BALTO.

Don Rice, The Three Flames, Al Gordon, Fred and Cleopatra, Mabel...

Very nice flash layout smartly assembled and routine for a local...

KEITH'S, INDLPS.

Dick & Dot, Remy, Chris Cross, Ames, Margaret, Farber's Wonderettes (10).

Several okay acts are spotted in the current vaude, but the pace is too leisurely...

ADAMS, NEWARK

Ray Hutton (10) with Stuart Foster, Sheela & Armstrong, Sue Ryan, Guy Kibbee, Scattered...

Since spotted here last year, Ray Hutton's act has been...

CIRCLE, INDLPS.

Tommy Tucker (14), with Amy Arnel, Donald Brown, Kerwin...

Tommy Tucker is back with his new variety show...

APOLLO, N. Y.

Fats Waller (14), with Myra Johnson, Ray Johnson, Mabel...

Fats Waller is the mainstay in this show, remainder of the acts...

STANLEY, PITTS

George Whithire, with a cast of 3...

Condensed 'Scandals' is not actually a variety show...

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Since spotted here last year, Ray Hutton's act has been...

for the dullness of show. The crowd, managed to chuckle with their familiar trap routine...

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FILM IS PRECIOUS

The war has brought many changes to this industry, and one of the most far-reaching is that relating to the use of our principal commodity—film itself.

Film has suddenly become—a very precious material.

None of us can now have all the film we want, or for that matter, all the film that our needs require. As we know, our government uses a lot of film for its own purposes, and cannot spare all the ingredients that are needed for film manufacture.

That is why film, in its various forms, constitutes today, a most important contribution to the war effort.

That is also why motion picture trailers have been curtailed in quantity.

We know, however, that you and all our old Exhibitor friends who have gone along with us through the years, will not misunderstand us when we ask that you make every effort to protect and prolong the life of every trailer that passes through your hands. We

also beg to remind you that the manufacture and distribution of trailer prints is being accomplished today under a very tight operations schedule, and we earnestly ask your kind cooperation in helping us maintain our schedule.

Please see that your playdates are sent along to us in ample time. It is likewise of the greatest importance to us, that you provide for the return of all trailer prints to their exchanges, immediately after the completion of the last performance wherein they are used. And if—as is liable to happen—you are asked to relay a trailer to another Exhibitor, please make sure that it is sent promptly. Our endeavor to maintain a schedule of a full showing of trailers to all accounts, can only be effective with the cooperation of our friends in complying with the above-mentioned suggestions.

At National Screen, we like to feel that we too, are doing our humble bit toward winning the war.

Won't you help us do it—WITH FILM?

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

STANDARD ACCESSORIES * * * * TRAILERS * * * * SPECIALTY ACCESSORIES

Central States Indies Resent Distributions Gen Distrustfulness

Minneapolis, Dec. 15.—Central States Conference comprising representatives of the Minnesota, Iowa and North and South Dakota independent exhibitors' organizations meeting here this week, was to lay down the line of distribution and demand they center treating independent exhibitors like "swindlers and con men" on the same basis as other lines of industry, according to Fred Strom, executive secretary. The vast bulk of independent exhibitors are honorable and honest business men and should be regarded as liars and dupes, declared Strom.

Strom particularly gripes the territory's independents now in this connection. Says Strom, is the distributor practice of setting original film prices excessively high because of an apparent shortage is repeated later after checking the boxoffice at the time.

Central States Conference will take a firm stand and demand more equitable selling terms, asserts Strom. "Independent exhibitors here are fed up with being treated like this," says Strom. "They determined not to open up to start with and then have to close their doors to obtain an adjustment. As it is now, they must plead and beg for adjustments throughout the year, which hurts their pride and is the wrong way to do business."

Frisco's 13% Pop. Increase Keynote To Improved B. O.

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—Nilitary and theatergoers have just begun to understand where their booming big was coming from, when a wartime census showed an increase of 13%, or 83,848, in Frisco's population, over the figure set in the 1940 Government census.

The wartime census was made by the Air Raid Warden Service of the civilian defense organization in an effort to convince Federal officials that Frisco should receive greater amounts of foodstuffs.

For a real understanding of why theater and theaters are jammed with thousands of spectators present at this port of embarkation should be added to the population figure.

Principal reason for the great jump in the city's population is the influx of workers for shipyard jobs.

Exploiting Jive

Continues from page 1
with Coca-Cola paying transportation, living expenses and the musicians. Every so often the outfit is put into the streets to play a series of name bands on the Blue network, picked up by shortwave. "This is an Army band," says the director to the soldiers is the latest and most ambitious effort to entertain U. S. troops in the style they are accustomed to at home. More and more American personalities are going about in the city just the same way via USO-Camp Shows, Inc., with an even more elaborate entertainment program for the A. E. due after Jan. 1. By that time the Red Cross should also be organized to present shows as planned. The main key will be a steady stream of top radio talent, led by Jack Benny (see radio picture), and a steady stream of radio talent to the bases behind fighting fronts.

Mex Theatre Fire

Mexico City, Dec. 6.—A fire resulting from a short circuit caused damage of \$150,000 (Mex.) (about \$3,700) to the green station of the Palace of Fine Arts (Theatre). Salon will be closed for about a month while under repairs.

Taxes Shut Vera Cruz Theatre

Mexico City, Dec. 8.—High taxes were cited by the government as the reason for the closing of the Vera Cruz, first run cinema in Vera Cruz.

Studio Trucks Crawl, Slow Down Production

Hollywood, Dec. 15.—Gas rationing is causing a general revision of the old transportation system used by film studios where motor trucks once were one-way conveyances. Now they have to go both ways.
When a truck shows off a lot now to borrow or return needed props, it must have a round-trip load to make the gas and rubber work both ways. Productions on a good schedule are held up while waiting for the exchange of transportation.

Current shortage of a car major studio, fairly indicative of the general rationing, is 20% under par for December, with a 30% cut expected in January and 45% additional in February.

Variety Clubs To Hold Small Confab in Chi

Pittsburgh, Dec. 16.—John H. Harris, national president of Variety Club of America, announced here last week that showmen's organization would hold a small national convention in Chicago some time next month or in February.

Harris said the club, then the club tent in that city gets organized, since group there will be the official host city according to transportation difficulties. Harris said confab would be nothing pretentious, as in the past, but would be confined to the chief bankers, officially-selected delegates and a few scattered members.
Meeting isn't expected to draw more than 150 Variety Club representatives from the 10 cities. Big national convention had been scheduled for Hollywood last May, but was called off on account of conditions. Chicago get-together is replacing it.

Garman Heads Ballo

Baltimore, Dec. 15.—Local Variety Club (No. 19) elected officers this week with Lauritz Garman named chief banker, and Wm. K. Saxton and Rudolf Collier, assistants.

New board consists of Izzy Rappaport, Frank H. Durkee, Nick Weppert, Nat Rosen, Sam Solts, Morris Klevor, and Wm. K. Saxton and Rudolf Collier, assistants.

Detroit Variety Elects

Following the report that the Detroit Tent had presented 120 shows for members of the armed forces and shut-down during the past year, new officers of the Detroit Variety Club were elected at the meeting of the Variety Club of Michigan.

Members of the crew are Earl J. Hudson, president of United Detroit Variety Club; J. McPherson, chairman; Wetman, Treasurer; J. Oliver Brooks, head booker for the Butterfield Club; and A. Levy, LeRoy J. Miller, Max Tordoff, Gilbert Nathanson, Merle Potter and Bonnie Revell. Also serving on the board will be past head bankers W. A. Steffen, Ben Blocker and Max Revell. The club will be the new chief banker.

Twin City Directorate

Minneapolis, Dec. 15.—The Twin City Variety Club at its annual meeting elected the following officers: John J. Friedl, Bill Elson, Eddie Ruben, Frank McCormick, Ben Friedman, M. A. Levy, LeRoy J. Miller, Max Tordoff, Gilbert Nathanson, Merle Potter and Bonnie Revell. Also serving on the board will be past head bankers W. A. Steffen, Ben Blocker and Max Revell. The club will be the new chief banker.

The choice is reported to be the best since 1937 and Elson. The latter served once before as banker.

Show business at war all over the globe will get authoritative and detailed reviews from:

Australia
South Africa
London
South America

as part of the editorial content of

'Show Business at War' theme of the 37th Anniversary

Man Bites Dog, Exhib Charges Pix Salesmen Threatened Him in NW

Minneapolis, Dec. 15.—Some of the selling in this territory is getting to the highest pressure stage, with perhaps the contagion of the wartime belligerence reaching the film industry here. At least, an independent exhibitor in a small North Dakota town has complained that he was seriously threatened by a film salesman with a punch in the face if he didn't ink a contract.

Instead of making the deal, the exhibitor ran off his theatre to a policeman. In the meanwhile, the salesman hurriedly left the town in a taxi.

The exhib has sworn out a warrant for the arrest of the salesman.

War Manpower

Continued from page 3

war effort. Then it studies the jobs within the industry. It separates the essential ones from others by applying three questions as a test. First, is a training period of at least six months necessary to train an untrained worker can attain reasonable efficiency in the job? Second, is the job essential to the industry? Third, is the worker irreplaceable? If a 'yes' is given to all three questions the job is classified as essential.

The list about to be certified by WMC to Selective Service indicates that the 11 occupations included met and passed that test.

Guide to Draft Boards

Listing of critical occupations within essential industries is intended to serve as a guide to local draft boards in the consideration of deferments. Deferments are granted, are for a six-month period. Listings into the "manned table" scheme which is part of a plan by which WMC and Selective Service intend to control the withdrawal of draftees from industries through the planned training of replacements in a manner which will keep disruption of production at an absolute minimum. Manning tables are forms, usually filled out by the employer, provide a realistic inventory of the personnel and job classifications in each enterprise. Information is to be furnished to the Government and this will provide the basis for the orderly withdrawal of the workers.

Basil Dean

Continued from page 3

formers in their own profession instead of putting them into war plants. This is possible, he said, in each enterprise. Information from the British government has recognized performers as servants of the nation. He said that the list of show biz is in the armed forces, young men would be allowed to stay in the show business.

According to Dean, film, variety shows and serious music are, in that order, the prime favorites of soldiers. He said that workers and people in air raid shelters.

Dean's Canada Visit

Ottawa, Dec. 15.—Basil Dean, while here, had a meeting with the Canadian men and women of the forces in the Dominion. Luncheon with Rt. Hon. James Macdonald, British High Commissioner, and Navy Minister Angus Macdonald.

Dean hoped to make a tour bringing British troupe to Canada for troop shows.

David Rose Sees Product Shortage In England or Radical Departure From Usual Exhibition Procedures

Audley's 'Havoc' Lands Him M-G Director Deal

Hollywood, Dec. 15.—Metro landed a director contract to Michael Audley, co-director of the legit play, 'Cry Havoc,' now being filmed at the Culver City studio. Allan Kenward, who wrote the play, is under contract as a shorts director on the same lot.

Expressing deep concern over the distribution policy now prevalent in Great Britain and foreseeing an immediate product shortage in London, David Rose, Paramount's manager of foreign sales, has arrived over the weekend from Britain, forecast that British exhibitors would be forced into extended playing time or go largely to a single-film picture shortly. Rose said that the dearth of pictures from the U.S. would be felt even before next February unless British exhibitors altered their present dual policy or shifted from the time-worn practice of buying pictures for two-week maximums for the best pictures.

Rose's trip to the U.S.—his 15th crossing since he was made Paramount chief in Britain—will include a visit to the Coast. He plans to leave for Hollywood in a few days.

The film conservation program in the U.S. and the loss of male stars to the armed forces are producing an acute film shortage as far as Britain is concerned, according to Rose. He said that the picture supply is being comprised about 400 theatres in the London area, have to have six new British pictures a week. The picture must be supplied by American companies because British production is not sufficient to meet the demand. There is a tight each week for the top three films.

LINK ARRIVAL OF B. E. F. S. TO P. C. EASE

Arrival in U.S. over the weekend of Sam W. Smith, president of Great British Kinematograph Renters Society (distributors) and chairman of British Lion Film Corp., along with David Rose, Paramount's manager of foreign sales, in London, Joseph Friedman, Columbia's British chief, is linked with the effort of American distributors to obtain a relaxed playing time in Britain.

KRS naturally would be interested in an such move while foreign executives in N. Y. long have felt that such extended playdates offer the best solution of the threatened production shortage in the British market. Smith is reported as being in Toronto but likely will return to N. Y. soon to handle the British product situation. Present indications are that a unified campaign of American distributors will be set up in an effort to avert the threatened picture shortage in Britain.

Because theatres in Britain currently are playing product almost as in the U.S. (instead of six to eight months behind as in previous seasons), the setup of British exhibitors is expected to produce a shortage of strong screen shorts shortly unless the situation is remedied.

Friedman is here for homeoffice confabs with Joseph A. McConville and other executives of the latter company's assistant foreign manager, also returned over the weekend from a trip to Venezuela and Panama. He opened Columbia's new branch in Caracas.

FILM INDUSTRY FETES 2 LATIN JOURNALISTS

Lauding the North American motion picture as 'the most powerful and effective cultural medium in the world today,' two South American newspaper editors, Dr. Angel Bohigas and Dr. Alberto Lasplacas, praised the great possibilities of American motion pictures. Bohigas, a luncheon given in their honor by the picture industry last Friday at the Waldorf Astoria.

Earlier in the week the two editors had received the Maria Moore award from Columbia Pictures for the service performed by their publications in the field of inter-American relations. Bohigas is managing editor of La Nacion, of Buenos Aires. Brazil, while Lasplacas is foreign editor of El Dia, of Montevideo, Uruguay.

Carl E. Milliken, executive foreign manager and head of MPEDA's eastern production code work, presided at the luncheon which was also attended by foreign sales chiefs and assistants of major as well as independent American exhibitors. Among the major company foreign managers and representatives, Robert Soosa, N.Y. correspondent of La Nación, and foreign manager of Producers Releasing Corp., Morris Goodman, were present. Soosa is president of H. A. Mestanza, of Monogram, at London.

The film conservation program in the U.S. and the loss of male stars to the armed forces are producing an acute film shortage as far as Britain is concerned, according to Rose. He said that the picture supply is being comprised about 400 theatres in the London area, have to have six new British pictures a week. The picture must be supplied by American companies because British production is not sufficient to meet the demand. There is a tight each week for the top three films.

Rose warned about the forthcoming product shortage even last week. He said that the picture supply might partially solve the problem, ultimately, the large British picture shortage will be a double threat. Both practices are overdue in Britain, he is convinced. He said that the picture supply is being comprised about 400 theatres in the London area, have to have six new British pictures a week. The picture must be supplied by American companies because British production is not sufficient to meet the demand. There is a tight each week for the top three films.

Outstanding example of British exhibitors' failure to cash in on boxoffice potential was pointed out, according to Rose, was the experience with 'Holiday Inn' (Par) in Glasgow. Although the picture broke all records at the Paramount theatre there, it was held to the level of a B picture elsewhere. At such a narrow policy extends all down the line, seldom being deviated from. Exhibitors know how the picture stands up.

Just how serious the production picture is in Britain, whether made by British or American companies, was pointed out by David Rose, Paramount's manager of foreign sales pictures. He had hoped to get under way on 'Holiday Inn' (Par) in Glasgow the first of the year. While he had a leading lady and Johnny Mills, who were the picture's main attractions for the film, cutting trousers will delay the start of the production until next week. Rose said that which Par will do in color, will not get under way until next June. Rose said that the picture is not booked until well into 1944.

Britain is also encountering trouble with the picture supply. The government is tightening up on exhibitors who formerly were granted leases for the service to work certain films. Rose explained that 'Coastal Command' being distributed in Britain will not be decided until this week. It is a British Information Service feature. He said that the picture's theatres now are closed because of war losses or other reasons, he said. Rose said that the picture is in great favor now in the British Isles. Rose stated, Horror pictures, which are the picture's main attraction, are banned by the British Board of Film Censorship, he stated.

WHO CALLED THIS ACTOR A BANDBLEADER?

"... the high spot of the film is Xavier Cugat, the noted interpreter of Latin-American Rhythms. Mr. Cugat lends himself and incidentally steals the picture. . . ."
AMERICAN WEEKLY, John U. Sturdevant.

"... A portly bow to Xavier Cugat. . . ."
NEW YORK POST, Archer Winsten.

"... Xavier Cugat's orchestra makes music with plenty of class." NEW YORK TIMES, Bosley Crowther.

"Cugat takes care of an acting assignment ably as well as presenting his stylized music for listening pleasure. . . ."
DAILY VARIETY.

"Cugat isn't merely a bandleader in this picture, having also been assigned quite a comedy role. He acquits himself surprisingly well and Hollywood should find frequent use for him. He has one especially funny line, after a verbal tussle with Menjou, he says, 'I wish I was back at the Waldorf.'" VARIETY, Scho.

"Xavier Cugat does more than his share by impersonating, with surprising ease, a troubled bandleader named Xavier Cugat."
NEWSWEEK.

"Cugie, as he is dubbed in the film, shows himself to be a very talented fellow. He handles a fair-sized comedy part, he plays the Jerome Kern score as befits its lovely merit, he cartoons; he is great. And such flair has Cugie for timing and delivery of gags, as well as complete naturalness before the lens, that the studio has signed him for a strong comedy lead in another flicker to come." BILLBOARD, Joseph R. Carlton.

XAVIER CUGAT

IN

"YOU WERE
NEVER LOVELIER"

STARRING

FRED ASTAIRE AND RITA HAYWORTH



Gas Rationing and War Jobs For Women May Explain Drop In July-Sept. Day Time Listening

The Co-operative Analysis of Broadcasting last week released a resume of listening for the July-September quarter which shows the nighttime level moving upward and the daytime quieter than the other way. In second place in the latter index, the C. A. B. summary speaks of gasoline rationing and increased employment, presumably for women.

The quarterly review disclosed that average ratings were off 7%, and that of the three months the largest volume of nighttime listening occurred during July. That same month accounted for the largest proportionate decrease in daytime audience. The interest in new broadcast casts also hopped above the level which prevailed for the like quarter of 1941.

Following is the C. A. B.'s comparative index of listening:

Month	NIGHT	1941	1942
July	18.7	18.9
August	18.7	18.7
September	22.3	23.0

Month	DAY	1941	1942
July	12.6	12.6
August	14.4	13.0
September	14.2	12.9

EAST CBS TELE EXEC GOING INTO NAVY

With the resignation of Leonard Hole, acting executive director of television, CBS will probably curtail its television activities drastically. Hole will report to the post office as a lieutenant (jg) at the Quonset Point (R. I.) Naval Base. He will probably not be replaced.

Last of the executives to leave CBS television, Hole leaves a skeleton crew of four men. Company will probably air only four hours of films a week, as NBC has been doing since July. The shortage of manpower and technical equipment, particularly tubes, the FCC is not enforcing as strictly as it had indicated that the television companies would have to operate on a 14-hour weekly schedule.

Clev. Broadcasters Put Out Welcome Mat For WJW, Blue's Affiliate

Cleveland, Dec. 15. Broadcasters in Cleveland generally favored the removal of WJW from Akron to become the Blue's affiliate here. One spokesman said the move would offer additional "competition which is being sorely needed."

Meanwhile, WHK-WCLE, which formerly used the Blue here, but which recently used the name Mutual exclusively except for Blue commercial programs, will lose approximately 27 programs, including "Long Ranger," "Jack Armstrong," "Don Winslow," "Breath of Life" and "Gang Busters," "Break-Up Club."

Several other changes are being made by Cleveland's stations. WCAR is seeking a change in wave length to permit better reception in this area, and WCLE is attempting to operate beyond 6 p.m.

Texas as Program Subject
San Antonio, Dec. 15. The many-sided story of Texas' contribution to the war effort in man power, production and civilian activity is the subject of a new series of programs on WCAE and the Texas Quality Network each Sunday afternoon for a quarter-hour. The series, "Texas Week," started Sunday (13), sponsored by Texas State University, originating through KSPRC, Houston.

Gov. Neely Settles Label Suit Vs. W. Va. Station

Fairmont, W. Va., Dec. 15. Label action of Gov. M. N. Neely on the bill frame, against Station WMMW which was named for him (having a 'W' before his initials) has been settled out of court. Terms were not disclosed.

The suit grew out of statements made by opposing politicians in the recent campaign.

Nets Can Take FCC Regulations To U. S. Sup. Ct.

Washington, Dec. 15. The question of whether the Federal Communications Commission holds the authority to regulate relations between networks and their affiliated station is set for another argument before the U. S. supreme court. The latter tribunal yesterday (Monday) granted permission to NBC and CBS to bring up for appeal a ruling of a three-judge federal court in New York that the FCC is invested with such regulatory power.

When NBC-CBS counsel were previously before the Supreme Court, it was to dispute the same lower court's finding that it had no right to interfere with the FCC until after it had ordered the radio work advertising to end effect. The S.C. agreed with the networks and ordered the issue back for trial.

NAB, CO-OP LEAGUE AGREE ON AD CODE

Washington, Dec. 15. Code committee of the National Association of Broadcasters and officials of the Co-operative League of the United States, after two days of conferences, today (Tuesday) agreed on a set of themes and principles to be used in radio copy advertising co-operative ventures.

The meeting and subsequent agreement was the outgrowth of the protest that the League had lodged with the Federal Communications Commission after NBC and CBS announced and operated stations had turned down 'co-operative' business.

Shirt Outfit Drops Spot Deals Jan. 1

The Sanforizing Division of Cluett, Peabody & Co., is withdrawing from its alignment with the Star Line at the end of this year. The move will affect seven markets and schedules of quarter-hour programs.

Young & Rubicam is the agency.

KXOK, St. L., Full-Time

St. Louis, Dec. 15. KXOK, the Blue outlet here and owned and operated by the Star Times, p.m. rag, has started a round-the-clock schedule.

Ferry Burns, gabber, conducts a 'News of Our Neighbors' program once weekly, in which news items from smaller town rag of interest to those who recently have moved to St. Louis are aired. In return for the air time, the outlet of interest here are using stories of the new station policy.

New Castle, Pa.—Ray Edwards, formerly of WKBW, Youngstown, is conducting program director of WKST here.

'SINGIN' SAM' MAY GO ON MBS FOR BARBASOL

Barbasol may spot 'Singin' Sam' on a Mutual hookup for a schedule of two quarter-hour a week. This would be supplementary to the new trick which John B. Kennedy recently started for the account on Columbia.

'Sam' was associated exclusively with Barbasol for years before taking up on disc with Coca Cola.

FIRE REPORTER GETS SPONSOR

Boston, Dec. 15. A sponsor of an outspoken talk by Joe Dimmen, Boston Globe columnist and broadcast WROL, in which he labelled many local nitwits as firetraps, following the Coconut Grove disaster. Steamship and club operators threatened law suits, while Dimmen's listeners applauded his remarks. A representative of the Royal Crown Cola Co. brought forth a contract.

Dimmen started for the soft-drink concern Monday (14) and will be heard five times weekly at 5 p.m., reflecting news of local interest and patterned after his column, 'Spilling the Beans.'

Don Galikak agency handled the transaction.

Linkletter, Coast Gabber, Under Indictment For False Citizenship Claim

San Francisco, Dec. 15. Art Linkletter, freelance radio announcer, was indicted by a Federal grand jury here on charge of falsify claiming U. S. citizenship. Assistant U. S. Atty. Gen. Louis Mendicino said that Linkletter, born in Canada, applied for naturalization papers on Sept. 28 this year and that two months later, on Nov. 27, he claimed to be a citizen in applying for a pass to KSTO and short-wave, KWID. According to Mendicino, Linkletter also voted in the Nov. 5, 1940, election.

In a formal statement, the radio m.c. said he never knew until the fall of 1942 that he was adopted child and that he had been born in Canada. "Immediately upon discovering that we came from Canada when I was about two years old, I went to the Federal authorities and told them the story. At the same date, I applied for naturalization papers and am now waiting for them to come through," Linkletter stated.

Maximum penalty for conviction on the charge preferred against Linkletter is five years in Federal penitentiary, \$5,000 fine, or both.

MBS Adds 2 More

National network acquired two more affiliates last week. They were WBHP, Huntsville, Ala., and WLAY, Asheville, N. C.

Former is 10-waver, the latter 250 watts. Both are full time.

Radio will get varied treatment by:

Maurice Dreier
Alan Lipscomb
Lester Gottlieb
Phillip Carlin
Strom Whaley
Eve Merriam
Ralph Edwards

'Show Business at War'

theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of

VARIETY

Station Expenses in Plugging War Bonds Deductible for Tax Purposes

Fishburn Quits NBC For Grant Agency, in Chi

Chicago, Dec. 15. Alan M. Fishburn, member of the NBC directorial staff, has resigned, effective Jan. 1, to join the Grant agency, as assistant to Russell H. "Bucky" Harris, radio director.

Currently directing the 'Help Mate' serial for Cudahy, Fishburn has directed various programs originating in Chicago.

Washington, Dec. 15. By broadcasting information as to the necessity of buying war bonds, radio stations are carrying on one of the functions for which they are organized. The expenses incurred in connection with that are deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses for Federal income tax purposes. The substance of a ruling handed down by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue to Russell H. Place, counsel for the National Association of Broadcasters.

Test. Whether expenditures are deductible from gross income is whether they are ordinary and necessary expenditures directly connected with or pertaining to the taxpayer's trade or business. "The Bureau has ruled that expenses incurred by newspapers in directing public attention to the vital necessity of the successful marketing of war bonds are deductible as ordinary and necessary expenses."

Some Stations' Falling Revenue Worrying OWI

Washington, Dec. 15. Office of War Information is making a study of the drop in advertising revenue which threatens to put some of the smaller broadcasters out of the air. Gardner Cowley, deputy OWI chief, disclosed that his organization is concerned about the problem and that, in addition to its own checking, it has asked the Advertising Council to survey the situation.

Chairman James L. Fly of the Federal Communications Commission, recently proposed that some Government program might be worked out to continue broadcasting service by radio stations which are facing serious losses.

FCC chairman is not sure whether this could be done by loan, by payment for Government programs or through special advertising. He did say he was reluctant to see the Government 'get any sort of stake in private broadcasting' such would result from subsidizing stations with loans.

OWI's interest in the problem arises from the fact radio is a medium for disseminating information about the war and the many

(Continued on page 31)

Radio Like Press. Ruling was the recognition that it is the business of newspapers, among other things, to disseminate news. Newspapers are considered to be engaged in carrying on one of the functions for which they are organized. The expenses incurred are identified as being directly connected with the business of operating newspapers. Radio stations are in much the same light.

In addition to broadcasting war bonds, newspapers are urged to receive mail orders for bonds and see that they are transmitted to an issuing agent, or sell bonds as advertising agents, or by mail, or over-the-counter, using their own employees for this purpose.

Expenses for advertising carrying on such activities may also properly be considered as expenses for institutional or goodwill advertising, which are also deductible from gross revenue under section 23 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code. It is stated in amount, according to the Commissioner.

Narrow Orch. Murray Choir to Replace 'Info Please' for Lucky Strike

Murray Orchestra and the Lynn Mark Choir, drawn from the ranks of the new Lucky Strike broadcast, which will replace 'Information Please' on NBC.

Procter & Gamble, which Friday night from Carnegie Hall, N. Y., beginning Feb. 12, probably the first time that a pop-style radio show has been dropped to emanate from there. 'Info' should offset another broadcast.

Basis of Murray's programming will be a 'Hit Parade' of songs dating back five years. It is expected to have an orchestra of 80 musicians.

ROBERT BENCHLEY AS STAR OF NEW PROGRAM

Robert Benchley is starred in a new comedy script show by Roger White for addition this week by an unusual detour from the NBC radio agency. It's a 30-minute series, with an orchestra background.

White has selected it as a freeland assignment.

N. Y. Herald-Trib's Radio Ed Moves to Town Hall

Betty Colough, radio editor of the N. Y. Herald-Tribune, resigned this week to become assistant to Mrs. Marion Carter, director of the radio forum division of Town Hall, N. Y. Her successor has not been selected, but the paper will continue to conduct its radio coverage as daily. Colough has returned a short column of 'highlights' in the Sunday edition.

As assistant to Mrs. Carter, Miss Colough will be active in the promotion of the 'New Series' of the Air' program on the Blue Network and the new local series on WJMA, N. Y.

Bill Ballance, recently of KOA, Denver, isn't in the Army after all. Instead, he's announcing for KSL, Salt Lake City.

WARS STRIKE RADIO

All Nets to Air 1st Public Hearing Of Army 'Command' Show Xmas Eve

The Army will let the American public listen in the "Command Performance" program for the first time Christmas Eve (24) through a broadcast that will be carried by all four national networks between 11 and 12 p.m. EWT. The series, now in its 44th week, had heretofore been provided exclusively for troops abroad by way of shorthand from a transcription. As the Christmas Eve event is being fed over the networks, it will be recorded and rebroadcast on Christmas Day by the customary shorthand. The domestic feed was suggested by the Office of War Information as an appropriate gesture of linking soldier and civilian morale.

The domestic feed will be broadcast by the following networks: NBC, CBS, ABC, and Mutual. It is arranged to have the network show relayed in the direction of London, where a recording will be made for rebroadcast on Christmas Day to BBC domestic listeners and to the armed services in the Middle East.

The talent lined up for the program comprises Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Edgar Bergen, Red Skelton, Kay Kaye, Dinah Shore, Dorothy Lamour, Ethel Waters and Ginny Simms. Al Newman, musical director for 20th-Century Fox will baton the accompaniment and orchestral interludes, with the American Federation of Musicians and the talented guilds cooperating on the recruiting of the participants.

DAVIS' RETURN TO AIR AGAIN LIKELY

Elmer Davis, chief of the Office of War Information, may still arrange to make regular weekly appearances before the microphones to tell the people about the war and the radio. It has long been widely suggested that the OWI chief, a former radio news commentator, take to the airwaves at regular intervals to inform the people about the progress of the war.

Several weeks ago he announced that he had abandoned the idea because of the pressure of work. Now, however, Nicholas Roosevelt, former diplomat and N. Y. Herald Tribune writer, going to handle the contacts of OWI with the Army and the Navy. Davis thinks that when job he will have time over to go back before the microphone.

The kind of program Davis has in mind would be largely background and interpretation.

He is not sure, if he returns to the air, whether he would do regular once-a-week broadcasts, or go before the microphone occasionally only. He is inclined toward the weekly program idea.

Somebody worried about his broadcasts being regarded as "official" versions. In fact, he feels that such a procedure would be of little use so far as OWI was concerned, but it wouldn't be likely in any other sense. He would, of course, have the advantage of a certain amount of information that could not be made public, which might affect his interpretation of the news.

Davis feels that while this might give him a certain advantage over other commentators, he never had the idea of putting in spot news in such a broadcast. Nothing would be used in it that had not been previously reported to everybody else. If he went on the air, he said, the scripts would be made available immediately after the broadcast to everybody for whatever use they cared to make of them.

Donahue-Coe Quickie

Bert Prager, director of radio, and Dick Dunkel, radio time buyer for Donahue & Coe agency, pulled a fast one on Monday (14) morning, even before boss Ed Churchill came into the office, and tied up every available radio spot on the metropolitan New York stations so that the Lower theatres, Radio City Music Hall, etc., would have radio announcements on the air perfectly. This is in lieu of the ad. due to the newspaper deliverers' strike.

The commitments ran only \$4,500 a day. The D-C agency has the spots saved up for three weeks, with a daily increase of 25 to 30 spots thereafter.

GRACIE FIELDS EXPANDING TO 15 MINS.

Pall Mall cigars has decided to change the time formula of the Gracie Fields' program, which currently is on a five-minute five-times-a-week basis on the Blue Network. The account wants to expand the program to 15 minutes nightly.

Miss Fields' present time is 8:55-10 p.m. and the substitute on the Blue period that the sponsor has under consideration is 10:15-10:30 p.m.

Earl B. Baldwin has joined the New York sales staff of Joseph Hertzberg McMillan, Inc. He was formerly with the WOR Program Service Department.

WALKOUT HYPOS N. Y. STATIONS

Theatres, Stores, Et Al., Rush Their Sales Talks to Radio-Outlets and Newspapers Augment News Schedules

INCREASED AUDIENCES

The N. Y. newspaper deliverers' strike, which broke Sunday evening (13), resulted in a deluge of business for the New York stations. Deprived of their regular newspaper advertising channels, theatre operators, department stores, employment agencies, public relations and sales staffs of most of the local stations all day Monday (14), seeking out time availabilities and placing orders for announcements or sponsorship of established sustaining stanzas. Absence of newspapers also caused the various stations to augment their news schedules, which situation undoubtedly accounted for a tremendous audience increase.

What made the strike particularly tough for the department stores was the fact that it came in the middle of the Christmas shopping season.

The lion's share of the demand for immediate time went to WOR. Macy's department store took over the sponsorship of the "Shoppers' Program," with Pegen Fitzgerald, bought 12 announcements on the station's matinee program for record half-hour and arranged for late evening spot announcements. The Saturday Evening Post, which had half-pages scheduled for two of the local papers, turned the entire appropriation (\$800) over to WOR. The Paramount theatre, Broadway biggest, put in an order for all announcements spots that WOR could clear.

WMCA obtained a large order from

(Continued on page 28)

Benny Likely to Be 1st Top Radio Comic to Tour AEF Camps, Starting Jan. 1; Sponsors' Problems Unsolved

School for Comics

Hollywood, Dec. 15. Blue network has its cap set for comics and will develop its own, if necessary, by putting them through a school. That's how Ed Kobak, executive v.p. of the chain, feels about it and he's going to do something about it.

Biggest reservoir of latent talent is in the army, Kobak allows, and a line will be had on them so that when it's over they'll be called in for the necessary polish job.

Jack Benny, it is now indicated, will be the first of the name radio comedians to make a tour of the American service camps in Great Britain with the start of the New Year. Benny has advised the chief of the special service division of the Army, Col. Marvin Young, that he will be free to make the transatlantic trip after Christmas and the only snag to the crossing is transportation. Benny was told that facilities would be available to him at the time, but there was doubt whether space could be obtained for his return to the States.

Plan that the Army has in mind for the Britain-touring comics involves a weekly broadcast over the domestic and shorthand channels of the British Broadcasting Co., in addition to their making the rounds of the camps. The BBC has solved the question of scripts for these visiting comics by arranging to import, on its own payroll, Hal Block, who has at some time or another written comedy for most of the major stars in England. Nussbaum, who is stationed in Howard at General Eisenhower's headquarters, would do the producing.

LEVER DEAL FOR 'INFO' STILL UNCERTAIN

Discussions between the B.B.D.&O. agency, acting for Lever Bros., and Dan Golenpau over the future alignment of the "Information Please" program with Wmms vitamins had until late yesterday (Tuesday) failed to make any material progress. Like a number of quips have to be ironed out. Lucky Strikes winds up its connection with "Info" on Feb. 6, and since the big account has yet to act on its option, all sale to Lever would be premature.

If the Lever deal, says the program will be spotted on CBS, Wednesday 8:30-10 p.m., now occupied by "Mayor of Our Town" (Lionel Barrymore). Town will then move to NBC, Thursday, 7:30-9 p.m.

As for what the comic's regular sponsors will do for their programs while the performers are abroad, the solutions under consideration are quite mixed. One plan suggests is that the comics who are at home rotate as guests in the absentee's regular time. On the other hand, some sponsors have indicated that they would rather have a substitute show, which they would build and hold the franchise on for the four or five weeks that their man is abroad. Young & Rubicam agency, which handles the Benny stanzas for General Foods, figures on arriving at a program of the substitute situation by the end of this week.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER



To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to any Variety Office

NEW YORK 184 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 No. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

OLD GOLD MAY GO BAD FOR 2D HALF-HR.

Old Gold is scouting around, through the J. Walter Thompson agency, for a second half-hour program. Among the bands whose managers have been approached are Sammy Kaye and Alvino Ray.

The big account's present network package is Nelson Eddy and Nadine Connor (CBS).

Colwell Waxen Three Hollywood, Dec. 15. Bob Colwell returns to N.Y. over the weekend with recordings of three programs he conditioned for spots on the radio, one of which will supplement its current Nelson Eddy musical entry.

Among the programs under consideration are a variety show "with an idea," a musical piece built around Gene Krupa, and a comedy show featuring Johnny Mercer, Arthur Q. Bryan and Freddie Slack's orchestra. At the present time, Colwell passes the week here to wrap up the Old Gold auditions.

Auto Parts Manufacturer Buys Station Chainbreakers

R. M. Hollinghead Corp., manufacturer of auto products, is buying back the station chainbreakers of James G. Lamb Co. of Philadelphia, is the agency.

N. Y. Daily's Squawk Points Up Anew Net's Cut-Rate Foreign Coverage

Because the N. Y. Herald-Tribune beated, CBS no longer gives the name of Walter Kerr, its Moscow correspondent. In sending out tele-types of his broadcasts. All such network handouts of Kerr's broadcasts credit them merely as by 'CBS Moscow Correspondent.'

Incident arose when the N. Y. Post and other dailies printed summaries or highlights of the Kerr newscasts, crediting him by name. The IT, which pays Kerr's salary and footed the expense of sending him to Russia, objected to other papers cashing in on his work. Of course Kerr still uses his name over the air.

Occurrence revived again the entire matter of the networks paying a comparatively small sum for foreign coverage by the correspondents for press services and papers. In all such cases the publishers have paid large amounts for travel, office upkeep and living costs, while the networks, for a small additional sum,

Lee, Dannay May Do Special Gov't Series

Ma-fostered Lee and Fred Dannay, co-authors of 'Elery Queen,' may do a special series for the Government on the subject of security or war information. They conferred over the weekend with George Zachary, radio production head of the Office of War Information, and a decision on the matter will be made in a few days.

Zachary formerly directed the 'Elery Queen' program and, in addition to his Government duties, still directs the Andre Kostelanetz show Sunday afternoons on CBS for Coca-Cola.

hire the same men for radio coverage. The N. Y. Times is notable for the fact that its men do not take such regular outside assignments.

V.P. of Philly ACA Local Quits; Differed With 'Appessment' Policies

Philadelphia, Dec. 15. Edgar T. Darlington, master control engineer at WFIL, today (Tuesday) resigned as Vice-president of the American Communications Association, broadcast district No. 1, over disagreement with the policies of the ACA leadership. In resigning, Darlington said that he could not remain in office in the face of the 'appessment' attitudes of local colleagues.

Darlington had been secretary-treasurer of the local, which takes in all stations east of the Mississippi River, until three months ago, when he stepped into the vice-presidency following the resignation of L. E. Littlejohn. The latter had resigned when he became chief engineer at WFIL.

Although Darlington would not elaborate on his 'appessment' charges, it is known that he felt that the union had been too pro-management in dealings with the stations. Pending new elections, the union will be headed by Carroll C. Roder, of KYW, present secretary-treasurer.

Station Not Liable for Slander—If Careful About Speaker and Script

F.O.B. Detroit' Resumes Application of Axe to Axis

Detroit, Dec. 15. Repeating its broadcasts of last year on 'How are we doing on war production,' WJR resumed its winner series of 'F.O.B. Detroit' Saturday (12) over the Columbia network. The program, aimed at giving the Axis a headache directly from one of the biggest arsenals of democracy, goes out via 98 stations of the Columbia network and is short-waved to Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo.

First program used an augmented orchestra of 22 pieces, with Edgar A. Guest, Detroit Free Press poet, acting as narrator. Prominent national figures and industrialists will be used each week to tell the story directly from the big war plants here of the mighty production which now is out-matching that of the Axis.

WMCA, N. Y., last week won an important point in a slander suit growing out of a political broadcast. Justice Isador Wasservorst, in the N. Y. supreme court, declared that a station could not be held liable for the extemporaneous defamatory remarks of a speaker, so long as the station's management exercised 'due care in the selection of the lessee of its facilities and in the inspection of the script.' This finding was included in an order dismissing the efforts of the plaintiff, Dr. Emanuel Josephson. This finding has the defenses offered by WMCA thrown out of court.

The event that led to the suit occurred during the N. Y. mayoralty campaign of 1941. Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, in a speech at Madison Square Garden, which was broadcast by WMCA per rate card, accused Dr. Josephson of being an officer-hater. Dr. Josephson, who was campaigning at the time for the Democratic candidacy for mayor, had at one time been a salaried member of the N. Y. Board of Health.

"The 'guilt and civil defenses,' wrote Justice Van Roosevelt, 'plead qualified privileges under section 315 of the Federal Communications Act. This section prohibits discrimination among qualified candidates for public office in the use of the facilities of a radio station and denies a right of censorship to the radio station. The person who uttered the defamatory matter was such a candidate. Since this statute creates certain obligations and liabilities, it is proper that the owner of the radio station be given corresponding qualified privileges against liabilities for statements which it has no power to control.'

Depositions Uncover More Angles in Suit Against Sale of WOW

Omaha, Dec. 15. Question of the sale of station WOW flared up again over the weekend. John Gillin, station manager, testifying for deposition, said that Guy C. Myers, N. Y. financier, who negotiates sale of private power companies to Consumers Public Power District, has more money invested in WOW, Inc., the new proposed owner or lessee, than any other individual. Also, Henry Doorly, president of the Omaha World-Herald, said that D. Emmett Bradshaw's statement that he had this year turned down an offer to sell WOW to a group which controls the World-Herald, was a misstatement, as the World-Herald had not at any time recently made any offer or authorized any offer to buy WOW.

The World-Herald did offer to buy WOW three or four years ago, it was added, and Bradshaw said the asking price was \$1,000,000. The World-Herald, it was stated, has not been interested since. Bradshaw is president of the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance society, which owns and operates WOW.

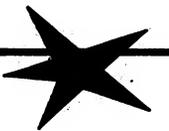
When he made statement he was testifying by deposition in a suit brought by a Woodmen member, Dr. Homer Johnson, of Lincoln, Neb., who seeks to stop the society from selling the station to a group headed by John Gillin.

Dr. Johnson, in his suit, says that the proposed rental is too low, that the new corporation is dominated and controlled by men 'who want the Nebraska Power Co. sold to Consumers,' and that the station should be used for 'propaganda' favoring the sale.

Stanley Quinn Now MBS' Aussie Reporter

Stanley J. Quinn, formerly Australian radio representative of the J. Walter Thompson agency, has resigned to become mutual correspondent and newscaster in Australia. He succeeds Frank Cuhel, who is to be transferred to another war zone.

Before going to Australia in 1940, Quinn was in the J. Walter Thompson agency's New York office.



"The
Merriment
is
Mutual!"

For Christmas, 1942,
The season's best we send to you!
From MUTUAL to all who found
The practice profitably sound
To use this network in the past,
And all of you who, we forecast,
Will find in 1943
An even stronger web are we!

this is
MUTUAL



TOWN HALL CONCERT

NEXT TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 22ND, 8:30 P.M.

"The Hour of Charm"

ALL GIRL ORCHESTRA

Under the Direction of

PHIL SPITALNY

Featuring

EVELYN and Her Magic Violin, VIVIAN, Soprano, MAXINE, Contralto



EVELYN

Concert—sponsored by

BAPTIST HOME for the AGED

TICKETS AT THE BOX OFFICE

2.20 - 1.65 - 1.10 all reserved



VIVIAN



MAXINE

AD AGENCIES NOT RAIDING

BOOSTING MEN UP FROM RANKS

Not Weaning Away Producers, Writers, Etc., From Other Agencies, Despite Loss of Manpower to Army, Navy and Other Government Services—Voluntary Attitude of Fairness

HIDDEN TALENT

Advertising agencies with large radio departments have refrained from resorting to raids on other agencies for personnel, thus preventing the loss of manpower to the armed forces or Government agencies. These agencies have adopted the attitude, entirely voluntary, that since everybody has the same problems it would be unfair for any one of them to wean away producers, writers, etc., with offers of larger salaries or better posts.

What such agencies propose to do is to develop and promote men within their own organizations, rather than bring in newcomers and shoot them over the heads of staffmen and executives who have been on the job for years. One agency official remarked last week that through this new device of giving the breaks to present personnel his organization may unearth noteworthy talent. The business, as he put it, has "become cluttered up with too many stop-watch holders anyway, and it is quite possible that the digging down into the ranks may turn out to be a healthy thing."

Loss of manpower may make it mandatory for some agencies to reorganize the general structure of their radio departments, such as eliminating supervisory producers and investing a greater degree of authority and responsibility in the individual directors.

Indie Stations Complain OWI Favors Webs

Some N. Y. indie station operators are considerably perturbed over what they claim to be the OWI radio department's neglect of local radio problems. Complaints to the OWI regional director have been forwarded to Washington.

Station men claim they have a definite job to do in emphasizing the local angles of the OWI's messages, yet they are continually ignored. One example of such oversight is the recent awarding of an 'E' banner to a Queens mailman who was producing a war sub-contract at home in his spare time. The War Production Board wanted the presentation halted and asked OWI to clear radio time. First thing the indie stations knew about the stunt was a call they got from the WFB on the day of the award. Seems OWI had contacted the networks and ignored the local outlets.

Additionally, claim the local station execs, they have several times submitted program ideas which were nixed and some time later appeared on network outlets.

Joe Morin, of piano team of Bea and Joe Morin on station KTSA, San Antonio, was inducted by the Army. Morin made the 14th member of the KTSA staff to be called into service.

EX-MAYOR OF KEOKUK NOW A RADIO GABBER

Des Moines, Dec. 15. John R. Irwin, former speaker of the Iowa House of Representatives, has been added to the news staff of KSO-KRNT.

He was five times a member of the Iowa legislature and former mayor of Keokuk.

Dell Peters Leaves MCA

Dell Peters, of the Music Corp. of America radio department, has resigned and leaves the agency in about

How Wars Differ

Bayuk Cigar has renewed its Cal Timney series, three quarter-hours weekly, on Mutual, after finding that the upping of the brand's price from a nickel to 6c. hadn't affected sales in the least.

A similar boost in World War I caused quite a decline in the cigar's turnover.

a week. Future plans are unsettled, but he is considering a proposition to join the radio department of an ad agency.

Before going over to MCA with the latter's purchase of Columbia Artists Service, Peters was in radio 11 years as announcer, production man, etc.

Something New in Radio

NBC's Press Head, John McKay, Giving Luncheon for CBS' New Department Chief

Something virtually unheard of in radio press agency will take place soon when John McKay, publicity director of NBC, will give a luncheon for George Crandall, recently-appointed press head of CBS. Time and place of the feed isn't set, but McKay will issue the invites in a day or two.

The powwow will be strictly informal, with McKay inviting only the local network and station men he knows personally. They include

Earl Mullin, of the Blue; Dick Pack, of Mutual; Lester Gottlieb, WOR; Leon Goldstein, WMCA, and Jack Banner, WNEW.

McKay and Crandall have been friends for some years. Peterson Kurzer is returning to the Chicago office of Spot Sales, Inc., following his honorable discharge from the Army because of minor eye trouble.

FIRST AID FOR WARTIME ADVERTISERS

COVER THE FATTEST MARKET →

Even though your budget's short, you can still make ends meet to cover the fattest market in the U. S. Use WJZ's thrifty coverage of Greater New York. (WJZ recently pulled nearly 10,000 requests from four low-cost announcements on "The Woman of Tomorrow.")



← KEEP TRADE NAMES ALIVE

Keep your trade name alive for the duration by the WJZ "respiration" method. You're the one who'll be tickled. Because you'll keep the name alive and kicking in the minds of Greater New York's millions at lower cost over WJZ.

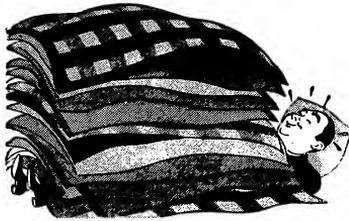
FINGERS ON PULSE →

Keep your fingers on the pulse of what really counts in wartime advertising. WJZ advertising is up 37% for 1942. And there's a reason. For example, when WJZ and a competitor recently carried the same announcement 2 and 21 times respectively, WJZ pulled 20% better!



← KEEP MESSAGE WARM

You'll find your advertising message getting hot with the help of WJZ's warm coverage... 4,336,253 radio homes in the Greater New York Market—658,253 more than its closest competitor. It's the lowest cost coverage of the world's greatest market!



WJZ 50,000 WATTS
77 ON YOUR DIAL

New York's First Station and Key Station of the BLUE NETWORK.

Too Jittery About Spot Biz

The time-buying heads of major agencies think that station reps are getting unnecessarily jittery over the relative quiet which has prevailed in the national spot field for the past several weeks. The agency men agree that spot business is slated for a slump the early part of 1943, but they are of the opinion that it won't be anything so precipitous as some reps are beginning to anticipate.

National spot, the buyers point out, is now going through its biggest year in history and it would be a misfortune for the industry to gauge the wartime outlook by the 1942 graph. The agency men describe spot as a supplementary force used by a national advertiser for direct selling and they predict that, as goods become scarcer, the tendency in that quarter will be to retain networks for primarily institutional purposes and taper off spot participation.

As to the changes in the civilian economy become more marked, the spot end of radio will find itself resolving from a seller's market into a buyer's market.

Wheeler Scores FCC For Sending a 'Novice' Before His Senate Group

Washington, Dec. 15.

Federal Communications Commission received a letter from Senator Burton K. Wheeler, chairman of the senate interstate commerce committee, regarding the representative before the committee last week an employee assigned to the agency...

Senator Wheeler heatedly denounced the FCC, declaring that its actions showed that it 'has no respect' for his committee. He added that he resented the 'slight'.

Denunciation came when the committee opened hearings Wednesday (9) on a bill which would authorize the Navy Department to suspend for the duration of the war certain provisions of the Federal Communications Act of 1934. As its spokesman, FCC sent before the committee Jeremiah Kucinjer.

Commander F. D. Willenbacher, representing the Navy communications division, told the committee that relatively few events have occurred thus far which would make the proposed legislation necessary.

Senator Wallace White, of Maine, also, at the hearing that Federal agencies had no right to come to Congress and ask for power to waive duly enacted laws.

Falling Revenue

Continued from page 24

stations broadcast OWI and other Government messages.

Fly Looks for Plan

Chairman Fly told his press conference Monday (14) that he is hopeful some sound plan can be worked out to aid the small broadcasting stations which have been hard hit financially because of decreased advertising.

'We are beginning to wonder,' he stated, 'if we can't stir up some advertising for those stations. It seems to me to be the most wholesome way to handle it; much better than to have the Government move in and give some artificial stimulation and throw some additional burden on the stations.'

Chairman Fly said the FCC was making studies and holding conferences regarding the situation of the small stations that may have trouble in staying on the air. The problem is particularly serious, he said, in a number of smaller towns and cities served by local stations dependent on the business of the particular community.

About 175 stations operated in the net in 1941, the chairman said, pointing out that a great majority of those were in one-station towns, where the town is wholly dependent upon that station for local service and in some cases for primary services.

Number of single-station towns, he said, was 115. There are also, he pointed out, 103 stations in single-station towns that have virtually no earnings.

Spector Gets True Story

The Raymond Spector agency has taken over the True Story mag account from Arthur Kudner, Inc.

Kudner had been using minute announcements on around 90 stations, and Spector will retain approximately the same list, but make it five-minute transmissions based on

Professor on the News

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 15.

Professor Dexter Perkins, head of the University of Rochester history department and city historian, will begin a series of news broadcasts over WTRM Dec. 20 at 5:15 p.m. The program will be sustaining.

He will be the second local news commentator, the other being David Kessler, who has a morning spot on WHAM. All other news handled locally is 'off the wire.'

SEES COMMERCIAL DX AS MEANS TO BOOST POST-WAR ANZAC TRADE

BILL ADAMS AGAIN HEADS N.Y. AFRA LOCAL

Bill Adams was re-elected last week as president of the New York local of the American Federation of Radio Artists. Other officers elected at the same time were Walter Preston, first vice-president; Ben Grauer, second v.p.; Betty Garde, third v.p.; Alex McKee, fourth v.p.; Ken Roberts, fifth v.p.; Anne Seymour, recording secretary, and Ned Weaver, treasurer. All but Roberts were incumbents. George Heller is local executive-secretary, a non-elective officer.

AFRA's national administration, headed by president Lawrence Tilbeitt, is continuing in office another year, the election having been dropped when plans for the national convention were called off because of war-time travel restrictions.

Radio Exec Says Time Is Ripe for Future Planning—No Trouble Finding Sponsors Once Government Gave Its Okay

Sydney, Dec. 15.

Disagreeing with W. Cleary, chairman of the Non-Commercial Australian Broadcasting Commission, on shortwave broadcasting of advertised products, Cornwallis Paddison, vice-president of the Australian Federation of Commercial Stations, has urged the government to establish an Aussie commercial DX setup as a medium to increase the post-war markets.

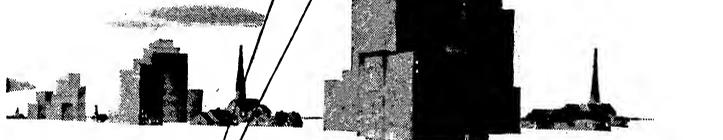
Paddison's proposal is in direct disagreement with that of Cleary, who stated that although America had a commercial broadcasting system, products were not advertised via shortwave. Paddison also pointed out that commercial DX had been attempted by American troops...

that broadcasts were popular with U. S. forces here as well as with others, particularly programs such as Jack Beany, (General Foods), Bob Hope, (Peppodent), etc.

Contention of Paddison is that the time is ripe for Australia to pave the way for postwar markets. He said that America was doing this throughout the Pacific area and elsewhere. He cited that sponsors could easily be found by commercials, provided the government granted DX permits.

Paddison felt sure that Australian programs would be welcomed in the U. S. and it was time that responsible folks realized Australia must find outlets for merchandise. He claimed that the DX buildup now was the sanest way to insure postwar expansion.

A TALE OF 412 CITIES



A PREVIEW OF THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE RADIO SURVEY EVER MADE*

There are 412 cities in the United States with a population of 25,000 or more. Nearly 50% of the nation's radio families live in them. What stations do they listen to most at night?

The largest survey of radio listening habits ever undertaken—NBC's 1942 Nationwide Survey—has just turned up with the answer:

In 324 of those 412 cities, NBC stations were listened to most at night, compared to 85 for the second network. That's a lead of nearly 4 to 1! Or put another way, 52% of the radio families in those 412 cities listen most to NBC stations, as compared to 24% for the second network.

Or put still another way, NBC stations (as the survey showed) have a substantial lead in night-time listening over the stations of all other networks in every type of market.

Or, to put it even more simply, NBC is today, more than ever, the network most people listen to at night.

* One out of every 120 radio families in the United States told us what their listening habits were and what stations were their favorites. The result of these surveys, which will give this information for every county and every radio station in the country, will be published shortly.

P.S. Out soon—the story of a night time listening in the 412 25,000+ over cities. Watch for it.

Gas Rationing Restricts Pitt Tooters, Cutting Off Lucrative Suburban Jobs

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. No out-of-town jobs at all for the holiday season are being accepted by Local 60 of musicians union on the grounds that the gas rationing. Suburban bands have long been a source of heavy revenue for the music fraternity during Christmas and New Year's, but any calls beyond the limits of Allegheny County are now being turned down. In addition, a flock of local orches booked months ago for big party dates all over the district are cancelling right and left because of their inability to get extra rations.

Although Local 60 has made an effort to land B cards at least under a blanket arrangement for its members, union gas has met with little success. Individual applications have been received with no consistency from the ration boards, some having granted B's, while others flatly fix such requests. Men on steady jobs in many cases have been forced to take up temporary residence in rooms near their places of employment inasmuch as the hours the musicians generally work make use of public conveniences out of the question.

Spot job situation is practically impossible, too, especially for drummers, bull-fiddlers and others with large instruments, since they can't use the buses or trolleys because of recent overcrowding. In the case of spots where occasional dance music is used, generally on weekends, are being refused on call because of the union. Although Local 60 has more than 250 members in the armed forces, there are 100 men in uniform and officers see an unemployment situation as a result of the transportation problem. Many are being sent to do nothing unless boards grow a little more lenient.

A flock of members who work in defense plants by day and in orchestras at night are also having their instruments, instruments, and instruments lightening up on them, too, claiming they're not using their extra gas strictly for war purposes.

DISE IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, Dec. 15. Stephen Swedish orch, which has been in demand throughout Wisconsin for several years, played a Sunday night date in Kenosha, then announced that all further out of town appearances were off for the duration due to the transportation situation. Band now is unable to keep booked solid right here in the city, due to the fact that there are few remaining orches, and also due to the fact that out of 1,400 members of Milwaukee musicians' Local 8, 350 are now in the nation's armed forces. What few visiting bands do come here now are generally short of men and rely upon the local union to supply fill-ins. In some cases this has not been possible, particularly in brasses, as there simply are no men to be had.

SPITALNY GIRLS DRESS UP GOV.'S 'E' AWARD

Phil Spitalny and his all-girl orchestra have been bought by the Crompton & Knowles Loom Works, Lowell, Mass., to entertain employees. While the Army and Navy decorates the company with an 'E' award for its war production efforts, Spitalny will be held at the Worcester Auditorium tomorrow night (Thurs.). Transportation for Spitalny and his band is almost assured for the date. Band is drawing approximately \$3,300 for the job.

Chester B'krupt, But Still Using His Assets

Another meeting of Bob Chester's creditors has been scheduled for Jan. 10 in N. Y. A liquidation get-together was conducted last Thursday (10), but since Chester is on the road with his band little could be accomplished. Leader filed a petition in bankruptcy last summer for approximately \$100,000. One of the items reviewed at the meeting last week, and which Chester will asked to explain, is why he is using his two cars on the current foot. They are supposed to be in custody, as part of his assets.

Traveling Bands Return

Minneapolis, Dec. 15. A brief interruption due to cancellation of Jack LeMaire, Happy Hour here resumes its traveling band policy Dec. 23, when Fletcher Henderson comes in for a three-week return engagement.

Following Henderson, Freddie Fisher's "Schickelreiter" outfit comes back Jan. 20 for six weeks. Lanny Motzke is spotted to follow, and then Tiny Hill.

Gov't Gets Right To Carry A.F.M. Case to Sup. Ct.

Chicago, Dec. 15. Judge John H. Barnes, of the U. S. District Court here, who dismissed the Government's anti-trust suit against James C. Petrillo and his American Federation of Musicians two months ago, granted the Government an appeal last week and the case will be routed directly to the U. S. Supreme Court and probably be heard sometime next spring.

The petition of appeal, filed by Thurman Arnold, chief of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice, and J. Albert Well, U. S. District Attorney, claimed that Judge Barnes had erred in holding that the case was essentially a labor dispute. Also claimed that Judge Barnes erred in his holding that the Petrillo ban on electrical transcription in broadcasts was merely a part of union effort to maintain a closed shop in the industry. Arnold argued that labor disputes were specifically excluded by various acts of Congress.

"This case," the petition said, "raises issues of great importance since it involves a program of action by the union, which if permitted to continue, ultimately will deprive the public of the means of recreation hitherto available at small cost and will deprive the nation in wartime of important radio communications."

Wimbish Vs. Teagarden Complicated by Lawyer's Failure to File Defense

Jack Teagarden and his former manager, Paul Wimbish are battling before the American Federation of Musicians' arbitration board. Wimbish last June filed a complaint with the union claiming he had a contract with Teagarden calling for \$100 weekly and a percentage of the net earnings of the Teagarden orchestra. He wants an accounting of the band's earnings and his split, which he claims, he never received.

AFM last week granted Wimbish's demand for an accounting, but the decision has been complicated by the fact that Teagarden never filed a defense. According to the leader, he gave the case to an attorney on the Coast and before the action could prepare the papers, he was inducted by the Army. Upon being advised of the decision in his favor, Teagarden explained things to the AFM, which now has his answer under advisement.

About three years ago, just after Wimbish took the Teagarden band during his winter tour, he filed a petition in bankruptcy to the tune of approximately \$26,000, which, at that time, was the highest of all bank bankruptcies. It has since been suppressed.

Wimbish took an Army physical in N. Y. Wednesday (9) and was turned down. He is now in Florida for a few days, after which he wants to join the Air Force.

Tony Zimmers Alive

Tony Zimmers, widely known tenor sax player who was reported killed in action in the Solomon Islands several months ago, is alive and well. He is a musician in a U. S. infantry band in Panama. The soldier cited in the dispatch from the Solomons, and with whom Zimmers was confused, was an Anthony Zimmers. The musician's first name is Antonio.

When the false reports of his death were circulated, Zimmers' family, living in Pottsville, Pa., made frantic efforts to check them, since they had received no such word officially. But band understood the report to be accurate, since it was first published in the American Federation of Musicians Journal.

Everett Hoegland and band are current at the Reforma Hotel, Mexico City, where they will be for the next several months.

New Rialto, N. Y., a Wartime Click Where Peacetime Danceria Brodied

Records, Cocktail Units and Cafe Attractions Will get expert analysis from John Hammond, Jr. May Johnson Jack Bertell in 'Show Business at War' theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

New Rialto Ballroom, N. Y. on the site of the famous Danceria, which served dancing and now for the one audience until a starved b.o. brought the shutters, appears to be heading for a successful run. This is one of those warborn ventures begun with a minimum of cash outlay. It doesn't take an experienced promoter to predict a realization that comparatively little coin was spent to ready the spot for its debut.

At 75c a head the dancery is drawing fairly good business during the week, with two unknown bands as main attraction on weekends. It has virtually capacity. As expected, and similar to the other public ballrooms along Broadway, Farmer's combination of the business is represented by service men, with and without escort. They can order beer only and ice cream sodas) at a bar at one of the half-dozen tables.

Bands under Willie Farmer and Augustus Wray, main stylist, service the approximately 50 by 70-foot dance floor, which is cheaply rented all the year around. The house orchestra of the business is represented by service men, with and without escort. They can order beer only and ice cream sodas) at a bar at one of the half-dozen tables.

Glen Island, Badly Hit on Weekdays, May Shut Jan. 6

Bobby Gherowald's orch closes at Glen Island Casino, New Rochelle, N. Y., Jan. 6, after which the spot is likely to close, at least until summer.

Spot has not been doing too well lately, mid-week business having fallen off sharply. Weekend has been okay, however.

Of the three suburban new band stands in the New York area, only Frank Daley's Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J., has stood up under gasoline and rubber restrictions. However, the Log Cabin at Armonk, like Glen Island, does business only on weekends, with midweek trade virtually nonexistent.

Joe Marsala is at Log Cabin; Charlie Spivak is at Meadowbrook, giving way tomorrow night (Thurs.) to Cab Lullaby.

Arthur Bavel orch, booked into William Penn hotel, Pittsburgh, for two weeks, renewed for four more.

Hub Symph Sigs Victor Deal, but Won't Record Until Petrillo Lifts Ban

Boston Symphony, which recently joined the American Federation of Musicians in protesting against that organization, has been signed by Victor Records to a contract that doesn't require any recording until after the present ban against recording is lifted. All the same, Victor's president, Frank Walker, signed the Boston Post Orchestra, under Arthur Fiedler.

Hubert Symph, conducted by Serge Koussevitzky, has recorded for Victor in the past. Released in 1925 after a career of 25 years ago, when the outfit was conducted by Dr. Karl Muck, Koussevitzky's Victor deal for Victor as leader of the group were made in 1929.

HUB HOTEL ITS OWN SAT. NIGHT PROMOTER

Boston, Dec. 15. Jack Teagarden's band proved a successful ginea pig for Maxine Steele's first season. Depew Steele's Copley Plaza experiment of using the usually vacant main ballroom Sunday night for general dancing. Band drew 725 at \$1 cover.

As a result, Steele plans to make this a regular event in addition to the Oval Room, currently featuring Morton Downey and Eddy Oliver's orchestra. While Kirk's band is in the Colonial Room. All did capacity last Saturday night (12). Instead of conducting dances in usual ballroom fashion, Steele has tables and chairs in the ballroom for her hosts, with hostess added business in food and liquor.

Stabile in Uniform

Dick Stable entered the Coast Guard at Manhattan Beach, N. Y. Stable (12) has been named as a Chief Petty Officer (Bandmaster) rating. Band, now mastered by Stable (12), has been named as a Chief Petty Officer (Bandmaster) rating. Band, now mastered by Stable (12), has been named as a Chief Petty Officer (Bandmaster) rating.

According to Miss Barthelemy the idea of her assuming leadership of the outfit after Stable's enlistment was founded on a recent 'Variety' story citing the increasing number of female bands in the country.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE
37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER
of
VARIETY

To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK	HOLLYWOOD	CHICAGO	LONDON
154 W. 46th St.	1708 No. Vine St.	54 W. Randolph St.	8 St. Martin's Pl.

Harry Fox Orders Audit of AMP Books; Controversy on Recording Royalties Gets More Acrimonious

Harry Fox, agent and trustee for publishers on Associated Music Publishers, Inc., that he has retained a firm of auditors to go over the recording firm's books and records to determine whether it has met fully its own accounting of records made separately for the AMP's radio library and for Muzak (wired radio service). Fox's move is tied up with the controversy that has cropped up recently between himself and AMP over the 1943 price for library recordings which Fox submitted several weeks ago, setting on the instructions to his clients, Fox has reverted to the old price of \$16 per master, or \$5 more than recorded library manufacturers have been paying during 1942.

Fox's move to examine the AMP books is based on what he claims to have been the AMP's failure to make an accounting of tunes recorded for Muzak. According to Fox it has been the AMP's practice to stencil a composition, write one with vocals for radio and another strictly instrumental, for library to contract with accounting for publishers to the radio discs. The debate between C. M. Finney, AMP prez, and Fox over the \$16 fee reached a point of personal acrimony last week, when the AMP took grievance with library subscribers during a district meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters at the Billmore hotel, N. Y. Fox was pictured by AMP spokesmen as the latest music ogre with whom the broadcasting industry must contend. Fox later accused Finney of attempting to lead the NAB to go back on an understanding that Finney had entered into with Fox at the end of 1941. Finney, according to Fox, at the time had pointed out that, since few publishers had resumed ASCAP licenses it would be equitable on the part of ASCAP publishers to reduce the library recording royalty to \$10 per master. Fox retorts claims that Finney had agreed to the adoption of the \$10 price merely as an interim arrangement and to go back to the \$16 fee when practically all of the AMP's sign-up subscribers had obtained ASCAP licenses.

The AMP last week also went over the head of Fox to his publisher principals in an effort to induce them to give the recording company a six-month extension of their present license (on the basis of \$10 per annual fee) or to accept a bulk deal similar to the one which was negotiated by the Warner Bros. music group some months ago. The AMP failed to get any extensions, but there were several publishers who agreed to the bulk arrangement. AMP's plea for the extension contained the suggestion that it would serve as a sort of respite until a settlement had been reached with regard to the American Federation of Musicians' ban on recording.

Levis Grunberg's score for the Columbia picture, "Commandos Don't Davn", will be published as "The Commando Suite."

Josefovits' Jungnickel Composing Deal for 13

Terl Josefovits, piano soloist at the Broadway Theatre for the past six years, and just about fully recovered, following a long illness, has signed a contract to turn out piano-orchestra compositions for Ross Jungnickel. He will do 13 years, the first of which is titled "Theme Romantique." Jungnickel, standard in the business, was recently taken over by Cherio and Rytowic music pub. interests.

With Don Baker, N. Y. Farogian, and Hillard Goldsmith, Josefovits has also written two pops for Jungnickel.

Publishers Claim E. C. Mills Brews Tele Problem

E. C. Mills, general manager of the Songwriters Protective Association, has caused some annoyance among music publishers by his advising writers to reserve their television rights when signing contracts for new material. By bringing up this issue, these publishers complain, Mills threatens to disrupt the placid understanding among ASCAP writer and publisher members that the question of television rights ownership is to remain dormant until the right itself shows signs of acquiring a commercial value. The publishers now suspect that Mills plans to have the SPA claim tele rights as a pre-requirement to the SPA becoming the licensing agency for such rights.

ASCAP's directors have agreed that it would be prudent to let the television right remain homeless as far as administration is concerned until the publishers and the writers can, at the proper time determine, or have determined for them through the process of adjudication, whether television constitutes a small (or performing) right or a dramatic (or production) right. If it should be determined that tele is a small right, then its licensing will fall within the sphere of ASCAP. Should the allocation be in favor of the dramatic category, then terms provided for in the all-or-rights clause of the old writer's contract will prevail. As for new works, the terms covering the tele rights will be obviously a matter of negotiation between writer and publisher.

It is quite possible that Congress itself will recognize the need and justice for setting up a separate department within the copyright law for television and adopt a specific amendment, as happened in 1908 when the statute was right for mechanical reproduction.

Best Sheet Music Sellers (Week of Nov. 21)

- White Christmas.....Berlin
- Lights Go On Again.....CLP
- Praise Lord.....Famous
- There Are Five Things.....Yankee
- Five by Five.....Leeds
- Star Spangled Banner.....Miller
- Beloved.....Chappell
- Fall In Love.....Harms
- Moonlight Becomes You.....Famous
- Army Air Corps.....Fischer
- Never Be Another You.....Morris
- Crested Dream.....BVC
- Daybreak.....Fleet
- Am Gettin' Tired.....Army
- For Me and My Gal.....Mills

WB-Gale Buy in A-Y-B Catalog; Ben Bornstein Moves Over to Advance

Catalog of Ages, Yellen & Bornstein was acquired by the Advance Music Corp., which is owned jointly by the Warner Bros. music group and Moe Gale. As part of the deal, Ben Bornstein becomes general manager of Advance.

Deal may hit in excess of \$100,000. If partner Ben Bornstein's five-year management contract is taken into consideration, Moe Gale, 34, furthermore, the WB organization can exploit revivals of such tunes as "Sally Won't You Come Back," "Ain't S'weet," "Happy Days Are Here Again," etc.

Kenny's in Switch TO SILVER FOR 2 YRS.

Nick and Charles Kenny have shifted over to Abner Silver's Lincoln Music Corp. as exclusive songsmiths for the next two years. The Kenny Bros. are just winding up a Warner Bros. deal.

Nick Kenny, radio editor of the N.Y. Mirror, also does a syndicated column for Hearst and is an established ASCAP songwriter. Brother Charles Kenny, also an aide on the Mirror, writes the tune, but Silver will collaborate with both on the 1943-44 deal.

While at Warners, an indie subsidiary publishing unit had been set up to merchandize the Kenny songs.

M.P.P.A. Officers Relected

The entire 1942 roster of officers were reelected for another term at a meeting of the directorate of the Music Publishers Protective Association last week. They are Lester Sanby, president; Jack Mills, v.p.; Jack Bregman, secretary, and Dick Murray, treasurer.

The board at the same meeting elected the Music Corp. of U.S.A., Horowitz's firm, to membership.

Appeals Ct., in Significant Decision, Rules Copyrighted Work Needn't Be Published to Get I-E Protection

Decca's Stock Last Year's Will Equal Last Year's

Decca Record Board of Directors last week declared a regular quarterly dividend of 15c per share and a year-end div of 25c per share on the company's capital stock on record Dec. 12. Brings total payoff on capital stock for the year 1942 to \$115 a share, which equals the amount paid on the same stock in 1941. Dividends are payable Dec. 23.

Dividend declaration indicates that, despite the shellac curtailments of the current year, which undeniably has cut record production far below what it might have been, Decca's total sales equal last year's.

Morale Chiefs Want Servicemen Off the Cuff

In a circular letter to its members last week, the Music Publishers Protective Association, reported that the morale divisions of the Army and Navy have become insistent that the music industry refrain from furnishing free material to servicemen. The circular letter, which was signed by Harry Fox, declared that the morale chiefs of the services had expressed themselves as determined to do everything to prevent the men in the ranks from acquiring chiseling habits. The morale heads had also advised the APFA that appropriation of funds have been made so that the musical units in the Army and Navy can be supplied with all the music they need.

Music publishers have been deluged some of the camps with free arrangements of their new numbers, fearing that the breaks will be theirs whenever any of these camp bands go on the air.

SONGLUGGER SUES CHERIO FOR STOCK

Robert E. Mann filed suit in N. Y. supreme court Tuesday (15) for breach of contract and for \$25,000 damages against Cherio Music Publishers, Inc., Maurice Herie, also known as Maurice Hartmann, and Jean Heppner, also known as Deanna Bartlett.

Complaint alleges that he was hired by the defendants as contact-man to publicize, exploit and plug the defendants' songs for which he was to receive 15% of the profits and 10% of the corporation stock on or before January, 1942.

Reversing the finding of a lower court, the N. Y. circuit court of appeals last week ruled that a copyrighted work doesn't have to be published in order to get the protection of Section 1E of the copyright act, and that the law does confer upon the copyright owner of an unpublished musical number the exclusive right to its reproduction. The court, involved in this decision, which the music trades regard as highly significant, is Jack Shilkret versus Musicarr Records. The victor on the appeal was Shilkret. The tribunal vote was two to one, with the dissent making the case appealing to the U. S. Supreme Court.

Muscaraf had argued that a copyright owner who had registered his work under Section 1E of the copyright act would not sue for infringement should his work be recorded without permission, because another section (1E) restricted the reproduction to compositions "published and copyrighted after the copyright law became effective (July 1, 1909). The circuit court's opinion saw this emphasis on the terms "and published" as a discrimination against unpublished works as strictly a "literal reading and something which was certainly not intended by the framers of the act. The reason why the words "and published" were apparently inserted, said the court was

(Continued on page 36)

NAME FINKELSTEIN AS ASCAP STAFF COUNSEL

Herman Finkelstein was named to the newly created post of ASCAP staff counsel at a meeting of the Society's board of directors last week. The firm of Schwartz & Froslich, from whose staff Finkelstein comes, will continue as ASCAP's general counsel, though still in his 39's.

Finkelstein is considered an authority on the words and published. He has handled ASCAP matters through S. & F. for the past eight years.

There have been indications from ASCAP directors ever since the settlement of the ASCAP-radio fight in late 1941 that the assignment of staff counsel was to be accorded Finkelstein. He figured actively in the negotiations of the consent decree with the U. S. Department in early 1941.

Robbins Dickers For Circle (Scott) Catalog

Robbins Music Co. is negotiating for the purchase of the Circle Music Co. catalog, owned by Raymond Scott (Harry Warnow) and his brother, Mark Warnow. History of the firm in the Circle folder are original melodies penned by Scott himself.

Raymond, Robert T. Abeles, and Stanley is said to be going over the legal details of the Scott musical properties.

For the New Year - Two New Hits for Your Programs!

LET'S GET AHEAD WITH MICH ANYMORE

Lyric by Harold Adamson

Music by Peter De Rosa

Lyric by Bob Russell

Music by Duke Ellington

ROBBINS MUSIC CORPORATION

799 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Murray Baker, Prof. Mgr.

ASCAP Votes in Ahlert-Leslie Plan By Wide Margin; Takes Effect in '44

The ASCAP writers classification committee is now free to adopt the new plan for allocating royalties, as proposed by Fred E. Ahlert and Edgar Leslie, and make the latter system operative Jan. 1, 1944. The Ahlert amendment, serving as an enabling device for the new plan, has been adopted by an overwhelming vote of the ASCAP membership. The ballots were counted Monday (14), and they showed the writers' numerical vote to be two to one in favor. The publishers' numerical vote was three to one the same way. The amendment of Pinky Herman, who favored the establishment of a permanent 'seniority of works fund' or annual guarantee of a certain portion of the writers' divvy, was voted down.

The Ahlert-Leslie plan requires the classification committee to meet but once a year, while Herman sought to make the classification of writer members mandatory once each quarter. It was one of these two devices that the writer-publisher members voted.

The vote was counted on the basis both of numerical returns and weight vote; that is, the number of voting units determined by each member's rating in the Society. Among the writers the numerical count was 473 for and 261 against, while the weighted vote made it 36,138 for and 6,803 against. Of the publishers ballots, 96 favored the Ahlert amendment and 31 were against it. In terms of weighted vote the publishers' count was 2,643 for and 129 against. Of the potential weighted vote, the results were 76% to 24%.

Herman's amendment found the writers numerically two to one against it, and the publishers disposed similarly by four and a half to one. In terms of percentage of potential weighted votes, this amendment rated 63% opposed and 6% in favor.

The ASCAP board of directors, at a meeting Thursday (10) voted down a proposal that the balloting deadline for the amendment be extended and

Threatens New Plan

John Redmond, member of the special writers committee which considered the Ahlert-Leslie plan, declared yesterday (Tuesday) he has served notice on the ASCAP 'writers' classification committee that, unless the latter first reclassifies the ratings of protesting members, he will bring legal pressure against the adoption of the new plan.

Redmond held that it would be unfair to most of the writers in the lower ranks if the new system becomes effective before the currently unsatisfactory rating situation was cleaned up as a preliminary step.

ROBBINS SETTING UP NEW RECORDING CORP.

Albany, Dec. 15. Lion Record Corp. has been chartered to conduct a business in musical compositions of all kinds in New York. Capital stock is 100 shares, no par value.

Attorney Julian T. Abeles, of N. Y., filed the papers.

Jack Robbins' idea of the setting up of this corporation is another step toward the materialization of an idea that Jack Robbins, of the Robbins Music Corp., has harbored for a long time. He has felt that, like the Warner Bros. group which has Herman Starr represented on the board of the Decca Record Co., the Metro-Robbins combination ought to have a recording connection of its own.

Robbins visualizes recording subsidiaries as a common thing among major publishers after the war, and he wants to be ready.

The deadline remained as originally set, namely, midnight of that date (10).

A TRIO OF HITS

We Have Acquired the Song
The Whole Music World Is Raving About

Why Don't You Do Right

(BET ME SOME MONEY, TOO!)

By Joe McCoy

BENNY GOODMAN'S Columbia Record
Is Sensational!

OUR NEW BALLAD

Yesterday's Gardenias

By Dick Robertson—Sammy Mysels—Nelson Cogan

Recorded by GLEN CRAY—TONY MARTIN

GLENN MILLER—BOB CHESTER

CHARLIE SPIVAK (Backed with White Christmas)

THE BIG MID-WESTERN HIT

The Honey Song

(HONEY, I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU)

By Curt Massey—Archie Gibson

Recorded by Louise Massey and Westerners on Okeh

Mayfair Music Corp., 1619 B'way, New York

Hollywood

Chicago

Chuck Rinker
1537 North Vine St.

Vic Duncan
54 West Randolph St.

Green-Knight Catalog May Sell for \$10,000

Green Bros. & Knight may dispose of its catalog at the end of the year. The publishing firm has given an option to buy to Lew Sarroff, who is presently connected with the trade. The purchase price is \$10,000 and the option's expiration date is Dec. 31. Al Flood with the Flop Fly, Inc. is reported that the prospective buyer in no way will be associated with him. Newt Oliphant and Michael Field, who co-authored "The Same Old Story" (BMI).

Music Notes

Law Petlack and Charles Newman writing songs for the Republic Musical, Tahiti Honey.

Max Steiner completed original music for scene of adventures of Marc Twain at Warners.

Johnny Green, composer and band leader, moved into Metro building.

David Snelg doing the score for "Mr. Justice Goes Hunting" at Metro.

George Stoll preparing the score for "I'm Back at Metro."

Harry Revel and Paul Webster turned in three songs for Ginny Simms in "Oh, Doctor" at Universal.

Dimitri Tiomkin moved into Universal to score "Shadow of a Doubt."

Harry Akst and Sammy Cahn clefled "Play It on the G-String" for Hugo Stromberg's "G-String Murders."

James McTeagh and Herb Magidson clefled the new "Song of the Coast Artillery," to be sung in Columbia Candidate School at Columbia.

Harry James, Kay Kyser, Jimmy Dorsey and Tommy Dorsey are facing the cameras at Metro. Their songs, respectively, are "Best Foot Forward," "Right About Face," "I Dood It" and "Girl Crazy."

Marines are looking for a complete band for their new base at Pensacola on the Pacific Coast. Such a leader who can enlist his musicians in a job is assured a commission.

John Saib, WJSV, Wash., pianist and organist, and Shannon Bolin, singer, collaborated on a recording in the Navy Waves, which was played for the first time and dedicated to the WAVES recently.

Dave Snelg started work on the score for "Right About Face" at Metro.

Orest Bradley used 46-piece orchestra to score the Metro cartoon, "Suffering Cats."

Appeals Ct.

Continued from page 35

to protect those phonograph record manufacturers who still had large stocks of unlicensed music when the new copyright law was passed in 1909. The wording gave them a period to dispose of such records without subjecting themselves to infringement suits.

"We are convinced" reads the majority opinion of the circuit court, "that it was not the purpose of the (and published) proviso to effect a discrimination between published and unpublished copyright musical compositions. To give it a meaning which necessitates that result makes it repugnant to the main body of Section 17. It is, therefore, the exact 'published.' We must construe the word as used to defeat the legislative purpose, even though we have to give it a meaning more limited than is ordinarily accorded it. We hold that a work copyrighted under section 11 has been 'published' within the meaning of section 17."

Under section 1E the copyright owner is granted the exclusive right to reproduce his work. The act also includes a provision making it compulsory for the copyright owner to license any and all recording companies once the number has been released for mechanical reproduction.

NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following tabulation of popular music performances embraces all four networks—NBC, CBS, Blue, and Mutual—as represented by WPAE, WJZ, WABC and WOR, N. Y. Compilation herewith covers week beginning Monday through Sunday, Dec. 7-13, from 8 p. m. to 1 a. m., and is based on material reported by Accurate Reporting Service, regular source of music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER	TOTAL
There Are Such Things.....	Yankee	37
"A Touch of Texas".....	Holiday	23
Rose Ann of Charing Cross.....	Shapiro	22
Why Don't You Fall in Love With Me?.....	Harms	24
I Had the Craziest Dream—"Springtime".....	Leeds	23
Play by 5—"Behind 8 Ball".....	Leeds	23
3 Men Who.....	Witmark	23
"I'm Getting Tired So I Can Sleep".....	Army	22
"The Lights Go On Again".....	CLP	18
Velvet Moon.....	Witmark	17
Brazil.....	Southern	16
"I'm Getting Tired So I Can Sleep".....	Southern	15
Dearest Beloved—"You Were Never Lovelier".....	Chappell	15
I'd Do It Again.....	Santly	15
Manhattan Serenade—Ammunition.....	Robbins	15
Daybreak—"Pvt. Miss Jones".....	Feist	15
Moonlight Becomes You—"Road to Morocco".....	Famous	14
"Constantly"—"Road to Morocco".....	Paramount	13
If I Cared a Little Bit Less.....	Feist	13
Pennsylvania Polka.....	Shapiro	13
There'll Never Be Another You—"Iceland".....	Morris	13
Yesterday's Gardenias.....	Mayfair	13
Get It Over.....	Paramount	13
Three Dreams—"Powers Girl".....	Remick	11
Rosie the Riveter.....	Paramount	10
Every Night About This Time.....	Rutins	9
For Me and My Gal—"Me and My Gal".....	Mills	9
Hip Hip Hooryay.....	Robbins	9
"A Touch of Texas".....	Paramount	9
Can't Get Out of Mood—"Seven Days Leave".....	Southern	8
Lights a Candle in the Chapel.....	Mills	8
Manhattan Serenade.....	Robbins	8
The Steam Is on the Beam.....	Crawford	8
3121 Miles Away.....	Leeds	8
"The Light of the Silvery Moon".....	Dorsey	8
Yankee Doodle Boy—"Yankee Doodle Dandy".....	Vogel	8
At the Crossroads.....	Harms	7
Keep Me from Missing You.....	Paramount	7
Over There—"Yankee Doodle Dandy".....	Feist	7
Starlight Sonata.....	Chappell	7
You Be So Nice—Come Home To.....	Remick	6
Blue Skies.....	Berlin	6
Out of This World—"Powers Girl".....	Paradise	6
Paradise Falls.....	Atlas	6
Ten Little Soldiers.....	Lincoln	6
"This Is the Army, Mr. Jones".....	Paradise	6
ABC.....	ABC	5
Everything I've Got.....	Chappell	5
Let My Sugar in Salt Lake City.....	Mills	5
There'll Never Be Another You.....	Ambeross	5
If I Ever Get Back to Hannah.....	Mutual	5
Can't Be Wrong.....	Herman	5
There's Nothing on Love.....	Feist	5
We're All in It.....	B'way	5

*Musical. **This is the Army' publishing subed.

10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most ticks this week in jukeboxes throughout the country, as reported by operators to 'Variety.' Names of more than one band or vocalist after the title indicates, in order of popularity, the various recordings played. Figures and names in parentheses indicate the number of weeks each song has been in the listings and respective publishers.)

1. White Christmas (6) (Berlin).....	Bing Crosby.....	Decca
	Charlie Spivak.....	Columbia
2. When Lights Go On (8) (CLP).....	Vaughn Monroe.....	Victor
	Les Brown.....	Okeh
	Armsy Saterfield.....	Decca
3. Five By Five (7) (Leeds).....	Freddie Slack.....	Capitol
4. Deeply Beloved (4) (Chappell).....	Alvino Rey.....	Victor
	Glen Miller.....	Victor
	Conce Borwick.....	Dorsey
5. Why Don't You Fall Love (Harms).....	Dick Jurgens.....	Okeh
6. Praise Lord (6) (Famous).....	Kay Kyser.....	Columbia
	Merry Maestri.....	Decca
7. There Are Such Things (3) (Yankee).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
8. Manhattan Serenade (6) (Robbins).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
	Harry James.....	Columbia
9. Had Craziest Dream (2) (BVC).....	Harry James.....	Columbia
	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
10. Daybreak (6) (Feist).....	Harry James.....	Columbia

OTHER FAVORITES

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity. Tunes with number of weeks in parentheses are falling in popularity.)

My Devotion (18) (Santly).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
	Vaughn Monroe.....	Victor
Brail (Southern).....	Jimmy Dorsey.....	Decca
Moonlight Becomes You (Famous).....	Sammy Kaye.....	Victor
There'll Never Be Another You (Miller).....	Sammy Kaye.....	Victor
Here Comes Van (Shapiro).....	Andrew Sisters.....	Decca
This Is the Army (Army).....	Hal McIntyre.....	Victor
For Me and My Gal (Mills).....	Judy Garland.....	Decca
Touch of Texas (Southern).....	Glenn Miller.....	Decca
	Freddy Martin.....	Victor

3 MUSTS FOR YOUR BOOKS
I BURNED A MATCH | MUMBLE JUMBLE
(FROM END TO END)
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CAB GALLOWAY, No. 3662 Col.
RYTCOV, Inc. 1658 B'way, N. Y. (AGAP)

Top Niteries Seen Closed in Boston Until After Next Year; Biz Brisk In Lesser Spots but With Restraint

By RUDOLPH ELIE, Jr.
Boston, Dec. 15.

Boston's night life was fabulous until Nov. 28. It was inevitable that the breakneck pace of the Hub couldn't have gone on forever and that something would snap. That such a ghastly climax as the Coconut Grove disaster would take place only had been dreamed of, of course, but it did take place, and now Boston's night life can be told only in the past tense.

Although the city has recovered to a certain extent, one estimate, which claimed nearly 500 lives on that Saturday in November, and although life has to a certain extent returned after dark, the old hysteria has been replaced by sobriety and the old headlong search for diversion with discretion.

Still closed, and likely to remain closed until the turn of the year are the major night clubs — Mayfair, Latin Quarter, Rio Casino and so on. The Beachcomber may reopen to-night (Tuesday), but is not definite.

Lesser Spots Open.
The lesser spots are open, though, and business is brisk, though, with something of restraint in the atmosphere, and mad spending has ceased in any case, although the Silver Dollar, Blinnstr's, Ori's, Stage Door, Music Box, Village Barn, and a room and a half and others have been inspected, approved and opened (with alterations it wasn't until last Saturday night they got rolling, for that was the first night there were signs of any resurgence whatever. Yet, no one is deluded that this means business will resume its pre-Grove proportions until the New Year, if then. The hotels have been inspected. (Continued on page 38)

Roastery Owner, Wife, Son Die in Arkansas Cottage of Suffocation

Memphis, Dec. 15.
The owner of an Arkansas roastery and his wife and small son were suffocated last week at the tourist cottage attached to their night spot, a triangle of sleeping in an overheated room.

Victims of the unusual accident were William Ruston Arnold, 57, owner of the Jungle Inn, 12 miles from West Memphis, Ark.; his wife, Gladys, 47, and their eight-year-old son, Bill.

The three apparently had retired in a tightly-sealed room without ventilation and had left a fire heater burning. The room became overheated while they were sleeping and it was indicated that Arnold had awakened in a dazed condition and had made an effort to effect an escape but was unable to do so. The bodies laid undiscovered in the room from Monday until, on Friday, brought the return of their daughter from school in Memphis. She had to get aid to break into the room.

WIRTZ-AGVA SNARL STILL UP IN THE AIR

The dispute between Arthur Wirtz and the American Guild of Variety Artists over a check for \$25,000 and Sonja Henie's Hollywood Ice Revue of 1942, is still up in the air. The lack of an agreement date between Wirtz and Kenneth Thomson.

Thomson had promised two weeks ago to negotiate with Thomson, exec secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, if more than half the cast were members of either of the Associated Actors and Artists of America unions. Thomson contended that was originally an AGVA dispute because the troupe was organized on the Coast and many of the cast were King Henie, held SAG cards.

Nick Lucas opens at the Hi Hat Club, St. Louis, Dec. 18. Set for two weeks.

Allentuck Quits USO

Max Allentuck has resigned from USO-Camp Shows, where he had been concentrating on procuring talent for cuffed spot bookings.

Allentuck checked out to rest from the effects of a recent illness.

Owner Shuts Cafe Though Fire Dept. Grants Him Okay

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15.
Nixon Cafe, which closed down voluntarily to install a couple of extra exits following Coconut Grove disaster in Boston, will more than likely lose out completely on the big holiday trade as a result of self-imposed regulation by Tony Conforti, who operates the spot. Although downstairs room was given a clean bill of health by authorities, Conforti is not reopening.

He expected to be ready by Christmas but on account of priorities, etc., has been having a tough time getting materials and may remain dark until middle of January. That's a tremendous loss since it means cancellation of annual New Year's Eve shindig and Nixon has long been the most consistently profitable nitery operation in town. Meantime, Villa Madrid has reopened after five-day shutdown to put in a new exit and also to install a steel door between kitchen and dining room. City officials in past 10 days have inspected more than 300 rooms and number of violations were reported. So far, however, there have been no closings, with spots making necessary additions and fire-proofing immediately. Nixon was the only case where the shutting-down was voluntary.

Even a couple of big hotels were closed for fire safety checks. Inspections have already been taken care of, and it's believed if any more spots are affected, they will be small ones and not of major importance.

Star, B'klyn, Closed By Moss Despite No Stripping in Shows

Star, Brooklyn, N. Y., oldtime burlesque house, which tried the comeback trial the past three months via a vaude-revue policy, was shut down after final show Thursday (10) following refusal of License Commissioner Pay Moss to renew permit for the house. New show was skedged for Friday (11) but house failed to open.

Star's girl show was second to follow in a week, the Central, N. Y., failing to put in a bid for a permit, and switching to grind film run because of poor biz.

Although Raymond Bros., operators of the Star, banned stripping and leaned overboard to avoid any semblance of nudity, Moss nixed the application for renewal upon expiration of a temporary three-month license on which house had been operating. Since reopening biz had only been fair, the customers out front heeding their displeasure at the lack of stripping.

When Moss notified the operators there was no dice on the permit renewal and that the house would have to shutter, the Charles F. Noves really firm, owners of Star property, reportedly intervened and sought to keep Moss open, but Moss' decision stood.

Moss declined comment when asked why he had rejected the bid for a new permit, considering that 'dirt and nudity were out.

Puppeteer on Skates

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15.

Latest novelty idea for an ice show is a puppet act. Lester Omen, whose 'little people' is a standard turn in niteries and vaude, was approached here last week while working at Merry-Ground by representatives of Arena Managers Assn. about possibility of his going into 1944 edition of 'Icecapades,' which is owned and operated by AMA. What rep didn't know was that Omen used to be a champ amateur skater. He was asked to work up something for the marionettes on skates and deal had practically reached the contract stage when Omen's engagement at local cafe ended.

'Icecapades' has consistently gone in for novelty, fire in the past. Joe Jackson, Jr., on ice in his tramp bike turn, then Serge Fliah, juggler, and this season another juggler, but a femme, Trish.

Stars of the show included Vava Hrubá, Lois Dworschak, Donna and Bobby Specht, Joe Jackson, Jr., Dorothy & Stewart and Markus & Thomas.

"Show Business at War"

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37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

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**'Show Business
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of
**37th Anniversary Number
VARIETY**

Henie Icery Nabs \$135,000, Indpls.; 'Icecapades' 70G

Indianapolis, Dec. 15.
Sonja Henie's 1943 Hollywood Ice Revue grossed almost \$134,000 in 11 night performances here Nov. 28-Dec. 6. The take is reported to have topped last year's mark by \$25,000. Total attendance was estimated at 400,000.

More than 20,000 soldiers from all units in and near Indianapolis were entertained during the run as guests of the show.

'Ice-Capades' 70G in Montreal
Montreal, Dec. 15.
Silouet each night of the five it played here, and good house for the Saturday mat, enabled Ice-Capades of 1943 at the 8,600-seater Forum to gross among total estimated at \$70,000 last week. Fans were standing three deep Saturday and Sunday and there was standees every other night. Price was scaled at \$2.50 top, tax inclusive.

Stars of the show included Vava Hrubá, Lois Dworschak, Donna and Bobby Specht, Joe Jackson, Jr., Dorothy & Stewart and Markus & Thomas.

With Carl Dennis notified that his draft board has him slated for induction, the international board of the Associated Actors and Artists of America met Monday (14) and considered the proposal to name Matt Shely for the post of national executive secretary of the American Guild of Variety Artists.

Dennis, executive secretary of the AGVA local in Detroit, had been nominated at a convention in New York three weeks ago of the AGVA national representative and local executive secretaries. On his return to Detroit Dennis was tabbed for pronto induction by his board. He then withdrew his name from consideration in favor of Walter Graess, AGVA administrator appointed by the Four A's board, which went to all the AGVA locals.

The letter was received late last week which gave the AGVA field staff time to contact each other and decide on Shely. Consequently, the AGVA board met Monday a majority of the AGVA local representatives were on record, via telegrams and letters, in favor of Shely. The board also was informed for a week to enable reps of affiliated affiliates to consider the Shely nomination. They are due to ballot on the proposal next Monday.

Shely is currently the AGVA national representative in San Francisco and before that had held a similar post in the Florida area. It's understood that at the New York convention of AGVA local executives in New York, Carl Dennis in the balloting for a successor to Graess, who's on loan from and overdue to return to Equity.

Sophie Tucker Extended To 10 Weeks at Chi Chez, Setting New Mark for Spot

Sophie Tucker is playing to 20th bid at the Chi Chez, but has been instead of winding up on Dec. 24, the singer stays on until Jan. 6, setting a new high run for the Loop nitery.

Policy in past years has been for Chez Paree to bring in new show Christmas eve, but has been so terrific, with many of the customers coming back time and again, that the extended engagement was set.

After a two-year absence from Chi, Miss Tucker opened at the Chez Paree on Oct. 30, so that she will have completed 10 weeks at the spot. Last previous mark for the nitery was seven weeks, but she has been. She'll be followed there Jan. 8 by Joe E. Lewis, after he winds up his stay at the Copacabana, N. Y. Lewis has been active at the N. Y. nitery since Oct. 1.

STRIPPER, FAY'S WGR. FINED IN PHILLY COURT

Philadelphia, Dec. 15.
Sid Stanley, manager of Fay's and Catherine Lampher, stripper billed as 'Cleotria,' were fined in Quarter Sessions court here last week as result of raid on the West End vaudeville during Holy Week last spring.

Judge L. Stauffer Oliver assessed Stanley \$50 and \$25 in costs. Miss Lampher was fined \$25. Two other performers, Jean Carroll and Carol Lord, also strippers, were found guilty when detectives testified that they were covered by bras and jewel-studded G string. Miss Lampher, the cops said, added suggestive motions to her act.

Stanley told court he has since eliminated perverts. House-poly now is colored, featureless, and name bands. Fay's was raided along with the Troc, an Izzy Hurlst burlesque and midtown nitery, last spring when churches complained.

AGVA in Philly Winning Wage Fight Despite Snags of Booker Combines

Philadelphia, Dec. 15. The local American Guild of Variety Artists is quietly winning its fight for higher wages for its members.

Although the Entertainment Managers, and the Cabaret Bookers Assn. turned down AGVA's 10% "cost of living" increase in its demand, the individual bookers are picking the new prices, according to Dick Mayo, AGVA's executive secretary.

Mayo had threatened to open his own booking office when the two negotiator organizations voted to reject the new price scale. He received "a lot of letters" from local entertainers and had built a war chest for the battle royal.

But no battle ensued. The more important booking offices said they would abide by AGVA's new prices, despite the vote of their two organizations. Some of the smaller bookers tried to beat the new prices and take themselves without acts. Entertainers just refused to work at the old scale and went to bookers who were paying the higher prices. It was as simple as that.

As a symbol that all is serene—at least for the present—he attended a dinner last night (Monday) at Palumbo's tendered to the outgoing and incoming presidents of the EMA—Jimmy Loughran and Florence Bernard, respectively.

Buck-Bubbles Out Of 'Scandals' Tab For Film

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Buck and Bubbles, although originally billed, weren't in last Friday's "Scandals" tab for film.

It reached Stanley theatre last Friday (11), team having been called by the Coast for relatives on "Cabin in the Sky" (M-G). Dancing comics were paged by studio for a "big" spot right in the middle of the day during a performance of "White" in its previous stand.

They'll rejoin "Scandals" possibly within two weeks, as soon as they finish up at Metro. Meantime, White doesn't plan to replace Buck and Bubbles with another act, inasmuch as show is laying off week before Christmas and when it reopens Knox say they expect to be back in the cast.

Pitt Roadhouses Still on the Move Due to Gas Ration

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. Moving day into town for the out-of-town roadhouse continues here, with gas rationing cutting into big money and more along the highways.

Don Metz, who operates Sky Vue across from the County Airport, has taken a lease on the Club Casino, Oakland and Mercier brothers, who operated Nut House in Millvale for years, have bought old Wolfendale hotel on Northside and will begin immediately to convert it into a screwball emporium. In Metz' case, he plans to continue at the Sky Vue for awhile, until after New Year's Eve, at least, but Mercers closed their Millvale spot couple of weeks ago.

Bill Green's Casino, about 10 miles from downtown, has begun to cut down already. Green eliminated his regular serving meals, and with big falling off at least 50%, he's said to be plotting a weekend operation only if he isn't successful in getting a big downtown room. Pines has already dropped music and entertainment, serving meals only, and several more expect to fold momentarily.

At the same time, big in the downtown spots has picked up a bit with the second week of gas rationing and cante belt in Golden Triangle looks for a steady improvement just as soon as the nite-liners get used to the idea.

FT. WORTH SPOT STAYS CLOSED

Fort Worth, Dec. 15. For the first time in many years the Ft. Worth Grand hotel will close its Venetian Ballroom for holiday dancing.

Shortage of labor and the uncertainty of obtaining suitable orchestra are the reasons.

Paul Lavul and Dick Charles have penned "My Joe, My Joe" which Leeds Music will publish.

Harlequin, N. Y., Adds Cocktail-Supper Show

Reva Reyes, Mexican congresswoman returning from Rio de Janeiro's 1941 tour, launches the Harlequin Room on 60th St. this evening (Wednesday) for cocktails and supper.

New lists, just above the pacabana, being opened by Leo, maitre' d'hotel of French Casino days in Mexico City, and the new show will be Bernie Dolan & Jan August, and Bill Ellis.

CHATTERBOX, PITT, BLAZE

Pittsburgh, Dec. 15. One fireman was killed and 150 overcome by flames in fire at the William Penn Hotel, town's biggest inn, early this (Tuesday) morning.

Fire started in the Chatterbox, grillroom kitchen of the Penn, by June Robbins, the singer. She was cooking Arthur Hays Sulzberger got the nearly 100 guests at the supper-dance session to file out quickly.

Flames started in a sub-basement beneath the Chatterbox and smoke and heat threatened to engulf the stand it for a couple of minutes at a time. Most of the damage was confined to storage rooms, where it reached around \$75,000, according to Manager Tom Topp. Dead fireman was Robert Burke, an employee injured was Paul McCarthy, a steward.

Normal routine of hotel wasn't interrupted although the smoke-filled corridors forced many guests into the lobby where emergency sleeping quarters, as well as a hospital for injured firemen, were set up.

Chatterbox cannot be used for some time, so supper-dancing will be held for later being in the Terrace Room above lobby floor.

TORONTO ICE CARNIVAL DROPPED FOR DURATION

Toronto, Dec. 15. For the first time since World War I the annual carnival of the Toronto Skating Club will not be staged this spring.

Presence of many men and women members in the armed services or engaged in war work, difficulty of securing costume materials and properties are reasons for the cancellation of the carnival.

Established in 1907, ice carnival was first one-day show for professional club members but steadily progressed until it is now claimed to be one of the foremost of the elaborate ice-shows now on the road. Several members of the Toronto Skating Club have consistently been professional to headline current ice-shows now on the road. Some were Stewart Roberts now with the 48th Highlanders, who was Sonja Henie's first partner on this side of the Atlantic and in films.

Saranac Lake

Saranac, N. Y., Dec. 15. Hazel Colman, ex-OVA and Will Roselle, former dancer, set up for Burbank, Cal., to accept a position here, has consistently been professional to headline current ice-shows now on the road. Some were Stewart Roberts now with the 48th Highlanders, who was Sonja Henie's first partner on this side of the Atlantic and in films.

Plans are being made to permit discharged patients to enter defense work, except Red Cross workers, the plan, with many of the patients already signed up.

Walter (Loew Circuit) Conley flashing an A-1 health report.

John McLean, who appeared for the Shuberts and in other legit Broadway shows, is now on the road headway here, although still confined to bed.

Comerford and Patricia Naomi Edwards among the outstanding comedians.

Joe (IATSE) McCarthy, graduate of the colony, gets the gang with news cheer and state; has a job backstage daily.

Bobson, ex-burlesque straight man and now floor manager of the Hotel Essex, Boston, here with holy crew.

Back on the comeback trail from a general hospital are the comedians and Dorothy Newcomb.

Harry "Slopnot" Clifton is flashing discharge papers.

Write to those who are ill.

Compromise 'A' Contract Offered To Leon-Eddie's in AGVA Dispute

Toy and Wing Extended On Chicago Nitory Date

Toy and Wing, Oriental ballroom dancers, currently at the Blackhawk Chicago, with Chico Marx's orchestra, and scheduled to open at the Meyer, Boston, Dec. 23, for two weeks, have canceled the latter date because the Blackhawk management picked up their option and added five and a half more weeks to their original forecast run.

Following the Blackhawk engagement Toy and Wing will continue with the Marx orchestra for a theatre tour, with four weeks of bookings so far set. They open at the Oriental theatre, Chicago, for one week, starting Jan. 29, following that with one-week engagements at the Riverside, Milwaukee; the Orpheum, Omaha, and the Orpheum, Minneapolis.

The Mayfair engagement will be picked up at a later date, the William Morris agency having come to an agreement with the Mayfair management.

Rainbow Room's Future to Be Decided by Fri.

Decision on continued operation of the Rainbow Room and Rainbow Grill, N. Y., will be reached either Thursday or Friday of this week. It was slated yesterday (15) by Hugh R. Robertson, executive manager of Rockefeller Center, Inc.

Robertson said differences between the swank nitory management and the two American Federation of Labor affiliates, Local 15, Waitresses & Bartenders union, and Local 88, Cooks' union, have virtually been ironed out. The question of shutting or staying open, he added, has more or less resolved itself around the practicability of operating under present wartime conditions.

Eddie Green Bankrupt

Eddie Green, Harlem vaudevillean, filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in U.S. District Court Tuesday (15). He listed liabilities as \$51,139, assets \$473.

Comedian is employed, without contract, by Young & Rubicam on radio. His debts include taxes due the U.S., payable Dec. 15, of \$445.74.

Green's petition stated he earned \$9,731 in 1941.

The negotiating committee, appointed by the association of Actors and Artists of America to meet with the management of Leon & Eddie's nitory, in New York, has reached a compromise contract with the 4A's international board. This was approved and was the basis behind last night's (Tuesday) meeting with the nitory operators, against whom AGVA is conducting an "unfair" trial.

The pact renews the 'A' classification, the original point of contention between AGVA and the nitory, with the compromise, according to a member of the committee, being based on the new classification.

Apparently this reverts to the two types of 'A' pacts now in operation in the N. Y. nitory field. The new contracts, under which LaConga, Lattin, Quarty, La Martinique and others are reclassified, set minimums of \$75 for principals and \$45 for chorines. The holdover 'A' pacts, in force at the Hurricane and Havana-Madrid nitories have a \$60-\$90 minimum. Thus Leon & Eddie's, which refused the classification, might conceivably accept the \$60-\$90 offer. L-S's was paying \$50-\$30 when the dispute started and is now paying \$50-\$35.

It is understood that the compromise calls for the classification minimums to be effective only to June, 1943, after which they would jump to the N. Y. nitory field. The nitory would be permitted 21 shows a week to be played as desired, instead of being limited to three shows a night with a 21-show maximum. Thus the spot, which does four shows a night and 28 a week, would have to say pro-rata for five extra shows.

The musicians union, Local 802, has the nitory classed as a 'B' spot for afternoon shows and an 'A' spot for evenings.

The negotiating committee is meeting the nitory management sans the services of chairman Lawrence Lawrence of Rainbow Room, all in Philadelphia. However, he has approved the offer.

Fine of 3 Stoges

Undergoes Operation

Julie Fine (Curly) of the Three Stoges, who was hospitalized on Monday (14) in Fraxton Hospital, Utica, N. Y., for an infection of the neck. His condition is reported as good. He had completed three days at the Stanley theatre where with a doctor and nurse attending him.

Further details of this week and part of next week have been cancelled. After Utica the trio was to have played the Columbia theatre, Erie, Pa. Bob Astor's band was with and has played that house with them, and is also out.

Julie Styne and Kim Cannon called "Don't Worry, I'll Do For You and Left, Right" to be sung in "Salute For Three" at Paramount.

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Variety Bills

WEEK OF DECEMBER 18

Numbers in connection with bills below indicate opening day of show, whether fall or split week.

Low

NEW YORK CITY
WASHINGTON
 The Alhambra (17)
 The Astor (17)
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

PATRIOTIC
 Majestic (11-29)
 The Strand
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

Paramount

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

WASHINGTON
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

RKO

BOSTON
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

Warner

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

WASHINGTON
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

Independent

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

WASHINGTON
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

World Paramount
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

BRITANNIC
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

Woodsword
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

Cabaret Bills

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

BOOKING THE NATION'S LEADING INDEPENDENT VAUDEVILLE THEATRES

EDWARD SHERMAN AGENCY

NEW YORK PARADISE BUILDING

BEVELLY HILLS, CALIF.

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

El Monaco
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

El Monaco
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

El Monaco
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez
 (Cash Shows)
 J. Rodriguez
 J. Rodriguez

BOSTON

BOSTON
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

CHICAGO

CHICAGO
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

PHILADELPHIA

PHILADELPHIA
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

CLEVELAND

CLEVELAND
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

DETROIT

DETROIT
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

ATLANTIC CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

NEW YORK CITY
 The Alhambra
 The Astor
 The Biltmore
 The Elks
 The Hippodrome
 The Palace
 The Rialto
 The Savoy
 The Winter Garden
 The Ziegfeld

Increasing Number of Flops Eases Theatre 'Shortage' on Broadway; Dearth of Musicals Unprecedented

Possibility of a house shortage on Broadway has further eased up, the flop play picture having cleared up. It is the continued dearth of new musicals—leaving houses empty and waiting to that type of show available for straight plays. Emphasized that there is a reversal of former stage conditions when scoring musicals are first to arrive in the autumn, with straight-play clicks following.

Yesterday three theatres of large capacity are tenanted by comedies, "Without Love" being at the St. James, "Native Son," "Majestic" and "My Sister Ellen," which has moved into the Broadway. A fourth musical house may be used sometime, it being planned to switch "Junior Miss" into the 46th Street next week, that space being vacated by "Beat the Band" Saturday (12).

Slowness of musicals to be produced has been a break for the theatre over tune-and-dance shows through the stagers slipped in the pre-Christmas slump last week. Three straight-play leaders, "Without Love," "The Pirate" and "Skin of Our Teeth," all helped by name actors, are better exceptions being "By Jupiter" though it slipped, and "The Sign of the Cross" stood up fairly well but it's not really clarified with music comedy any more.

Time Ripe for Musicals
Time is more than ripe for new musicals but none of major proportions will arrive in the coming months. "The Boys" slated for the Alvin after New Year's, "New Faces," an intimate revue, will be out before that but a flock of others has been in preparation for the past two months.

Three musicals were presented during the fall, "Count Me In" and "Beat the Band" having already been produced, both last week. "Roadside" (44th Street) is the third, an operetta-type show being the sole survivor, since it was cancelled draw. It is virtually a revival, adapted from grand opera (originally "Die Fledermaus").

New Year's eve tickets have been on sale for some weeks. One musical ("Garden") has a top of \$8.00, the highest. There are five others charging \$6.00, while a quintet of "Cocktail" is the lowest at \$5.00; six of the latter type raised the top more moderately to \$4.40, while the balance will be boosted to \$4.00.

There are no premieres this week. Coming next week: "Three Sisters," "Barrett's," "Flare," "Pat and Mike" ("Annie" due to move to the Billmore), and "New Faces" (formerly "New Shoes"), Ritz.

The Stage Door Canteen, legit's great contribution to service-men's entertainment and well up will be the topic of discussion by

Bert Lytell
in an editorial feature for
'Show Business at War'

37th Anniversary Number of
VARIETY

Shows' Radio Ad Plans During N. Y. Newspaper Strike Falls Through

Plans for Broadway shows to advertise on the air over four stations were made Monday (14), but it did not go through. League of New York Theatres proposed a deal for 17 combined spot announcements over a five-day period, it being figured the newspaper strike situation would be cleared up by the end of the week. Word was sent the press agents of the various attractions, asking for telegraphic confirmation but not one response was received by James F. Reilly, League's executive secretary.

Idea was to broadcast in the forenoon, a bit after noon and at 5:30 p.m. The announcements would have totalled 50 minutes between Tuesday and Saturday (15-19) at a cost of \$250 per show. Why the plan did not materialize was not clear, as it was not a matter of cost, since daily newspaper insertions cost a minimum of \$800 weekly per show. While the legit's delayed, picture houses snapped up some of the time arranged for.

Sylvia Sidney-Pygalmont' Open Holyoke Theatre 22d

Holyoke, Mass., Dec. 15. After several false starts, the remodeled Holyoke theatre is due to open Tuesday (22) with Sylvia Sidney in "Pygalmont." Al and Belle Dow had announced and advertised opening 15th with "We're Here Ellen." After running ads for nearly a week, they were withdrawn and a cryptic substitute said that extra renovations would take more time.

Week will open on Tuesday and run until Sunday night with Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday matinees. Evening tops will be \$1.65 and matinees 85c. House seats about 1,200. Dows expect to follow with "Tobacco Road" with John Barton.

162G LOST BY 3 LEGIT FLOPS

Closing of three shows on Broadway last Saturday (12) has represented particularly heavy losses.

"Beat the Band" at the 46th Street was budgeted for \$80,000 and dropped at least that much. Comparable is the amount of money dropped with "Count Me In," also a musical, which withdrew from the running recently. There were six or more investors in the latter and more than that number had pieces of "Band."

The duo of closings over the weekend were exceptionally costly for straight plays, "Yankee Point," which quit at the Longacre, ended \$42,000 on the wrong side of the ledger, that red including heavy operating losses, which were split among 15 backers. "The Sun Field," a fast fad at the Billmore is estimated to have cost around \$40,000, loss being reported to have been sustained wholly by Howard Lang, Castle making his Broadway debut. Understood that Lang declined the offer of a major picture firm to participate in the production.

Rochester's World Premiere
Rochester, Dec. 15. "Blue Slipper," first play by Alfred Goyes, a English poet, will be given its world premiere here by the Rochester Community Players. No date chosen yet but will be presented early in 1943, with Robert Stevens directing.

B'way Censorship Threat Declines Following Convictions on 'Wine'; Shubert Remark Key to 'Son' Episode

Laugh Story
Here's one of the recent laugh stories getting the rounds.

Advance man Joe Flynn is reported carrying a camp stool in making the jumps, and when the trains are crowded as frequently true since the war's start, he set it up in the aisle and plants himself.

Stool cost \$23.30 and he claims to have nearly made a profit to date. Flynn explains that in going from Detroit to Chicago he managed to get a seat but a sweet, old lady couldn't find one, so he offered her the stool for the trip—for which he charged \$25 rental.

By JACK PULASKI
Threat of censorship on Broadway appears to have declined after the fiasco following the convictions on "Wine, Women and Song." Why a burlesque show, which is what "Wine" really was, should have involved legit is the most annoying angle of the situation.

The incident sparked the explosion following the "Wine" episode is revealed now as being connected with the following: the removal of "Native Son," at the Majestic. Claimed that Lee Shubert was needed by a reporter in making it known that Shubert's remark that notice of closing was given to "avoid trouble" after the Shuberts had lost the license on the Ambassador because of "Wine" the tenant there. Had Shubert said it was, and that the show management was in accord with shutting down, the outcry that brought about an emergency meeting of showmen, actors and authors might not have happened. It was wrong, by Shubert. Any expectation that "Son" had would be exceptional after the hue and cry following the removal. Business has improved, takings approximating \$7,000 last week, but it is doubtful if "Native Son" will be the course profited. It was declared at the meeting that a serious situation was being averted, and that there are strong supporters of the "message" in "Son," and the possibility of riots off Broadway, which was taken off at the time intended.

"Strip For Action" is announced to close Jan. 3 but there, too, is a matter of business, not the fact that it was mentioned as a possibility for the censor's knife. Show management. (Continued on page 44)

Yokel, '3 Men' Backer May Wind Up in Court Over Deposit at Equity

Dispute over money remaining on deposit with Equity and other unions, to guarantee the pay of people in the "Three Men On a Horse" revival which failed, remains unsettled and may be thrown into court. Alex Yokel, the show's producer, and Milton B. Weinberger, attorney representing Lawrence Gelb, the backer, again attempted to settle their differences, with Paul N. Turner, of Equity's counsel, trying to get them to agree. Weinberger declared he would sue \$1,600 is involved.

Equity gave warning that if forced into court proceedings it will demand legal expenses from the show's funds on hand. Yokel claims he is entitled to the money to pay off obligations of the showing, with the backer intent on getting back any part remaining of his investment. Manager contends his contract definitely provides that debts be paid from any balance.

"Three Men" revival ended \$1,000 in the red.

'Firefly' Loses Identity In Rewrite; Title In Change to 'Full Steam'

Revival of "The Firefly," current in Boston, is slated to be changed to "Full Steam Ahead," title announced for Philadelphia, where the course is due next week. How much remains of the original show is uncertain, as Otto Harbach, who has explained that changes in his original book of "Firefly" had been rewritten without his consent. Reported, too, that Rudolph Friml's original script is out.

In Philadelphia the book is credited to Rowland Leigh, Jean Schwartz and Irving Actman. Leigh and Schwartz are presenting the show through Pro-cargo some weeks ago. J. Shubert is presenting the show through Pro-cargo Associates, one of the Shubert corporations.

EQUITY MAY NOT ASK FOR MINIMUM RAISE

Equity would like to see its members get additional pay because of increased living costs but may not insist on raising the minimum. It's conceded within Equity that when the minimum was raised from \$40 to \$50, the members were not satisfied for part of the membership, mostly the younger element. It's virtually admitted, however, that the regular \$40 and \$75 people could not get more than \$50 because of that.

It is now felt that if the latter figure is upheld, it may similarly affect players who are now getting \$75 to \$100. Managers hadn't much to say about the boost several years ago after the increase went in, although they protested. However, before then, but after the rule became operative, they appeared to keep within the planned budgets. There is an Equity committee studying an alternate plan, rather than tilting salaries generally. At this time the principal aim is to get concession from managers for those shows which play the road, especially war centers, but the cost for lodging and meals are excessive.

Del Bondio, Haring Placed in Charge Of Wiman Enterprises

J. H. Del Bondio and Forrest Haring have been appointed managers in charge of Dwight Deere Wiman's enterprises in the absence of the latter in war work. Latter was in London to handle entertainment for the Red Cross. Duo intends to continue production for the time being, accepting scripts for consideration.

Oscar Serlin Associates was formed by Del Bondio to handle the routine activities of that office in the event he went into the Army. His service duty was deferred, since he's over 38 years of age.

The Woes Increase

Milwaukee, Dec. 15. Legit theatre managers who in local sections have depended upon open forests to keep out of the red are finding now that even this field has been affected by the war. Little choruses have been so depleted by the departure of members for the armed forces that they have little or all conscripts in their duration. Instrumental groups are in the same situation, while women's shows have been so inactive, with their members so largely employed in war industries that they have little time for recreational and cultural activities.

"Show Business at War"

THEME OF THE

37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

VARIETY

To Be Published Late In December

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Sent to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 N. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

Play Out of Town

THE RUSSIAN PEOPLE

Washington, Dec. 14

It is a fine production and an excellent cast.

In its first performance, with the Russian Ambassador's party occupying a stage box, the play ran smoothly, but there are obvious flaws which will be corrected when the pruned version has been angled. Its main defect is a windy first act taking three characters to state the premise and tag the characters. Once over this lethargic start, The Russian People winds up and gives the enemy both barrels. The play becomes vital and alive, filled with excitement, sufficiently charged with vivid action to stir the patriotic spirit.

Simonov tells his story through a group of characters in a Russian village, occupied by the enemy, presumably near Stalingrad and close enough to a surrounded Soviet guerrilla garrison on the other side of the river. His romantic fabric involves Valya, an attractive army chauffeur, and a reconnaissance officer.

If realism suffers when a Nazi spy is infiltrated into the Stalin camp, Simonov excuses it by expediency. Eventually this enemy is discovered, and the Nazi proves to be a whimpering and yellow weakling who whines as he's led off to be shot. The blinding hate of the populace and the capacity for sabotage are expressed through the mother of the garrison's commander. She possesses the Nazi tormentor, and when the scaffold is threatening deliver a blistering castigation of the Nazis and their mothers in what one must accept as the epitome of courage and self expression of the national spirit. The most colorful character of Si-

monov's play is Globa, played by Luther Adler, a gay Lohrino in his leisure moments who takes his hapless women where he finds, and responds unflinchingly to the call of duty.

Simonov has peopled his play with interesting, incidental characters. There is a celebration of the blues, gray and beyond military age, who have been recruited into the army. Quitting in the person of the village doctor, and for him the playwright, moves to attend may not emanate from any form of stage control, but the Association of Theatrical Agents and Managers is considering seeking such legislation. Company manager of Wine, Women and Song, as included in the complaint, but the press agent was not tapped for a court appearance. If and when other complaints are made, others not culpable might be wrongfully included.

Adler comes on late but gets the richest and most interesting part of the play. And he transfers them to accountants, and the Soviet commander, is less military than he is understanding, and her performance is lively. The lotto is well nourished and full of the spirit of the great warships. This can be seen in the young volunteer, turning. Victor Yarosh is the old soldier is a character that strikes me as the most effective character of the play in a nicely shaded performance.

The last two acts are carefully limned, and some of the play's best acting develops here. Ernest Borgnine, Ann Minot, Herbert Berghoff, Margaret Walker, Edward Franz, Rudolph Anders, Harold Drenth and Robert Simon serve most acceptably.

The settings of Boris Aronson are fine aids to illusion. Throughout the play, the music comes through the loud speakers, chiefly songs of the Red Army and favorites of the Soviet Union.

Harold Clurman's direction, once over the first act hurdle, is fast and charged with spirit. Kelly

Seek Change in Penal Code

It is likely the next session of the N. Y. state legislature will see an effort to again amend the penal code in reference to alleged indecent performances. Idea is to exclude employees, other than actors who are extending from prosecution, from the law. It is generally believed that if a show is at fault the blame should rest upon the producer, owner or operator of the theatre and auditor.

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Broadway Censorship

Continued from page 41

sticking its neck out on any scheme to tell managers how to put on shows. The thought of Equity leading a movement to censor its own actors is abhorrent. The Mayor is said to have made a mistake in not indicting managers and authors at his session.

Not that the actors won't participate in a movement to judge the morality of plays, but will not start any such plan. Neither do managers want to step out and inaugurate the establishment of a jury. That idea was tried out during the censorship wave in the late '30s when jury members were drawn, but the idea petered out.

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Current Road Shows

- 'Annet Street' (12-26) — Bushnell Auditorium, Hartford (16); Metropolitan, Providence (17).
- 'Arsenic and Old Lace' (1st Co.) — Colonial, Boston (16-26).
- 'Arsenic and Old Lace' (3d Co.) — Lafayette, Detroit (16-26).
- 'Blackouts of 1942' (vaude)—El Capitan, Hollywood (16-26).
- 'Chocolate Soldier'—Biltmore, Los Angeles (16-19).
- 'Christmas' (1st Co.)—Selwyn, Chicago (16-19).
- 'Cora In Green'—Mayfair, Portland (16-17).
- 'Have a Veep'—Music Box, Hollywood (16-26).
- 'Dark Eyes' (tryout)—Ford's, Baltimore (26-26) (premiere).
- 'Daughtrix' (tryout)—Ford's, Baltimore (16-19); Walnut, Philadelphia (21-26).
- 'Flare Path' (tryout)—Shubert, New Haven (17-19) (premiere).
- 'Fast Speed Ahead' (Friedy) (tryout)—Majestic, Boston (16-19); Ford's, Chicago (16-26).
- 'Good Night Ladies'—Blackstone, Chicago (16-26).
- 'Her First Murder' (tryout)—Municipal Auditorium, Stevesport, La. (16); Robinson Auditorium, Little Rock (17); Auditorium, Memphis (17); Cuffey, Detroit (21-26).
- 'Mex, Keokie'—Belasco, Los Angeles.
- 'Junior Miss' (2d Co.)—Harris, Boston (16-19).
- 'Junior Miss' (3d Co.)—Wilbur, Boston (16-19).
- 'Lady in the Dark'—Cass, Detroit (16-19).
- 'Lull Before Father' (2d Co.)—Hanna, Cleveland (16-26).
- 'Maid in the Oaks'—Great Northern, Chicago (16-26).
- 'Merry Widow'—Cox, Cincinnati (16-19).
- 'Porgy and Bess'—Studebaker, Chicago (16-26).
- 'Priorities of 1942' (vaude)—'Eurasian People' (tryout)—Nagler, Chicago (16-26).
- 'Something for the Boys' (tryout)—Shubert, Detroit (16-19).
- 'Spring Again'—Nixon, Pittsburgh (16-19).
- 'Student Prince'—Curran, San Francisco (10-19).
- 'Sweet Charity' (revised) (tryout)—Louise, Philadelphia (16-19).
- 'This Is the Army'—Municipal Auditorium, St. Louis (18-19); Shubert, Detroit (16-19).
- 'Little Mend' (tryout)—Playhouse, Wilmington (25-26) (premiere).
- 'Three Curlians' (tryout)—Court Square, Springfield, Mass (16); Exchange, Buffalo (17-19); Majestic, Boston (25-26).
- 'Three Sisters' (tryout)—Forrest, Philadelphia (16-19).
- 'Tobacco Road'—American, St. Louis (18-19).
- 'Waltz on the Rhine'—State, Kalamazoo, Mich. (16); Michigan, Jackson, Mich. (17).
- 'Waltz on the Rhine' (tryout)—Wilbur, Boston (25-26) (premiere).

License Commission Paul Moss appears to have picked his spots by excluding the house management, regarding that in case of a conviction the theatre license should be subject to suspension; this he thinks is a fair punishment for the latter. Indicated further that Moss was pressured into making the complaint against the oft-criticized 'Wine, Women and Song' of the Shubert office or the theatre would have informed him the very week he popped up in the publicity business; as the Ambassador picked up to a much greater extent for the latter, subsequent to the outcry inspired by the closing notice.

Equity, however, was not emphasized during its quarterly meeting Friday (11), when executive secretary Paul Dutilleul, who with president Bert Lytell and others of the association talked it over with the mayor's staff, hopes to avoid any form of official censorship from the city or police, or from the reform (religious) organizations.

What Konstantin Simonov has written and Clifford Odets adapted in 'The Russian People' is good melodrama and rousing theatre. It pulls no punches in its propaganda preaching that Stalin's soldiers hate the enemy with a blinding passion for its crude justice and unprovoked invasion of the motherland. The Theatre Guild has given

JOSEPHINE HUNTER

THE SINGING STAR



Featured . . . 'STARS FROM THE BLUE'—On the Blue Network, Tuesdays, 7:00-7:30 P.M., EWT and again on Sundays, 7:15-7:30 P.M., EWT.

Opening in the click musical, 'SHOWTIME' at the Broadhurst Theatre, New York . . . Wednesday, Dec. 16

U.S. Roll Call

- Continued from page 4
- Robert Miller, studio office manager.
- Jean Selby, studio cartoon painter.
- WAVE:
 - Edna Petry, NBC music right, air corps.
 - Rep Koury, NBC organist, air corps.
 - Alan Cormack, CBS Pacific traffic manager, naval aviation.
 - H. G. Jack Fearhead, NBC auditor, Royal air force.
 - Ray Fowler, still photographer, WAACS.
 - Aaron Rosenberg, assistant director, former all-American grid ball star.
 - Ivan Goff, screen writer, army.
 - Merrill White, sound technician, army signal corps.
 - Larry Britton, film salesman, army.
 - Cecil D. Love, studio technician, army.
 - Bob Tasker, screen writer, army.
 - Bud Gerdes-Testa, press agent, army.
 - Sidney Salkow, Columbia director, aviator in 1st Lieut., U. S. Marine Corps. Reports at Quantico, Va., Jan. 1.
 - Fred Feldkamp, fan mag editor, Marines.
 - Wally Anderson, screen dancer, WAACS.
 - Myrtle H. Conn, indie producer, Army Air Force.
 - Sergei Petschnikoff, unit manager, Army.
- Chef Price in Salt Lake City, Dec. 15.
- Chester Price, manager of the Western Auto store, replaced by Frank Pratt, former Fox manager for Montana and Idaho.
- John K. Cox, manager of Uptown, N. C., succeeded by Frank Ritter, who managed theater several years.
- Salter's Commission Due
- Maestro Harry Salter, who was originally commissioned by the Specialists Corps, has completed his military training and moved to Lexington, Va., where he will receive a commission in the regular army.

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TRUNK

AND
TRUNK

THROW A POSEY TO EDDIE PLOHN

The Theatre Ambassador
Direction: W. G. ...
(credits)

Broadway

Bill Morris, Jr. to D.C. this week Ben Stein 'elected' mayor of 45th street George Welbaum back on the job after illness.

Marion Sapiro in from Coast with her new 'Ioni'.

Peter Arno is said to have a new legit production idea.

Charles Miller, MCA v.p., suffering from appendicitis attack.

George Jessel plans to produce Saraoyan's 'Get Away Old Man.'

Gene Fowler, in Army uniform, entertained at Stage Door.

Sid Silver's book on John Barrymore won't be finished until March.

Sam Branson, Wm. Morris agent, just missed the draft by that 38-year rule.

Sammy Durante playing repeat guest spot on Camel hot Friday (14).

Bill Torpey and Murray Queen are stage managers of 'Something for the Boys.'

Tom Beach starting to boom. Many homes reopened ahead of schedule.

Joe Tooney switched from the Oscar Silver press department to Dick Minsky's outfit.

Jack Delorme joined Dorothy Ros' faculty as parols on several new productions.

Vera Barton, singer, left Madison Park hospital, Brooklyn, after long pneumonia leave.

Peggy Fears out of Royal Casino, new bit. Ditto Adelaide Moffett out of Mar Parc.

Some upstart niteries are being penciled in as post-Jan. 1 casualties.

Eddie McPartland and Paddy Hopkins, of the Music Box theatre, also to leave their theatre.

Songsmith Arthur Schwartz due in town this week with wife (Kay Carlin).

Al Johnson visited his family in Washington over the weekend.

Harry Sobel back from extended Coast stay, returning soon where he has established Hollywood bureau.

Betty (Mrs. Harry) Sosnik to the Coast to join her husband, Lew.

Robert Burton and Angela Jacobs are replacements in 'Counselor-at-Law' (14), later having been in original cast.

Arthur Harold Gumm, who managed Edna, Horne, and Cole, has returned to Broadway.

Oscar Dool's one is now a two-join-one deal for WAC duties near the other for his Broadway theatres chores.

Hein Forstner rejoined Harry Hand in Hollywood (14) after staying behind in N.Y. to care mother bobbed.

Charles Miranda due in from the Coast for a personal at the Rony, to appear in conjunction with 'Black Swan' Christmas week.

Sam Salvia may tie in with Clifford C. Fischer's new play idea at the Hotel Edison, in charge of the new 'Long Selving.'

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theatre bit has been off this week. James C. Petrillo in search of union contacts.

New Canby, on Central Park South, with Franklin Hughes decor, opened last Wed (2).

Before Hildegarde tackled her new play 'Saks Day' (14) she had \$300,000 in bond pledges.

Charles K. Feldman, Hollywood agent, now handling smaller clients at WPB under Maty Fox.

Another filmco, Monroe Greenleaf, is also with Fox.

Greer, 18-year-old Washington, D. C., radio and dramatic actress, after being tested by Phil Phillips, look booker and producer, has gone to the Coast with her mother on a five film deal.

Frances Rockefeller King, formerly in charge of the Keith-Albee clubbing department, proposes establishing a national lottery to help finance the war.

Charles Miller may be added to 'Ziegfeld Follies' which will costar Milton Berle, Honey Maseley and Arthur F. Wheeler, with Jack Cole feature (later meantime being Mike Todd's dance in 'Something for the Boys').

Cecil G. Fisher, mother confined to bed at Madison, Hollywood, the PM columnist has taken a room at the new hotel.

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Chicago

James C. Petrillo in search of union contacts. Arthur Miller, RKO casting director, in New York in search of new shows to stage.

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former screen writer from Farrell, Pa., transferred from Norfolk to Lester Couth (Va.) navy hospital.

Hollywood

Bette Davis laid up with laryngitis. Joan Crawford back at RKO after illness.

Bette Davis laid up with laryngitis.

37 Answer Serlin

Continued from page 1

hearsal next Monday. A similar ad appeared in 'Daily Variety.'

Serlin said 11 of the replies were from agents who offered to invest from \$500 to \$8,000 in the production.

One response came from an actor reportedly wealthy who would like to play one of the featured characters in the play.

John H. Harris out of Mercy hospital, pronounced okay.

Robert Preston into Officer's Candidate Show appearing at Olympia, doing a guest spot on Navy Radio Show.

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Allied Victories

Continued from page 1

Sherry Barnett spotted for Orpheus Club in month.

Miami

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THERE'S **ROMANCE** IN SOFT SMOOTH SKIN,
SO A LOVELY COMPLEXION'S IMPORTANT
TO **ANY GIRL**

MY DAILY COMPLEXION CARE
IS A LUX SOAP **ACTIVE-LATHER**
FACIAL. IT'S A WONDERFUL
BEAUTY AID!

LUX SOAP LATHER IS
SO RICH AND CREAMY!
LEAVES SKIN FEELING
SMOOTHER, LOOKING
FLOWER-FRESH

**Try Hollywood's
Beauty Facials
for 30 days**

Smooth creamy Lux Toilet Soap lather well into your skin. Rinse with warm water, then splash with cold. Pat dry with a soft towel. **ACTIVE** lather removes stale cosmetics, every trace of dust and dirt—leaves skin feeling exquisitely smooth, soft. You'll love this beauty care!

**9 out of 10
Screen Stars
use it—**



IDA MINO

in the
20th Century-Fox Production

"Life Begins at 8:30"

Now Showing Locally



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VOL. 149 No. 2 NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1942 PRICE 25 CENTS

CENSORS SHARPEN EYES

'Femme Theatrical Task Force' A World War II Show Biz Saga

By JOE SCHOENFELD
Sunday, Dec. 27, Somewhere in England, will end one of the great chapters in the saga of American show business in the war effort. On that date, before an audience of United States' and United Kingdom troops, four girls will be wending up the longest consecutive tour yet played by volunteer talent at off-shore bases.

In cold type that doesn't read so romantic. Yet, behind it is an exciting story of courage and perseverance, sympathy and patriotism that so completely redounds to the credit of the girls that the entire entertainment world can take a bow for being their springboard.

Remember the names:
Kay Francis
Martha Raye
Carole Landis
Mitzl Mayfair.

That's the 'Feminine Theatrical Task Force,' but it's not the order of their billing. Shuffle them any way you want and you must come up with a heroine of sorts.

The roles they play in the commercial theatre are at startling variance. Kay Francis is the glamorous lady; Martha Raye the hoyden; Carole Landis the sweetest girl; Mitzl Mayfair the dainty dancer. Before they embarked on this tour, two of the girls, Misses Raye and Mayfair, (Continued on page 25)

Crosby, Whose Plugging Skyrocketed 'Xmas,' Now Can't Sing 'It Xmas Eve'

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Although credited with skyrocketing Bing Crosby's 'White Christmas' to its immense popularity through air and recording, Bing Crosby won't be allowed to sing it on his Kraft airshow Thursday (24). Sensing there would be a rush of the tune, Martin Goch, producer of the Abbott & Costello program for Camel, cleared the song a month ago and immediately put it in his bid with NBC, which shut off the ballad from any other show airing within two hours on either side of the Camel entry.

3 Soldiers Get the 'Army Spirit,' Set It to Music

Trio of privates at Camp Upton, Long Island, are authors of a marching tune recently published by Leeds Music. They are Alan Wilson, who did the lyrics, and Nicholas Conte and Buddy Kossie, who clefted the music.

Tune is 'You First Get the Spirit in the Army.' It was originally written for use solely at Upton and sung as 'You First Get the Spirit at Camp Upton.'

Regal Gesture

Final of all performances on their tour of U. S. Army camps in England by Kay Francis, Martha Raye, Carole Landis and Mitzl Mayfair has been the singing of the 'Star Spangled Banner' and then 'Give the King.' When appearing for the distaff side of the Royal Family at a special performance, the girls surprised the Queen by their knowledge of the lyrics to the British anthem.

Later, when she received the performers, the Queen pledged herself to learn the words to the American anthem in return.

GRADE B BANDS IMPROVING BY DRAFT

It's paradoxical. In view of the fast turnover of musicians, but a number of bands below the top rung in popularity are now showing up with the best combinations any have ever presented. With conservation constantly wrecking various brass, reed, rhythm sections, sometimes, better teams can be welded into units, the reason for the improvement, in most instances, is the clearing out of men who had held their positions only because they had been with a particular band so long they were fixtures.

When these men are forced out of (Continued on page 47)

Midnight Curfew On Pouring in Niteries Revives Hip-Totin'

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Pocket flasks, standard equipment with dinner jackets in the prohibition days (remember?), are making a snappy comeback, what with a midnight curfew clamping down on the serving of drinks. The better sources are reporting a run on the slim containers and it's quite the thing to get one for Christmas. As in the dry days b.r. (before Roosevelt), it will be considered smart to dole out a drink after the winking hour. All that niteries ask is to keep it off the table.

Night-spots were told last week by S. C. Board of Equalization that the lining up of drinks or uncorking of bottles just before midnight are out.

FILM BIZ FACES NEW OFFENSIVE

Washington Hears Rumbles of Renewed Pressure Should Hollywood Attempt to Weaken Self-Regulation—OWI's Script 'Approval' Another Head-ache to the Industry

SPARRING ALL SIDES

Washington, Dec. 22. If Hollywood persists in hecking the Hays office production code and attempts to weaken the moral fibre of self-regulation, then some 100 passive agencies active for a clean screen will become aggressive in Congress for Federal censorship.

Legion of Decency representatives were active on Capitol Hill last week, and they found receptive ears in members of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, who still favor the Neely bill and are ready to reintroduce it. Governor Neely, of West Virginia, failed in his attempt to regain his senate toga but the foes of the motion picture industry are alert. Congress was busy packing up (Continued on page 18)

290 PICTURES ON THE WAR

Office of War Information, in advising "faster and better war pictures" for 1943, has announced that Hollywood has a total of 290 features on war-time angles either completed or in some stage of work or preparation. Figures show 40 features based on military themes released between Sept. 1 and Dec. 1, and half of them were about enemy spies, saboteurs and other hucknakedy war angles in the picture industry that they don't belong.

MOSS HART'S AMERICAN WAR PIC FOR WARNERS

Three-way deal for Moss Hart to join Warners as author-producer-director, which has been under discussion, is near the ink stage. Hart may do an American war theme similar in scope to Noel Coward's 'In Which We Serve.'

Conditions under which Hart is likely to join WB are under discussion for George S. Kaufman, with whom Hart has collaborated, at Colum-

Hollywood Adheres to OWI Script Censorship Edict Albeit Burned Up

Sign of the Times

Those dime-a-dance creep joints under the old Columbus avenue sign in New York used to feature: 'Dancing, 90c for men, ladies free.'

One spot now gives it a switcher: 'Ladies 70c, men in or out of uniform free.'

STARS INSISTING ON 'BENEFIT' REGULATION

As the benefit racket has now deteriorated into an out-and-out black-jack, the Broadway stars are banding together to put an end to it once and for all. It's reached the stage where even the Park avenue bunch, which formerly paid fancy fees for coming-out and kindred social hop-conia, now call their dances 'victory parties,' give a few bucks to USO or some such organization, and then put the slug on stars, in the name of patriotism.

Jim Sauter, executive secretary of United Theatrical War Activities Committee, and Abe Langford, president of USO-Camp Shows, Inc., now that he's back from London, are due to go 'honeying' this pronto, at the insistence of such stars as George Jessel, Danny Kaye, Triton Wolf, Ray Bolger, et al. It's reached the stage where these (Continued on page 50)

Tropical Park Opening Giving Miami Big Hypo; All Niteries Doing Great

Miami, Dec. 22. With niteries and other spots already doing boom business, particularly over weekends, when crowds are being turned away, opening of Tropical Park, apparently, (21) and the scheduled prong of Lou Walter's Latin quarter tonight (Tuesday), are a glittering trail of the necessary hypotes to counteract the anticipated drop in trade due to gas rationing and other warping restrictions.

While the influx of winter residents is not nearly as great as in previous years, there isn't a lull in town losing money. Not even the 'o'clock curfew' is hurting trade any, for the majority of paying customers are service men and they (Continued on page 32)

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Although considerably disturbed by the Lowell Mellett order for submission to the OWI Hollywood office of treatments, scripts and pictures in long cut, producers are continuing to comply by turning over scripts to Nelson Poynter, Mellett's rep in Hollywood. Spokesman for the office said today (Tues.) that studios have entered no objections to Mellett's ultimatum which some conceive as an opening wedge to Federal censorship of pictures before they are made.

Some producers insisted no scripts would be submitted except those having to do with war or home front morale. Control of training and propaganda pictures of believed being controlled by Elmer Davis with the Army and Navy, Letter sent Hollywood office, which threw the Producers Association into a mild furor at a meeting late last week, contained the following paragraph which some studio heads say won't be taken lying down. It reads: 'For benefit of both your studio and Office of War Information it would be advisable to establish a routing procedure whereby our Hollywood office would receive copies of studio treatments or synopses of all stories which you contemplate producing and of finished scripts.'

Propose Periodic Fire Drills in N. Y. Theatres for Safety

Periodic fire drills in theatres is among new measures proposed last week in New York City council as a means of tightening safety regulations in places of amusement in this sector. Another measure introduced calls for auxiliary lighting and loud speakers in theatres. Neither of the proposals has yet been acted upon, however, and await further discussion in committee.

Officials of the N. Y. City Police, Fire and Building Department meantime, are considering several other regulations designed to further (Continued on page 27)

Theatres Tacking Cards On Trolleys, Buses Again

Theatres are going back to the old system of advertising in trolley cars and buses, as a result of the increasing travel on public conveyances brought about by gas rationing.

In addition, the amusement places are buying advertising space on signboards, once leased to national motor companies, which have no cars to advertise.

'SHOW BUSINESS' INVITATIONS TO CENSOR

INVITATIONS TO CENSOR

Show business must again watch its step. The slightest lapse of decorum or deportment and the hatchet men and women with the bluenoses start sharpening their axes.

Just give them a parlay of one 'Wine, Women and Song' conviction—an abortive theatrical attempt which a right-minded showman is ashamed of—and a little publicity about strong words in present-day, wartime films (Noel Coward's 'In Which We Serve' and March of Time's 'Here Come the Marines') and that becomes a casus belli for the road company Comstock and Summers. Not forgetting the radio comedians' recent tendencies to get hip.

As a story from Washington in this issue indicates, Capitol Hill is already agog that a bluenose offensive will be started if there are any attempts to weaken the self-regulatory production code of the motion picture industry. Quite rightly, as is also reported in these columns, the right-thinking executives of the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors of America, Inc. decided that a wartime realism or not, there was no excuse for hells, damns, bastards or indictments of the Italians even if our own Covard may feel that way publicly and the British public may endorse him privately.

Sound show business doesn't need un-sapported language or misbehaviorism on screen or rostrum for boxoffice or any other impact. Invariably it's a confession of weakness in the basic merits, b. o. and otherwise, which compel such strong theatrical license. There are exceptions to every generalization, however, and if they are made they are invariably good: to wit, 'What Price Glory'?

But that brings us to something else again. That is the liberalism—the last two remaining frontiers of a liberal art expression—the stage and the printed word. Pornography, utopian shadows or grandiose undecipherable. But so is wanton hamstringing of such highly intelligent and specialized media as a play or a book. A relatively pure, mass-attended cinema is understandable; and, of course, that goes too for the radio, which knows not on whose ears may fall this or that form of utterance.

However, it's a far cry from Minsky to Laurence Stallings, and for that matter, Noel Coward. Furthermore, as regards Coward's 'In Which We Serve' when it's apparent that the vivid war message loses nothing by the scissoring of the few naughty words, why would needless trouble from professional trouble-makers.

Sound American judgment, however, should not permit itself to become blinded or biased just because professional bluenoses start pecking away. One ditty burlesk show or a few cuss-words—which, after all, have become virtually accepted as parlor conversation in this day and age—are not sufficient reasons for a general censorship drive on show business.

If Maney Wasn't So Honest, This Would Read Like a Press Stunt

By JACK PULASKI
The Skin of Our Teeth', Plymouth, N. Y., the Thornton Wilder play which has become a national audience and critical controversy than any drama in years, was doused in publicity last week to the keen satisfaction of the management and the show's press agent. It had been faintly surmised that Henry Willson Saroyan had inspired Wilder into writing the screwball 'Tooth', then along came two more fellows who say Wilder copied the play from the late, erratic James Joyce's 'Finnegan's Wake'.

They allege that 'Teeth' contains important plot elements, characters, devices, presentation, as well as major themes of 'Wake', and many of the speeches are directly and frankly venerated with both the similes and the original features. The curious angle to the incident is that very few people except Henry Morton Robinson, editor of Reader's Digest, and Joseph Campbell of Sarah Lawrence College, who made the accusations in the Saturday Review of Literature, ever claimed to understand the Joyce book.

[The presumption is, too, that (Continued on page 54)]

Orson's Playroom

Ho Hollywood, Dec. 22.—Orson Welles, once a youthful prodigy, will be welcomed appropriately when he checks in at 20th-Fox for his co-starring hole with Joan Fontaine in 'Jane Eyre'.

Helen Hayes Shying Clear of Radio Work

Helen Hayes is concentrating on her still unutilized play based on the life of Harriet Beecher Stowe, which, so far, has only Rhys Williams as the male lead. She will do no radio commercial series this year, save for an occasional guest shot, as with the Reader's Digest show last Sunday, finding that both a play and radio series tax her energies too much.

Miss Hayes plans an extended road tour in the Stowe play before coming to Broadway next March.

SHIRER SAYS U.S. IS REMISS

'Berlin Diary' Author and CBS Commentator Gives N. Y. Publicity Club Some Lowdown on How We Have Been Remiss in Underestimating Germany

NEED MORE UNITY

By MORI KRUSHEN
William L. Shirer explained to members of the Publicity Club of New York last Thursday (17) why the United Nations had not been waging a good propaganda war and linked our early military failures and propaganda-wise stupidity to a failure to understand Germany and what it was up to. Shirer said that before U. N. propaganda aimed at Germany and Italy can become effective, a clear understanding of those countries must first be reached and specific government policy formulated.

For the present there appeared to be too much confusion among the United Nations—with apparently conflicting opinions regarding the affair (Continued on page 13)

Par and WB Not Going Heavy On B'way Backing

Paramount and Warners production departments continue aloof to wholesale purchases of plays for picture purposes and financing of legit production despite 20th-Fox's activity in this field. Metro, like 20th, has been showing keen interest in legit properties but approach has been cautious and limited to important properties which run no risk of topical themes which might become dated prior to release. Metro money is in 'Willow and I', while the same studio is also interested in buying 'The Pirate' as are Warners, Paramount and 20th.

Paramount and Warners are leaning more towards book and magazine story buys and are inclined to gamble with novels rather than plunge into heavily in buying or backing plays for the time being.

MCA's JUROW SCOUTING WARNER TALENT EAST

Martin Jurow, Music Corp. of America legit and talent booker, on Jan. 1 becomes New York talent scout for Warner Bros. He will direct directly from the office of Jack L. Warner and Steve Trilling at the studio. Jurow will not be replaced at MCA where Edith Van Cleve continues as head of legit casting.

MCA execs gave Jurow a farewell luncheon yesterday (Tue.).

PAR PACTS 2 WRITERS

Murray Burnett and Joan Alison, who wrote 'Everybody's Got His Ricks', which was made into a Warner Bros. 'Casablanca', have been picked by Paramount as a writing team.

They report to the Coast on new contract Jan. 4.

L. A. 25% Off Due to Gas Rationing But No. Calif. Holds Up; Niteries Affected Even More Than Cinemas

Washington Officials and Other Film Biz Notables Review the Industry's Contributions to 'Show Business At War'

Among Other Features of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

HERE'S HOW TWO B'WAYITES SAW LONDON

Abe Lastfogel, prez of USO-Camp Shows, and Mark Hanna, agent in OWI service, both returned last week on the Paramount Clipper from London. Both spent about the same coincidental period of time in the British capital although on separate missions. Findings of two Broadwayites in London are capsule.

KOBER WOULD LIKE TO DOUBLE INTO OWI

Arthur Kober, back east from a 20th-Fox writing stint for 'Quota Girl', forthcoming Greta Henle item, which is slated for February production start, is trying to work out an Office of War Information connection. He wants only to devote six months of his time to Hollywood. The studio has called him back already on a nine-month deal, but his agent, Nat Goldstone, is trying to adjust that.

LOCAL PEP TAKES GOOD

Donald Duck Mime Stops Battering Fans, Now Ballys Out Front
Trenton, Dec. 22. A kid started working today in the RKO Capitol lobby. Instead of 'The Fuehrer's Face', the picture ties up with the kid.

Los Angeles, Dec. 22.—As cars go, so goes Los Angeles—or better—Hollywood's first-run film theatre grosses. It takes autos to get around Hollywood, and just how few are taking them is by now strongly—and sadly—indicated in takings at the boulevard boxoffices. Check finds them about 25% off normals.

As anticipated, weekends mean life or death. So far, they have meant life to theatres that have anything to sell. If theatres have it they come—though confined to weekends—and if they don't make for sickeningly grosses, particularly in Hollywood. However, all believe it is only the momentary story and not final picture of the year when schools reopen.

Dislocation in Hollywood is evidenced in second weeks' dropping nearly 50% from figures of first weeks, while downtown houses take nearer normal decline of from 20 to 30% on holdovers. Poor pictures, a real more beating in Hollywood than did you down town.

For all the inroads, current business is every bit as good as last (Continued on page 12)

FOLLIES'S SHOWGIRLS AT \$100-\$250 A WEEK

'Ziegfeld Follies' now in rehearsal, will be long on lookers in the show-girl contingent. Around 15 Powers models have been engaged to receive much over the scale for chorines. Understood that one model is being contracted at \$250 weekly, with varying amounts for others, none receiving less than \$100. The show-girl news is similar to that of the late Flo Ziegfeld, who glorified 'I'm Big and paid salaries.

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WAR PRODUCTION

OWI's 'Request' for O.O. of All Film Scenarios Climaxes Long-Standing Tug of War Between H'wood and U.S.

Silent tug-of-war which has been going on for several months between the studios and the Motion Picture Bureau of the Office of War Information over the censorship of all films, which had been sought by the latter, finally came into the open last week. It was announced that Lowell Mellett had decided to ask producers to submit screen treatments and scenarios of all product, war-themed or otherwise, prior to filming.

While reaction from studio heads was not immediately forthcoming, it is known that producers have accepted the Mellett request for censorship over all films for the past few months.

Not generally known that studios, which had been submitting scripts on papers dealing with production, also were accepting censorship, but now are also paying price for some time to allow the OWI to gather all other material which would be left points out that the OWI has only advisory powers, producers have all along felt that if they are obliged to take into account the manifold provisions which would arise in weighing the morale and infrangible values of every picture it would further complicate wartime production.

Producers claim they are already operating under inconceivable handicaps as a result of current wartime story requirements and set limitations. OWI, on the other hand, has openly expressed dissatisfaction with the emphasis on sabotage and espionage formulas in too many pictures. Also viewed as undesirable is the frequent practices of sandwiching a war title between a couple of light situations in the picture which have been flooding the market.

Government information execs have been trying to get writers and producers to adopt a broader formula in war pictures. Preference is being shown at the fallacious, dangerous foes responsible for the current catastrophe rather than the shadow-fighting merely individual menaces.

Projectionist Dies on Job, Opposh Operator Works With Body at His Feet

Pittsburgh, Dec. 22. After Nathan Bennett, 36, projectionist at the Times, died in the Bradford lot scene while the late afternoon show was on, an opposition house operator took over and continued the show for two hours with the body at his feet.

Death occurred just after Bennett had been asked to change reels. When the screen went blank an assistant went to the booth to report projecting. The body, however, couldn't be removed until a deputy coroner arrived.

Bennett, carpenter by profession of the Times, ran to the Capitol against the street, for help. Chaucery Thomas, projectionist there, responded to his call.

The coroner didn't appear for two hours but witnesses kept the show running, the audience not aware of death in the booth. Bennett was a brother-in-law of M. A. Rosenberg, local exhibitor, and President of National All-India. Before going with the Times he had been projectionist at Rosenberg's Bialto. He leaves a widow, two children, his father and five sisters.

Off on the Wing

Hollywood, Dec. 22. First job under Edward Dmytryk's new job contract, he will produce 'The Falcon Comes Back,' a continuation of the detective series by the writer, which he had been projectionist at Rosenberg's Bialto. He leaves a widow, two children, his father and five sisters.

KORDA TO COAST

May Work for British Govt.—Clarke Res His Pic Plans

Sir Alexander Korda left New York for Hollywood over the weekend, planning to return early in January, later leaving for England. Korda has been granted a release from United Artists which leaves him free to use other distribution channels for future pictures. He retains his 25% interest in UA for the present.

Korda's production plans remain unaltered for the time being, pending possibility he may go into a British government post.

Before leaving for the Coast last Friday (18) Korda issued a categorical denial of reports that he was seeking contact of Gaumont-British.

CIO TO OPPOSE REPEAL 25C CEILING

Washington, Dec. 22.

Move of the new Congress to repeal the \$25,000 net salary ceiling will face strong opposition from the Congress of Industrial Organizations, CIO organization, which exerted strong pressure on President Roosevelt to put the limitation on salaries, is now laying its plans to fight any attempt by Congress to rescind the President's executive order.

Strategy of CIO is to be declare that if Congress removes the ceiling it will consider that as indicating that the emergency is over and that Congress has no longer can, and longer be held to their voluntary pledge not to strike for the duration. CIO's powerful United Automobile Workers Union will take the lead in the fight to stop any Congressional action on the salary ceiling.

Showmen Meet to Set United Nations Drive

Meeting attended by over 1,000 theatre operators, exchange men and publicists from the metropolitan New York area was held at Loew's Ziegfeld, N. Y., yesterday (22), to outline plans for the United Nations fund-raising campaign in U. S. theatres Jan. 14-20.

Among speakers at the confab called Sam Rindler, executive co-chairman of the New York area, were William F. Rodgers, Leonard Goldstein, Harry Brandt, Fred Schwartz and Si Fabian.

Coinciding with the United Nations Week' drive to be staged in some 16,000 theatres, the U. S. Post Office Department is issuing a new 2c 'United Nations' stamp which goes on sale for the first time Jan. 14.

Hathaway's 'Free for All'

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Henry Hathaway draws a director chair on Fox. Fox All! RKO release to be produced by Frank Ross Productions.

Starring in the picture will be Frank Ross' wife, Jean Arthur, and John Wayne. Filming starts Dec. 30.

O-WAR RISE UP FOR REFORMS

Industry Heads, Anticipating Essential Legislation for Films, Plan Labor-Management Organization—Reps From the Conference of Studio Unions, IATSE, SAG and Other Crafts and Unions to Decide on Applications

CLEAR THROUGH WMC

Hollywood, Dec. 22. In anticipation of the picture business being classified as essential to the war effort by the War Manpower Commission, heads of the industry are starting machinery to set up a 10-man Labor Management board to handle draft deferments in vital occupations.

Under preliminary plans one labor board member is to be appointed by the Conference of Studio Unions, the IATSE, and Screen Actors' Guild. The several crafts and various independent Guilds are said to be in agreement on the plan.

According to the present setup, all applications for deferment would be clear through this board before submission to the War Manpower Commission. Those applications not then be relayed to Selective Service Boards.

The official order stipulating ratings for film business employees is expected soon. Delay in film worker ratings thus far has been caused by a study, still under way, of proposals declaring various studio jobs essential occupations.

Among those said to be actors, (Continued on page 12)

RKO FILM END COMING OUT OF THE RED

RKO Radio Pictures, film suboid of RKO Inc., is beginning to show a profit on operations for the first time in several years. Understand that the production-distribution subunit has been out of the red since October.

Study, long the weak link in the RKO setup, came under Charles Koerner's direction last spring.

Kanes Head West

The Robert T. Kanes head of Hollywood in time for the Rose Bowl game Jan. 1. Mrs. Kane and the widow of Sid Kantis are sisters. Kane, in charge of 20th-Fox film production in England, was there for a month in 1941 and has recently returned. He will probably become active in Coast studio production.

Jim Geller

Warner Bros. Story Editor Waves Literary and Whimsical As Special Feature Article

'Show Business At War'

theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Gas Shortage Grounds Pix Salesmen Who Foresee More Exhib Negotiations Henceforth Via Mails and Phones

NO IN-BETWEENS

Borderline A's Either Cut to Cheap B's or upped to Big Pix

Sharp budget revision, with elimination of borderline A pictures, is planned by several of the major studios next year. Tentative plans do no call for the elimination of 'B' product, in most cases, but pictures in this category will be held down to around \$150,000 in cost.

Appropriation for in-betweens, which formerly ran from \$250,000 to \$350,000 will either be cut to the lower figure or budget will be boosted to \$500,000, or more, if the property seems strong enough to warrant the additional cost.

Revised cost sheet perspective is predicated on the new appraisal of stock availability. Production departments are now weighing all raw film appropriations carefully. Under the 25c ration, below 1941 consumption figures, studio heads are figuring on keeping footloose, and therefore costly, on low-budgeters' minimum.

PRE-XMAS AND COLD NO HELP TO GEN'L B.O.

Unseasonably cold weather in many parts of the country, accompanied by snow in some sections, combined with the tailend of the Christmas shopping period and gas restrictions to lurt the boxoffice generally. However, in the south and warmer other spots where extreme cold and snow did not get in severe licks, the week before Xmas is stacking up better than usual. The south is particularly aided by a large number of soldier camps.

The soldier wave, extending throughout the northern and western states, brought intense suffering to many localities due to lack of fuel oil, while in 17 eastern communities the sale of gas was suspended for several days due to a shortage this in turn affecting the theatre.

In New York City the temperature on Sunday (20) dipped to three below zero, but a high rise. Due to the heating problem, many theatres were caught without sufficient fuel to keep interiors properly warmed against the sudden freezing onslaught. One house in New York, 104 E. 10th street, and 20th street, shut down on Sunday (20), while numerous others in the city shut out on night runs. According to operators, nabs in the Greater N. Y. area were hard hit over the weekend, while in the downtown sector Saturday's business (Continued on page 54)

'No Gas' Folds Theatre

Minneapolis, Dec. 22. First theatre casualty hereabouts was the Edendale theatre, 1600 First of the Royal 'B' house at Hopkins, local suburb Engler, Bock. Owners also decline to indicate whether 'A' have theatre the Hopkins, because of poor business. The Hopkins theatre started a year ago at a cost of \$150,000.

The Englers have a complaint with the city's rationing ordinance, involving the Hopkins. Naming the major distributors and the Paramount circuit here, they alleged unfair dealing against the Hopkins and in favor of Par houses in Minneapolis.

Shortage of gasoline and added restrictions in rationing in 17 eastern states, which it is feared may become even more severe and extend throughout the entire country, has grounded film salesmen, forcing exchange in the hardest-hit zones to rely on mail or telephone to negotiate contracts.

Not only have the film peddlers become stymied but exhibitors who have been in the habit of coming into exchange centers once a week or otherwise have been tied up at home. They have less of an excuse to ask for extra gas than the sellers but latterly, according to new restrictions, are also unable to get supplemental rationing coupons.

Film salesmen were formerly able to get 'C' cards but now are lucky to have 'A' and 'B' cards. While the latter two enabled them to get eight gallons a week, the new rule was cut earlier this month to three gallons for the 'A' and now has been cut to one gallon under the 'B' coupons. A similar 25% reduction for 'C' cards, still obtainable outside of the 17 eastern seaboard states, has been denied.

It is believed in some quarters, in view of the emergency, that more can be handled by mail with applications on sales made out and sent to the exhibitor according to exhibitor's signature or revision, as well as phone calls, it appears that a great deal of selling will have to be borne this way.

While exhibitors, whose cars are now being used to use trains and buses, to come into their nearest exchange points as often as they have in the past, it will probably be necessary to meet and greet salesmen half way and continue to do so.

So far there has been no interference in deliveries of film by truck, which have the unrestricted privilege to haul outside of the city a curtailment in their rationing, rail-way express and parcel post will have to be stepped upon more importantly than now, particularly in the east where most shipments are made by car.

Seidelman Perfecting U. S. Pix Distribution For Troops Overseas

Joseph Seidelman, Universal v.p. and foreign sales chief, is perfecting his distribution setup currently whereby steady flow of American screen product will go to U. S. Armed Forces. As special consultant to Secretary of War Stimson, Seidelman is reported about to designate four film executives or former picture people, now in the service, to handle details of the distribution. Understood that Major Arthur Loew, now on leave of absence from Loew's, where he is foreign sales chief, has been mentioned as a possibility along with others. His part of Biglander General Osborne's special services and supplies morale work.

Most pressing problem at the present time is the lack of film-making equipment at the various fronts, a big shortage being reported thus far. It is expected that in the next few months will be round up additional 16-mm. taking projector equipment and making up all details which will be sent to the front by delivery of latest U. S. pictures to the men at the front fronts. All the later production of 16-mm. for shipment overseas in this alignment.

Growing Juvenile Delinquency Pits Public Fear of Late-Hours on Dimmed Streets May Seriously Dent Pix B.O.

Widespread juvenile delinquency and criminal activities by these and other youths are creating alarm in the operating circles lest considerable suffering and loss of business result in dimout areas such as New York City where the regulations have been tightened. In the opinion of managers, it is that people who are beginning to hear of attacks or robberies will be afraid of the darkened streets in increasing numbers. Pointed out that it takes time to start folks but that it ultimately fear catches up with them, especially the women.

Among other things, as many people have been seen by cars on dimmed-out streets that in the same time, the tendency increases to keep the lids at home where they are safe. Claimed now that many women are afraid to go downtown to theatres or to their nearest neighborhood house because of how dark many streets have become.

The dimout at first was not so bad in New York and other cities, but now it has noticeably reduced crowds on the street after sunset and particularly earlier midnight when most babies finish their shows. Plenty of men as well as women have been seen and robbed in the past with complaints crying for more police protection. Extra police as a result have been put on in some areas in New York.

Harlem Hard Hit
According to operators of Harlem theatres are hard hit by the dimout due to the wave of crime which has developed in that section of the town. Both RKO and Loew's, as well as various independents, operate in that region.

One of the Broadway managers points out that the dimout is less likely to affect the downtown area since there are always crowds on the street.

Manager of a large N. Y. house says that when he drives home late at night now, going through streets that look like a desert and he keeps both car doors locked from the inside since a favorite stunt of hoodlums seems to be to jump into a car when it is stopped somewhere by a traffic light. In one case recently a woman was grabbed by two men and her fur coat taken off her back.

Difficultly in controlling the juvenile delinquents has been noted where the Paramount, N. Y., now has two Pinkerton men on active duty in the theatre.

PRC DROPS PATHE, RESUMES OWN TAG

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Producers Releasing Corp., which suddenly called itself PRC-Pathe, is dropping the new title just as suddenly for legal and other corporate titles.

PRC is controlled by Pathe Laboratories but does not hook up with Pathe Films, which is turning out newsreels and shorts for RKO release until the new title is straightened out. PRC-Pathe will revert to its original title, Producers Releasing Corp.

Rep. Signs Exhibit To Slant Pix B.O.-ward

Hollywood, Dec. 22. M. S. Seigel, chief of Republic studio, signed Howard Sheehan to his executive staff as consultant in the selection of story material from a bookoffee angle.

Weavers Keep Weaving

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Republic is holding the Weaver Bros. & Elvry for another picture, completion of their current starlet, Mountain Rhythm.

MIKE CARR'S TECHNIQUE

Seems Rare Cure for Theatre Roughnecks

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 22. One theatre manager here, Mike Carr, has always taken himself in hand and he has a photographic memory.

Surprising angle is that roughnecks will beg to be allowed to come back, making all kinds of promises. The ban seems to hurt their pride. But, unless he is sure of a change of heart, Carr is advised not to let them back until after four years, most of which he had been out of town, but Carr has rehired him and the ban still stood.

Now youths are becoming serious problems in the theatre. Managers all over the city, but particularly in some of the neighborhoods, report that they are turning over the war plants put in few weeks under their belts and immediately make mistakes of their own, loud talk and annoying other patrons.

Others and managers use a lot of blarney in trying to cope with the disturbers, but even that doesn't work too well, one manager getting into a fight with a patron he was trying to shush.

World-Wide Camp Showing for Par's All-Star 'Rhythm'

Uncle Sam and Paramount are working together on the most unique premiere ever given a Hollywood picture. "Star Spangled Rhythm," which will exhibit all the stars on the Paramount roster in one film, has been accepted by the Department of War as a Christmas present from the film industry to the armed forces overseas.

Prints of the picture were turned over to the United States Army. H. Osborn, director of the Special Service Division of the Army, for the picture. It was distributed in New Zealand, Alaska, Hawaii, Chungking, Africa, India, Australia and other far-flung camps, before the opening at the New York Paramount theatre Dec. 30.

Wide-wide distribution of the picture was arranged by Francis S. Harmon, executive vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of the film industry; Joseph Friedman, chairman of the London branch of the United Artists; and W. Howard, in charge of the Overseas Motion Picture Service of the Army.

Bronson's Jack London Story and B.R. All Set

Samuel J. Bronston completed financing arrangements last week, for the United Artists production, "Life of Jack London," which the plans to start shooting in March. Bronston has bought the rights to the picture to be based on two books written by Charmaine London, Mrs. Jack London's wife. Bronston plans modernizing "The London log" by superimposing current war developments to Pearl Harbor.

Irv Brecher's Very Funny Satire 'It Can Happen Here' An Added Feature in 'Show Business At War'

37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Drop Jr. Admiss As a Curb To Juve Vandalism

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Fox-West Coast is dropping its junior admission scale because of vandalism. Circuit originated the idea of a cut to 25c for matinees and 35c nights to attract young trade.

Idea was to encourage matinee business by cutting circuits and followed. Result was big hit attracted proved costly because of vandalism and property destructions.

Willkie Testimonial By Pic Exces Raises 24G For Army Camps Fund

Top execs of all major companies attended a testimonial luncheon to Wendell L. Willkie, 20th-Fox board chairman, at the Astor, N. Y. Wednesday (16). Purpose was to raise funds to carry on work of National Conference of Christians and Jews in army camps here and abroad. A total of \$24,000 was subscribed. J. Robert Taylor, president and presented Willkie with a silver platter in recognition of his efforts on behalf of world unity.

"Willkie told of important role to be played by cultural arts during and after war."

Among heavier contribs were Rubin, L. B. Mayer, Will Hays, Nick Schenck, Joe Schenck, Jules Brulbort, Irving Berlin, David O. Selznick, Barney Balaban and Spross Skouras.

OK MAIL ORDER PAYOFF AS MEANS TO SAVE GAS

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Latent offshoot of gas rationing is being used by agents that studios be permitted to mail them checks covering salaries of their clients.

Robert Taylor, president, approved the idea, with this statement: "It has sometimes been a practice in the past for actors to audit studios to release checks to agents with the understanding agents would deduct their 10% from the deposit checks for the actors. Because of gas rationing agents want to amend this agreement that deposit checks to it them."

Studio Contracts

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Ruth Hussey drew new contract at Metro.

Phil Silvers' actor option picked up by Columbia. Silvers' contract at 20th-Fox.

Walter Brown drew new player contract at RKO.

Harold Miles inked pact as art director at Hal Roach's studio. William Morgan's director option picked up by Republic.

George Barker, legit player, signed by Columbia.

Producers and Actors Still Knocking Themselves Out on That 25G Headache

Hollywood, Dec. 22. How to work out the \$487,200 yearly gross and \$25,000 yearly net in the film business resolved itself into a two-way clinch between Screen Actors Guild and producers. The latter is the Federal Department keeping its hands off.

Representatives of the picture business have been talking in Washington recently with the idea of breaking down the ceiling to pro rata salary \$11,000 a week which would approximate the ceiling. Answer to the industry was in effect: Settle your own financial problems, we have plenty of our own.

Apparently cognizant of actions of producers, Screen Actors Guild officials drafted new rules to protect interests of players in certain situations. Legal staff of Guild drafted three rulings designed to further protect the interests of freelance actors on the question of maximum salaries. One is to protect rights of actors under existing contracts with salary ceiling.

rights options, and to protect the rights of actors on new option contracts that may be negotiated in future. SAG has already forced producers to limit their emergency clause which they tried to insert in all contracts to hold an actor to his existing salary. If wage ceiling provisions called for in the contracts. The SAG financial agents in Washington is the \$47,200 ceiling on a weekly basis is bound to result in a fight with SAG. Guild contract provides no-strike agreement but it is based on idea that both sides carry out their obligations. When the employers' financial agents and employees no longer is bound by its terms. In case of necessity, actors would simply stay away from studios until their contracts were met, without need of any official action.

Meanwhile, the Treasury has refused to adjudicate or to offer official opinion on validity of contracts which might be involved in actors under existing contracts with salary ceiling.

Letty's Notebook

By Joe Laurie, Jr.

Dear Joe:
With all this rationing my mind wanders back to the summer of 1925, when I was 12 years old. I went to the Automat. Those days the Automat had large glasses of pieces of lemon in 'em; they were supposed to be taken to the 'pay faucet' and filled with hot tea. Actors played the lemon, acid sugar and all the glass with ice water. They called the lemonade "The Tin Roof... it was on the house."

It was just a couple of years before that (1923) that Bert Vero went 'Upstairs.' He was struck by lightning at Long Beach. When Jimmy Russell (Russell Bros.) died, Johnny Russell took Bert Vero and taught him the ropes of the theatre. I was 12 years old then. I was with him in 1925 or '89. His son James, who was an un'enticker in Einhorn, wrote that Irish chisel, "Where the River Shannon Flows." Many a night, I'd see him and Melvyn at the Automat. They'd be talking to the 'porter' and harmonized the old favorites. Since then we've played to colder audiences than in Jimmy Russell's back room.

There's an interesting item in my notebook. Way back in 1875 Challenge Cups were called "Challenge Vase." Beer was spilled b-e-r-and the Olympic theatre had one of the first of the city's cooling systems—

Coolaces, Calif., Dec. 22.

1925 Forecast for 1947
That was a great year, 1925 for film actors and a picture called "Black Cyclone" playing at the Capitol on Broadway that was jamming them in. It was one of the greatest illusions in pictures. Magnified from toy copies of wild horse in the desert to the real thing. The picture was a horse, the star horse, was also from a toy. Horses were rescued from quicksand in a 20-foot pond on Hal Roach's lot. Of course the picture people use the idea now with aeroplanes, submarines, boats, etc. The boys with the ceiling on salaries, they will go back making pictures with toys.

In 1925, vaudeville acts started making their routes via trailers and cars. That same year acts let out whoops like Indians when howling. It was supposed to be an enthusiasm of the audience, like football rallies at that time. It didn't help. In a short time acts went back to no yelling and no howling.

In 1927 actors played vaudeville with their eyes on radio and their hearts in Hollywood. The dance trend in that year was slow rhythms, "The Blue Danube," giving melody fox-trot full play. My friend Flynn doing a ball waltz at the State, N. Y. State, N. Y. State, N. Y. State. P. T. Barnum's estate was settled. He died in 1891 and Mrs. Barnum died in 1937. The estate was over \$125,000, which proved there had been more than one "Famed 'Ugliest Woman'."

Do you remember way back in 1910, when Nellie Revel, then working for Willie Hammerstein, was famous as the ugliest woman in the world... with the smallest waist? She told Hammerstein she'd have Lillian Russell and Polaire photographed together as the handsomest and ugliest women in the world. The picture was made. The picture was punched G and then quit her job with Hammerstein. Nellie can still punch swell on the radio.

To avoid the penalties of the Act of Parliament against unpunished comedians (they were licensed those days), show owners advertised like this: "The Cephalic Snuff Warehouse, Cibber & Co., snuff merchants, set at their wits to make a new kind of snuff. It was Snuff, which taken in moderate quantities (in the evening particularly) will not fail to raise the spirits, clear the brain, throw off all humors, drive away the spleen, and give a new vigor to the system. It is a joy to the heart, and greatly invigorates and improve the understanding. Mr. Cibber has also opened at the aforesaid warehouse (later called the theatre) a new kind of snuff, called the 'snuff of the young gentlemen of genius in the art of acting; and purposes for the better improvement of such pupils, and frequently with his assistance, to give public recitations of his own or rewrites."

So you see, kids, they beat the strawhat School of Acting by just 188 years.

One one George M. Cohan told me long ago. A fellow called to see him claiming he was McIntyre's nephew (McIntyre and Heath). Cohan went out to see him, talked to him for a while and sensed it was a phoney. He tried to make a joke of the fellow, but the fellow refused to go back to his dressing room, said, "McIntyre was certainly a swell fellow!" The phoney, expecting a handout, said, "Is that all you have to say?" George Barker, legit player, signed by Columbia.

Your pal, Letty

FILM MOVIE MARKET

Pathe's Raw Film Credit of 12,000,000 Feet Due to M.O.T. Reel's Shift to 20th

Raw stock situation affecting news-reels remains obscure though indications last week were that only 150 feet instead of 1500 were cut out from each semi-weekly edition of approximately 800 feet. The smaller cut is regarded as a result of Lowell Mellett's effort to provide 500 feet per edition (500 feet per week for all reels) from Office of War Information stock to the reels.

A reduction in the number of prints per issue, currently around 500, is also believed likely since the O.W.I. stock offered would not be sufficient to maintain bookings on the current level.

Pathe has proposed a general 12 1/2% cut in newsreel length because this reel is generally shorter than the others, usually running from 700 to 800 feet as compared with 850 to 900 feet.

Pathe, on the other hand, has some 12,000,000 feet of stock available as a result of the March of Time switch to 20th-Fox. M. O. T. failed to receive an okay from the War Production Board to transfer its raw stock allocation from RKO to 20th when it changed distributors. As a result, Pathe has the 12,000,000-foot allotment which could be used to maintain M.O.T.'s usual length.

Twentieth-Fox, meantime, had been trying to have March of Time production as a result of its raw stock allocation purposes. This application was denied and the later W.P.A. ruling placing newsreels under the same raw stock limitations as features makes it necessary for 20th to change footage M. O. T. from its feature and Movietone allocations.

Under proposed plans the five reels would agree not to exceed 750 feet in length, instead of 850 or 900 feet. Under the current W.P.A. Government operation has been approved for the time being.

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CHARGE PIX TRUCKERS REMISS ON DELIVERIES

San Francisco, Dec. 22. Local distributors have filed complaints with the State Railroad Commission against film truckers, declaring laxity in delivery and disrupting theatre schedules for two months. Commission is placing spotters at various points to determine if truckers are responsible for time losses.

State body has power to take away truckers' franchise for failure to live up to agreements.

Raw Film Freeze Extended Pending New WPB Ration

Washington, Dec. 22. Pending issuance of a new order more restrictive has proposed further cut in allocation of film to motion picture producers and distributors. War Production Board has extended its freeze order on film stocks in the hands of manufacturers to the distributors.

The new film allocation order which will put into effect a reduction of 12 1/2 to 30 percent of the film available to producers and distributors in 1941, is expected to be issued any day. Under the present order the producers and distributors are receiving 10 to 24 percent of the film they had available in 1941.

The extension of the freeze is the second one issued since the original order, 8-178, was issued. The present extension expired Saturday (19).

Kudos and Scallions

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Cary Grant and Ronald Bussett were awarded golden apples by the most co-operative film actor and actress of 1942.

Cabapples voted to George Sanders and Jean Arthur as "most un-co-operative."

'Daddies' Dusted Off By WB for Leslie

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Warners assigned Joan Leslie to play the star role in "Daddies," originated on the stage by Jeanne Eagels as a David Belasco production.

John L. Hobart's legit script will be modernized for the screen with a war background by Gertrude Purcell.

PAR HAS 12,000 CONTRACTS TO DATE

Selling three blocks of five each, a total of 15 pictures, Paramount last week hit a new record of getting 1,975 contracts, according to Neil F. Asnew, v.p. over distribution. This places the total number of contracts on current season's (1942-43) film at over 12,000, while for the same period last year the number of deals were 6,235.

Par's fourth block of films, also five pictures, will not be offered for sale until after the first of the year. RKO's first three groups this season, numbering 15, have been bought under circuit deals by Wilby-Kinsey, covering the Carolina, eastern Tennessee, and Alabama; the Lucas & Jenkins string in Georgia, Malco, operating in western Tennessee and Arkansas; and the Par circuit in the Miami zone.

Nat Levy, eastern division sales head for RKO, and Dave Prince, southeastern district manager for the company, closed the deals with the southern circuits.

TURNING THEM INTO 1ST-RUNS

In Tightly-Controlled Circuit Keys Continued Engagements Are Decreasing Due to Need for Greater Outlet for New Pictures—Move-over Policy Long an Exhibit Beef

SUB-RUNS MOVE UP

Moveover houses are decreasing in number, especially in key cities where film is becoming badly blocked due to gradual extension of runs since the war began, plus lack of enough theatres to provide sufficient outlet for the product of all distributors.

Operators who devised the so-called moveover policy, causing cry of protest among subsequent runs, are now making first-runs out of such houses in order to play pictures that are becoming backed up and, in some cases, suffer from lack of timeliness, inability to get dates over holidays and adverse advertising which has lost its sting.

Least Pix in N. Y. The problem on blocked films is least felt in a city like New York where most distributors have their own showcases but in various large keys where a single circuit has virtual control of runs and policy. It has become a fight for bookers trying to get time. The situation is keenest in such cities as Detroit, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Chicago and Pittsburgh, where defense industry has made it possible for the better films to play exceptionally long engagements. Even lesser film goes much farther in such zones and elsewhere than formerly. Thus, not only are majors backed up on dates in scores of situations but so are the secondary distributors.

Condition resultant upon war and new levels for the year. (Continued on page 16)

Producers Switching From 1 Studio To Another Argue WPB Should Not Penalize Them on Raw Film Quotas

Rep. Reissuing 8 Autrys While Sgt. Is in Service

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Republic is reissuing eight Sgt. Gene Autry pictures next year while the cowboy star is in the Army. Subjects were selected from the most popular Autry has made since first galloping on the screen seven years ago.

Beginning Jan. 15, a tinctor will go out at 6-week intervals.

Strong opposition has developed against the phase of the War Production Board film allocation system whereby producers switching from one studio to another can be deprived of celluloid. Under current regulations, it is printed out by top industry executives, a producer changing releasing outlets is deprived of normal film allotments. Independent producers are thus, in one way, inadvertently forced to distribute while those not tied up with any major are a disadvantage in getting up releases.

Controversy has arisen regarding the classification to be given to independent producers under the raw stock allocation methods. Contention is that independent should not be deprived of bargaining powers in making releasing deals with any of the 11 major districts recognized by the War Production Board or raw film allocation purposes. Independents are now largely dependent upon the districts for stock.

Practiced set in the War Production Board's refusal to allow March of Time to transfer its raw stock allocation from Pathe to 20th-Fox, when distribution was transferred to the latter, has focused additional attention on the problem.

Some formula is under consideration from which independent producers would be able to obtain celluloid for production in cases where a district cannot make stock available without penalizing one of the producers already on the list. The formula would allow them to argue against giving independent producers a specific classification for raw stock allocation, claiming that where a producer cannot effect a release the quality of the product must be sacrificed and that it does not warrant stock allocation.

Indications are that the status of the independent producer under raw stock is concerned will be clarified before long, with some adjustments so independent producers switching districts will not be left on the outside.

GOOD WAR NEWS HYPOS AMUS. STOCKS

Improved news from various war fronts stimulated the stock market last week with a whole string of motion picture stocks pushing up to new highs of year as others hit new levels for recent weeks. Thursday was the banner day, film shares boasting gains of 50c to \$1.50, increased interest in stock shares bringing two 1,000,000-share days in succession. New talk of inflation resulted from the shepaling in the O.P.A. this also helping the bullish trend.

Advances by film company stocks extended all down the line from Columbia Pictures to Warner Bros. Former neared its 1942 peak at \$112 1/2 with indications that the improved first quarter (of fiscal year) net profit would push the shares to new levels for the year. (Continued on page 16)

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER



To Be Published Soon

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Wired to any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 N. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

COL. CLOSING BIGGEST YEAR; 26 PIX READY

Hollywood, Dec. 22. With 17 features in the backlog and nine more in various stages of production, Columbia is winding up the heaviest year in its history.

In addition to those in cold storage, now in way of production are "Boy From Stalingrad," "Broadway Daddies," "Frontier Fury," and a still untitled George Stevens production. Finished before the lenses but still in the cutting rooms are "Murder In Times Square," "Stevie," "White Lies," "Riding West," "After Midnight With Boston Blackie" and "Suicide Range."

Technicolor Spreads Work Week to 40 Hours

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Technicolor made the first move in the motion picture industry to extend the work week by increasing from 36 to 40 hours. Members of the Technicolor staff who had okayed the deal when it became apparent that the union would have to issue a great many additional work permits if it did not agree to the extra hours.

Technicians now on a five-day basis, will receive four hours additional pay per week, without overtime. Majority of two workers favored the extra four hours, rather than insist on a continuation of the four-hour week, which would have made more permit men necessary.

ARABIAN NIGHTS

(COLOR)
Hollywood, Dec. 18
Universal picture of Walter Connolly...

'Arabian Nights' is a colorful and exciting entertainment in tune with present audience requirements...

Story is a straightforward presentation of conflict of love...

When Johnny Comes

Marching Home

(WITH MUSIC)
Hollywood, Dec. 18
Universal picture of Bernard W. Burton...

Well conceived and excellently executed musical picture that carries all the necessary ingredients of audience entertainment...

Miniature Reviews

'Arabian Nights' (Color) (U)
When Johnny Comes Marching Home (Color) (U)
Musical with Allan Jones, Phil Spitalny, et al.

JACARE

Produced in Brazil, excepting for studio scenes introducing Frank Buck, this typical 'bring-back' picture is a lot better than recent Buck pictures...

THE POWERS GIRL

'The Powers Girl' (Color) (U)
Universal picture of Charles H. Line...

Despite exploitable title and possible overtones of the boxoffice, 'The Powers Girl' lacks zest and lustre...

and orchestra. And vocal numbers by Dennis Day provide no more than passing lifts to the proceedings...

Current Short Releases

(PRINTS IN EXCHANGES)
'Compiled by Best Short'
'Dead RKO's' (5 mins.)
'Spitting Blood' (WB, 8 1/2 mins.)

Little Joe, Wrangler

(Par. 7 1/2 mins.)
This little Joe, Wrangler, is outstanding for the smooth way in which it depicts an intelligent story...

Prize of the Army

Monogram picture of George W. Stone...

London Blackout Morders

Republix picture of George W. Stone...

Prize of the Army

Monogram picture of George W. Stone...

Historia de Crimenes

(Tale of Crimes) (ARGENTINE-MADE)
Buenos Aires, Dec. 10
Lenton production and release...

Prize of the Army

Monogram picture of George W. Stone...

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WPB's 12-Point Plan to Aid in Zinc Conservation on Ads; Cues to Pix

Washington, Dec. 22. Motion picture theatres, which are large users of display advertising, together with other exhibitors, are urged in the zinc conservation program by following the recommendations adopted by the War Production Administration. WPB recommended to copywriters, production men and others in the advertising and other programs which will help conserve much needed zinc for munitions and other essential military uses.

Zinc-saving program stresses conservation of zinc used, such as eliminating designed art borders and making design work from mat services or newspapers. Plan, in brief, represents content of newspaper ad executives, department and specialty store ad managers and radio stations.

How to Save Zinc
Twelve-point program for conserving zinc in engraving is: 1. Border cuts must not be made. Use standard type borders and their combination. Design borders which can be used frequently.

2. Screened type must not be used. Use the double graphic on Ben-Day or wash background.

3. Don't repeat hand lettering. Use available type. Don't use black ink when it is possible to select suitable type faces available in necessary sizes.

4. Do not tie one piece of art onto another in a manner that creates waste. Don't extend copy to the edge of text with illustration, so as to increase zinc area.

5. Make all cuts, so far as possible, to be used repeatedly so that they will be saved.

6. Do not waste mats from mat services of newspapers.

7. Newspaper mats will be saved for 30 days, if advertisers indicate that such practice will avoid re-making cuts previously used.

8. Standardize size and style of signatures and trademarks for copy.

9. Do not develop efficient filing system of often-used cuts; paste pictures of cut on outside of envelope for easy identification.

10. In preparing art work, use standard reduction "same size, third off," "half off" — to save time and zinc in engraving plant.

11. Tell all unmountable zinc to your engraver, newspaper or printer (WPB rules that anyone holding "bulletin plates" after Sept. 30 will not be entitled to new plates during the calendar year.)

12. Consider every layout from viewpoint of eliminating all unnecessary use of engravings.

'SERVE' GETS 'MUST SEE' BACKING OF MPEDA

Emphasizing that the war is everybody's business and victory everybody's concern, Arthur Debra, director of research for the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors Association, has sent out one of the strongest endorsements ever given a picture on MPEDA stationery on the subject of "Serve, and That's All."

Debra says that the picture's release which opens this week at the Capitol, N. Y. In his note lauding the picture, Debra says: "Give your picture for everyone. Letter will go to thousands of church, club, women's civic organizations, etc., which the MPEDA contacts."

Describing the film, Debra writes: "The Noel Coward play from England. It breathes the very life and spirit of a gallant people who are making a picture of a nation and produced in the travail of war. I can do after seeing it twice, I recommend it as a 'must see' picture for everyone."

Debra also points to a poster which the MPEDA has designed which gives an inkling of contents of "Serve," and at the same time helping to arouse the urgency of conserving and salvaging rubber.

Metro's Mat Service

Filling a newspaper need resulting from the wartime shortage of copper and zinc, Metro today is offering a new mat service for picture editors throughout the country. The service, which is being operated by the Low home office publicity department, the service, comprising three, four and five-column scene and publicity mats, will supplement regular photo mailings.

BILL DANZIGER AID TO HORNE AT 20TH

In a realignment of the 20th-Horne office publicity-advertising department, the three sub-divisions, Hal Horne has appointed Bill Danziger as his assistant, effective Jan. 4.

At the same time, Mac E. Youngstein, who has been acting in an assisting capacity to Horne, mostly on business matters, will be placed in complete charge of bill administration and budget control of Horne's department. The three sub-divisions of the department (advertising, publicity and exploitation) will all come under Youngstein's jurisdiction.

As the film importing service had been in charge of exploitation, while Charles Schaefer will continue to handle the publicity, Richard Condon the publicity unit.

Danziger will specialize in assisting Horne in the creation of campaign for 20th-Pix campaigns. He spent most of the past year in South America where he planned setting up a film importing service but did not follow through on the project due to war conditions. Previously, Danziger had worked for Metro working out campaigns on that company's pictures. He came to Metro to handle theatre advertising department of RKO.

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Propaganda

Continued from page 3

Darlan and the Russo-British governments, all charges over the Yugoslavian situation.

Shirer singled out the "ally" talk of the aid asking service but did not follow through on the project due to war conditions. Previously, Danziger had worked for Metro working out campaigns on that company's pictures. He came to Metro to handle theatre advertising department of RKO.

Shirer contended that before U.S. propaganda resources can be effectively mobilized they should be given some clarification of the German, and international social and economic problems. His plan is to develop a 100,000-German book which he admitted that the Navy does not properly good job of it, on other projects.

We Erred From the Start
Failure to understand the Nazis and their aims began after Versailles, according to Shirer, when French strength was estimated and Germany's underestimated. He charged that the Versailles Treaty was a "white" while weakening France, as a result of that faulty diagnosis.

Shirer also pointed to the general Ludendorff's "Total War," published in 1923, and another German book "The Road to Destroy Germany," which were tips on Nazi plans for tank and plane warfare which eventually led to the 1939 invasion of Poland.

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Koody-Yennie Tieup For Good Neighbor Ballyhoo

The Andre Kostelanetz show, for Coca-Cola goes to the Coast for a single broadcast Dec. 27 to premiere the new Broadway musical, "Saludos Amigos." The show, which is being arranged through the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, is being produced by Gilbert Seldes, continuity writer; Bernice Zatonick, of the D'Arcy agency; and Mrs. Zachary, who is currently in Mexico City, will go to Hollywood for the broadcast, which will use members of the film cast and will originate from a state of the Disney studio.

In order to make the Coast trip for the musical show, Mrs. Zachary (Mrs. Marsha Shockey) is being written out of the "Elery Queen" production, which she plays in the lead. It will be the first time she's missed a broadcast in the three years the series has been on the air.

M-G BULLISH ON SURVEYS

The Motion Picture Research Bureau, indie survey outfit concentrating on film matters, has been working full time for Metro's advertising publicity department on surveys covering public reaction to sneak previews, advertising campaign for film, media film trademarks. Headed by Dr. Leo Handel, the M. P. Research Bureau has completed 14 different surveys that have in some instances resulted in revised advertising campaigns, in others been instrumental in retitting titles.

Hitherto a New York outfit, the Bureau is now operating in 25 cities in the U. S. and is being supplied in each city and then routed to New York, where Dr. Handel does the compilations and analysis.

'Marching Thru Berlin' Song Rally for 'Canteen'

Extensive exploitation campaign which has been lined up by United Artists for Stage Door Canteen, a song titled "Marching Thru Berlin," which Ethel Merman will sing in the picture, will be featured in clubs, press, radio and recordings.

Campaign opens Jan. 10 in American Weekly with first of other space preceded by teaser ad in the Weekly and 1,500-line copy in Hearst Sunday papers Jan. 3, with other space following daily. Full page ads go into other space preceded by teaser ad in the Weekly and 1,500-line copy in Hearst Sunday papers Jan. 3, with other space following daily. Full page ads go into other space preceded by teaser ad in the Weekly and 1,500-line copy in Hearst Sunday papers Jan. 3, with other space following daily.

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Pix Veering More to Use of Radio Advertising for Exploitation; Dailies, Sensing Ad Loss, Not So Stringent

'Hal's Kitchen'

Boys working in the art department at 20th-Fox under Hal Horne, over the 10th avenue and 50th St. have devised a name for their quarters. They call it 'Hal's Kitchen.'

NOV. AMUSEMENT TAXES DIPPED TO \$11,310,821

Washington, Dec. 22. Federal collections from amusement admission levies took a 50p November, U. S. Treasury collected only \$11,310,821 against a high of \$14,880,000 in October.

November is the first month in the past half year period that the admission levies took a 50p dip from the previous month. November collections brought the total admission taxes collected this year so far to \$130,435,036.

Collections from other entertainment taxes were as follows: Radio phonograph, \$40,775; up \$38,760 from October; records, \$136,780 above October; motion picture, \$1,100,000, musical instruments, \$85,644, down \$40,402; slot machines, \$478,994; up \$18,000; bowling alleys, \$52,994; up \$1,250.

Total entertainment tax take for November—\$132,507,889, down \$3,398,716 from October.

Army's Record

Continued from page 2

\$40,000 to \$50,000 a week, at \$4.40 top in some with \$11 premiums.

In L. A. Jan. 26, Then WB Films

Philharmonic Auditorium in downtown Los Angeles, site of the "Army" tour before it goes before the Warner cameras. Soldier show plays Jan. 28 to 31 at \$11 premium for two weeks. Auditorium seats 2,600.

L. & Berman, the theatrical attorney and civilian president of This Is the Army, Inc., now recovered from the check list to the Coast for the Hollywood engagement next month.

'Army' Saarl in Death
'This Is the Army,' Dec. 22. The picture, which has confused the public and caused so little bitterness among those who are in check for the Jan. 4 opening night.

Main floor seats were first announced at \$4.40, then raised to \$11 and finally placed at \$22, with boxes seated at \$50 each. Practically all seats are being taken by societies.

D'way Backing

Continued from page 3

has figured to a large extent. Columbia, on the other hand, has gone into retail to a moderate degree, the "Life-line" (Gilbert Miller) "Counterattack" and reportedly has money in the bank. Col. is also backing Al Woods' new play.

Hollywood producers, meantime are concerned about the small number of Broadway legit hits having niches in the picture. The amount of material is, in some quarters, ascribed to the lack of opportunities for freedom of expression in the "last of legit experiments and large percentage of casualties." Far dropped the picture to a moderate degree, the "Life-line" (Gilbert Miller) "Counterattack" and reportedly has money in the bank. Col. is also backing Al Woods' new play.

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Tendency towards more extensive use of radio time for picture exploitation by major companies is being observed. Publishers are never loth to pry open daily newspaper columns for additional space.

Exploitation men now point to excellent results achieved through radio in various key openings and argue that the reduction in daily newspaper space is a temporary matter (likely to continue as a result of curtailed newspaper supply) is forcing publishers to turn to the air for relief.

In several hinterland picture theaters, advertising has taken the form of a minimum since the outbreak of war are reported reopening columns to the trade in order to circumvent loss of revenue to radio.

Publicists complain that, though theater advertising has been plentiful in all cities and towns is tantamount to "payroll" money for newspapers in many cases, such business opportunity has been the first to be axed.

N. Y. Press Strike Boomed Ad-Film
Theater advertiser delivery strike which has been in progress since the New York City, where theaters grosses continued booming despite above-the-line advertising, has also provided ammunition for publicists despite that the temporary stoppage has not been considered as a "boner" by the daily newspaper. Through a number of the strike period, radio time during the strike period, \$5,000 to play "We are the Army" at the Globe theater, N. Y. normal advertising budgets for the holiday season.

Radio exploitation for pictures is likely to affect national rather than local advertising/budgets due to the uncertainty of release schedules.

GREER GARSON TOPS IN METRO'S YEARBOOK

Metro has compiled a compact summary of outstanding performance by its stars in its yearbook and other data of the current year, in a booklet entitled, "Headlines in Hollywood."

The roundup covers marriages, divorces, players in the armed forces, and other news items. Greer Garson tops the list in performance as an actress, for her work in "Mrs. Miniver" and "Random Harvest."

Margaret O'Brien is nominated as having contributed best supporting performance by a child, in "Journey for Margaret."

Eleven Metro personalities and three directors are listed as being in the "top" of production. The list gives the biggest break for outstanding performances, being listed twice in the yearbook.

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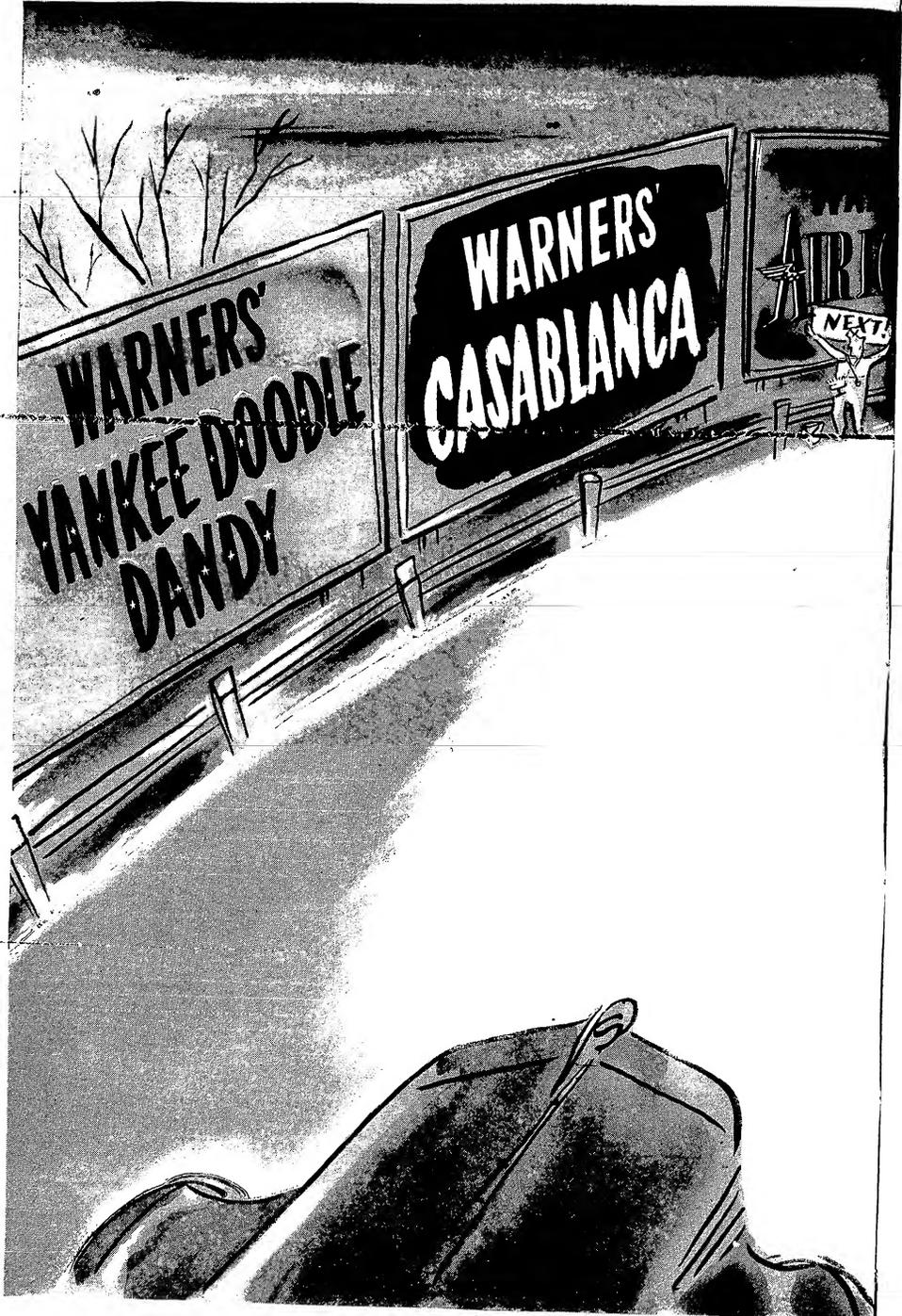
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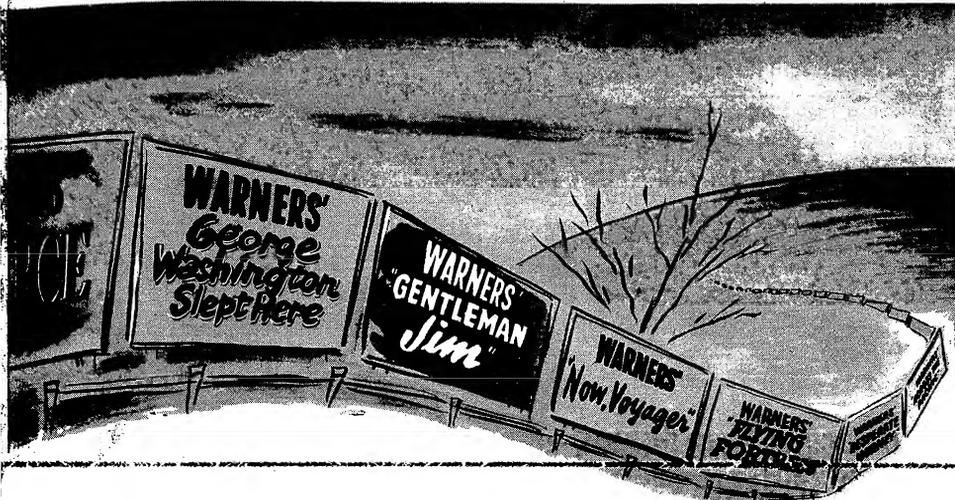
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They don't have to travel far to see a Warner attraction. Actually 13,000 theatres play them—the smartest showmen in the business!

Seiznick's 'Oscar Pitch For British 'In Which We Serve' Picture (UA)

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Protest against early closing of entries for the Oscar derby by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences by David O. Seiznick, acting as owner-member of United Artists, which is handling the American release of the British-made picture, "In Which We Serve." A public audience of 100 of these pictures up for nomination must open for a week's public run in Los Angeles prior to Dec. 31.

Seiznick pointed out that United Artists might have been able to find a deluxe house to show picture if sufficient warning of the switch in closing time had been given. Understanding he suggested the Exchange made film should have a chance to compete with Hollywood product, if only by a friendly gesture to Great Britain.

In a wire to the Academy president, David O. Seiznick charged the awards' body placed certain producers and artists at a disadvantage by moving up the deadline for entries. Seiznick stated his objections were based on the late date at which a change in rules and procedures was made to larger studios which only "loan" theaters and picture houses to Academy awards consideration. Seiznick advocated changing the amended rules to a date which is now unfair, he added, the Academy is "pleading guilty to grave injustice to former years' winners."

Seiznick further stated that if the Academy does not choose to restate former rules, then in fairness any change should be effected for one year so that producers and artists would not be penalized by the lateness of the change.

6 MAJORS POOLING TO BUY WESTERN COSTUME

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Six major studios are forming a pool to purchase the Western Costume Co. to keep intact the large stock of costumes and other costumes owned by the company. Joseph Schnitzer, head of Western, recently retired his heart from the business, and is retiring from business.

Industry figured it would be looser if the stock were sold over a period of years were sold piecemeal at auction. Companies pooling for purchase are Warner Bros., RKO, Columbia, Universal and Republic.

Daughter, 16, of Al Rosen Dies of Puzzling Ailment

The second New York film man within a week to experience the death of a daughter, the manager of Loew's State on Broadway, was 16-year-old girl, Avis, who died at her home on Dec. 17, the result of a mysterious brain ailment.

John E. McDermott, in charge of the accounting department of Loew's, mourned, lost his daughter, known professionally as Grace Vaughn, 20, of Boston, Oceanview Grove, fire No. 28.

Miss Rosen's illness started with a fever that followed a cold and a fatal coma. Brain and other specialists were called in, with X-rays obtained from the Police Department as a last resort. It was thought a fall in the gymnasium next had been responsible but doctors dispelled this theory since she had apparently not hurt herself in the fall.

Miss Rosen, who would have been 17 this coming February, was attending a girls school in N. Y. Two weeks ago she had been offered a model's spot on the Coast by a socialite in Rye, N. Y., but she had no interest in the offer.

Funeral services were held Sunday at Rye, N. Y., at the residence of Chapel, N. Y. "Surviving are her father, mother and grandmother.

Twice Menaced
Hollywood, Dec. 22. John Carradine and Dean Jagger were signed by Monogram to play double villains as co-stars in the city drama, "The Big Kill."

Filming starts Jan. 4 with King Bros. producing and Harold Young directing.

Macgowan's Six Stirring

Hollywood, Dec. 22. In addition to "Jane Eyre," now practically ready for lensing, Kenneth Macgowan has five stories at various stages of preparation on his production schedule at 20th-Fox. The picture "The Picture of Dorian Gray," "Happy Land," "Stars and Stripes Forever," "The Story of Dr. Roberts," an unutilized story by Albert Shrey Levino on a war theme, still a secret.

COLUMBIA'S 13-WEEK NET UP 50G TO 312G

Columbia Pictures net profit for the first 13 weeks of the company's fiscal year ending last Sept. 26, was \$312,000, which is \$50,000 increase over the \$262,000 shown for corresponding period last year.

Although operating profit of Columbia rose to \$408,000 for this period, the company's net profit for fiscal year from \$371,000 in the first 13 weeks ended Sept. 27, 1942. Operating profit for the year and excess profits exceed last year's profit. Company wrote off \$677,000 for both income and excess profits taxes or more than six times greater than the \$109,000 in the first 13 weeks of 1941 fiscal year.

COLUMBIA PICTURES EARNINGS - 1936-42

1930	.....	\$1,295,589
1931	.....	506,889
1932	.....	574,292
1933	.....	745,243
1934	.....	1,068,824
1935	.....	1,815,287
1936	.....	1,815,287
1937	.....	1,317,771
1938	.....	183,383
1939	.....	1,000,000
1940	.....	512,185
1941	.....	551,744
1942	.....	1,078,118

(By Quarters) - Fiscal Year Ended June 21, 1942)

First Quarter	Third Quarter
Second Quarter	Fourth Quarter
\$281,705	\$470,014
\$204,220	\$204,220
\$688,770	\$688,770

(By Quarters for Fiscal Year Ending June 21, 1943)

First Quarter	Third Quarter
Second Quarter	Fourth Quarter
\$324,000	

Indies' Soundies, First Since Music Union Tabu

Two indie production outfits completed a batch of soundies this week for the film jukeboxes. This was the first soundies made since the American Federation of Musicians' ban on recordings, translations and sound tracks.

The Borch production did a group of six, using sound tracks of the Louis Jordan and Victor Young Orchestra. They were shipped on from Chicago, where the group is based.

Since for some time, and Jordan and Young are a couple, the picture being ban, the producer has been unable to bring out the sound tracks, i. e., the soundies from the tabu. The Jordan group was screened sans their instruments for a few of these shorts.

They are the Harvest Moon Lindy Young music.

Meanwhile L.O.L. Productions, Inc. did a group of 10 soundies, using the vocal group of the Harmonies, Rascals, others used by the Harmonies, a vocal group, the Marian Lawrence Quartet, Sergio DeCarlo, a ballet dancer, and a group doing a quality number of polkas. All the accompaniment was done with ban-un-ion instruments.

PAIS IN PERIL

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Key Aldrich and Allan Lane are laid off by the danger zone in Republic's "The Fighting 69th," playing "Daredevils of the West."

Director's combination of play, riding adventures with a quality number, galloping early in January.

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Metro handed Sam Barwitz a three-way credit as producer, director and writer of the Org Gang musical, "Killing All Kinds of Cats" into production this week.

Not content with his three jobs, Barwitz wrote lyrics for the favorite "Stars and S' Salute to the Army, Navy and Marines," to be sung in the short.

LOCATION HOPS WAR CASUALTY

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Long location treks by rail are out, even as features directly concerned with war morale in cooperation with the Government, according to producers who once sent crews all over the country to film sequences in legitimate local backgrounds. Universal's "New Year's Eve with a Twist" (Wanger) is a morale story based on the training of Army officers at College Station, Tex., but the cast and crew on the return trip to Hollywood are being split into groups. A film company can't hire special trains any more.

Studio location managers admit they are frustrated on mass hauling for the duration. From now on, the direct arrangement will be handled by the process and special effects departments in the studios.

Philly Indies Resolve To Shut Down Mondays For Gen'l Conservation

Philadelphia, Dec. 22. Philly closes yesterday recommended that all theatres in the U. S. close on Monday of each week for the duration. The action would conserve fuel, essential services, manpower and critical material, the resolution adopted by a meeting of the most of the leading indies, pointed out.

The meeting was sponsored by independent theatre owners of Philadelphia, which has a population of 38 at the Broadway hotel. More than 80 operators representing operations of 500 theatres attended. The resolution, presented by David Barriat, passed without a dissenting vote.

Barriat had advocated that the exhibit petition the Government to suspend Monday theatres. He pointed on Mondays, but the consensus of the meeting was for theatre-owners to agree to such a move without the need for Government action.

Good War News

Continued from page 7

dated Film Industries (Republic) offered also advanced fractionally to near the year's peak of \$9.

War's always healthier atmosphere of amusement group, soared several points during the week to approach its previous high of \$16.75. Paramount common hovered around the year's best price of \$17.50 with subordinated offerings of 500 the year's opening. Par preferred some sensational advances to near the best peak of \$123.75. RKO common peaked at \$35.00 while the stock was much better than the usual fractional gains.

War's Fox common and preferred were strong, the latter coming closest to its year's top. Universal preferred was the big bonanza of its 1942 peak at \$161. U. common raced ahead \$2 into new high ground of \$35.00 while the stock's rates of Universal common advanced more than \$1 to \$9.12 1/2.

War's common also was a strong performer, pushing up in heavy dealings (which made it one of the most active stocks on N. Y. Stock Exchange) to best price of year at \$43 3/4. Warner's preferred was being bought close to its best 1942 level of \$80.75. Technicolor also stiffened to within the best price of the year with Monogram ordinarily inactive, was pushed up to \$1, highest quotation of 1942.

No Cuss Words Allowed in M. of T. 'Marmes' Either, But Appeal Pends

Stromberg Rental Deal

Hollywood, Dec. 22. All of Hunt Stromberg's productions for United Artists release until the end of 1943 will be filmed at General Service Studios, under a new contract with Benedict Bogues, UA's production manager.

Other UA producers renting space at the GS studio are Edward Small, Charles R. Rogers, Alexander Korda and Arnold Pressburger.

METRO UPS SIX SHORTS PILOTS, ADDS SIX MORE

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Metro has signed six new shorts directors in recent weeks. They are Walter Hart, Bert Glazer, Gunther Frutkin, Carl Endfield, Harold Danies and Michael Audley.

New pilots were appointed to fill vacancies caused by the upstage of Jules Dassin, Allen Renwick, George Seaton, J. Walter and Fred Willi, who's feature status.

ROYSTERS' ACCIDENT

Netco Circuit Cuts and Wife Skid in Their Car

Harry Royster, in charge of operation of the Netco circuit of upstate New York theatres for Paramount, and Mrs. Royster, are in the Cold Springs hotel, at Cold Springs, N. Y., as a result of an accident Monday (21) when their car skidded and struck a tree near that town.

While Royster suffered no visible damage, he is under observation to determine whether there were any internal injuries as a result of the crash. His wife sustained a fractured ankle and cuts about the face.

The accident occurred near the N. Y. from Poughkeepsie when an accident occurred. Operator of Netco was coming down to attend a War Activities Committee meeting.

Film Moverover

Continued from page 7

money-jammed pockets has created a reversion on playgoers since film clears faster in N. Y. now than it does in various other parts of the country. This is generally the case with the people here. However, in N. Y. itself pictures are frequently held up for a time in spite of the fact that first-run theatres in existence. N. Y. does not have any moverover houses, where a picture stays in a first-run to another theatre without any lapse of time between.

As a result of the past, moverover operators have squawked loud and loud against moverover engagements. They contend that the first-run under another name the distributors have never done anything about it. Now, however, it is starting to disappear from the scene, the second-run theatre is nearer to the pictures he bought except where the initial run extends the engagement further than it otherwise would have done.

As it is, moverover runs have been complaining hours up front are holding film so long it's worn out by the time they get it.

Par's Shift in Mpls.

Minneapolis, Dec. 22. Policy change by Paramount circuit involving two loop theatres here will permit more pictures to be shown in the city than the available sooner for neighborhood and suburban situations. The Central and main loop theatres are first-run pictures, which play the State fair, will house only first-run pictures. The Lyric theatre, which the extended run theatre in its place. Latter house has been operated under the Lyric name. No production is made for bringing over a back downturn for a second run.

Total number of loop first-run houses, with the Century's inclusion, will be six, the other being Regal, Orpheum, World, Gopher and Star. All of them in Paramount circuit.

Match of Time and Time, Inc., carried its fight to have the order eliminations of the PCA left in "We Are the Marines" feature production being released by 20th-Fox, directly to the Motion Picture Producers & Distributors Assn. directors last week. Loula de Rocheport, producer of M. of T., and legal staff of Time, appeared before the directors at the regular December session Thursday (17), but the directorate took no action pending actual inspection of "Marines." Directors were supposed to look at the picture over the weekend and gentlemen, as advertised session Monday (21), but this session was not held for lack of quorum.

M. of T. had given previous notice that it was going to appeal the decisions ordered by the PCA. Contention of Time, upon before the directors was that the swear-words deleted is typical "marine" language for the time in this country. It is essential to the faithful reproduction of factual material in the film.

Charles F. Doe, MPDPA vice-president, has been busy with the PCA side of the story, backed up the eliminations, pointing out the precedent which would be established if such words as "bastards," "hell" and "damn" were permitted to remain in this country. His contention was that such swear words were not essential. But the board of directors, pointing out the precedent, said that if these swear words and expressions were allowed to go through in the picture, the censoring provisions would strike for harsher curbing. The bars are let down, "the sky might be falling" in this country. The MPDPA directorate will rule on "Marines" as soon as the different directors have seen the picture. Until then, the picture will be in the film, the PCA code would have to be modified or tempered in order to allow the picture to go through intact with the banned wording. There has been some talk of allowing certain language in PCA handling of future pictures where ballroom picture appears to call for vivid curbing, but this is still in the air. Little kidding that the code will be modified in any way. The special treatment for wartime stories might be considered, but if that should be so lessening of the guards on screen morals appears to be the usual backing among industry leaders.

At one of the forthcoming adjournments, which will be held by the directorate, the budget for 1943 is scheduled to come up for approval. It will include the budget for the public relations campaign may come up for final approval.

JONES TAGGED BY IVEY FOR FOUR MUSICALS

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Universal signed Allan Jones for a fourth musical in addition to the three-picture deal recently finished by the actor. The picture, "Star Struck," with Kitty Carlisle in "Cross Your Fingers," slated to start early next year, will be related to "Rhythm of the Islands" and "Moonlight in Havana."

The Effect on Effects

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Committee to draft rules to govern special effects for the year's Academy Award was announced by William Ziegler, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

Chairman of the new group is Arthur Hays Sulzberger, editor of the "New York Times." Other members are Lionel Bains, the McClure Capps, John Cosgrove, John Fulton, Arnold Gillberg, Joseph P. Kennedy, J. P. Kelly, Harry Leonard, Louis Mesenkov, Fred Serzen, Hal Shaw, James Stewart, Vernon Walker and S. J. Tinsley.



WAR BONDS MAKE GREAT XMAS GIFTS!

**IT'S HERE! THE FIRST GREAT SCREEN STORY
OF TODAY'S GREAT HEROES THE COMMANDOS!**



COMMANDOS STRIKE AT DAWN

STARRING

PAUL MUNI

In his most dynamic role
with

ANNA LEE • LILLIAN GISH

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • ROBERT COOTE

Based on the U.S. Forester Cosmopolitan Magazine Story
Screen play by Irvin Shaw • Directed by JOHN FARROW

A LESTER COWAN PRODUCTION

A COLUMBIA PICTURE



SEE IT IN THE GREATEST CHRISTMAS GIFT OF ALL—A NEW WAR BOND



St. Louis Would Taboo Smoking In Theatres As Safety Measure

St. Louis, Dec. 22.—An ordinance to ban smoking in St. Louis theatres will be asked by Director of Public Safety Harry D. McBride who, last week, declared that inspectors of his department, through management, had found a number of safety measures in dance halls, flicker houses, theatres and other places of public assemblage had found six flicker houses that not only permitted smoking in the balcony but practically sign to encourage such practices.

Working out this lack of safety that is now covered by ordinances McBride declared, "This practice is going to stop immediately, through the voluntary cooperation of theatre owners, until the necessary legislation can be introduced in the Board of Aldermen."

McBride said an association of flicker house owners had appointed a committee to deal with every theatre in eliminating fire and safety hazards. He also declared that inspectors had found about 70% of the exhibits. Following the Boston Coconut Grove disaster local inspectors began making the rounds and have reported that the existing safety measures, such as fire extinguishers, were used by only about 15% of the places inspected. Some of the violations found were over crowding, lack of exit lights; stored material, exits blocked by stored material, exit doors found to be of inflammable material for decorations, and the storage of easily ignited material.

No Smoking! In Mass.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 22.—Western Mass. Theatres, Inc., this week revealed a new policy of "no smoking" in all its theatres. Nathan Goldstein said it was not as the result of the Coconut Grove fire, but rather a safety measure that had been adopted prior to the Boston fire, as an economy move.

According to Goldstein, the fire-proofed carpets and upholstery is difficult to replace during war times. Paramount, his theatre in the chain, has always permitted smoking in its mezzanine. Notices were posted on the posters and posted in the boxoffice this week of the new order which was received, without too much grieving. Story that the move was one for economy caused many lifted eyebrows here.

BATTLE OF COHOES LOOMS

Batavia In Small Update N. Y. Burg Argus a Hot Time

Cohoes, N. Y., Dec. 22.—A battle royal for picture patronage in the City of Cohoes, N. Y., the Fabian circuit had to itself for the past several years, impends. The Histo one-time theatre owner, Fabian's sea theatre until the chain constructed the Cohoes, has been retained, resigned and re-furnished. The Morse circuit, of Boston, has leased the theatre from the former. The latter, in turn, has around Christmas. Renamed the Empire, house is close to Cohoes. A short distance away is the theatre, a small but comparatively new theatre which Fabian has conducted on lease. For sometimes the Empire has been a weekender, usually closed during the summer.

Pat Walter H. Westlake, Sr., has incorporated the Cohoes Regent Theatre Corp. He is said to be set to open the Regent in the winter. Fabian's lease expires, Westlake, who with his son, Walter, Jr., is a director of the new theatre, operates the Chester, in Chesterstown village. The Westlakes are large property owners in Cohoes. Sideliners believe that with three theatres running in the city—Troxy and the Regent—Fabian is within miles away—the fight for business, for product, etc., may be bitter. The Regent, however, is one of the theatres may take it on the chin financially. Cohoes was the first to show sharp competition at no one time, but in recent years has not been so stormy. There are one or two other theatres long dark in town.

Joe Franklin Says Can. Pix Biz Is 'Phenomenal'

Joe Franklin, St. John, New Brunswick, circuit operator, in New York last week to set a product deal with Paramount for the six months in the Franklin-Herschberg circuit, reports phenomenal box office gains throughout Canada. There is an excess profits tax of 100%, however, while corporations also pay an additional 10% tax on pre-war profits.

Few situations in the Dominion found most exhibitors, like others well prepared with cold supplies. User radioing has also been absorbed early on.

\$100,000 TEXAS THEATRE FIRE

Kilgore, Texas, Dec. 22.—The Texan, destroyed by fire at a loss of \$100,000 last Saturday (13), gave Kilgore its most disastrous fire in five years. The building, recently was demolished at a cost of \$25,000. The theatre had not opened for the season when the fire started.

Firemen were compelled to turn attention to oil wells nearby to prevent melting of the pipes which might have fired the wells.

City Closes Salt Lake Cinema

Salt Lake City, Dec. 22.—License of the Empire, South State street, owned by City Cinema, closed on ground that conditions in the building were extremely unsanitary and also presented a serious structural health hazard. Theatre, owned by J. H. Ripley, managed by E. Kjargaard. House, second run.

Malden, Mass., Theatre Burns

Malden, Mass., Dec. 22.—Damage estimated at \$40,000 was caused when flames of undetermined origin swept through the Broadway theatre early last Saturday (19), two hours after a capacity audience had left.

REP RESTARTS BEFORE BIG PUSH IN JAN.

Hollywood, Dec. 22.—Republic is making a production vacation over the holidays, with three pictures in various stages work, but no new features scheduled to start until next year. January will be the busiest month of the lot since last July, with seven new productions lined up. They are "The Purple Veil," "Tahiti Honey," "Daredevil of the West," "Carson City Cyclone," "Shantytown," a Three Westerns and western and a feature still untitled.

Five Western Series New High for Republic

Hollywood, Dec. 22.—Republic's program of western series goes up to five, the highest number of series in the industry, with the signing of Bill Elliott and Gabby Hayes to co-star in a new group of buckaroo chases. Roy Rogers is now the top rider on the valley lot, taking the place of Gene Autry for the duration. Don Barry continues to gallop as a secondary star, and Bob Steele, of the "Red Rover" series, is being promoted as a lone galloper, with the Mesquiteros continuing under their own banner.

METRO'S AIR FIO

Salt Lake City, Dec. 22.—Virtually all arrangements for the parallel filming of Metro's "Guy Roper" and "Randy" in the Brooks fields have been completed, according to O. O. Dull, M-C director of aerial photography. Dull stated that Everett Ricketts has been named director of the film which will be shot in the area, possibly Irene Dunne, Riskin and a crew of technicians were expected to arrive here next week. Only the actual air training done here at the fields will be filmed here.

Chi Ops Still Dicker

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Operators union is still conferring with picture theatre groups instead of making a contract with all houses. Allied group, under Jack C. Cullen, has not yet made a deal. Terms not settled although two-week negotiations will be in all contracts.

F&M CO. STOCK SUI UNDER ADVISEMENT

St. Louis, Dec. 22.—Suit of Fanchon & Marco Enterprises, Inc. to be permitted to exercise an option to purchase an additional 52 per cent of the stock of St. Louis Amusement Co., of which F&M owns 48 per cent. Under court advisement last week by Circuit Judge Robert A. As on after a brief trial, the suit was granted. J. H. head of F&M had testified. The suit is directed against Thomas N. Jones, former Chairman of the Board, and members of the Central Properties First Mortgage Bondholders' Association, including the Investment Corp. and the Ambassador Building Corp. The stock sought by F&M consists of 12,413 shares of Class A and 19,228 shares of Class B.

An chief witness Arthur testified of various conferences he held with Fanchon and others concerning the purchase of the Amusement Co. stock and the reorganization of the Central Properties holding which included the Ambassador, Missouri and the Grand Central buildings. He asserted that the contract permitted F&M to purchase the other stock at any time.

The monthly starting list consists of "Riding High," "Incendiarly Blonde," "Let's Face It," "Five Graves to Cairo," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "Aldrich Plays Cupid," and "Alaska Highway." Meanwhile Cecil B. De Mille is slated to start "The Story of Dr. Wassell" in February and is preparing "Rumie's," a tale of Mexican mounties.

STANLEY CO.'S NET FOR YEAR AT \$2,953,127

Stanley Co. of America, subsid of Warner Bros., net profit was \$2,953,127 for the year ended last Aug. 31, making the earned surplus as of that date \$8,105,000. The corporation declared \$1,809,693 in dividends out during the past fiscal year. Stanley Co. profit was \$1,000 for Federal income and excess profits tax.

Corporation's earned surplus on Oct. 31, 1941, listed as \$4,105,000. Operating results for fiscal year 1941, the earned surplus slightly more than \$1,000,000.

Balaban Chairmans Red Cross Drive April 1

Berney Balaban will chairman the Red Cross fund drive to be held in theatres throughout the country next week beginning April 1. He is appointing a staff of aids including co-chairmen, treasurer, studio chairman, and secretary. One of the committee chairman and public relations chairman, N. Peter Rathbone, president of RKO, chairman of the M. P. Industry Division for the Red Cross.

WB'S N.Y. Warehouse

New York, Dec. 22.—Warner Bros. has bought the 18-story building at 43 West 43rd street which formerly was the headquarters of the company, paying \$24,500 for the purchase. The building will be used for storage of files and records. Ben Wirth, of the real estate department of Warners, and Miles H. B. attorney, represented the company in the deal, while J. H. A. Kistling & Co. were the brokers.

Distribrs Deprecate Sm.-to-Two-Indie Exhibs' Short-Sightedness on Buying

See Sunday Pix (Mebbe) For Soldiers' Benefit

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 22.—With officers from nearby Army camps, including a chaplain, and a regular contingent of salesmen and now that these trips must be curtailed, because of gasoline rationing, and now that curtailment of film production looms, the exhibitors refuse to believe the salesmen's stories and think it's just another case of crying 'wolf'.

This is the tale of woe being poured out by film salesman workmen for several hours for the patronage of soldiers only. Sunday pix have been voted down, largely due to the efforts of the Ministerial Association. It is believed, however, that opposition to a Free Sunday movie are provided at the Catholic USO Center, but the facilities are limited, leaving hundreds of soldiers to walk the streets in strict order of diversion.

8 STARTERS AT PAR IN JAN.

Hollywood, Dec. 22.—Eight feature films to work at Paramount in January, the heaviest production slate for that month in the history of the studio. With its completed pictures and its big winter and early spring schedule, plus curbing of solid stock, under the conditions, the company has a release line-up extending to July.

Next month's starting list consists of "Riding High," "Incendiarly Blonde," "Let's Face It," "Five Graves to Cairo," "The Story of Dr. Wassell," "Aldrich Plays Cupid," and "Alaska Highway." Meanwhile Cecil B. De Mille is slated to start "The Story of Dr. Wassell" in February and is preparing "Rumie's," a tale of Mexican mounties.

STOCKTON CAL, TAX IDEA (2c) KAYOED

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—Exhibitors were successful in killing the second amusement tax measure proposed in the California within recent weeks.

At the request of the amusement interests, the Stockton city council rejected the ordinance, after first reading, that would have levied a 2c tax on all amusement tickets. P. Sturdivant, head man here speaking for the exhibitors, led the attack on the measure because F.W.C. is principal exhibitor in Stockton. Sturdivant said that the amusement field pointed out to the city council the proposed tax was discriminatory and would create an unfair hardship on one type of business.

Earl Bros. to Operate New Magnuson Corp. House

Boulder, Nev., Dec. 22.—New 700-seat film house, built by Magnuson Corp. in its huge plant in Boulder, Colo., will be operated by Earl Bros., Arizona exhibs, who made the highest bid for its operation. Probably the new theatre will be permitted to be built, except those of military sites, since WPB restrictions.

Magnesium plant, largest in world, built the theatre and put the lease up on him. The deal will be for returning a percentage of the profits to company.

Selling in groups of five has 'spoiled' small-town independent exhibitors because of too frequent visits of salesmen and now that these trips must be curtailed, because of gasoline rationing, and now that curtailment of film production looms, the exhibitors refuse to believe the salesmen's stories and think it's just another case of crying 'wolf'.

This is the tale of woe being poured out by film salesman workmen for several hours for the patronage of soldiers only. Sunday pix have been voted down, largely due to the efforts of the Ministerial Association. It is believed, however, that opposition to a Free Sunday movie are provided at the Catholic USO Center, but the facilities are limited, leaving hundreds of soldiers to walk the streets in strict order of diversion.

There is no stability of mind among the smalltown exhibitors, but they would not be hurt if bad business put them in a chaotic frame. They can't foresee any changes in the industry.

One of the towns in this salesman's route is cited by him as to the effects of gasoline rationing on the industry. In his last trip to Wisconsin salesmen has reported that the week's grosses have declined from a total of \$175 to \$50. Unfortunately, the weather was so cold that it came coincidental with severely cold weather, snow and the Christmas holidays. The weather which helped to aggravate its ill effects. He thinks that many exhibitors are being misled by salesmen who would not be a fair proportion of the blame for the slump.

Salesmen here thus far only able to obtain 3c cards, entitling them to eight gallons a week, the result of travel by train in this instance would mean one call in two days and possibly passing up four towns along the route.

MORE XMAS LARGESSE

Fox's Family Film In Line of Bonus-Other Film Co.'s Plans

Despairing of sufficient time in which to obtain a Governmental order for the payment of a Christmas bonus this year, 20th-Fox instead will stage a large-scale luncheon party for its New York employees on Friday, Dec. 23, instead of tomorrow (24). With 850 people being invited and 20th, New York, the largest party, the cost will run approximately \$100,000. In addition to an elaborately planned party, the company will give every 20th-Fox employee who will be given presents.

As previously Warner Bros. Universal and Low's-Metro paid Christmas bonuses, same as last year, Paramount on Friday (18) Par made its Christmas bonus. Par made its Christmas bonus up to all employees earning up to \$100,000 a year. In addition, Par on Friday (18) disbursed its regular weekly "cost-of-living" bonus of 10% on salary and 5% on the second. Par is giving a party tomorrow to all employees who are not in service. About 50 are near entitled to N. Y. to attend.

No bonuses will be paid (18) at United Artists, RKO or Columbia. In addition to its bonus a week ago, Warner Bros. distributed more than 2,250 gifts, toys, candy, etc., at a cost of \$100,000. The party will be held Saturday morning (19) at the Strand, Brooklyn.

The Hall of Fame Picture

RANDOM HARVEST



RONALD COLMAN
 lives up to his reputation as a fine actor in the most outstanding performance of his career.



GREER GARSON
 is a role that combines her extraordinary talent and success with remarkable spontaneity.



JAMES HILTON
 brilliant author of *Goodbye, Mr. Chips* and *Lost Horizon*, comes again with *RANDOM HARVEST*



MERVYN LEROY
 leads sensitive direction to pictures that call for masterly handling of great scenes and players.



SIDNEY FRANKLIN
 producer of *Mr. Miniver* again reveals his talent for perfection in a picture equally as great.



METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER
 proudly presents this great production with a distinguished cast of screen favorites.

RONALD COLMAN, GREER GARSON, Philip Dorn, Susan Hester, Henry Travers, England Drees, Kenneth Fisher. Story by Clifton West. George Froeschel, and Arthur Wingrove

WORLD PREMIERE • RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL

RADIO CITY

RONALD COLMAN • GREER GARSON IN "RANDOM HARVEST"

REACHING TO THE SKIES!

At press time! First 4 days despite sub-zero cold, top M-G-M's famed "Mrs. Miniver"!

YOUR PLEDGE PLEASE!
 United Nations Week!

Argentine Film Industry Assured Of Raw Stock From U. S. for Prod.

Buenos Aires, Dec. 22.—Argentine film industry will have its requirements of raw stock for '43, according to arrangements here by Dr. Augusto Rodriguez Larreta, Argentina, attorney, just returned from Washington.

Dr. Larreta, member of a leading local law firm, was clipped to the U. S. for the benefit of producers-directors Peliculas Argentinas ("Producers Association), whose members felt their normal business of stock might be sidetracked, causing a shutdown of industry which employs an estimated 10,000 persons.

Larreta, as quoted in the local press, claims his appeal met the good offices of the government, whom that Argentine producers—largest film group in Latin America—has approximately 4,000,000 meters of raw film obtainable only from the States, and that shipments had been suspended for the last two months due to the lack of necessary export permits.

Larreta said that upon arriving in States he studied the situation and found that deliveries have been reduced 35%. Of the remaining 65%, Hollywood producers receive only two-thirds, rest being shipped to military and documentary pilots, producing such difficulties for the U. S. producers themselves increased my task. I had to set forth in detail to the officials of the government who are in charge of distribution, exact figures on the situation of our industry, the cost of our conferences I found in them a spirit that is destined to bring about the successful outcome of my mission described, above all, on the political side, the officials of the State Department and of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs to whom I had an opportunity to speak.

"They could have answered my question the soundest and the virgin film which the United States can spare abroad should logically go to the States of Argentina. As the State Department officials, and particularly Mr. Sumner Welles, executive director of the office, and the Argentine people are not excluded from the benefits of which, for many reasons, it should form a part. In addition to these reasons, however, my desire to stimulate our motion picture production the pro-democratic trend of which is well known to them."

of a play from Detroit, are sticking it out, figuring that next summer they'll really cash in. Currently the picture in the local strip shows a few Americans whose tanks have run low are running across the border to Canada, and they're out in enough time to make the tourist permit look good, and so the picture clubs are catching that trade.

The only factor which might hurt and retard the quality of the bonanza is the new wartime emergency program put out by Ottawa which has increased the quantity of spirits for sale by 30% with 20% and beer by 10%. However, the cut in spirits based on the inflated wartime drinking in Canada and the slash probably will bring it back only to around normal.

Service Men Pave Way for Sunday Films in Canada

Toronto, Dec. 22.—Backed by concerted public opinion, as opposed to the moralistic attitude of the Lord's Day Alliance, the Canadian government is throwing open its picture houses across Canada to troops in training services imminent in view of the fact that the men and women of the various services in camp or on leave have nowhere to go of a Sabbath evening.

The Lord's Day Act forbids big showings on Sunday, but the Daughters of the Empire, equivalent of the D. B. in America, has just voted by a unanimous carried resolution to the prime minister, which "in view of the tremendous need for entertainment to military camps, some mode of entertainment on Sunday for men and women of the services should be provided and that the Federal Government be asked to remove such restrictions in connection with the opening of motion picture theatres on Sunday, and that they be available to men and women in uniform."

Toronto, where the lead for Sunday amusements is being taken, J. R. Johnston, executive secretary of the C. P. E., currently in charge of Troops in Training, says that, here, his group has been catering to the entertainment needs of 90,000 men and that there is ample opportunity to observe the lack of suitable en-

tertainment for troops in training camps on leave on Sundays, or within a hundred miles of their camps.

He says: "We have no wish whatever to interfere with the churches' morning and evening services, but we do feel that motion picture entertainment could suitably fill the bill without interfering with the Lord's Day Act. There are several thousand troops in Toronto every Sunday who are away from their friends and who, after strenuous training periods, really need a moment of relaxation and a change of relaxation."

"The Daughters of the Empire (D. E.), a church organization of women and children, is now urging the Dominion Government to remove all obstacles to men and women of the services allowed to see movies on Sunday. With winter here and outdoor sports and entertainment in the offing, the Sunday movies is absolutely imperative."

COLBERT 'STORY' SOCK \$9,300, B.A. PACE-SETTER

Buenos Aires, Dec. 15.—Despite rising thermometer, biz is fairly strong at B.A. first-runners this week. "Palm Beach Story" (Paramount) picture show with gross of \$9,300 at the Opera, while "Mr. Miniver" (MGM) in its fourth week at the Rex leads its string pack with \$30,000 (about \$7,300).

Other estimator for this week, all up with declining pace, arranged at about 27c U. S., follow:

Umberson (Lautaret & Cavallo) (U.S.A., 2,100); "Guerra Gaucha" (A.M.A., Arg. made), packing them in, with an estimated 22,000; "The Last Days of Pompeii" (S.R.O., 43,000 on the opening six days).

Ideal (Lococo) (970; 3,000; 2,500). "Be Or Not To Be" (U.A.), Sold 9,000; "The Sign of the Cross" (L.A.W.) on second week, also took 25,000 on opening week. Also running at the top of the list:

Rex (Cordero, Cavallo & Cavallo) (3,350; 2,500; 2,000). "Mrs. Miniver" (MGM) (30,000 for the week, still busting records. Last week, 35,000 following 80,000 opened on the first week).

Oceana (Colli, Gatti & Cia.) (2,800; 2,000; 1,500). "R. E. H. Heroes" (Columbia) (Fidelity) (1,000 for the week, 9,000 for second week of the "White Pariah" after 18,000 opened on the first week (Lococo).

No Greater Sin (U.A.). Not much interest in this kind of exploitation picture, but resulting week 6,500. Last week, "Bahama Passage" (Par.) n.s.k. 8,000 for second week after o.k. 10,000 on the first week.

Redway (Lautaret & Cavallo) (2,863; 2,500; 2,000). "La Casa de los Millores" (EFA, Arg. made). Fair showing on second week, 6,000. Last week, 500 to 14,000.

Sulphala (Lococo) (650; 3,000; 2,500). "Be Or Not To Be" (U.A.). Holding up well with 8,500 on the third week, after 9,000 previously.

Uncle Sam's Roll Call

Continued from page 4

ids. Is following a training period, will be assigned to the Photographic Unit near Washington, D. C.

PHI COLBERT GROUP
Bob Fiske, former p.a., promoted from second to first lieut. in air corps and transferred from Rapid City, S. D., to Atherton, Neb.

George Star, son of George Star, Danver, Post-Gazette columnist, army air corps.

Joseph Meyer, Jr., son of W.B. exchange manager, into naval officer's training, Columbia, U. S.

Lawyer Heller, brother of Little Jackie Heller, has received his sergeant's armband at Eglin Field, Fla.

George Star, of WCAE staff, army air corps.

Eddie Cassidy, cote singer, marines.

Karl Eagle, son of Charlie Eagle, Stanley manager, appointed to sergeant's candidate school, Fort Knox, Ky.

John Satori, manager of Beacon Theatre, D. C.

L. D. Lortie, II, son of W.B. sales.

Millard Green, son of David Green, owner of Beacon theatre, merchant marine.

FRISCA MARCHES ON
San Francisco, Dec. 22.—At St. Ignace, one of partners in Flamingo nightery, Army.

Cliff Newray, formerly of Domino Club, Robert's.

Danny Wilson left Slopia Macke's nightery for the Marines.

Seattle Seattle
Seattle, Dec. 22.—Glen Scholent, Times' theatre man, Army.

John O'Connor, manager of Evergreen theatre, Eugene, Ore., Army.

Bob Lang, former assistant-mgr. of the Palace (Hamrick) theatre, with the Signal Corps in Alaska.

PHILLY'S LATEST CORP
Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Jay Faraghan, KYW announcer, U. S. Army Air Forces.

W. J. (D. P.) assistant in headquarters auditing department, Westinghouse Electric Stations, Inc., Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

Clara Lauterier, member of KYW women's program department, WAAC.

Jim McCann, ex-KYW announcer, has been tapped for officers training.

David McCarthy, former Record star, commissioned second lieutenant U. S. Coast Artillery.

Nat Warshaw, manager of Frankford, ex-Globe Balkin, manager of Stanley, Army.

WV GIRLS' CHATTER BULLETIN
The first issue of the Women's Club Bulletin, put out by the Warner Club-Girls Service Unit, and edited by Madeline Goldberg, of Mort Bienuenski's advertising-publicity department, is being distributed. The bulletin mailed last week to former WV employees in the service. It is to be sent once a month, but the bulletin contains gossip and chatter about various h. Warner's departments as well as news about former servicewomen who are now in uniform.

LOW'S AIDE COMMISSIONED
Seymour Mayer, district manager of Lowey's theatres in Brooklyn, N. Y., has been commissioned a 1st lieutenant in the Army and assigned to a special service branch. Mayer was tendered a dinner at Hotel New Yorker. Lowey announced his friends Thursday night (17). His successor is not chosen as yet.

William P. Pierson, ex-newspaper man, is now in uniform. He was commissioned a captain in the Regular Army and assigned to special service work with the Seventh Service Company. He's headquartered in Columbus, Ohio.

Arthur Weinberg, son of Lou Weinberg, Columbia sales exec., to a marine. S. C. took his training as a marine. S. C. took his B.A. degree. He also studied at Harvard Law School.

Aian Williams, chief announcer, of the Civilian Air Training Corps on Jan. 6, 1943, coming currently at the end of his training as a physical at Grand Central Palace (N. Y.) induction center yesterday (19). He has two brothers in service.

Bob Willis, Columbia Pix cowpoke, will be inducted in Tulsa, Okla.

Jack Carter, m.c., Army.

Jack Ray, m.c., Army.

Bad News For Axis
Holywood, Dec. 22.—Glenn Ford, screen actor, Marines.

Carl Burrows, film actor, Army.

Will Price, film director, Marines.

Charles Brannan, film actor, Army.

Gregg Malke, screen actor and former tennis champion, Navy.

Raymond King, film producer, Marines.

William Wright, screen actor, Army.

Phil Berg, talent agent, Navy.

Robert Rochafel, theatre manager, Marines.

Terry Stefanich, studio press agent, Navy.

Charles Rhodes, fan mag photographer, Signal Corps.

Bob Willis, film cowboy, Army.

Steve Robinson, studio technician, Marines.

Jim Davis, screen actor, Coast Guard.

John Waters, film director, Signal Corps.

Mark Baer, screen actor and former pugilist, Army Air Corps.

George Cooper, screen actor, Naval Reserve.

Joe Allen, Jr., screen actor, Army Air Corps.

Gene Garrick, screen actor, Army Medical Corps.

Max McGarrig, film cowboy, Coast Guard.

Viola Totles and Peggy Kurtz, studio secretaries, WAACs.

Action In Buffalo
Buffalo, Dec. 22.—Harry Deitz, Steve Buffalo stage crew, Army, back as member of military post.

Mark Meyers, former member of Star, Tonawanda, now at Ft. Eustis, Va.

Barnes Drees, Greyhound Film Lab, back after several weeks at Westinghouse Dayton, O.

Angelo Abramo, Greyhound Film and Telemex, Marine Corps.

2 from San Anton
San Antonio, Dec. 22.—Richard D. Wick, chief of service at Majestic, and Leo G. Kuntz, assistant manager Aetna, Merchant Marine.

See Vacationer Sizz Canada OK In '43 Via Tanks

Detroit, Dec. 22.—The once pleasant—and profitable—system of folkling back and forth across the American-Canadian border here looking for fun is just getting under way again. However, when next summer comes, if the new Canadian curtailment on motor cars for the tourist isn't too drastic, it will probably see a good bonanza for the nearby Canadian towns where Americans are expected to fill up their cars and themselves.

As soon as gas rationing hit Canada, there were plenty quick wits who realized one could go right across the border to Windsor, get his daily liquor chutzpah a year's more, on a tourist permit if the car tank up with imperial gallons, before the local rationing. It started a run but it was too good a thing to waste.

Wise planners instantly saw that it was the answer to short-circuiting for the busy war workers in Canada, and that the rationing would not tap the Canadian field until next summer, for a motorist can get his one tourist permit a year in Canada—good for 10 imperial can gallons of gas not to mention chutzpah and milk. The quick vacation for the war workers who only need a few days.

Nierles struck along the Canadian border towns are like bacon these days, low and fat stripes. However, most of the spots, which got plenty

Canadian Showfolk Under Govt.'s War Work Classification

Montreal, Dec. 22.—Revised lists of priorities, regarded as secret and confidential, got out of Selective Service offices into the hands of a newspaper reporter, currently being compiled, given the green light for big-type publicity across the Dominion.

"No A. P." The jobs of all working Canadians have been measured by the yardstick of their national services. The equivalent of "No Priority" for men, and "C" for priority for women, and "C" for priority for women, and "C" for priority for women.

This priority yardstick so far has been used only in the volunteer transfer of men to essential civilian jobs to essential occupations should, however, the government later decide that compulsion was necessary in the transfer of labor. The priority listing would be followed. Furthermore, this grading of essential jobs will be used to a greater degree

in operation of the compulsory military draft.

The gradings are: 'A' top priority; high priority; 'C' low priority; 'D' no priority.

Priority of jobs in industry, agriculture, fishing, lumbering, and some other essential services, including civilian, with some of them ranging from 'A' to 'D'.

A major fact that theates have been a major source of supplying aid in housing the war effort, with no charge, and in helping morale by exploiting war pictures, will be the fact that they are in a helping position in which they are being thrust. Substitution of women for men in essential services, including more frequent throughout the city, is not entirely a solution since these are who are in the nature of their employment be personable and intelligent, are for those reasons, are available to the war effort, are in low 'C' priority.

Selective Service staffs state they have no objection to the "no war sense" applied to the particular circumstances existing in each case. The best guide is the "no war sense" only hope for the theatre men at present viewing.

Hyams Bros. Sell 5 Theatres For \$2.2 Millions in Eng.

London, Dec. 22.—Hyams Brothers have disposed of their two Troxy theatres and the two Keiths in Gaumont-British. Disposal completed last week. The brothers mailed last week to former Hyams employees in the service. It is to be sent once a month, but the bulletin contains gossip and chatter about various h. Warner's departments as well as news about former servicewomen who are now in uniform.

William P. Pierson, ex-newspaper man, is now in uniform. He was commissioned a captain in the Regular Army and assigned to special service work with the Seventh Service Company. He's headquartered in Columbus, Ohio.

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95% YANK PIX INTO BRITISH WEST INDIES

Washington, Dec. 22.—United States furnishes 95% of all motion pictures shown in Jamaica, Guyana, Surinam, and Guyana. The Department of Commerce has just announced. From 375 to 400 feature films are required annually.

While censorship rules are comparatively lenient, the department says that the British censor agencies usually order the deletion of scenes which are considered objectionable in acts of unbecomingly behavior.

*The Greatest
Picture to Come
Out of This War!*



"I think it's the greatest picture ever put on celluloid. I come away dozed!"
—Quentin Reynolds



"The very greatest picture yet to be made about this war!"
—Elsa Maxwell



"If I have seen five great movies in my time, IN WHICH WE SERVE is one of them!"
—Alexander Woolcott



"It will make Noel Coward one of the cinema's big shots!"
—Walter Winchell



"Impressive and moving to the last degree. My family and myself are still discussing it!"
—Mary Roberts Rinehart



"Surely the greatest of them all—an epic of the Second World War!"
—Lowell Thomas



"It made a greater appeal to me personally than any moving picture that has so far come out of the war. It is tops!"
—H. V. Kaltenborn



"Noel Coward proves again he is the Number One Man of the spellbinder!"
—Ed Sullivan



"The most gripping picture of the war!"
—Louis Sobel

NOEL COWARD'S

IN WHICH WE SERVE

RELEASED THROUGH UNITED ARTISTS

*It Stands Alone
AS THE MOST WIDELY PRE-SOLD
PICTURE OF THE YEAR!*



2-COLOR FULL-PAGE ADS in Life · Look · Collier's · Cosmopolitan · Redbook · Good Housekeeping · Scholastic and Parents' Magazine.

UNPRECEDENTED NATIONAL PUBLICITY including feature story by Quentin Reynolds in Collier's · special article by Alexander Woolcott in Good Housekeeping · 5 pages in Life · and big editorial breaks in Cosmopolitan, Look, Redbook, McCall's, Ladies' Home Journal, Liberty, Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Tawn & Country, Parents' Magazine, Country Gentleman and The Family Circle

Pre-Release Engagement

CAPITOL THEATRE, NEW YORK CITY, DECEMBER 24TH



AMERICA SALUTES *the* UNITED NATIONS!

A great national demonstration of solidarity!

UNITED NATIONS WEEK • JAN. 14 through 20th



YOUR PLEDGE, PLEASE!

Again our nation in its need depends upon the proven patriotism of 16,000 motion picture exhibitors. So that the sacrifice of our sons may not be in vain, so that victory may be achieved in the shortest possible time, we enlist our services in this vitally important job. This salute of the American nation to its Allies, this collection in the theatres for their war-stricken peoples, will tell them what's in our hearts!

FREE TRAILER starring JAMES CAGNEY, ANN SOTHERN, MARGARET O'BRIEN. Also free 22x26 card, one-sheet, 40x60 display, ad-mat slugs. Other banners and decorations at cost! Distribution by National Screen Accessories. Rush your pledge in order to obtain these showmanship materials!

Sponsored by War Activities Committee, 1501 Broadway, N.Y. C.

Inside Staff—Pictures

Figured in Washington that the industry made a smart move in signing up 16-year-old daughter of U. S. Senator A. B. (Happy) Chandler, Mimi Chandler, was signed by Paramount to appear in a series of pictures to be directed by David Butler. She is living with the Butler family and has been assigned to a leading role in the next 'Henry Aldrich' feature. Besides her photogenic, Mimi can also

Senator Chandler and his wife use in Hollywood to spend the holidays with Mimi. On Capitol Hill they see the Kentucky solon reads the drama page before the political news, and mostly the Hollywood columns. Harry has acquired a good friend where good friends are scarce.

Hollywood is courting the new congressman from the Santa Monica district, Bill Rogers, Jr. He did not stand out without a word of speech while serving in the Army. Ford always had the active support of Louis B. Mayer and other bigwigs of Hollywood, but in the last election they did not offer him the support he needed. Rogers, however, as well as the screen actors, were dead against the executive's choice.

The Brandt circuit, headed by Harry Brandt who also is president of the Independent Theatre Owners Assn. of New York, has become one of the strongest buying combinations in the country as a result of tieups which now place a total of 112 theatres in the Brandt sweep. Houses are located in New York, New Jersey and Long Island. In the latter territory extending as far north as Poughkeepsie. As a result of the many hook-ups, Brandt now enjoys stronger buying power than any other independent purchaser of film stock in the country.

Additionally, Brandt operates his own trade paper, The Independent, published in N. Y. twice monthly.

Although he is on leave of absence for the duration of the purpose of filling a post in the Bureau of Yards & Docks of the U. S. Navy at Washington, D. C., Bernard, Jr. did not stand out without a word of speech in close touch with the affairs of the company. Since joining the Navy, with headquarters in Washington, he has been spending weekends in N. Y. checking in on the office and conferring with WB executives. Bernard, a civilian member of the Navy, may get a commission, it is said. Highest he could rate in coming from civilian life is lieutenant commander.

Jam Handy Picture Service, Inc., a Delaware corporation, has changed its name to Jam Handy Organization, Inc. Papers to this effect were filed with the Secretary of State in Detroit. Jam Handy Organization is a company that some time made industrial films for General Motors and other large corporations. They were released on a regular schedule and were often seen as part of the program in local theatres. The pictures were furnished to theatres gratis, the message carried being 'institutional.' The war interrupted the production of motorcar films.

Although foreign managers out in the field have been told repeatedly they can't refer to a previously sent cable in a letter sent to U. S., some managers in foreign lands still will continue to do so. Reason is that censors carefully delete all such material in letters. Recent instance came up last week when a foreign manager from overseas sought to confirm something in a previous cable. The entire message was cut off and the address and manager's signature remaining.

Waxer Bros. has definitely decided against a newsreel of its own, bringing a sixth into the field.

Harry M. Warner did not go any further on the matter while east for a few days and when he returned he will have to make a decision over there over the holidays at least. In fact, while east, Warner remained away from the h. o., but before going back west stopped in Washington, apparently to check into war effort matters, priorities, raw stock situation, etc.

Under resolutions passed at a meeting of the membership of the Screen Office & Professional Employees Guild, N. Y., on Friday night (18), the union calls upon Metro to shelve 'Tennessee Johnson' because of alleged racial slanders in the picture. The Screen Office and Paramount to the cease speaking approval of the Franco Government in Spain of the Paris participation of 'For Whom the Bell Tolls.' Copies of the resolutions have been sent to the ten film companies as well as the State Dept. in connection with 'Bell Tolls.'

Dr. Marcus Bach, of University of Iowa school of religion has left for Washington on War Department assignment to prepare film script depicting religious life of soldiers and chaplains in a army. Assisting him will be Samuel Hays, also of Iowa, and William H. Channing, who is in charge of the group, and Ernest Lauder, author of 'First Lesson,' who will represent Catholic faith. Dr. Bach is author of play 'Havin' Solomey.'

With the Red Army in the midst of a winter offensive and Stalin cracking the Nazi siege lines, Arkino, U. S. distributor of Soviet films, is running its latest import, 'The Defeat of the Nazis,' on the headlines. 'Tarzito' is the original name of Stalinized and picture, which deals with a defense of the town back in 1918, was shot on location early this year before the Wehrmacht besieged the town and those locales now in the news.

Columbia is speeding releases on its product in Latin-American countries by super-imposing Spanish and Portuguese titles in Hollywood, instead of having sound dubbing made in foreign languages abroad. 'Talk of the Town' and 'You Were Never Lovelier' are being given titles in Spanish on the home lot, were shipped to South and Central American cities for screening on the same day as their opening in the U. S. A.

Gimmicks, dropped as a war measure by Fox-West Coast, are still being used to lure customers in the Southern California district by independent operators. For years the Indies have been complaining that they had to hand out giveaways in spite of their action against the big chains. They are still employing the business hype although F-WC dropped it some time ago.

Warners' forthcoming Eddie Cantor film, 'Thank You Lucky Stars,' will be biographical, it is a novelty in the industry. The picture, under the name, as treated by Freeman Gosden and Arthur Sheerov, who scripted, Mark Hellinger produced. There are some 13 songs by Schwartz and Frank Loesser, now a private in the Air Corps.

After operating his school of political journalism for the last three years for some U. S. Navy men, March of Time has enlarged the scope of its training of motion picture people to include officers.

Idea of M. T. school is to train the recruits to become expert cameramen and motion picture technicians. School is in New York.

John Byram, ex-N. Y. Times staff, now play and story expert for Paramount in New York, is quite a dabbler in legit backing on his own. Only in a small way, but he has been guided by his friend Howard Cullman. 'Byram is in on 'Skin of Our Teeth,' 'Arsenic and Old Lace,' 'Strip for Action' and the new 'Wife Takes a Child.'

Leaders of the union movement among white-collarists in Paramount had prepared a printed letter for mailing to James F. Byrnes, Economic Stabilization Director, urging wider control, or 'point' rationing, for books and other commodities.

N. Y. Fire Strife

Continued from page 1

eliminate fire hazards. When survey is finally completed it is understood that there will be strict enforcement of current fire regulations as well as new rules providing for additional fire exits, elimination of inflammable materials and prohibition of smoking in theatres, night-eries and dance halls.

Bill introduced several weeks ago providing that no person shall be employed in New York City employ no less than two special firemen has meantime been killed in committee.

20th Goes Musical One-Third of Way, 14 Tuners Slated

Hollywood, Dec. 22.

One-third of the current program at 20th-Pox is devoted to music. In spite of the heavy calls for war drama and morale building, Studio City is going all out for musicals with the signing of name bands, in addition to those under contract.

Under contract to the studio are Phil Ream, Gale Robbins, Fred Astaire, and Bob Allen, all contracted on or at more or less deals. 'Musicals line up at the Westwood lot include 'Greenwich Village in the Up Girls,' 'The Girls He Left Behind,' 'Thanks, Pa,' and 'Lotta Girl,' skating picture starring Sonja Henie.

Only Hooest Books Can Determine Readings Rentals Says M-G Exc

Minneapolis, Dec. 22.

Metro will not be a sucker's job when exhibitors actually need relief and are entitled to it the company always has granted it and will continue to do so, it was declared here by S. A. Shirley, district manager. But the exhibitor must be straightforward and permit the company to audit his records or help it to verify his complaint, he made clear.

This will be the company's policy in this territory at a time when they help independent exhibitors and holding 'murder' and charging that they're being sacrificed to the wolves on the altar of exorbitant film rentals and percentage demands, Shirley announced.

Shirley accuses some exhibitors of presenting 'phony' claims for relief and trying to make a 'sucker' of the company. He said that the company already had investigated applications for relief where the exhibitor had presented items as operating expense that no sane business would or could consider. The exhibitor, for example, wouldn't permit a California trip as legitimate expense, he pointed out.

While some of the firms have suffered in consequence of the war and developments incidental thereto, other exhibitors have greatly improved their position, Shirley pointed out. The independent exhibitors, he said, must expect to pay a proportionate increase in the distributors in order to help offset the cash in refunds and adjustments to the others.

M-G will not deal with groups whose associations regarding their film will take up each case with the individual exhibitor, Shirley announced. He said that the exhibitor should be given by even if they received free film rental, he pointed out.

But the industry's independent circuit owners seeking relief from Metro 'all down the line' refused to permit an adjustment of each of his houses individually with the offer to permit figures to go on and to allow a reduction or boost as conditions warranted. Shirley said that exhibitor apparently doesn't care to play the game dirty and square the deal. He said that the industry circuit owners to get out of their M-G-M pictures, declared Shirley.

New Chi Tent of Variety Clubs Coincides With Nat'l Conv. Feb. 19-21

Move to Hasten Newark Trial of Lou Kaufman

Newark, Dec. 22.

Instead of being resumed as scheduled here Thursday (17) before Vice-Chancellor Bigelow, hearing of the suit to stop Louis Kaufman as business agent of Local 244, Motion Picture Operators' Union, was postponed indefinitely.

Postponement resulted from Bigelow's decision not to hear 22 remaining defense witnesses because they were prepared to give the same testimony that 40 preceding defense witnesses had given. Andrew B. Crummy, defense counsel, said he and Ward Cline, Jr., counsel for the insurgent union members who brought the action, expected to agree in a week or so on a stipulation that would shorten the hearings.

Seven of the nine members of the executive board of Local 224, Motion Picture Operators' Union, were re-elected Wed. (15). Both defeated candidates were supported by the insurgent union group, which is seeking the removal of Kaufman from office. Cline is "being heard" in Circuit Court.

100 BIRMINGHAM FIRE

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 22. Damage exceeding \$100,000 was caused by fire in the Five Points theatre, southeast insurance center, here, last night.

Is. Assess. Tax Up 8%

Des Moines, Iowa, Dec. 22.

Iowa tax records show the assessment tax advanced 8% over last year.

Chicago, Dec. 22.

National convention of Variety Clubs of America will be held at Blackstone hotel, here, Feb. 19-21. Affair will coincide with 'induction' of newly-organized Chi Tent, with John H. Harris, national chief Barker of clubs, in charge of arrangements. Anthony Jones designated as first chief Barker of Chi Tent, whose membership comprises practically entire film, stage and allied industries here.

Delighted to national confab will include all chief Barkers of 23, those elected for '43, national convassmen elected at last year's Atlantic City convention. Harris, who has been membership committee since last year, said he will be geared to war-time conditions.

Hedy's 'Ecstasy' Finally Gets Keyed Into Penny

Pittsburgh, Dec. 22.

Tiny Art Cinema, local foreign film house, here, has no time in book- ing the Hedy Lamarr picture, 'Ecstasy,' once it had been okayed by the Pennsylvania Board of Censors.

Pie opens a run here Saturday (26) and comes just when Art Cinema needed it most since small-ester was running short of product and had been forced lately into double-feature releases.

Distributors of 'Ecstasy' had given up all hope of getting the thing through in Pennsylvania after a six-year battle. Understood that considerable slicing still had to be made in the picture but that state has already seen before the seal was granted.

New York Theatres

BEG. FRIDAY, DEC. 25
3rd Time
JAMES CAGNEY
AS GEO. M. COHAN in
"YANKEE DOODLE DANDY"
Warner Bros. Production
in PRISON
JIMMY DORSEY
with
Bob Eberly
Bobby H. O'Connell
B'way & 47th St.

5TH WEEK
Humphrey Bogart
Paul Henreid
in Warner Bros. Hit
"CASABLANCA"
A Hal B. Wallis Production
Directed by Michael Curtiz
HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
Continuous • B'way & 51st St.

From
POWER • O'HARA
in
THE BLACK SWAN
A Technicolor Production
with
ROXY
BUY A NEW COPY OF THE
MUSIC BOOK FOR \$1.00
DEC. 22

28th Week!
MICHAEL TODD
STAR GARTER
BOBBE CLAR

NOEL COWARD'S
'In Which We Serve'
Released Here United Artists
CAPITOL THEATRE

RADIO CITY
MUSIC HALL
(ORSON WELLES)
"RANDOM HARVEST"
Spectacular Stage Productions

ROAD TO MOROCDO
with
HERMAN SUDER
and
BOB SCOTT
PARAMOUNT

LEWIS STATE
Last Time
with
JOHN GARLAND
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
in Technicolor
with
ASTOR
Circ. RMAC & Or.

PALACE
with
JOHN GARLAND
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
in Technicolor
with
ASTOR
Circ. RMAC & Or.

ASTOR
with
JUDY GARLAND
"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
in Technicolor
with
ASTOR
Circ. RMAC & Or.

"FOR ME AND MY GAL"
with
JUDY GARLAND
in Technicolor
with
ASTOR
Circ. RMAC & Or.

Tax Threat Forced Disposal By Non-Profit Woodmen of W.O.; Now Expect Other Similar Sales

The reasons which prompted the Woodmen of the World Insurance Co. to dispose of the station W.O.W., Omaha, may, it is disclosed last week, have interesting repercussions on the fate of other non-profit organizations whose sideline is the operation of a commercial station may be disposed, because of similar circumstances, to get out of the broadcasting business during 1943. The Federal Communications Commission last week approved an application transferring the operation to John J. Gillen, Jr., and his associates in a leasing syndicate. The lease is for 10 years and is not assignable.

The Woodmen of the World acted to unload the actual operation of the station first by leasing it from the Internal Revenue department that, while the income of fraternal organizations (in which classification it belongs), religious foundations and educational institutions is not taxable, this status changes when the business in which it is actively engaged, such as the sale of real estate, from the business must be tossed in the same pot with the rest of the organization's income and the whole thing becomes subject to taxation. These organizations had heretofore paid taxes only on commercial enterprises in which they were actively engaged.

Woodmen's Big Bid
The Woodmen of the World closed an annual business of around \$400,000 a year, whereas the station turns in a profit of around \$250,000. The final organization found that if it were to go on operating the station the income tax and insurance base of the station and its office building (which it has also disposed of) would be shared by the tax collectors as a single operation. Gillen, W.O.W.'s general manager, was subsequently elected by the Woodmen board and authorized to work up the best disposal deal possible in which, or where he himself would be properly taken care of.

There are a number of stations with annually annual audits which are operated directly by religious organizations, but the indications are that, like other non-profit organizations, won't act on the tax problem unless their incomes from radio are so large as to materially affect their financial structure.

WOW Employee Get Bonus

John J. Gillen, Jr., brought together the staff of WOW for a party Friday (19) and during it announced the transfer of the station's operation control and the fact that each employee was to receive a bonus of 15%.

He also told them that there would not be any changes in personnel.

GF RETIREMENT ON NET SERIALS

General Foods is unloading some of its network and station accounts. It's cancelling Don Winslow's Blue Jean, 1 and confining Wagoner De Malone to a single network, CBS.

The web losing out on the Dr. Macleod retrenchment, NBC. The cancellation becomes effective Jan. 15. Malone plans Post Toasties on both the web and the package with another and new show, "The Thin Man", sharing the slot at about that time.

Shorter 'Green Valley'

'Green Valley, U.S.A.', which HJ Brown presented as a 30-minute afternoon sustainer last spring on CBS, starts 15-minute 15-minute sustaining serial 4:15-4:30 Monday through Friday. Brown will again direct it, but the writer isn't set. Millard Lampell formerly of NBC.

Series will be for sale.

May Call Networks At A.T.&T. Hearings

The four national networks may be asked to testify on their short and long line rates when the Federal Communication Commission resumes its hearings on the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. rate inquiry Jan. 20. The FCC has ordered the A.T. & T. to give reasons why its rates in general shouldn't be reduced.

The doesn't seem to be any disposition on the part of the networks to enter into the probe voluntarily, but they do anticipate a call from the FCC.

DYER SELLS HIS WEMP, WILL IN INTEREST

Gene Dyer, owner of WAIT, in Chicago, has sold out his 48% interest in The Milwaukee Broadcasting Co., operator of WEMP, to a group of Wisconsin men, who henceforth will be associated with Glen Roberts, a Madison attorney, who, as owner of 52% of the stock, has been in control of the Milwaukee station. WEMP, an independent station and Wisconsin outlet for the Blue network, has enjoyed a remarkable growth and this past week purchased a transmitter building at the Blue Service building formerly used by WISN prior to removal of its transmitter to a new position south of Milwaukee.

While WEMP is not making any immediate changes in accord with FCC retention plans are now being made for post-war expansion.

Fred Utal Admits Slapping Wife, But She Hit Him First

Fred Utal, radio announcer, took the witness stand in N. Y. Supreme court Monday (21) and told Justice Samuel Lunt, that "I would have called myself anything, even a cretin, if I had hit my wife, but whatever little peace there was left between us, I was referring to Mrs. Madeline Fick Utal, who is suing him for separation, \$1,500 counsel fees and \$125 weekly maintenance."

Utal emphatically denied the allegations of cruelty, made by his wife, whom he married in 1940, but did admit that "I did slap her, but not for the night 'Simon' show" so when she struck me in the face with a heavy tumbler." Following Utal's testimony, which closed the case, Justice Lunt reserved decision. In her testimony Mrs. Utal stated that she had received \$28,000 through his radio announcing positions in 1941.

Barbaso's 'Sam' On 52 Mutual Stations

Barbaso will use 62 Mutual Stations for the nightly "Simon" show, which starts Jan. 5. Time is 8-8:15 p.m.

The program supplements the same account's Gabriel Heister broadcasts on the same network.

Sweets For Stoopnagle

Schutter Candy Co., of Chicago, started Sunday matinee series (11-45-2) with Doc Stoopnagle on CBS Jan. 1.

Williams & Cunningham is the agency.

'Pointers on Comedy in the Camps' By HERB SHRINER an Added Feature in 'Show Business At War'

theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

BLUE'S 1ST YR. SHOWS PROFIT

In his resume of 1942, which was released to the press yesterday (Tuesday), president Mark Woods of the Blue network disclosed that the web had come through its first year of operation with a profit, even though a large share of the income from the sale of time was regularly 'plowed back' into sustaining programs, Mutual, which issued a similar report, spoke of having keyed itself almost entirely to the war effort.

The Blue statement pointed out he had been consistently sound to build up a schedule of outstanding sustaining programs and how it had also concerned itself with entertaining servicemen and war workers on the scene of operations.

WCOP's Foreign Lingvo Activities Draws Probe On License Renewal

Federal Communications Commission will look into the foreign language broadcasting activities of WCOP, Boston, which is controlled by Arde Bulow through Massachusetts Broadcasting Corp. before it renews the station's license.

Station's application for renewal has been designated for investigation. FCC testimony will concern methods of selecting and investigating personnel, qualifications of personnel, sale of time, and supervision of programs. After the examination, FCC will determine whether continued operation of the station by the present operator would serve the public interest.

FCC said it had investigated Franco Gallucci, WCOP announcer and chief Italian program producer. Gallucci was president of the Massachusetts Federation of Dopplavero, a Fascist front organization. FCC also had investigated Ubaldo Guidi, another announcer who had close contact with the Italian consulate in Boston and was widely known throughout New England as an organizer of a Fascist group. Since Pearl Harbor he has been in interned.

Italian broadcasting on the station, FCC has begun in the direction of the late Luigi Fiato, who was executive secretary of the Boston Fascist Party, the Fascist League of North America.

Esty Hunting Spot Time for Supersuds

The William Esty agency is scouting around for availabilities for spot announcements that will plug Supersuds.

The schedules are to start after the first of the year.

Beulah Straway Doubles Between WLW and OPA

Beulah Straway, director of WLW merchandising for the past five years, last week received appointment as a consultant with the Office of War Administration.

She will divide time between the Crosby organization and Washington, giving attention to the Food Rationing Plan and spreading information to food wholesalers and retailers.

Shepard's Get Most of \$1,250,000 Yankee Net Sale Price in Cash

Gerard Settles Suit On A. & C. Broadcasts

Settlement has been reached in the suit brought by Barney Gerard, old-time burlesque producer and scripper, against Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, National Broadcasting Co., J. Walter Thompson agency and Standard Brands, Inc., for alleged infringement. Amount involved in settlement was not disclosed.

In suit filed in N. Y. federal district court, Gerard charged that two sketches used by A. & C. on the Chase & Sanborn air stanzas June 1 and 1941, were copyrighted material written by Gerard for his 'Polite of the Day' burley editions back in 1918-20.

Boston, Dec. 22.—The Shepards will get in cash most of the price, reported to be \$1,250,000 obtained from the sale of the station holdings by William O'Neil, president of the General Electric & Rubber Co. Local broadcasting circles are already pretty much puzzled about O'Neil's going into the broadcasting business, unless it is to set up a competence for his son, William, Jr., who now operates WJW, Akron.

John Shepard, 24, and his son, John, 34, has been actuated in the transfer strictly by an inheritance law problem. The father is in his 80's. John, 34, will stay on in the area and the properties for the O'Neils and will continue to manage the general Linus Travers, will hold posts as the directorate that the buyers set up. The trustees include WPAAC, Boston; WICC, Bridgeport; WEAN, Providence; WAAB, Worcester, and WJW, Akron.

MBS Shepard Deal Untill '45
The Mutual Network has a contract with Shepard which runs until 1945, and the contract includes a provision allowing for the agreement's termination before that time. In the event of the termination, the other party may cancel if it doesn't think the new ownership satisfactory. The deal is a ready declared itself as gratified with the new owner of the Shepard properties.

Post-War Expansion Plans

Akron, O., Dec. 22. William O'Neil, Sr., president of the station, and Ruben C. Wilson, who has purchased the 21-station Yankee network, covering most of the country, announced the purchase was the first step in the company's post-war expansion plans. He said General Electric engineers now have developed many radio and other devices that will be ready for use in the autumn and expect that the war is over. O'Neil said, "Through this network we expect to make a satisfactory record of the scientific advancement which has been made in recent years in scientific rubber and in other new materials as yet unknown to the public."

Silver Theatre Passes UP RETURN TO AIR

Hollywood, Dec. 22. International Silver, which for years has staged the dramatic series, Silver Theatre, is passing up radio this season. Unavailability of the series' regular plans for a return to the networks.

Due to budget restrictions, Young & Rubicam was preparing to use medium price talent. Such players are expected to be in high demand if the ceiling on salaries sticks.

Cecil Holman Grinds Out Scripts in Safety Drive; Cops Courier

Kansas City, Dec. 22.—The Kansas City Fire engineers a special delivery service for radio scripts last week when Cecil Holman, who lives in the outskirts of town, sat at his typewriter banking out some 18 quarter hours of use in "Blue Monday" (the name of the accident) campaign. Police patrol car made at least one trip daily to Holman's home to pick up radio scripts to WDAF, KCKN and WHB, and to the headquarters of William Kostelny, president of the Mutual Life Insurance and the Institute of Public Relations. Kostelny came here from New York working with the Kansas City Safety Council.

In all, some 24 quarter hours were donated to the safety drive by Kansas City broadcasters. KMBC's own writers made up the bulk of the scripts those Holman freelanced. Police, fire and other civic departments and leaders cooperated in the educational drive.

Indpls. Tabernacle Off MBS; Evangeist Dead

One of Mutual's two Sunday afternoon periods of sponsored religion goes by the board Jan. 10. It's the tabernacle in Indianapolis. Howard Kade, evangelist, who has been making these broadcasts, died several days ago and his family has decided to drop the radio connection.

Natural Affinity

U. S. Tobacco Co. is buying spot announcements on southern stations for its snuff products. The agency wants to place them adjacent to hill-billy shows.

Arthur Kudner is the agency.

OUTSTANDING BLUE NOTES

Gosch, Harris Claim 'North' Equity; Ask L.&M. to Include Them in Deal

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Martin Gosch and Howard Harris declared today (Tuesday) that they have served notice on the Lenten & Mitchell agency that it will be served with injunction papers if the mystery-comedy, Mr. and Mrs. North, is debuted on NBC Dec. 30 without including them in the deal. North replaces the "Thin Man" for Woodbury-Jergen. Gosch and Harris are currently the producers and writers, respectively, of the Abbott and Costello program (Cameo). Gosch and Harris, through their lawyer, Richard Cantlow, claim to hold a property right in "North" by virtue of the fact that last year they prepared a radio version of "North" for the S. Lyons office preliminary to its consideration by the Electric Light Industries network and sponsor. The latter deal, with the N. W. Ayer agency as intermediary, eventually fell through. According to Gosch and Harris, they did the radio series under an agreement with Alfred de Lagre, Jr., producer of the stage version of "North," Francis and Richard Lockridge, creators of the "North" characters, and Owen Davis, who wrote the stage adaptation. L. & M., which proposes to do its own production, may have to correct with the Lockridges and Davis. Cantlow stated that his clients will not sue until the terms of the program on the air unless they receive some settlement of their rights.

BACHER IS OFF 'TREASURY SHOWS'

Bill Bacher, whose option as director of the Cashman program was not renewed by the Eitz agency, is also out as director of the two Treasury Department shows "Over Here" on the Blue network and the recorded "Star Parade." He is succeeded by the "Over Here" stars by Henry Hayward, who recently resigned from the Transamerican staff. Bacher's departure from the Treasury shows followed a discussion he had with Bill Murray, radio head of the William Morris agency and coordinator of the Treasury's radio production, last Wednesday (20). Murray had reminded him of policies and instructions as received from the Treasury and the Office of War Information. The following day Murray received Bacher's resignation. Murray relayed news of Bacher's action on to Washington and on Friday (23) the OWI commented to the conclusion that Bacher wouldn't take instructions as to policies and script changes. Murray in addition to network shows, Bacher had produced 48 radio comedy programs for the Treasury's war bond campaign. Bacher was recently given a "severe reprimand" by the American Federation of Radio Actors for alleged violation of the code of fair practices. Incident cited by AFRA occurred during an "Over Here" rehearsal.

NBC Opens Production School for Employees

NBC will form an Employee Production Group to give free instruction and training in radio directing, sound effects, scripting and announcing to its employees. Garet Harrison, radio instructor at Wayne University, Detroit, will conduct the instruction, which is to begin soon after Jan. 1.

Half-Listening

Washington, Dec. 22. Great Britain's post-war social security plan is upsetting Washington bottlers. Soon after Bob Menefee mentioned the Beveridge Plan on his Sunshine News broadcast at 7:30 over WJW, he was summoned to the telephone by the local bottlers' association. Official said he had received a dozen calls from harassed bottlers asking: 'Just what's the dope on this new beverage plan and how will it affect our supplies and sales!'

Hedda Taking Plaintiff Against L.&M. to AFRA

Hedda Hopper will take her complaint against Jergens and the Lenten & Mitchell agency to the American Federation of Radio Artists. Whether or not the union will fight the case for her will be up to the organization's national board, which meets every Thursday. The case has not yet been formally presented for its consideration. Miss Hopper was considered by Jergens as a replacement for the "Parker Family" series Sunday nights on the Blue for Woodbury but the sponsor and agency subsequently dropped the idea. Hollywood columnist claims breach of contract. AFRA may either fight the case for her or turn it over to the American Arbitration Assn. for settlement.

SOUND WARNING ON DIART, SLANG

Complaints From Station Operators Pertain to 'Girl Gags' of Comics Broadcasting From Army Camps—Cuss Words and Double Entendre Freely Used in Nighttime Scripts

PREY FOR BLUENOSES

As indicated by letters received by "Variety" during recent weeks, local broadcasters are becoming increasingly distressed over the latitude of language allowed some of the network comics and dramatic shows. The complaints, as expressed by these station operators, range from the tendency of comics while playing before service camp audiences to give a bluish tint to 'girl' gags to the free use of questionable expletives and double entendre in nighttime script programs. Most of the letters have sounded a note of warning, urging that the networks bear down on the culprits before the blueses start up with their customary exaggerated alarm.

One of the more articulate and provocative notes on this theme comes from Barron Howard, business manager of WYVA, Richmond. His letter follows: "Damn! hell guts! lousy! These and other odd bits of profanity and vulgarly are commonplace on the air now, particularly on programs with a metropolitan origin. The explanations range from 'freedom of the art' to 'this is war,' and a plea for 'realism.'"

EAR Attention-Getter
'As usual, those who make these explanations have an axe to grind, and merely make use of surrounding (Continued on page 33)

Mounting Popularity of Russe Music May Provide Opening For Another Performance Group

With Hisses

This Monday's (28) episode of "Bulldog Drummond" (Howard Clothes), which is slated for folding, will have two villains instead of the customary singleton. One villain will be named Crossley and the other, Hooper.

Some broadcasters foresee the rise of still another performance group in this country—unless one of the existent organizations, particularly ASCAP, undertakes in the near future to absorb American licensing representation of the mounting works of modern Russian composers who have begun to receive popular attention in this country. These broadcasters anticipate that when the time becomes ripe somebody will organize a setup similar to Ricard or SESAC for the purpose of licensing the performing rights of such Russian composers. A couple of broadcast licensees have already asked John G. Paine, ASCAP general manager, what his organization proposes to do about this contingency.

Blocki Quits B&B To Join K&E; Will Steer Kellogg's

Fritz Blocki, of the Benton & Bowles director staff, has resigned, effective next week, to become assistant to Dwight Mills, vice-president and radio director of the Kenyon & Eckhardt agency. He will supervise "Superman" and "Breakfast at Sardi's" on Mutual and the Blue, respectively, for Kellogg's.

"Superman" was a sustainer, will be sponsored by the food account on a western hookup, starting Jan. 4, and, after 13 weeks, the deal will be extended to the full network. "Breakfast at Sardi's" is now locally sponsored, so Kellogg will take it on all available stations, starting Jan. 4, with the idea of ultimately assuming sponsorship on the remaining stations. Kenyon & Eckhardt's only other network show currently is "One Man's Family," on NBC for Fleischmann's yeast.

TALK COCACOLA SPOT FOR DOWNEY

Talks are going on between the Blue Network and the D'Arroy agency about spotting Morton Downey for a daily matinee quarter-hour (3 o'clock), starting Jan. 24, in behalf of Coca-Cola.

Benny Rubin, Mary Small And Guest Names On New CBS Sustainer

Benny Rubin, Mary Small, Don Walker's orchestra, and other vocalist and guest names will top a new variety series 10:30-11 p.m. Mondays on CBS, starting Jan. 15. Bill Robson will produce and Margaret Lewerth and Rubin will script it. Theme of the show will be the music, stage and films of the 1920s and early '30s. It will start as a sustainer and be given a buildup for possible sale.

Madeleine Carroll 'Radio Reader' on CBS

Madeleine Carroll will be the "Radio Reader" when that cocktail and guest names will top a new variety series 10:30-11 p.m. Mondays on CBS, starting Jan. 15. Bill Robson will produce and Margaret Lewerth and Rubin will script it. Theme of the show will be the music, stage and films of the 1920s and early '30s. It will start as a sustainer and be given a buildup for possible sale.

"Snow Business At War"

THEME OF THE
37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of
VARIETY

To Be Published Soon

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Wired to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK	HOLLYWOOD	CHICAGO	LONDON
134 W. 46th St.	1708 N. Vine St.	54 W. Randolph St.	8 St. Martin's Pl.

Some Radio Execs See Threat to Biz In Plans for Standard 'Victory' Label

Some radio executives were considerably perturbed last week over the activities of several of the larger advertisers who have been in Washington attempting to solicit support for a 'Victory Brand' label. Their plan is to stabilize prices and use the brand-label for the duration. This they expect to solve the transportation problems which are plaguing their current existence.

Great Britain solved its distribution and transportation problem by zoning the marketing of manufactured materials. Thus a biscuit manufacturer in the north England restricts distribution to the region around his plant, with the rest of the country being supplied by other biscuit bakers. Competition is tacit, but advertising is sustained since brand names are kept alive by the exchange of labels.

A domestic example might have been Del Monte, which cans on the Coast, distribute some of its products with the label of White Rose, which cans in the east. And White Rose would do the same with Del Monte labels. Thus, although each would distribute both be aiding in the survival of valuable brand names.

The efficacy of this system so far as advertising is concerned is media, since without advertising the market of communication and information would either fold or require Government subsidies.

Clear Channel Group Protests WNYC Full-Time

The Clear Channel Broadcasting Service, acting on behalf of 13 Clear Channel stations, filed a petition with the Federal Communications Commission yesterday (Monday) for rehearing and leave to intervene in the application of the city of New York municipal broadcasting system for night-time operation of station WNYC, which was granted by the FCC on December 1.

Station WNYC operates on the same frequency as station WGN in Minneapolis, a Clear Channel station.

Prior to the FCC's granting of the application for special service authorization, the N. Y. station had to sign off at sunset in Minneapolis. By its Dec. 1 order, the Commission extended WNYC's operating hours, with the provision that it use a directional antenna in broadcasting during the extra time.

The Clear Channel group's petition asked that the FCC reconsider and vacate its Dec. 1 order granting WNYC's application, and either deny the application or designate it for hearing.

Louis G. Caldwell is the attorney for the petitioners. Allan B. Miller, director, signed the petition for the Clear Channel Broadcasting Service.

BLUE CLEARS 15-MIN. SLOT FOR GRACIE FIELDS

The Blue Network has cleared the new time schedule ordered by Fall Mall cigarette for Gracie Fields. Starting Jan. 11 she will share the 10:15-10:30 period Monday through Friday.

The program that had been in the works was 'Hall Bros.' Here Comes the Navy', filling the Friday 10:10-10:30 p. m. slot. The latter program has agreed to take the 8:30-9 of the same evening.

Ted Byron Back in U. S.
Ted Byron, radio writer-director, has just returned to the U. S. after a year in South America as advertising manager for Sterling Products in Peru, Bolivia and Colombia. He has joined the radio staff of the Office of War Information.

Ink-Poisoning

Some workers in the radio vineyard are beginning to wonder whether the Twenty-Year Club, composed of 'pioneers' in broadcasting, may not turn out one of those originally good ideas which went haywire because of an unrestrained surge for publicity.

One of the wisecracks around the trade is that it won't be long before the club will welcome any one who came in contact with a crystal set 30 years ago, or wrote a postcard to station telling of the good reception he got the night before.

Carters to Concentrate On Larger Markets

Carters' Little Liver Pills is dropping out of the supplementary markets it now patronizes and will use the money thus saved to increase its schedules in the larger markets. The expansion will be from five to seven announcements a week.

Musical Xmas Package

**Sterling Subbing Special 60-Min. Songfest Fri. (25)
in Place of 4 Serials**

Sterling Products has cancelled the Christmas (Friday) broadcast of its four serials in the 4-5 p. m. block on NBC and will substitute a special 60-minute musical show, 'Christmas Bells—U.S.A.' Stanzas will have Frank Munn, Vivien Della Chiesa, Conrad Thibault, Evelyn MacGregor, Marian McManus and Denis Ryan as soloists, with Victor Arden leading the orchestra. They're all from the account's two Sunday night musical programs, 'Mashattan Merry-Go-Round' and American Album of Familiar Music.

There will be about 40 numbers heard on the show, including standard Christmas music of the U. S. and other United Nations. With so many selections to be crowded into the single hour, most of them will be merely cupuled. There will be

no commercial copy on the stanza, but the sponsor is getting the air credit via advance mentions on the four serials being replaced for the broadcast.

Air Features, producing the special program, also produces the four serials, 'Backstage Wife', 'Stella Dallas', 'Lorenzo Jones' and 'Young Widder Brown', for the Blackett-Sampke-Hummert agency, New York.

Geo. Roosen Moves Up At WBBM; Continuity Head

George Roosen, formerly a WBBM producer, became head of the station's continuity department recently, succeeding Ward Caille. Caille joined the J. Walter Thompson agency here as assistant to Buckingham Gunn, radio head.

Blue Prescription..

and we take it ourselves!

"Keep advertising. Keep 'em remembering." That's been the BLUE Network's wartime prescription for American business.

It's a much needed prescription. Because it prevents loss of memory by customers in these days...when so many products are off the market...and when there's so much going on to make folks forget to buy.

Has rationing or war production left you with "nothing to sell"? Then take a tip from several successful BLUE sponsors. Tell the public how to make your product go farther. Tell them what you're doing for Victory. "Keep 'em remembering"...remembering your name...remembering the product you'll want to sell again in post war days.

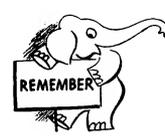
Or, if you still have a product to market...then let the BLUE broadcast your sales message. "Keep 'em remembering" to buy, now!

That's the BLUE prescription. And we take it ourselves. That's why we're here now, to keep you remembering these important facts about the BLUE:—



**37
new stations**

added to the BLUE in 1942. Total, 146 stations, not counting the extra stations available.



561 counties that count

The BLUE delivers better than 86% coverage of the 561 counties that do 80% of U. S. retail buying.



35 new sponsors

That's more than any other network signed in 1942...even without including our special Victory Program sponsors.



Listenership bonus

New programs, plus aggressive audience promotion, have built BLUE listenership far ahead of rates.

SLICING THE HOURS IN SALE

CAMEL RENEWAL MINUS BACHER

The 'Camel Caravan' on CBS Friday nights drops 15 minutes from its present hour of running time Jan. 8, and the only one connected with the show whose contract has not been renewed is the director, William Bacher.

In addition to the standing cast, Herb Shriner, Xavier Cugat and Georgia Gibbs, the series will continue to use guest comies.

Humble Oil to Air Cotton Bowl on TQN

San Antonio, Dec. 22. The Humble Oil & Refining Co. has obtained broadcast rights of the annual Cotton Bowl game, which will be aired to Texas listeners on New Year's Day over the facilities of the Texas Quality Network. Game will originate on WFAA, Dallas, and will be carried by WBAP, Fort Worth; WOAI here, and KPRC, Houston. Account is handled through the Franke-Wilkinson-Achieve, Inc., Agency.

Even with gas rationing Humble has been a heavy user of radio time the past football season, airing 10 games of the Southwest Conference.

NBC RENEWS 4; CBS RE-SIGNS 1

Standard Brands last week renewed with NBC for its Edgar Bergen and 'One Man's Family' programs, while General Foods through Benton & Bowles okayed another 13-week twirl for 'Night Editor.' Other NBC renewals involved the Seattle-Buddy Valies program and 'The Pitch Bandwagon.'

Columbia got a renewal from Campbell Soup for the Radio Readers' Digest, a Transamerican production.

MBS to Air New Year's Prayers on the Hour

Mutual will insert a minute of prayer on the hour almost every hour of New Year's Day. The prayers will be read by clergymen, commentators and announcers.

During the Cotton Bowl and East-West football games, the prayers will be read from the playing field between halves.

Clear That Schnoz

Vick Chemical is spotting a special campaign in its inhaler's behalf. The schedule is three night-time chainbreaks a week for 13 weeks, starting Jan. 4.

Morse International is the agency.

THREE 60-MIN. SHOWS IN 1943

'Lux Theatre,' Kay Kyser and Goodwill Hour Only Network Full-Hour Shows Next Year—Kate Smith and Kraft Cut to 30 Minutes—'Caravan' to 45

'THIN MAN' MOVES IN

With General Foods' slicing the Kate Smith show down to a half-hour, effective Jan. 8 or 15, network radio will start off 1943 with but three one-hour shows. The hour survivors will be 'The Lux Theatres' (CBS), Kay Kyser (NBC) and the Goodwill Hour (Blue), since the 'Camel Caravan' goes to 45 minutes Jan. 8 and the 'Kraft Music Hall' moves into the half-hour category Jan. 7.

The second half of Miss Smith's present hour on CBS Friday nights will be occupied by 'The Thin Man' series, which has been released by the Andrew Jergens Co. The Smith show will continue to plug Jell-o and Jell-o-pudding, while the comedy-mystery will do service for Sanka (Young & Rubicam) and Post Toasties (Benton & Bowles).

'Thin Man,' bought as a package, will be produced on the outside, but the program's supervision will fall to Benton & Bowles, since it will have far more stations in the hookup than Young & Rubicam. It was Y.&R. that contacted 'Thin Man's' owner, Norman Brown, when Jergens failed to pick up the option and called General Foods' attention to the show's availability. The reported price for the package is \$3,000, the same as was paid by Jergens.

Benton & Bowles will have a fill-in problem when it takes over the mystery. The original broadcast will run but 25 minutes (8:30-8:55 p.m.), while the rebroadcast at 12:30 a.m. EWT will have to consume a half-hour of running time. In the case of the Smith show, the solution was easy. All the producer had to do was add five minutes of band music.



"Teamed sponsorship"

If your product is out for the duration, you can "Keep 'em remembering" 52 weeks a year at 13-week cost.



Ask your Blue representative

to reserve you a copy of the new *Survey of Daytime Listening Habits*. Out soon!



Most homes per dollar

Truer than ever today. The BLUE can carry your message into more homes per dollar than any other national medium.

The Blue Network

A Radio Corporation of America Service

Thompson Renews All Spots; May Amplify Some

J. Walter Thompson is not only renewing all the spot accounts now carried on the agency's books, but is contemplating enlarging the booklets of several of them, particularly Superin, an asperin put out by the Carter's Little Liver Pills firm. Superin announcements are now cleared over but five stations.

The spot business bid for renewal for the initial 13 weeks of '43 are Mentholatum, Block Drug (Gold Medal Capsules), Old Gold, Lux and Ward Bread.

James Jewell Joins CBS Production Staff

Chicago, Dec. 22. James Jewell has resigned as vice-president in charge of radio of the MacFarland & Aveyard agency to join the CBS production staff here. Resignation was effective Dec. 16.

Jewell, who joined the agency last August, was previously radio director of the Stack-Goble agency and formerly program and production manager of WWJ, Detroit.

WMC May Broaden Its View of War Essentiality of Broadcasting Personnel

Washington, Dec. 22. War Manpower Commission is preparing to take a liberal view of the manpower situation in the radio broadcasting industry. There have been reports that WMC is inclined to regard as essential only those personnel in the broadcast field who are more or less directly concerned with the dissemination of news and information, a service which is looked upon by Government officials as essential.

However, Federal Communications Commission officials have been meeting with WMC officials and it is understood that they have repeatedly pointed out that the entire structure of broadcasting rests on the foundation of commercial broadcast, and that stations cannot exist solely for the purpose of broadcasting news and information unless the Government is prepared to subsidize them for this purpose.

Important factor in the consideration of the essentiality of the radio broadcasting industry and its personnel is that audiences must be built up and sustained. This cannot be done overnight, or in a short space of time. Without giving continuous service and without attracting listeners to tune in, the audience will not be developed. Audiences, it is well known, cannot be attracted at the will of the broadcaster.

This important factor will be given every consideration by WMC in arriving at its final conclusions respecting the essential character of personnel in radio broadcasting.

WMC will soon revise its list of critical occupations in the radio broadcasting industry. When the list is revised, within the next week or so, it will be found to include occupations listed as critical, which formerly were not so regarded.

The original list was issued by Selective Service, after certification by the WMC, in the middle of October and included all critical occupations in the communications industry. Information in telephone directory, radio broadcasting and newsreels.

Fly Optimistic

Chairman James L. Fly of the FCC told his press conference Monday (21) that he was optimistic about the eventual decision of the War Manpower Commission as to the essential character of the radio broadcasting industry and its personnel.

Staffs of FCC and WMG have held a number of consultations with each other. Chairman Fly said, "and I

N.O.'s 1st Femme Staff Gagger Makes Debut

New Orleans, Dec. 22. The long-expected has happened here. The city's first femme staff announcer has made her debut on the airwaves over WDSU. She is Judith Lawton, who formerly sang with bands.

Station's staff had been so hard hit by selective service during past few months that Joe Unahl, president of WDSU, decided to switch to femme talents. Miss Lawton handles commercials, remote control, news and sports during her shift at the mike.

Town also has femme sports commentator in Jill Jackson (WVU), but Miss Lawton is first girl to hold down regular announcer's berth.

ALL THAT TALK AND NOW NO POSTERITY

Washington, Dec. 22. Millions of words of public utterances and educational radio programs recorded on government-owned discs are to be scrapped in furtherance of the war effort. Office of Price Administration announced Saturday (19) that these discs will be melted down to add to the supply of vital materials used in the production of rubber substitutes and synthetic rubber. By its order, OPA freed the sales and transfer of used government-owned recording discs from price control in order to aid the War Production Board's drive to increase the available supply of the materials.

Government is among the large users of recording discs on which transcriptions are made. The records are made of high grade resin (polyvinyl chloride copolymer) which can be reclaimed and used again.

I think there is a very good prospect that they will come off with a pretty good understanding as to the essential character of the radio business and ultimately a recognition of all the essential features of that business.

Jane Crasberry's Reply Indicates Procrastination Shelved Gov't Program

New York.

Editor, 'Variety': My attention has just been called to an article which appeared in your column 'Inside Stuff-Radio' in your issue of Dec. 9, 1942, in which it was stated that my response to the abandonment of the 'Victory Volunteers' broadcasts over NBC; that the program of 'The Story of the Marine' was set for Nov. 23, and because of my failure to supply the scripts on time a substitute was made and the series postponed until Nov. 30; that when the second deadline approached, I submitted the same scripts as my regular serial, and it then being too late for OWI to obtain a substitute a second week in a row, the entire series was dropped.

I was approached in Oct. by Kirby Hawkes of Benton and Bowles to write a serial for the first of this broadcast, and was given the choice of either of the two subjects. 'The Alliance of the Marine' and 'The Marine', but was told that the broadcasts were planned for the latter part of November or the early part of December, but to do no work until I was further advised. In order that there might be no delay, however, I did, with considerable expense to myself, develop a plot for a story on each subject accepted, although I had received no confirmation or date of broadcast. I was quite surprised later to receive a letter from Mr. (Larry) Menkin of the OWI, dated Nov. 8, assigning me an entirely different subject, 'Conquer', with a large amount of material, which I was required to write and advised that scripts must be available for broadcast the week of Nov. 23. This was later confirmed in a letter from Mr. Hawkes dated Nov. 9.

In answer to Mr. Hawkes' suggestion that if this was not possible to let him know, I did immediately write Mr. Hawkes that it would be impossible to complete the subject in that length of time, and followed it up with an explanation of my situation. My assignment could be arranged to Nov. 30, and that I would submit a suggestion for a few days for his consideration.

Having heard nothing, I wired him on Nov. 18 as follows: "I am sure why could do Government script to use them as current 'Marin' plot two weeks a day, that having heard from you had to continue writing and planned on Nov. 30. Re-arranged my plot to fit and received a wire, 'Will let you know about Government show before noon tomorrow, (Nov. 20)."

I subsequently talked to Mr. Hawkes long distance, and he informed me that my proposal plan formed me with the approval of government for broadcast Nov. 30 and I proceeded accordingly and submitted my script and was shocked to receive a wire from Mr. Hawkes on Nov. 28. "Now completely bewildered. Notified this morning by NBC that Government show cancelled."

I had had no explanation for the cancellation other than that contained in your article. I feel that grave injustice has been done to me in that it has been made to appear that I have failed or been unwilling to cooperate with my country in the war effort when, as a matter of fact, I have personally incurred considerable expense and devoted a large amount of time so that I might make a contribution to the war in which I was most willing to do.

I feel I am in no way responsible for the cancellation of the broadcast, because at all times I kept Benton & Bowles advised of the situation that it was necessary for me to change my plot three times in order to work out the problem, and that I acted at all times under your instructions. I do not believe you wish to be unfair in any statements made in your publication and that you will, without delay, investigate the matter and print in an early edition a statement relieving me of the unfair accusation against me.

Jane Crasberry.

Bowling on Network
Cleveland, Dec. 22. Sammy Lavins, WKBF bowling addict, who in consultation with go coast-to-coast over Mutual beginning Jan. 2. Program will be called 'Tenpin Topical'.

Dancing Lesson a la Per Inquiry

The Metropolitan Advertising Co. of New York is offering broadcasters a per inquiry deal with a slightly different twist. The account, Miniature Ballroom, is in the business of selling large paper diagrams which, when laid out on the floor, serve as aids to self-instruction in dancing.

The agency's alternate propositions to stations are: (1) a specific amount of money will be allocated to the advertiser for the cost of that it will go on playing a schedule of quarter-hour programs of recorded dance music until it has pulled in sales, an amount equal to four times that of the payment. (2) a straight split of 33 1/3% on the proceeds from each order. The diagrams and instruction book sells for \$1.

Walt Framer and Pitt's WWSW Part After Tiff on Backstage Spotting

Texas Ad Agcys. Mergo

Pittsburgh, Dec. 22. Walt Framer, WWSW's ace announcer, and Linda Stadelman, who left parting of the ways recently after an association of more than 10 years. Managers of the Pittsburgh advertising Agency in a merger of the two local companies. Brooks volunteered as a private in the Army Force. Aniol will handle and service all accounts until Brooks returns.

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PITCHING FOR THE N. Y. RUBES

Cincinnati, Dec. 22.

NBC last week signed Merion Emmert, assistant farm program director of WLW, to take over Jan. 4 as farm program director of WFAA, New York. So far as is known here, WFAA is the first New York City station to establish such a post.

Cincinnati, Dec. 22.

Emmert joined WLW in 1939. He was studying agriculture at the Kansas State College and was one of the first two winners of WLW's Farm Scholarships, offered annually since then. These awards provide radio training with pay for six months at Crosby stations.

CORON'S NEW FCC POST

Washington, Dec. 22.

Marcus Cohn, Federal Communications Commission attorney, has been named chief of the law department inquiry and field operations division. He replaces Seymour Krieger who went into the Army.

STATION, PRODUCTION MGRS. OF KFRC IN NAVY

San Francisco, Dec. 22.

Both the station and production managers of KFRC, Don Lee-Mutual station here, are following the commission. He replaces Seymour Krieger who went into the Army.

Kansas City—John McKee, script editor at KMBC, has resigned to take public relations post at North American Aviation plant here.

Mel Venter vacates the job of production lieutenant in the Coast Guard. Successor to Venter will be Pat Kelly, a writer and producer at KFRC for eight years.

EACH OF OUR DISCOUNTS IS GUARANTEED TO BE ACCURATE

accurate

AND COMPANY

SOLE REGION REPRESENTATIVE

NEW YORK CHICAGO BOSTON

DETROIT PHILADELPHIA

HOUSTON LOS ANGELES

ST. LOUIS WASHINGTON

DETROIT'S FIRST STATION WWSW

ROBERT F. HOUSTON COMPANY

1000 W. WASHINGTON ST. DETROIT, MICH.

DETROIT'S FIRST STATION WWSW

Under-Calculation

Hollywood, Dec. 22.

Over-printing a studio as the means of combating gas rationing on the Coast boomeranged for Peñar & Ryan at recent broadcast of Screen Guild's "Mrs. Miniver." Figuring that there would be many protests due to the petrol squeeze, agency ordered 100 more tickets printed than the KNX would hold, being as a full house was due to the gala proportions of the program.

In addition to airing with the original stars of what is rated one of the best pictures of the year, Betty Davis also appeared to make the Red Book award to "Miniver." Ducat holders, sensing the magnitude of the affair, lined up early. When capacity was reached, KNX ushera shut the doors on a big crowd holding tickets. Rap was partially averted by rainchecks for the following week's broadcast, with some accepting and others leaving in a huff.

There'll be no more over-printing of KNX studios, no matter what, Lab has ruled.

HOWARD SHOPS FOR TIME IN 7 CITIES

Howard Clothes, having dropped its Mutual network show, shopping for local program deals, similar to its WNEW, N. Y., setup in the seven other cities in which the chain has retail outlets. These cities are Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, Providence and Worcester, Mass.

The switch to local coverage was pressed by Howard's renewal, last week, of its WNEW schedule for 52 weeks. This schedule uses 28 slots per week aimed at a maximum frequency of impression within the appropriation available. The schedule ranges from early morning to late evening shows, uses no spot announcements, has representation on each of the outlet's most popular shows.

Howard's 52-week renewal is interesting since Crawford Clothes, also a chain outfit, last week inked a 52-week renewal with WMCA, N. Y. However, these so-called non-cancellable renewals are viewed with skepticism by the trade, since every time contract now contains a war clause giving the sponsor an out in case of an Act of God, event's beyond the sponsor's control, raising, etc.

YOUNG, GRUENBERG ON P&G'S HAPPINESS

John S. Young will be the scripter and Axel Gruenberg the director of "Right to Happiness" when Procter & Gamble, through the Compton agency, brings the serial to New York starting Monday (28). Rights to the title were bought by the sponsor from Mrs. Phillips, its owner and former author. Ari Glad had recently been writing it for her, but he is expected to go into the Army and Miss Phillips did not want to let her own writing sell.

Contrary to general policy with Compton shows, "Right to Happiness" will be produced by the agency for the present, instead of being assigned to an outside package producer. Whether that will be a precedent for other of the agency's programs remains to be seen. There is some talk in the trade that it will, in line with a reported realignment of P. & G. policy.

With the shift in origination point and production setup, "Right to Happiness" will also change products from P. & G. Ivory soap to Ivory bar soap. It will continue at 3:45-4 p.m. on NBC and Corlis Wilbur will supervise here in Compton. "Against the Storm," which has been carrying the Ivory copy, goes off the air with Friday's (28) broadcast. It will be replaced in the 11:30-11:45 a.m. spot on NBC by William Ford and "Snow" which will be a winter show will plug P. & G. laundry soap and will also be handled by Compton.

Vick Buying Southern Spots for Vatrolol

Vick Chemical's latest spot announcement campaign is for Vatrolol, with markets for the time being limited to southern areas. The schedules, that will be placed will entail 15 spots a week for 13 weeks, starting Jan. 4.

Moise International is the agency.

Murray Young's 'Tour'

Cleveland, Dec. 22.

Murray Young, WJKN news commentator, is off on a tour to Washington, Boston and New York, where he will interview leading war figures for transcription broadcasts.

Young is sponsored by Carl Taylor & Son, in his absence, Art Mark handles the mike.

Directors Guild Admits 5 New Members; Set Off-Record Naval Talk

Radio Directors Guild admitted five additional new members at its regular membership meeting last week (14). Newcomers included Harry Ackerman of Young & Rubicam; Leonardo Bercevicoff, freelance; Walter Craig, Benton & Bowles; Guy Della Cioppa, CBS, and John Taylor, Peñar & Ryan.

Preluding the meeting there was an off-the-record talk by Commander Sidney Bunting, flag secretary of the eastern coast, U. S. Navy, the first a series of such appearances by Army, Navy and Marine officers to familiarize the directors with the work of the armed services, with the idea of improving the quality and authenticity of programs dealing with the war.

Trey-Carl Schon is new announced at WREY. He had been with WORC, Worcester, Mass.

NBC Claims Big Listener Margin In Preliminary Results of Survey

Charles B. Brown, NBC director of advertising and promotion, last week explained at a trade luncheon the mechanics and preliminary results obtained in the network's latest survey of nationwide listening habits. The probe this time used 2,100,000 cards, as compared to the 1,400,000 used in '40 and approximately 255,000 usable replies were received. The return figured 12% or 1% better than it had been for the 1940 survey.

Out of the preliminary analysis of the cards has come the first of two proposed promotional works, "A Tale of 412 Cities." NBC's claim is that in these towns of 2,000 population or more, its lead on the question of stations listened to most was nearly four to one over the nearest competitive network. The daytime breakdown along similar lines will be contained in the second volume.

The nighttime analysis treats city by city in individual breakdowns.

- The four questions posed by the NBC postcard were:
1. What radio stations do you and your family listen to regularly at night after dark?
 2. Which one of these stations do you listen to most at night after dark?
 3. What radio stations do you and your family listen to regularly during daylight hours?
 4. Which one of these stations do you listen to during daylight hours?

Sidney Flamm, vice-president and commercial manager of WPAT, Puterson, will be working out of N. Y. after the first of the year, when the station opens sales offices.



HAL P. MILLS For East

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE PEOPLE OF

Tunisia, New Guinea, India

As Pearl Harbor flamed into total war, news dispatches of the conflict were flooded with names of strange places known only to most people in legend and story. For almost immediately the need became apparent for fuller understanding, greater knowledge of the countrymen our soldiers would meet in waging global war.

The significance of news happenings would be clearer, we felt, if our listeners understood the political background, the mingled race heritages, the conflicting national aims of countries on whose soil war would be fought.

Accordingly, nine months ago, we inaugurated the World Front Guest Observer series. This series has brought to the microphone nearly a score of people who are peculiarly fitted by reason of profession or

nationality to give authentic background information on the nations which have become a part of the theatre of war. They have given revealing accounts of its political, social and economic aspects in Europe, the Far East, Russia, Burma, Czechoslovakia, Holland, North Africa and many other countries.

World Front Guest Observers augment what is perhaps the most comprehensive independent station news coverage in radio. WLW is served by all of the major American news services—AP, WIDE WORLD, INS, and UP—plus the dispatches of Reuters, famous European agency. No expense has been spared to assemble an able staff of news writers, reporters and commentators who rewrite and present the news in radio style to fit the listening requirements of the Middle Western audience.

New names are being added continuously to the list of distinguished men and women who have appeared as guests on the "World Front Observer" series. WLW welcomes your suggested names of new arrivals from war fronts, who in your opinion might contribute to the interest of this series.



Agency Moves By Band, After Losing Original Leader, Poses Legal Problem

Recent switch of Dick Stabile's orchestra from MCA to General Amusement—under the patronage of Marie (Mrs. Stabile) will probably pose a unique problem when the war is over, posing it when the war is over, posing it when the war is over. Stabile was under contract to MCA for 10 weeks, with seven years. Stabile was in the Coast Guard that part is not enforceable insofar as the band is concerned, making it possible for Marie Barrie to move to GAC under his name.

However, if Stabile is released from the CG within the seven-year period, his MCA contract will be void and he will not be able to return to his band unless he brings it back to MCA. Since the band is now tied to GAC, Stabile will be forced to either rebuild another band for himself, or Marie Barrie will have to get a release from GAC.

Billy Burton, manager of Jimmy Dorsey last week bought personnel management contract on Miss Barrie from Herman Bernie, who has accepted her services for about seven years. She and her band go into the Blackhawk Cafe, Chicago, for eight weeks, with option for two more.

Bob Crosby's "New York" orchestra will be playing at the GAC this week. After Crosby drops his baton to begin acting at Metro, he and his band will be taken over by Eddie Miller, sax, and, after tomorrow (24), it will be booked by GAC. This arrangement has been in the works for weeks, with Miller finally giving GAC authorization last Thursday (17).

While a certain amount of enmity is created by switches of this type from one agency to another, particularly in these times of acute shortage of good bands, the feeling between agencies doesn't grow too hot. If the original leaders remain with the groups and shifted bands will be difficult to get under the circumstances surrounding the moves and Crosby's move to Metro, bands are so much in demand that have to be built just like a new one. Once a leader meets the name value of the leader, it's recognition, selling price and all else goes to the level of a completely new organization.

BARNET 1ST OF AGENCY TO PLAY REGAL, CHICAGO

When Charlie Barnet takes his orchestra into the Regal theatre, Chicago, starting Jan. 22; his will be the first white band to play the color house. Barnet's orchestra has been one of the few white orch leaders to play the Apollo, N. Y.

Barnet's Chi. booking was set by Harry Levine, Paramount booker in N. Y. Latter has also booked into the Regal for weeks Jan. 8. Tate Waller and Deep River Boys.

Griff Williams, currently at the Empire Room, Palmer House Chicago, moves into the Chicago theatre Jan. 29, also booked by Par.

Road Hazards Catch Up With McIntyre in Balto

Baltimore, Dec. 22.—Transportation difficulties hit Hal McIntyre and his orch on his opening engagement at Hippodrome here Thursday (17). Jumping from Boston, McIntyre's trunks went astray with no instruments or music and had for noontime teecoff. With a tracer on job, theatre threw in an advance on short substitute hoping for only slight delay, but when none of the missing trunks showed, an announcement of cancellation was delay coupled with an offer of redemption tickets, was made from the stage.

After a hectic hour, McIntyre's instruments were borrowed from music friends and accommodating locally minded orchestra was used in the evening singly, missing baggage finally made in time for last show of the day nine p.m.

Yusuf Monroe steps out of the Commodore hotel Jan. 21 to start a 10-week tour of theatre dates, opening at the Hipp, Baltimore. Williams—Morris agency set the bookings.

Jerry Wald Dissolves Corporation of Band

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Jerry Wald, Inc., New York, has been dissolved, according to papers filed with the Secretary of State by A. Edward Masters, New York attorney.

A. Edward Masters, personal manager and financial backer of Wald's orchestra, asserts that the dissolution of Jerry Wald, Inc., portends a new service, pointing out that the leader has parental dependencies.

In addition, he states that a location booking is being sought for the outfit, after its forthcoming stay at the Sherman hotel, Chicago, which should satisfy any ideas re a break-up of the band.

Penny Refuses Big Instruments; Sloughs Dance

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Hundreds of dollars in admissions were turned back by the management of the Brookline Country Club Saturday night (19) when Gary Gordon's orchestra, skedged to play the spot, were held up for almost three hours by transportation difficulties.

Trouble began when Pennsylvania Railroad officials refused to allow the band to take its music library and a base fiddle aboard the train in New York. Most of the band went ahead, a few remaining behind in the hopes that they would be allowed to lug the stuff on a later train.

When the first contingent arrived to Philly, they enlisted the aid of Jimmy Tyson, booker for the Brookline. He scouted around town for a bass and sent it out to the country club by cab. The crowd became restive when no music was forth-

Woody Herman
Tells of 'What Music Our Boys in the Camps Like'
an Added Feature to 'Show Business At War'
theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

Prisco House Makes Only 1 Break in Orch Policy in 15 Weeks

San Francisco, Dec. 22.—The tremendous pulling power of bands has prompted the Golden Gate theatre to break an orch of one kind or another as its last show for the past 14 consecutive weeks. This sequence will be broken tomorrow (Wed.) when the vaudeville house will play variety acts with RKO's 'Once Upon a Honeymoon', but the band will be back again January 1.

Spivak grosses, topped by a \$42,000 new house record for Kay Kyster's appearance, have prevailed all along a line for the 14 weeks of orch engagements.

Stevens Rejoins Spivak

Gray Stevens has returned temporarily to his spot as vocalist with Charlie Spivak's orchestra. He left Spivak about a month ago to enlist in the Army Air Force and, after being accepted, he was placed in the reserve and told he wouldn't be called for at least five months.

Spivak opened Thursday (17) at the Pennsylvania hotel, N. Y., replacing Bob Allen. He stays there until Feb. 4, when Jimmy Dorsey comes in. Stevens rejoined Spivak on opening night, displacing Al Noble, who may go with Abe Lyman's reorganized band.

coming and began besleeking the boxoffice. At 11 p.m. the music arrived, but by this time only a comparative handful of dancers were left. A broadcast over WCAU was cancelled.

High Salary Demands By Individual Musicians Seen Crippling Medium Bands; Pay Ceiling May Help

Dexter, Gastel Team Up As Band Mgr. Combo

Dave Dexter, former writer and publicity agent, has gone into band managing as an associate of Charlie Gastel. Dexter will devote most of his time for the present to Jimmy Dunham, remaining with him until after Dunham's New Yorker Hotel, N. Y. date, which opens Jan. 4. After that he will handle all eastern dates, while Gaele remains on the Coast. Duo has Stan Kenton and Benny Carter in addition to Dunham.

Dexter lately was with Jimmy Dorsey as advance publicity rep and writer of the band's Navy E award show, which is now being done by Charlie Spivak.

Gas Emergency Gives Roaderies Drastic Preview

Sudden cancelling of most of the different gasoline ration card classifications over the past weekend gave the various suburban N. Y. roadhouses a preview of what a permanent drastic curtailment might mean. Frank Dailley's Meadowbrook, Cedar Grove, N. J., was off at least 50% Saturday (19) evening; Sunday matinee was almost a complete washout, but Sunday evening trade snipped back almost to normal when it was learned that gas sales would be resumed Monday morning.

Dailley asserts that Cab Calloway's band played to about 600 Saturday, Sunday afternoon, and between 800-700 Sunday night. Bad weather, of course, might have helped kill the road, bitter cool. At Loeb Cabin, Bronx (Joe Marsala orchestra) trade was also off badly, to what extent couldn't be learned. Same applied to Glen Island Casino, New Rochelle, N. Y., with Bobby Sherwood band.

Constantly increasing salaries demanded by musicians to play in orchestras has been one of the most serious handicappers and booking agencies considerably bothered. Sky-high salaries have been demanded for almost any kind of job, but particularly for road work. It's more than a position, it's a status of abnormal salaries, fewer working opportunities, doubled transportation costs and the various other vital problems now facing leaders, will eventually kill off many of the medium class orchestras.

Salaries, however, are the most important problem at the moment. Many leaders are cutting back, making only \$75 weekly, six months ago now six anything less than \$125, and offering less than \$100. The sale price of the average road has not substantially increased in the last six months during which most bands were forced from cars onto expensive rails, the effect of higher individual salaries is obvious.

Many musicians change jobs so frequently it is impossible to keep track of them. Many are virtually always based on a salary somewhere else, offered by a band. Usually in need of re-placements. This one or another of a group of musicians who didn't meet the bill, they were sent more money. They simply sent themselves virus signed by top leaders, but the money didn't hold them the leader they worked with topped the offer only.

Some leaders are warning that the Internal Revenue Bureau can do anything they please according to rules regarding a musician's salary. Some leaders are warning that the Internal Revenue Bureau can do anything they please according to rules regarding a musician's salary. Some leaders are warning that the Internal Revenue Bureau can do anything they please according to rules regarding a musician's salary.

On the other hand a representative of the Treasury in N. Y. flatly stated last week that there is no musician is concerned. "No leader can pay more for any particular position than he was paying last Oct. 3, 1942, without permission." That is odd with the above interpretation in the drivers seat via the law of supply and demand. And they're making the most of the situation.

BATON FOLLOWS MILLER INTO ARMY AIR FORCE

Capt. Glenn Miller is being moved from Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala. into the next week or two to Atlantic City, where he will build a dance orchestra for the Army Air Force. As soon as the band is established in Atlantic City, it's understood it will begin a series of sustaining broadcasts on a national network. If that materializes, it will be the first service outfit used in this way.

Miller was transferred to Maxwell Field less than a month ago, following a five-week training course at Fort Meade, Md. He's now in the regular Army, having been shifted from the Specialized Air Corps when that branch was abolished.

Donahue's Reorg

Al Donahue has reorganized his orchestra and is booked to open at the Hollywood Saturday (20). Donahue disbanded his orchestra several months ago to help out on his California farm and recuperate from a series of operations.

After breaking up the group and before vacationing, Donahue was a guest leader at the Roxy theatre, N. Y., for several weeks.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER of VARIETY

To Be Published Soon

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Band B.O. Dull; Wald Light 31G In N. Y., Allen, 4G, N.G. in Newark, Brown, \$12,500, Blitzed in Pittsburgh

(Estimates)
Bob Allen, Newark (Adams; 1,500; 23-40-37-39)—Paired with 'Powder Toss' (RKO) and 'The Girl' featuring *Mina Green*. Band and show drew *14,000* but show was a flop. *14,000* in *1942* showing major obstacles and lineup doesn't figure to haul much *\$14,000*.

Les Brown, Pittsburgh (Stanley; 3,000; 30-41-55-56)—With 'Flying Fortresses' (WB). First time for young Duke U band leader in a theatre here and everything's against him. The picture, however, is at *\$12,500*. WB deluser will be hitting pretty close to all-time low in its recent slough.

Woody Herman, New York (Paramount; 3,604; 35-55-65-66-110)—Mounts *31G* with *Harry Scott*, other *31G* on stage. 'Road to Morocco' (Par) on screen. Continued pull of other *31G* on screen. *31G* brought strong *\$11,000* on the sixth week ended last night (Tuesday). *31G* will be in *1942* with *Harry Scott*. *31G* begins today (Wednesday) and marks the first time any show will have remained at the Paris box.

Ada Leonard, San Francisco (Gold-Dome; 2,800; 44-55-75)—With 'Army Surgeon' (RKO). Okay *\$20,000* month, by an open appeal.

Paul Laureford, Providence (Metropolitan; 2,300; 30-40-50)—Plus 'Neath Brooklyn Bridge' (Mono). *31G* *\$1,000* in theatres.

Frankie Master, Boston (RKO Boston; 1,300; 44-55-65-66-110)—With 'Army Surgeon' (RKO). *31G* *\$1,200* in theatres.

Hal McIntyre, Baltimore (Hippodrome; 2,240; 17-28-38-44-56)—With 'Seven Miles from Alcatraz' (Col) and stage show headed by Modernaires. Band and stage show helping this to salaries of *\$14,000*.

Chris Bimac, New York (State; 39-44-55-75-80-110)—With 'Guy Kibbee, New York Park on stage. *31G* *\$1,000* in theatres. Picture was milked on first-run at the moment, whether or not other current anti-b.O. factors, accounts for only around *\$10,000*, very slow.

Jerry Wald, New York (Strand; 35-45-55-65-110)—With 'Flying Fortresses' (WB) on screen. Only about *\$10,000* seen, rather mild, and gets only the one week.

Duchin Ducks Morale Post; Wants Action

Lieut. Edwy Duchin again turned down a Navy offer of 'morale' work. He, say, stand behind and entertain the boys, and to hold another Brooklyn Navy Yard official that the reason he went through Northwestern U. naval academy schooling was expressly for combat duty. Duchin says there has been a lot of boys overseas need entertainment more than the soldiers, sailors and marines in training within the confines of the U. S. Accordingly, by his desk duty, he has a naval officer. Duchin feels that as a naval officer he could bring his pianology to the service of U. S. troops.

Duchin is now New York awaiting assignment to a P.C. (Patrol Cruiser) boat, for offshore duty. Incidentally, a Ripley is the fact that the commanding officer will be Lt. Cdr. Ambrose Chambers, long-time friend, who stood up for him at his wedding to the late Marjorie Oelrichs. He is a 500,000-to-one shot that such a thing could happen, with the civilian band and their salaries assigned to the same craft. *1942*, Friday night (18) at the Hotel Plaza, N. Y. Service being his staff for a Ship's Service gala. He was a case of an officer performing for sailors. This is the patriotic service wherein such show biz stars as Mrs. Bessie Coleman, Mrs. Sherwood, Mrs. Ellen (Ivring) Berg, Mrs. Minnie Astor, Mrs. W. Averell (Marie) Harriman, Mrs.

CARTOONIST-MAESTRO CUGAT NOW DOES BOTH

James Cugat, who has been the subject of a cartoon called 'Cartoonist as a band leader'—and vice versa—type of ribbing, reverts to his art as a cartoonist for the King Features syndication. The Waldorf-Astoria maestro is a facile caricaturist, and does a series, in color, of dancers and costumes of Latin American countries, which will appear in *1942* weeklies.

Starting Jan. 30 he will also do a daily feature 'The Birthday of the President' Roosevelt, featuring of this series.

For some time the men in the band have been telling Cugat to give up the band and continue his cartooning, and various artists have told him to give up cartooning and continue in the band business. So Cugat has fooled both sides. *1942* line with the band and cartooning.

One-Niters Hit By Gas-Weather: Rey's Big \$2,900

(Estimates)
McFarlan, New York (Totem Pole B. Auburndale, Mass. Dec. 16-19)—McFarlan's band followed by the theatre past five weekends, but they couldn't buck strident gas rationing. The bits cold over past weekend, big dipped to 3,000 in four days. At *\$1,45* per date amounted to *\$2,175*.

Rey, New York (Cherry B. Dec. 19)—Rey broke the season's record here, drawing 2,900 dancers in his last.

Dick Rogers-Tony Brown (Raymond-Playboy B., Boston, Dec. 18-19)—Rogers and local Brown outfit paired in twin ballrooms did average weekend business here, playing 1,900 people, 2,000-4,000, at 75-80¢ for good gross of *\$3,120*.

Band Bookings

Leslie Frims, Jan. 8, week, Fay's theatre, Philadelphia; 22-24, Temple theatre, Rochester, N. Y.

Camel Barker, Frank Sirand B., Baltimore; 2, Keith's Rock, White Rock, 3, Westchester C. C., Bill Plains, N. Y.; 20-21, Theatrical Waterbury, Conn.; 22-24, Lyric theatre, Bridgeport, Conn.; 25-27, State theatre, Hartford, Conn.; 28-31, Theatre, Hartford, Conn.; 1-3, State theatre, Hartford, Conn.; 4-8, Lyric theatre, Bridgeport; 11-13, Plymouth theatre, Hartford, Conn.; 14-16, Temple theatre, Rochester, N. Y.; 19-21, Stanley theatre, Utica, N. Y.; 27-28, State theatre, Buffalo.

Henry Busse, Dec. 29-31, Palace theatre, Columbus, Jan. 1, week, Oriental theatre, Chicago; 3-14, Oriental theatre, Chicago.

Jack Teagarden, Jan. 22-23, Temple theatre & Lee, Lexington, Va.

Doc King, Jan. 8-11, Temple theatre, Rochester, N. Y.; 12-14, Stanley theatre, Uta, N. Y.; 27-28, Palace theatre, Buffalo.

Bobby Sherwood, Jan. 8, week, State theatre, Newark, N. J.

Earl Hines, Jan. 15, week, Apollo theatre, New York; 22-28, Royal theatre, Baltimore.

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Doc King, Jan.

Inside Stuff—Orchestras

Arthur Murray
on
'Wartime Dance Styles'
An Added Feature in
'Show Business
At War'
theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

802 WILL O'UZ
OBERSTEIN ON
RECORDINGS

White Bands Requests for Buses Conclusively Rejected by Army

FEINBERG TRIES TO SAVE WPA 'MUSIC PROJECT'

William Feinberg, secretary of Local 802, the musicians union in New York City, is endeavoring to attempt to save the WPA War Music Project. With the recent presidential election, this project is slated for the scrap heap unless it can be carried by another Government or privately subsidized.

Understood that the union is anxious to keep the setup active, not so much for the number of men involved, which is comparatively minute, but because the WPA provided the music for many war veterans. If disbanded, the union will have to handle the litchy problem of providing or rejecting requests for free music for these affairs.

John Hammond's recent attempts to request negotiations with the Army and ODT for busses for white bands was a complete failure. Officials with whom the volunteer conductor talked in Washington were emphatic in their refusal to entertain any ideas for allotting busses for the use of white bands in any part of the country, and the problem is now a dead issue. This was the second time Hammond received rebuff. First time was several months ago when a plan to ration busses for white bands almost went through, in fact it went so far that Dick Stabile's orchestra had a truck shipped for coverage by bus. At the last minute it was cancelled.

With the general tightening of all kinds of transportation, particularly the shortage of gasoline along the eastern seaboard, it's feared that the special dispensation granted by the ODT several months ago for busses for colored bands will be rescinded, as has been feared. Negro outfits have already been allowed to be shipped for four or five months, but only in the south because of the Jim Crow regulations on trains.

Jurgens, Tops In Chi, Dropping Baton For Army

Dick Jurgens is being forced to forego a scheduled film for Metro, for which he and his band would have been paid a total of approximately \$40,000, to go into service. Jurgens disbands his orchestra Jan. 17 preparatory to entering the Army. Had he made the film it would have been his first.

Now 31 Jurgens organized his band in California 13 years ago, but didn't achieve any prominence until about six years ago during a stay at the Drake Hotel, Chicago. His old, now at the Aragon Ballroom in Chicago, is perhaps the most popular outfit in that territory, surpassing even the Dorseys, Hermans, James and other nationally recognized groups. Until last summer Jurgens was known in the east only by his recordings. Then he came east and clicked in Boston, Frank Dalley's Melrose, in Cedar Rapids, N. J., and the Strand theatre, N. Y. Most of the members of the band are Buddy Morens, singer, is enlisting in the Army Air Force. Some of the men are going to war production, including Tom Louquading, pianist-arranger.

ABE LYMAN FILES VS. BILLY ROSE FOR 180

Abe Lyman, orchestra leader, filed suit on 11/18/42 in N. Y. supreme court Thursday (17), charging Billy Rose Expositions, Inc. with breach of contract. A show and recording pressing the trial of suit for Lyman and 14 band musicians charges Rose signed a contract for 180 at Barbary Coast exhibit at N. Y. World's Fair in 1940, with stipulations that Lyman and his musicians' normal place of intention to close. Lyman charges that through spurious transfer of ownership band was laid off with stipulated notice, but that exhibit continued for Fair's duration.

Rose won previous court decision held in escrow with N. Y. musician's local was ordered returned to Lyman. Rose had appointed a trustee decision against him in the Lyman matter, with the court finding that the union was out of order holding Rose's coin.

20th Signs Calloway

Cab Calloway's orchestra has been signed for a future film by 20th Century Fox. The date of the date has been assigned the latter, no any detail, as to the vehicle. Money was lost and the latter were both recently signed by 20th. Fox to five-year deals. Herman is to be assigned to the picture. Glenn Miller would have done had he not gone into the army.

PHILLY V TOOTERS CUT UP 40G MELON

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.

Local 77, American Federation of Musicians, has received a \$40,000 melon for its members with the distribution of money held in escrow by the union. The money came as a pre-Christmas windfall to the tooters whose last week only a \$20,000—50% of their pay having been held back by the local because the spot they worked was under suspicion.

The escrow system was put in operation about a year ago and, according to union officials, has virtually eliminated the delinquency of back-bills in Philly. Under the system, employers must pay musicians wages directly to the union, which holds back from 25 to 50%. This leaves a tooter with just enough to live on, making it impossible for him to kick-back—even if he wanted to. The escrow system isn't returned to the tooters until the delinquency of the engagement, and therefore would not be under obligation of pressure from the employer.

White's Vocalist Gaily On Minor's Charge In S. F.; Violinist Freed

San Francisco, Dec. 22. One member of Ran Wilder's orch pleaded guilty here to a charge of contributing to the delinquency of two minor girls, 12 and 13, and a second musician was found guilty of contributing to the delinquency of a minor girl. Judge Thomas Foley, Russell Shores, 20, vocalist, who, 12, and a 13-year-old girl, had consorted with her twice in the hotel at which the band was playing. The girl, 12, was charged with plea and was released on \$250 bail, pending his probation hearing January 15. The girl, 13, was charged with consorting Elmo F. Cozza, 21, violinist, who was found innocent by the arrest of several members of the orch, while it was playing at the San Francisco Drake hotel here, on the charge of contributing to the girl's delinquency. The girl, 13, brought on a juvenile delinquency investigation.

Philly's brass band tooters are still waiting for the musicians union to come across with the coin for fancy uniforms so the brass band with the flashy rigs of the non-pros (American Legion, Elks, etc.) get themselves some parade jobs. Three months ago, the brass band mentioned Philly Local 77 to advance the money out of its treasury, so they wouldn't put on a ludicrous and humiliating display with patched-up uniforms. The local would take the money back, by deduction from the amount received on each parade.

But although Local 77's executive board looked upon the petition favorably, it must be acted upon by the entire membership. Due to many musicians doing parade jobs, they are next in line, and that most of them are busy elsewhere, there hasn't been a membership meeting for almost six months because of lack of quorum. So meanwhile the veterans' bands, with the scanty, old femme drum majors, are taking the play away from the 77ers on parade.

Essex House hotel, N. Y., is unusual among hostilities that say name bands. During the past couple months, the other major N. Y. hotels were digging deep to find capable name outfits, this spot graciously released two major combinations from signed contracts because both wanted to play theaters and cash in as long as they could before the war interrupted their careers.

Sammy Kaye was set to open at the Essex House Oct. 29, but since he is a candidate for a Navy commission the hotel let him out of a three-month agreement to play theaters in return for which Kaye got two holiday weeks (opened last Thursday, 17). Second release was handed Tommy Tucker. He was supposed to follow Kaye Jan. 5, but has been let out to fulfill a series of theater dates. Both bands have proved strong draws for the hotel in the past.

The recount of the votes cast for the executive and trial boards during the recent election of N. Y. Local 802, American Federation of Musicians, has only verified the original count.

The recount was requested by both the Blue and Uity groups and was held on 12/22/42 at the Essex House, N. Y., which ran off the election. The HBA favors a recount any time an election is decided by a differential of 1% or less of the total vote. The total vote was about 67,000 and the consensus of both the trial and executive board the difference was less than 67 votes.

What some bandleaders have to put up with these days, in view of the fast turnover in musicians, was a recent experience of a name outfit. Leader was forced to fire a sax player last week in Florida and to replace him with a musician out of a local band.

Two nights later he was also forced to let the replacement go. During a number he noticed strange notes mingling with those of the tune the band was playing. Investigating, he found the notes were from a man drinking, unconcernedly playing an entirely different tune than the rest of the men.

Benedictory of Duke Ellington's Carnegie Hall, New York, concert on Jan. 23 will be Russian War Relief. Prices for tickets have been ranged from \$2.50, with boxes at whatever the traffic will bear, to a differential for charity.

Ellington's music program is not definitely set, but will be made up of a variety of music written by the composer, plus new experimental and symphony for the showing. Irving Kolodin, New York's main music critic, will write program notes. It will be Ellington's initial Carnegie Hall appearance.

Carrying spare musicians as protection against sudden loss of men to the draft seems to be growing. Tommy Dorsey is currently toting two extra trumpet players, insurance against being left short-handed. There's a good possibility that he'll soon have to use one, as Ray Lyman, long-time member, reports for a physical this week.

Tommy Dorsey first tested the idea of carrying extra men, but it almost backfired on him. He carried one spare trumpet, but before any of his four set men were called the spare was docketed for a physical. He consequently drew a 4-F.

Jerry Wald, clarinet-playing mackinaw now at the Strand theatre, N. Y., is one of those everything-happens-at-once fellows. He was playing his first day at the theatre last week, picking up a clarinet to play a solo, he found a key stuck; grabbing a second he almost blew up when he found the other key on that clarinet. He then returned to the stage, where it came apart.

Excels are scanning the field for a good name band for the President's birthday celebration in Washington. Orchestra will probably be spotted in the new Hotel Statler on 16th street. Mrs. Roosevelt will be the birthday cake at the event, with the usual musical setup. Leader also comes in for a White House luncheon invitation.

Event this year falls on Saturday, Jan. 30, the big day in the week for the big bands. In addition to the usual parade, the parade will feature the play big event for the colored population at the Lincoln Colonnade.

Coca-Cola company, which is providing a jazz band to travel overseas and entertain servicemen, is also providing a band for the transport of the group from point to point. It will also pick up the men's chow tabs despite the fact they will eat at the camps they play. The band will be headed by Stan Shubert, who has been investigated by the FBI made minute investigations of the past history of each member.

New commercial on WCAE, for Duquesne Brewing Co., will make Bran Elliott just about one of the busiest band leaders in Pittsburgh. In addition to his beer-bankrolled show every Monday night for half an hour, Elliott and his outfit are employed by day at the staff band at Healey's location here on nights. Healey's, roushouse danceery, where he's been for more than two months now.

Jimmy Dorsey's stage show at the Strand theatre, N. Y., opening Friday (Xmas Day) with 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' will be the shortest the house has ever presented. With one act, Billy Rayes, in addition to the band and his singers, the show will run 35 minutes on weekends and 30 minutes weekdays. Short stage show is a first for Dorsey, in a career of more than 60 of the great length (two hours, 16 minutes) of 'Dandy.'

Several playing Boston musicians have recently reported to police their band of instruments with the name of the band, John Kirby's band, who discovered the loss of his clarinet eight minutes before starting a broadcast. Bailey planned to New York to replace the instrument.

Joan Beaz, who quit Howley Baum band on account of 'lively' Baum and a Queen (Arlene Day), 40 also made her debut with the band at the Merry-Gold-Round, Pittsburgh, Jan. 11, replacing Dorothy In private life, she's Mrs. Baum. Matthews and her Esquires.

Hearst's Sunday Weekly Enters into New Plug Deal With Bandleaders

Hearst's American Weekly, Sunday magazine section, has agreed with a group of nationally known bandleaders, to exploit popular tunes selected as future hits by the leaders involved. Series of six tunes will be run on the first page of the magazine section, with one run on back page of comic section beginning Jan. 10. Since the tunes cannot be secured by each leader and released coincident with the magazine (APM forbids bands to release each bandleader has agreed that he would arrange each of the six tunes this own and the other and exploit them on radio broadcasts.

A sign M. M. R.'s 'Marching Through Bed' will be the first number monitored. Sammy Kaye's 'Bobbie-e Bobbie-o' is second, and others are by Tommy Dorsey, Shep Fields, Hal McIntyre, and Freddy Martin. Dorsey, Kaye and Martin own their own publishing firm.

Rebuilding Fire-Destroyed Rustic Cabin in Jersey

Rustic Cabin, Englewood Cliffs, N. J., early one which burned to the ground, is being rebuilt. Upon its completion it will return to the name band policy it employed before the blaze. Teddy Powell's band was at the spot then, and most of his instruments were lost. About six months ago Abe Lyman began negotiations to help finance the reconstruction of the spot, but plans fell through. Backing has apparently been obtained elsewhere.

Fox, Finney Talking New Deal, But Probe of AMP's Books Going Ahead

Harry Fox, agent and trustee on mechanical rights, and G. M. Finney, head of Associated Music Publishers, Inc., last week entered into negotiations for a new contract covering music used in recorded radio libraries. Fox's clients are asking that the fee as affecting 1943 be retroactive to \$15 per master.

The Fox-Finney discussion had been preceded by the fact that Finney had scored Fox before a district meeting of the National Association of Broadcasters asking for \$15, as contrasted to the 1942 fee of \$10, and Fox had lashed back at Finney for allegedly trying to use the NAB to repudiate an understanding upon which the \$10 fee had been based. While the two were engaged in verbal scolding, two publishers that formerly licensed their library participants through Fox made individual deals with AMP. The pubs were Mills Music, Inc. and E. H. Moe.

Fox stated last week that his negotiations with Finney would not lead to the shelving of his announced investigation of the AMP's books and records in regard to an accounting of masterpieces for the making of discs for Muzak. The new blanket contract and the probe of records will be handled by Fox and his auditors would proceed with their task whether or not the AMP signs up by Dec. 31.

Copyr't Owners Must Report All Alien Interests

Washington, Dec. 22. Music publishers, theatrical and motion picture producers and all others claiming an interest in a copyright, in which a national of an enemy or enemy country is concerned, also has an interest, must submit a report to the Alien Property Custodian, who was ordered to issue this order. This order supplements one issued last month by Leo T. Crowley, Alien Property Custodian, in connection with transactions in copyrights between Americans and nationals of enemy or enemy-occupied countries.

Reports must be filed by Jan. 15, 1943, by all American exploiters of copyrighted works in which designated foreign nationals are known to have an interest. In addition to a description of the various interests in the copyrighted work, financial reports must be made on all contracts covering the copyright under which royalties have been paid or are payable to foreign nationals. Copies of all copyright contracts entered into with foreign subjects since Jan. 1, 1939, must also be supplied.

The action taken under General Order No. 14, will also affect master licensing associations, radio broadcasting affiliations, and owners of records and electrical transmissions. Copyrightholders and all agents dealing in copyrighted works on a non-exclusive basis, which is called Form APC-18, will be sent directly by the Alien Property Custodian, a list of the widely known copyright exploiters. Others can obtain forms from the Custodian's office at New York, New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

Publishers' Third Big Clerical Job
The music publishing industry and the various performing rights organizations are being hit hard with massive clerical jobs as the result of an order issued last week by the Alien Property Custodian, which Crowley. They are required to report in detail all royalties or other income accruing from the exploitation of copyrighted works of authors and composers of enemy or conquered countries since Jan. 1, 1939. This information is to include any agreements made with the same class of writers and composers, and their foreign publishers, since the same date. The A.P.C.'s deadline for this data is Jan. 15, 1943. The catalogs of most of the large publishers con-

Powers Does It

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Coast songwriters can finally say, "one of our boys made it." He's Dick Powers, ASCAP's Pacific western district supervisor, who was elected president of Encino Chamber of Commerce and office carrier for the agent of many of the nearby valley concentration of radio and picture artists who can afford an orange grove. Powers succeeds Jim Jordan (Fisher's Melroe) who resigned as a board member. Installation ceremonies will be held at Edward Everett Horton's barn Jan. 12. (A barn on an Encino estate is not like a barn on a Iowa farm.)

AA WRITERS' 3G THIS QUARTER

Publisher and writer members of ASCAP received their royalty checks yesterday for the quarter ending March 31, 1942, and the average AA songwriter for that share was the biggest paid for any quarter in the current year. The average payoff for that class of writer this time was \$3,000. The AA writers' average for the previous quarter, ending Sept. 30, was \$2,400, while the split for that quarter ending June 30 had given him \$2,800.

The plun dredged for distribution by ASCAP directors for the final 1942 quarter amounted to \$1,500,000, as compared to the \$1,062,000, as compared to for the previous three quarters.

The top strata of ASCAP writers collected much less during '42 than they had during 1941 and 1940, principally due to the fact that 250 new members had been added with the last 18 months.

Long length lists of such works, although there have been hardly any agreements entered with composers or publishers in continental Europe since the invasion of France in 1940. The starting period of the information sought by the Custodian goes back eight months before the outbreak of the World War II. The performing rights organizations particularly affected are ASCAP, SESAC and Associated Music Publishers, Inc.

10 Best Sellers on Com-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country, as reported by operators to Variety; Names of publishers, whose records are being played, figures and names in parentheses indicate the number of weeks such work has been in the listings and respective publishers.)

- 1. White Christmas (10) (Berlin)..... Decca
- 2. When Lights Go On (8) (CLP)..... Decca
- 3. Why Don't You Fall Love (8) (Harms)..... Decca
- 4. Had Craziest Dream (3) (BVC)..... Decca
- 5. Deeply Beloved (4) (Chappell)..... Decca
- 6. There Are Such Things (4) (Yankee)..... Decca
- 7. Five By Five (6) (Leeds)..... Decca
- 8. Manhattan Serevade (7) (Robbins)..... Decca
- 9. Daybreak (7) (Feist)..... Decca
- 10. Probe Lord (10) (Famous)..... Decca

(These records are directly below first 10 in popularity. Tunes with records in parentheses are being played on jukeboxes.)
Tough Tunes (Southern)..... Decca
Moonlight Becomes You (Famous)..... Decca
Brazil (Southern)..... Decca
I'm Gonna Be Somebody (Decca)
There'll Never Be Another You (Miller)..... Decca
For Me, My Gal (Mills)..... Decca
Here Comes Navy (Shapiro)..... Decca

Music Notes

Low Pollack assigned to write songs for two untitled musicals on his home lot, 20th-Fox, on completion of his current loanout job on "Tahiti Honei." Republic.

Fredrie Rich writing three songs for the Pine-Thoms musical, "The Duches Flees High."

Millon Rosen and Everett Carter wrote "Spellbound and Sort of a Kinda" for "Good Morning Judge" at Universal.

Bill Waters, Y2c, USNR, in the motion picture liaison office, stationed in Hollywood, has been appointed to regulate membership in Songwriters Protective Assn.

Millon Rosen and Everett Carter cleared "Heads Up" for Universal.

Mary Magner, Harry Filler and Frank Brown have worked out deal with "We're the Boys of the Medical Corps." Tun Pan Alley Music Pub., Philadelphia, getting it out.

Jimmie Kleer, ruff pianist at WHQB, Memphis, the past five years and a co-composer of "Who Were We Met Before," now a civilian worker in aviation maintenance for the Army Air Force.

Dick Himer gets written up in January Enquire, not as a maestro, but as a magico, at which hobby he is expert.

Frank Skinner composing and arranging the score for "Forever Yours" at Universal.

Herbert Steinhart blending an original composition with old Russian songs as the score for "Russia" at Metro.

Jack Mills will publish the score of the musical, "You'll See Stars," which opens on Broadway Tuesday (28). Herman Timberg and Leo Edwards are the writers.

Donald Van Dier, pianist, Boston, now in uniform at Fort Devans, Mass.

"Mousy" Powell band held at Diamond Mirror, Passaic, N. J., indefinitely.

Kearny Agenting on Own
Jack Kearny, until last week head of the National Center and Artists Corp. (now NBC Artists Bureau), is going into personal management on his own. Before, he was personal manager of Jan Savitt's orchestra.

Inside Stuff—Music

Jack Bregman, of Bregman-Vocco-Conn, last week denied the report that he and partner, Rocco Vocco, has as the main objective for his current visit to Hollywood, the overcoming of a sales talk that Edwin H. (Bud) Morris is said to have recently given Harry Warren. "When he was last on the West Coast Morris routinely took before me and I was told of our songwriting partner, Al Dubin, whom Morris has under contract."

In commenting on the report, Bregman stated last week that Vocco had gone out primarily to call on the studios in relation to the songs which Warren and his present partner, Mack Gordon, have turned out for 20th Century-Fox's forthcoming production, "Hello, Frisco, Hello." If added Bregman, Morris had any such project in view, he (Bregman) could not see its practicability, since Warren and Gordon are under a long-term contract as a team to that studio.

The executive council of the music publishers contactment's union will at its next meeting appoint a member to take Joe Santly's place on the executive committee, which consists of five men. Santly resigned last week. The council numbers 12 members and the smaller group was named so that quicker action could be obtained on more pressing matters. The committee, as it stands, is composed of Harry Link, George Joy, Jack Johnston and Eddie Wolpin, with Sidney Korshaker and Jonie Taps as alternates.

Name vocalists are being solicited to sell the off-the-air acetates of their own singing which will be made before Aug. 1, when the transcription ban went into effect. Most singers have acetates made of their chores to check their renditions. The acetates also serve as a list of credits and audition platters.

Since most of these acetates contain standard pops and were made before the recording ban, a couple of et. makers are planning to use them to produce a complete line of suitable platters.

"Rosanne of Charing Cross" (Shapiro-Bernstein), which was among the top ten records in the "most played" listing for the week ending Dec. 12, rates as the first No. 1 plug song of a major publishing firm that has reached such upper rungs without having any representation whatever throughout the recording industry. The acetate for the major for a concert ride after the American Federation of Musicians had imposed its ban on recording.

Barry Wood journeyed to Washington to meet Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., with a gold disk of "Ev-rybody Evry Day Day," new bar band song which Wood recorded at Morgenthau's request. Wood and his present recorders were Frank Walker, v.p. of RCA, Victor, and Jack Williams, promotion head.

Handy Bros. has, with the renewal of the copyright on "Yellow Dog Blues," reassumed for itself the band and instrumental arrangement rights which it formerly licensed to Melrose Bros. and Alfred Music Co. The renewal on the composition became effective Dec. 2.

Just three plugs, Kate Smith, Lombardo and Dave Evans, was enough to sell 200,000 copies of Crawford's "Just Kissed Your Picture Goodnight" before publication.

NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following tabulation of popular music performances embraces all four networks—NBC, CBS, Blue and Mutual—as represented by WEAF, WJZ, Mea, WPC and WOR, N. Y. Compilation herewith covers week beginning Monday, Dec. 14-20, from 5 p. m. to 1 a. m., and is based on data provided by Accurate Reporting Service, regular source for music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER	TOTAL
Moonlight Becomes You—"Road to Morocco"	Famous	46
White Christmas—"Holiday Inn"	Chappell	35
I Had the Craziest Dream—"Springtime"	BVC	27
Rose Ann of Charing Cross	Shapiro	27
Why Don't You Fall in Love With Me?"	Harms	25
That Soldier of Mine.....	National	25
Put Me Back in Love With Me.....	Yankee	21
Moonlight Mood.....	Robbins	20
Please Think of Me.....	Witmark	19
There Are Such Things.....	Yankee	18
Do It Do It Again.....	Santly	17
My 5 or 6—"Behind 8 Ball"	Leeds	17
Put Me Back in Love With Me.....	Chappell	17
Pennsylvania Polka.....	Shapiro	15
A Touch of Texas—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	13
Constantinople—"Musical Party"	Parmour	13
If I Cared a Little Bit Less.....	HEB	13
I Wish I Wish I Wish.....	E. B. Marks	12
Ten Little Soldiers.....	Decca	12
Daybreak—"I Put My Arms Around You"	Lincoln	11
For Me and My Gal—"Me and My Gal"	Mills	11
Starlight Sonata.....	Robbins	11
Velvet Moon.....	Witmark	11
Why Don't You Go on Again.....	CLP	11
Yesterday's Gardening.....	Yankee	11
By the Light of the Silvery Moon.....	Remick	10
There's a Good Reason—"You Were Never Lovelier"	Chappell	10
Street of Dreams.....	Robbins	10
"I'm Getting Tired So I Can Sleep"	Army	9
Far West Lord and Pass Ammunition.....	Famous	9
Can't Get No Mood—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	9
Sentimental Foe.....	B-way	8
Everything I've Got.....	Chappell	7
Hip Hip Hooray—"Seven Days Leave"	Robbins	7
I Get No of Chicken—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	7
Santa Claus Is Coming to Town.....	Feist	7
Drum Major—"Power Girl"	Robbins	7
"This Is the Army, Mr. Jones"	Army	7
Blue Skies.....	Berlin	6
If I Could Be with You in Holy Holy.....	Robbins	6
Move It Over.....	Santly	6
One Red Rose Forever.....	Martin Block	6
There'll Never Be Another You.....	Robbins	6
The Steam Is on the Beam.....	Crawford	6
Weep No More My Lady.....	Dorsey Bros.	6
But Be Nice.....	Robbins	6
Daddy's Letter.....	Berlin	5
Every Night About This Time.....	Warock	5
I Just Kissed Your Picture Goodnight.....	Crawford	5
Out of This World—"I Powers Girl"	Robbins	5
When They Sound the Last All Clear.....	Dash-Connelly	5

*Fimusicol. **This Is the Army' publishing subsidi.

Gene Buck, Deems Taylor in Middle Of Barry Wood's Dud 'Praise' Stunt

Gene Buck, president emeritus, and Deems Taylor, president emeritus, are still wondering what all the shouting was about a week ago Saturday night during a live broadcast presentation of a Larry and Patsy Perry recording to Pvt. Frank Loser, Barry award of the "Praise the Lord" and author of "Praise the Lord, the Lord's the Amen," the Lucky Strike newspapermen judges picked "Praise the Lord" as the best post-war song, and it was being climaxed by a suitable plaque to the Paramount Film studio songsmith, now a private in the Army Air Force stationed at Santa Ana.

It was generally believed that it would be a bit of a radio hoopla, and in the absence of Loser in war, service unable to get a leave, he designated the ASCAP proxy to accept in his behalf, with Buck presiding at the presentation on behalf of show business, Lucky Strike, Wood, et al.

As it developed, it was not aired, but a wooden criterion was stated after the broadcast, with half the studio audience parading out of the CBS playhouse unaware of what was going on.

Both Buck and Taylor had to cancel and switch plans to make the Saturday night award ceremony, which as Buck put it, "might just as well have been staged in a telephone booth for all its significance and value."
Lord & Thomas, agency on the "Praise the Lord" account, obtained Monday (20) that neither itself or the advertiser had anything to do with the presentation. It was some time, the agency stated, that Wood had worked up as a stunt with the cooperation of music publishers and a committee. Wood had asked whether it would be okay for him to present the plaque before a studio audience following the "Hi Parade" broadcast and the account and agency readily granted him permission.

Blklyn Song 'Legger' Gets 60-Day Sentence

Magistrate William Masterson, in his charge, Brooklyn court, last week sentenced Bernard Nagin, of Brooklyn, to 60 days in the workhouse after he had been convicted of peddling bootleg sonnets on the street. The defendant had pleaded guilty.

It was Nagin's fifth arrest on the same charge. Arthur Hoffman, investigator for the Music Publishers Protective Association, had assisted the police on the case.

"RIDE ON"

and

"IT'S SAND, MAN"

Next Columbia Record

COUNT BASIE

And His Orchestra

Mr. Mgt. MILTON EBBINS
and Mr. William Morris Agency

"NOW IT CAN BE TOLD"

Three years ago, George Goodwin was a radio station program director. He was constantly forced to wade through stacks of songs, looking for appropriate music. Index cards which had only titles and credits were meaningless.

So George began to jot down the thematic chorus record and complete publishers information on each card. Everyone who saw them tried to copy. That was the idea of TUNE-DEX.
Today any recognized performers, band leaders, recording contract artists, radio stations, etc., can buy this indispensable and invaluable card index service. Three years ago was just a dream.
Each month TUNE-DEX issues 100 cards, half new songs, half standards. Cost is only \$1.25 a month. (\$15.00 a year for 1,200 cards). Subscribers say these are priceless!

Send order or request more information on your letterhead. We will send sample cards free. ACT NOW. The success of this service is the talk of Tin Pan Alley.

TUNE-DEX, Inc., 1619 Broadway, New York

Object to CPRS, BMI Fees On Can. Film, Jukeboxes

The Copyright Appeal Board Thursday (17) heard objections to a public opinion proposed Canadian Performing Rights Society, Ltd., and BMI Canada, Ltd., covering collection of fees for the use of copyright music during 1943. Objection was expressed by two sections of the tariff, one dealing with a license on 16-mm. sound film and the other dealing with a proposed annual fee of \$10 on coin-operated phonographs. Decision on the objections was expected by next week.

Hon. J. T. Thorson, former war services minister, presided at the hearing as chairman of the board.

'White Xmas' Makes It A Happy Holiday For All Sheet Music

Music jobbers give major credit to the movie which has already been ready gone over the \$50,000-mark, for the extraordinary state of affairs in sheet music business. "White Christmas" just went "core Christmas" and it has the drop which usually precedes Christmas failed to materialize this year, but, according to jobbers reports, last week's shipment of popular music was almost comparable to the turnover for the biggest weeks of the year.
As a rule the stores take their music of the counters just before season and devote the space to Christmas items, but this season the sheet displays remained as is. The call for sheet music was too big and the dealers weren't taking any chances of imperiling this revenue by relegating these wares to a corner.

Close to Irving Berlin, Inc. for piano copies of "White Christmas" sheet music, totaling 600,000 copies. Bing Crosby's recording of "White Christmas" passed the million-sale mark last week, according to sheet music officials. "It has hit that sales figure it's the third in two years to do so. Jimmy Dorsey's "Big Boy" and "Merry Christmas" and Glenn Miller's "Chanonogue" are both credited with having sold well over 1,000,000 copies in 1941.

Jonie Taps on Tour

Jonie Taps leaves Monday (22) on a tour of the branch offices of Shapiro, Bernstein & Co., of which he is general manager.

It's a periodic junket, plus the particular chore of getting a new show started.

Ralph Blane and Hugh Martin kicked "You're Lucky," "Alive and Kicking," "I Know You by Heart," "Three Men on a Date," "I'm Glad," "Eyes That Do You Think I Am" and "My First Promise and My First Prom" for "Best Foot Forward" at 20th-Fox.

Leo Robin and the late Ralph Blane, "There's a Dance in My Heart" as the finale number for "Coney Island" at 20th-Fox.

Best Sheet Music Sellers

- (Week ending Dec. 22)
White Christmas.....Bertin
Lightnin' Go On Again.....CLP
There Are Such Things.....Yankee
Praise the Lord.....Famous
Greatest Dream.....Columbia
5 by 5.....Leeds
Star Spangled Banner.....Miller
Dear Beloved.....Fuchs
Moonlight Comes Over.....Famous
Fall in Love.....Harms
Army Air Corps.....Fuchs
I'm Tired So Can Sleep.....Army
Never Another You.....Morris
The Public Enemy.....Columbia
Me and My Gal.....Mills

NIX BONUS PLEA FOR MUSIC PUB EMPLOYEES

The Wage and Hours Division of the War Labor Board has turned the public opinion of certain music publishers to issue bonuses to their employees for the year ending Dec. 31, 1942. The WLB authorities' reply was that they had no discretion or jurisdiction in the matter. The ruling has caused some dismay and disappointment among the employees affected. The ruling is based on the circumstance that the bonuses issued for '41 had been considerably lower average because they had been practically at a business standstill during that year as a result of the ASCAP-radio fight.

Scores Music Publishers For 'Exorbitant Charges' On Patriotic Numbers

Detroit, Dec. 22.—Claiming that certain music publishers holding copyright in three service songs are demanding "exorbitant" outcroppings of certain rights to include them in a national song sheet, Dr. James E. Maddy, chairman of the wartime civic music committee, is ready to fight a legal action against the copyright owners to Congress.

Dr. Maddy, who last summer tangled with James C. Petrillo, of American Federation of Musicians, when the latter banned his records from the National Music Camp at Interlochen, Mich., made his charges concerning the official status of three branches of the service—the Army Air Force, Artillery and the Coast Guard.

"It's the right of Americans to be free to sing those songs—the 'Caisson Song,' 'Semper Paratus' and the 'Army Air Corps Song'—without paying a copyright fee to a private individual," he declared. "As chairman of the wartime civic music committee, Dr. Maddy drew up a song sheet for American patriotic songs which were to be published by the Federal Office of Civilian Defense for use in public singing. The three songs were copyrighted owners a penny a sheet for use of the three copyrighted songs, or they rejected their copyright. Copyright ownership on the involved songs rest with Carl Fischer, of the "Army Air Corps Song," Shapiro-Bernstein Co. on the "Caisson Song" and Sam Fox with "Semper Paratus."
Dr. Maddy pointed out that if Washington so willed it, the songs might be ruled as being in the public domain.

MILLS, FREED LAUNCH VARIETY MUSIC IN L. A.

Hollywood, Dec. 22.—Variety Music, Inc., a new music publishing firm, has been launched here by Irving Mills in association with Arthur Freed of Metro, who is also as president and chief executive.
New company, with offices on Sunset Street, will catalogue tunes by Mills and Freed, as well as top tunesmiths in Hollywood and in New York.

Adolph Deutsch, chief "Merchant Seaman of the World" for Action in the North Atlantic, at Worcester.

Record Cos. Nix MPPA's Plan To Restrict Discs to Home Use, Thus to Get Final Court Ruling

The three major phonograph record companies (Victor, Decca and Columbia) have rejected the plan suggested by Walter Douglas, chairman of the Music Publishers Protective Assn., for restricting the use of their product to home machines. The manufacturers' reluctance to become a party to Douglas' proposal stems from (1) the fact they have never liked the idea of a restrictive-use license and (2) the possibility that compliance at this time would be interpreted as a conciliatory posture toward the American Federation of Musicians and an antagonistic one toward radio stations and jukebox operators with regard to the present controversy over the AFM's recording ban.

The turnaround of Douglas' plan caused much bitter comment within the music publishers industry last week. The phonograph companies were accused of not acting in good faith. It was pointed out that for years phonograph records have carried a legend restricting their use to home use, but now that a legal procedure has been advanced which would give this admonition the force of a court ruling, the recorders start acting shy. Following

the refusal of the phonograph companies to cooperate with Douglas in testing the restrictive license in the courts, the MPPA's board debated the question of authorizing its chairman to discuss the plan with James C. Petrillo, AFM prez, but it was denied that such a move might prove embarrassing to the music industry. The MPPA had elected from the beginning of the recording ban controversy to refrain from any act of partiality.

Douglas' Proposal
What Douglas had proposed to the recorders was that they agree to accept from publishers a license restricting the use of their copyrighted works to recordings made for home purpose. Once this premise had been accepted, the copyright owner would through the MPPA do the rest. In event a phonograph record so restricted would be found being used for commercial purposes, MPPA counsel would petition the court for an injunction, thereby starting the ball rolling for an eventual adjudication of the issue in the U. S. circuit court of appeal or the U. S. supreme court. Should the question be decided in the copyright owner's favor, the next step would be to issue limited licenses for the making of recordings for radio stations, jukeboxes and other stipulated channels.

Follow Feist

DAYBREAK
Based on theme of "MARDI GRAS" from "Mississippi Suite"
Lyric by Harold Adamson Music by Ferde Grofé

IF I CARED A LITTLE BIT LESS
(And You Cared A Little Bit More)
By Berkeley Graham and Corley Mills

The First Big Picture Score
of the New Year!

CABIN IN THE SKY
McG-N's spectacular production with Ethel Waters,
Eddie "Rochester" Anderson, Lane Horns, Duke Edington, etc.
as reported by Variety magazine.

TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE
Lyric by John Latouche and Ted Fetter Music by Vernon Duke

**HAPPINESS IS A THING
CALLED JOE**
Lyric by E. Y. Harburg Music by Harold Arlen

CABIN IN THE SKY
Lyric by John Latouche Music by Vernon Duke

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Rocketeers Finally Decide to Fold Rainbow Room-Grill As 'Non-Essential'

Rainbow Room, swank Rocketeer center nery on 8th floor of RCA Building, New York, and its companion Rainbow Grill, on Longchamps for the duration on Jan. 1. Despite last-minute efforts to effect reorganization and continue operation, Robertson, executive manager of Rocketeer Center decided that the board of directors declared definitely Friday (18) to shutter the supper rooms on grounds they were non-essential.

Manpower demands making it increasingly difficult for the two night spots to maintain staff of 300 waiters, kitchen help and other employees were cited by Robertson as principal factor in decision to fold. Rising fuel and labor costs also entered into the picture, he said, with wage demands of Local 16 Waiters, Waitresses & Bartenders' Union.

Roosevelt Fold Also?

Roosevelt hotel, N. Y., Grill, which now has Glenn Miller's band until Jan. 15 or 20, when it opens at the Wirtz theatre, N. Y., may close entirely after the band exits. According to sources close to the management, the closing of the Grill is being mullied because of the high cost of food and an increasing lack of personnel including waiters and kitchen help. Situation is somewhat similar to that of the Rainbow Room, N. Y., decision to close.

Local 89, Cooks' Union, both AFL affiliates, creating new budget. However, cooks' salaries pay scales had been virtually ironed out, Robertson said, with union negotiating committee in all effort to pave way for continued operation. Hence the change factor in this case was not significant in arriving at decision on folding.

Open for New Year's Eve Robertson said both the Room and Grill will be open for New Year's Eve. (Continued on page 44)

AGVA's Pay Disputes With Lee Shubert, N. Y. Roxy Submitted to Arbitration

The American Guild of Variety Artists has submitted two disputes to the American Arbitration Assn. Hearings have not been set as yet but are due shortly.

One case is against the Roxy theatre, New York, and asks for clarification of the phrase 'reasonable rehearsal', as used in the AGVA pact with the theatre. The union stand is that the Roxy chorus is being overworked with rehearsals after the regular show and before proceeding with any claims for overtime remuneration the 'reasonable rehearsal' clause must be arbitrated. Union has selected Dave Fox and the theatre has named A. J. Balaban to represent them in the AAA hearing.

The other claim is against Lee Shubert for salaries allegedly due cast members for midnight performances of 'Wine, Women and Song', show recently shuttered by legal action. Show had come under AGVA jurisdiction, since it professed to be vaudeville, and in lieu of a bond the union had accepted the personal guarantee of L. Shubert. Shubert has named Clifford F. Fleischer while D. Fox will talk for the union before the AAA.

ARMY BOMBER FLIES MAGICO TO CAFE DATE

Detroit, Dec. 22. There are plenty of combinations for the playing of USO shows. When Duval, the Mexican, was playing with camp shows recently used to come here in the Steamer Caribou but the Nazis torpedored it. Fox named as if his booking in the City Casino here was waded out but the Army obligingly tucked him into where he could keep his Detroit date.

Lincoln Theatre, Philly, To Open for Negro Vaude

Philadelphia, Dec. 22. After being shuttered for more than three years, the Lincoln, in the heart of Philly's Negro sector, will be open again as a vaudeville featuring legitimate acts and the Westinghouse. The house is operated by the W. interests, which run a chain of films in the Negro sections of the city. The Lincoln is being renovated and is expected to be open for the holiday season if attractions are lined up in time.

Opening of the Lincoln follows by only a month the conversion of Fay's in West Philly from a standard vaudeville to one featuring an all-colored show.

Dave Fox Named N.Y. AGVA Head; Succeeds Pepe

Dave Fox was named this week by the Associated Actors and Artistes of America to succeed Ross Pepe as head of the New York local of the American Guild of Variety Artists. Fox has been delegate to the international board of the 44's. Pepe's contract as national representative of AGVA in N. Y. has been terminated and he checks off the payroll Saturday (26). Naming of Fox followed confab between committees appointed by the 44's board and Pepe.

Fox takes control of the New York local on Monday (28). He's a vaude m.c. and has been active in AGVA affairs for some time. He was a member of the former national board of AGVA and later was chairman of the committee which administered the affairs of the New York local.

Pepe had come over from the mu-

(Continued on page 44)

That Vaudeville Historian Joe Laurie, Jr. In Another of His Classic Reprints of 'An Ancient and Honorable Art' an Added Feature in 'Show Business At War' theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

NAME SHELVEY NAT'L AGVA DIRECTOR

The international board of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, at its regular Monday (21) meeting in New York, approved the appointment of Matt Shelvey as the national director of the American Guild of Variety Artists. Shelvey, currently AGVA's representative in the Frisco area, will come east to take over as soon as he cleans up his affairs and, possibly, not until a replacement for the Frisco area is appointed.

Walter Greaza, the current national administrative officer of AGVA, will return to Equity on a fulltime basis as soon as Shelvey arrives. He had been on 'loan' from the legit union.

Nitery Noise Forced His Tenants to Move, Asks \$6, Injunction

Chicago, Dec. 22. Suit filed in Superior Court here last week by Ephraim Klim asked for \$6,000 damages and injunction against continued operation of the Flamingo Club, neighborhood night spot.

Klim, who owns a rooming house adjoining the club, claimed in his suit that many war worker tenants recently left his establishment because of the night club's noise.

Conn. Gov. Probes State-owned House Reputedly Used for Bureley; Nix Strip

Carroll's 5th Year In H'wood, Unveils Revue

Hollywood, Dec. 22. Earl Carroll's new extravaganza, 'Let Freedom Swing' opening Saturday (26) marks his fifth year as a nitery operator-producer. When the spot was opened the wigs 'united', allegedly, to get his gilded in as 'Carroll's folly'. He is reputed to have made a small fortune out of the venture.

Principals in the revue will be Eddie Gray, Barto and Mann, Stuart Morgan dancers, Hermann Williams Trio, the Bryans, Dippy Diers, Jean Ritchie and the holdovers, Berry Wallace, Wirtz Brothers and Shirley Wayne. Sid Muller and Maxine Manning wrote the score and Manny Strand presides over the music.

4 A's Demands Wirtz Negotiate For AGVA Pact

The international board of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America has notified Arthur Wirtz that it expects him to live up to his agreement to negotiate with Four A's representatives for a contract with American Guild of Variety Artists for his and Sonja Henie's Hollywood ice revue of 1943.

The Four A's board took this action after the receipt of a letter from Wirtz which took exception to the Four A's appointment of Walter Greaza and Paul Turner to sit in when Wirtz confabbed with Ernest Thomson. Wirtz argued that he had agreed to negotiate with Thomson and would do so but wanted no part of other negotiators.

Understood that Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, who came into the dispute because many of SA's members.

(Continued on page 44)

Hartford, Dec. 22. Investigation of the status of the lease under which the State-owned Post Guard Hall is being operated as a burlesque house has been ordered by Governor Hays. Moved by the state's prey came as the aftermath of charges hurled editorially by the Hartford Post and the Catholic Transcript that obscene shows were being performed at that house, now tagged as the Hartford theatre.

Thursday (17) the Transcript, organ of the Catholic hierarchy, charged that local authorities were doing nothing about stage shows being presented here in burlesque under a misleading name. Hartford theatre has been labeling its shows as 'Follies' and its clowns included several acts of vaudeville in the presentations.

Editorial went on to claim also that obscene shows were being shown here as a 'refuge' from banishment in New York City. This was in reference to the scheduled appearance of Margie Hart, stripper, on New York City. Mayor Hart was a focal point in the 'Wine, Women and Song' indecency rap. Following the presentation, state management cancelled Miss Hart's bookings.

On Wednesday (18), the Hartford Times editorially referred to the showing of obscene performances as 'filled upon civil authorities to take proper action'. The Times followed spiritual protests by both laymen and clergy.

Following the protests in the Times and Transcript, protests by various groups and news stories in the Hartford Press, both theatre Spellacy called into conference the management of both the State and the Hartford theatre. Both theatre managements were warned to desist or their licenses would be taken away. For the time being, both the Mayor, the management of the State announced that Miss Hart's appearance had been cancelled.

Woman Cafe Owner, 5 Girls Told to Stick To Business (Nitery)

Pittsburgh, Dec. 22. Common Pleas Judge Harry Rowland last week issued a temporary injunctive restraining Marie Dolan from operating Club 54, swank nitery on the city's outskirts, for the next 30 days. District attorney's office had launched a mad-dog court proceedings against the place following a raid two weeks ago when Mrs. Dolan and five girls were taken into custody and questioned.

Understood, however, that building has already been leased to a grocery concern, which will take possession after the first of the year. With gas rationing, Mrs. Dolan had planned dropping the property anyway and moving downtown to a new location. Had padlock order been granted, her booze license would have been null and void as matters stand now, she's free to use it in another spot if one can be found.

For five months in 1940, the Club, a police gaming spot shut by society more than six years ago.

NEW 'PEOPLE' TAB SLATED FOR TOUR

New tabloid production of 'Meet the People' is slated to go on the road shortly after Jan. 1, playing vaudeville houses and night club to new members of original cast, which played the Mansfield theatre, N. Y., for five months in 1940. The tour, these include Joye Faye, currently in 'Strip For Action', which both were originally from theatre, N. Y., in two weeks; Jack Albertson and Mickey Blane.

Show has had unusual career since it was brought east from Coast two years ago. After Mansfield engagement, played a number of vaudeville houses, then was spotted as a unit in a number of vaude houses and night clubs. New production being handled by Standard Amusement, with Lou Weiss setting the bookings.

'Show Business At War'

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER of VARIETY To Be Published Soon

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Albany Issues Nitery Fire Curbs; Other Cities Take Precautions

Albany, Dec. 22. The State Labor Department's apparent first follow-up on the Coconut Grove Club fire in Boston was a request to 83 proprietors of places of public assembly to "print, exhibit, post, Christmas trees, laurel and inflammable decorations, and to fireproof other decorations, etc." The Department, according to Industrial Commissioner Freda S. Miller, urged "a check on the efficient operation of fire extinguishers, exit doors, panic bolts, removing any other fastenings, to exit door except the approved type of panic bolt."

Miss Miller stated that enforcement officials in 35 other cities, 77 villages and 15 townships, over which the Department also has jurisdiction, have been instructed to inspect all places of public assembly.

St. L. Nitery Fire
St. Louis, Dec. 22. Fire last week in a rest room in the Clark Plantation, midtown nitery where Negro entertainers are provided for white customers, resulted in the eodus of half of the 100 patrons and only \$100 worth of damage. The blaze was discovered by Anthony Scarpelli, the owner, instructed the orchestra to keep playing and then went among the patrons, told them what was occurring and urged them to leave without haste. One woman fainted and was treated at City Hospital.

Origin of the fire is undetermined. Flames burned the draperies in the rest room but as the material was chemically treated for fireproofing the blaze was confined to the one room.

Atlantic City Citations
Atlantic City, Dec. 22. Army Air Force officials began cracking down on resort night clubs, cafes, service centers and other congregation spots last week to eliminate possibility of such major fires as that which caused the Coconut Grove disaster in Boston.

First to feel military displeasure was Dude Ranch, Boardwalk nitery, for maintaining "allegedly unsafe" conditions. On Thursday (17), Army officers posted the Ranch as "out-of-bounds." Local fire officials, caught flat-footed by the order, rushed fire inspectors there who immediately

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J. H. LUBIN
GENERAL MANAGER

JESSE KAYE
BOOKING MANAGER

ordered the club closed until alterations could be effected.

Army officers inspecting all resort amusement centers, also placed the "out-of-bounds" ban on Alhambra, formerly named Alpine (now several minor fire hazards). A third spot, unidentified by officials, escaped effective Army boycotting when the proprietor rushed orders for alterations even before the inspecting military officers had quit his barroom. The "out-of-bounds" decree was renewed on second inspection later that same afternoon.

New Orleans Order
New Orleans, Dec. 22. State Fire Marshal Campbell Thursday issued a general order (Parade 17) commanding that all places of public gathering in the city remove all highly inflammable Christmas decorations and other trimmings which are considered by his office fire hazards.

The order, inspired by tragic fires in the east, applies to all night clubs, especially the smaller spots in the city. It also covers all hotels, restaurants, hotels and department stores. It demands that all exits open outward to the streets.

FREE PHIL KAYE ON DRAFT EVASION CHGE.

U. S. Commissioner Norman J. Griffin yesterday (Tuesday) dismissed charges of violating the Selective Service Act which had resulted in the arrest in Philadelphia, Saturday (19), of Phil Kaye, comic and nitery m.c. who had been touring with a USO-Camp Shows tabloid unit. His local draft board, Union City, N. J., had complained that he had not notified them of his change of address and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation wanted him out of the troupe.

Kaye remained in Philadelphia to fill out an 8-day questionnaire and take his physical examination, after which he was slated to rejoin the Camp Shows unit on such time as he is called for induction.

His partner is Edith Dahl Rogers, violinist, who got attention during the Spanish Rebellion when she asked General Franco to release her husband, who had been captured during the revolt.

Dates Conflict, Fields
Foregoes H'wood Cafe

Due to conflicting dates, Benny Fields will not be able to play in Macomba, Hollywood nitery, although his agent had booked him in for four weeks. Pointed out he is committed to theatre dates which cannot be broken.

Fields is not at the Greenwich Village Inn, N. Y.

VARIETY

Jack Pearl
on
Yesteryear Burlesque
an Added Feature to
'Show Business At War'
theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

Who Called That Accordion Player An Actor?

Philadelphia, Dec. 22. The American Federation of Musicians last week went to bat with the American Guild of Variety Artists over an accordion player at Sam's Cafe, a West Philly nitery. Question was whether the groan-boop manipulator was (a) an actor or (b) a musician.

AGVA had ordered the man to join up if he wanted to continue the engagement. He appealed to the musicians union and reps of both groups, but went to the spot 10 to catch the act.

After the guy finished, Dick Mayo, AGVA executive secretary, announced he was no actor and ordered that his AGVA application be returned.

The two unions have agreed to this arrangement:

If an act is 50% or more non-musical, he is under the AGVA jurisdiction. If it's half-or-more musical, he is the musicians union's baby.

HENIE ICE SHOW WOW \$102,000 IN BUFFALO

Buffalo, Dec. 22. Sonia Henie's ice show pulled up a terrific \$102,000 in six shows last week at the Auditorium, despite the blizzard, gas stoppage and the public's nervous pre-occupation with a amount is substantially over last year's gross. The 10,000-seat auditorium was scaled at \$2.50 top.

Dave Fox

Continued from page 43

sicians union where he had been a delegate, about five months ago to take over the leadership of AGVA's Local 5. He received a one-year contract.

Drumming of Pepe had long been rumored but it was generally accepted that any such move would have to be approved by the new national leader for AGVA. Understood that the Four's board appointed a committee to investigate the Four A's withdrawing his name from consideration for the post of national president of AGVA. Along with the news about being tapped by his draft board, Dennis included surprise comment on a criticism of the Four's and AGVA and made mention of alleged sniping within the organization of the New York Local.

Some time back Pepe went before the international board of the Four A's to complain about his lack of authority and the board's action in taking the unfair action against him. Edith Dahl, his partner, thereafter it was reported authoritatively that Pepe's days as secretary of the N. Y. local were numbered. The negotiating committee was staffed by Walter Grezza, remaining AGVA administrator of AGVA until his placement is set, after which he returns to Actora Equity; George Helmer of the American Federation of Radio Artists; Florence Marston, of the Screen Actors Guild, and Ruth Richmond of Chorus Equity.

4 A's Demands

Continued from page 43

bers, including Miss Henie, were not held by the Witts show, does not want the responsibility of handling the negotiations on his own since, basically, it will affect the entire union, the American Guild of Variety Artists.

Cincy AGVA Local Asks Thomson Impeachment

Cincinnati, Dec. 22. Dissolution of the American Guild of Variety Artists' legal department, and impeachment of Kenneth Thomson, executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, were called for in motions approved by the executive board of the AGVA local here in session Wednesday (16).

Thomson's ousting is requested because of his part in the Witts-Ensign Show settlement which happened recently in Indianapolis.

The Cincy group also rapped the Assn. of Actors and Artists of America for so-called domination of AGVA. A. L. Buckler, president, was in the chair at the meeting.

Hostions came from Guy Gerber, treasurer, and Lester Lake, first vice. Peve against Thomson is that he did not give adequate follow-up to Hollywood of the Indianapolis walk-outs just at the time when field reports were being reported. He has successfully concluded negotiations with Witts on points arising from several grievances filed by members of the union. These concerns include pay, pay for rehearsals, and carrying of a registered nurse to care for members.

AGVA's legal department in New York, it was claimed, costs \$75 per hour in operation. AGVA officials here feel that better results could be obtained, and probably at less expense, by hiring a name lawyer for a yearly fee.

Rainbow Room

Continued from page 43

Year's eve if the waiters don't deliver what they put on the menu, David Siegel, president of the staff, said his men would cooperate in every way until the end, although they had hoped the means could be found to keep the spots open.

Pege felt that the Rainbow Room will gross \$1,100,000 for 1942, representing top coin in its eight-year operation, the night club will manage to break even on the year; Robertson said, due to high operating costs, November business had presented a loss, he said, and only New Year's eve and Xmas week bid to make possible a profit for December. It's likewise feared that luxury spending on Rainbow Room soiree will be drastically curtailed next year.

Robertson said the two rooms would have been shuttered Nov. 1, except that it would have been fair to the employees, considering the Xmas holiday and New Year's eve coin they can include the annual Yule bonus, which is being distributed as usual.

Will Reisman and his orchestra booked in under contract until Jan. 18 management will pay the balance. Remaining of the show, however, was inked in with stipulation that contracts would take effect on Jan. 1. If decision was reached to suspend.

Robertson said that a recent survey, made of entire Rocketteer Center, has also resulted in decision to suspend Rocketteer Center magazine on first of year. Mag eight years old, now distributed to all tenants.

Sally Rand Postpones Boston Theatre Booking

Boston, Dec. 22. The RKO Boston theatre has postponed Sally Rand, due to open here this week. She will play the booking later in the season.

Understood the management of the theatre yanked Miss Rand rather than risk offending local reformers who have been numbered in the show business since the recent Coconut Grove disaster. Since Miss Rand has long been an open Catholic taboo list it was deemed advisable to delay her appearance.

Pled Pieters have left Tommy Dorsey's orchestra, now in California making a film for Metro.

DET. IN DRIVE VS. SPEAKS

Detroit, Dec. 22. To head off more Prohibitionist growth as well as to keep a better check on spots in which work is done, the Detroit Prosecutor, William E. Dowling has launched a drive here to stamp out the increasing number of blind pigs operating in the loop under State club charters.

Most of the spots operate almost exclusively after the 2 a.m. closing time for the regular places, and have grown extremely popular with the large numbers of owlhit workers in the area, here here. The "clubs" escape the supervision imposed on the regular niteries here by the State Liquor Control Commission, which has been extremely vigilant in seeing that such key workers don't do too much tipping night-guy gabbing about their work. The Army, too, had expressed concern about "possi," which has been ruled out in the supervised places.

Police point out that in their raids against the "clubs" they are up against the same old problem—the need for "buses" and search warrants. Most of the clubs' issue membership cards in the good old blind pig tradition, only now it is difficult to nail down, the dodge merely by finding out how to get the permit. The State issues the charters to clubs for carrying on "bridge" to "march-societies."

Nitery men are strong for the new drive, which has hurt their biz and shakes their work. The Army, too, is paying licenses for. They are trying hard to cooperate with authorities but hate to see the sentiment grow up against the night club business because of the cheaters.

DAVE BARRY

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HIGH OVER 5 TIMES
ROYAL PALM, Miami
HIGH OVER 2 TIMES
FROLIC CLUB, Miami
HIGH OVER 2 TIMES

BEACHCOMBER, Miami Beach
HIGH OVER 2 TIMES
HOLLYWOOD HOTEL, Florida
HIGH OVER 2 TIMES
LAO CLUB, San Francisco
HIGH OVER 2 TIMES
BROWN HOTEL, Louisville
CLUB ROYALE, Detroit
HURRICANE, New York

OPENING December 25
BEVERLY HILLS COASTAL Club
NEWPORT, NEWSPORT

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WHITEY ROBERTS

New at
ROYAL CASINO
New York

LATIN QUARTER, N. Y. (FOLIES FANTASTIQUE)

Mimi Haynes, Clarice, Toni & Mimi Wynn, Jerry & Turk, Ben & Yvonne... (Folies Fantastique)

Lou Walters, Mimi, Natalie Komarov... (Folies Fantastique)

Lacking is a strong solo vocal turn... (Folies Fantastique)

Costuming is of course, gorgeous... (Folies Fantastique)

Clarisia fits in nicely with a brief... (Folies Fantastique)

Fredergyns, group of seven... (Folies Fantastique)

Shang-Ri-La, Philly (Philadelphia, Pa.)

Accent is on the sight acts at the... (Shang-Ri-La)

Byrd and Letour are among the... (Shang-Ri-La)

With 'We're All in the Same Boat'... (Blue Room, N.O.)

BLUE ROOM, N. O. (HOTEL ROOSEVELT)

Ted Lewis Orch. with Genevieve... (Blue Room, N.O.)

Ted Lewis comes to the show... (Blue Room, N.O.)

Lewis, battered high hat, came... (Blue Room, N.O.)

Next on is 'Snowball' Whittier... (Blue Room, N.O.)

Byron and Glenn, smart ballroom... (Blue Room, N.O.)

Shang-Ri-La, Philly (Philadelphia, Pa.)

Accent is on the sight acts at the... (Shang-Ri-La)

Byrd and Letour are among the... (Shang-Ri-La)

VERSAILES, N. Y.

Nick & Arnold and Johnny Bogdan... (Versailles, N.Y.)

The Versailles, too, is falling into... (Versailles, N.Y.)

Herb Shriner, the young goof... (Versailles, N.Y.)

Components are basically solid... (Versailles, N.Y.)

For the rest, the six Conover... (Versailles, N.Y.)

Hal has staged some excellent... (Versailles, N.Y.)

Jimmy Kelly's, N. Y.

Glenda Hope, Helen Holmes, Marjorie... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Jimmy Kelly's spot on Sullivan... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Miss Hope keeps things moving... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Eleonor Russell, soft show aerobic... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Russ Margan's Orchestra is ideally... (Jimmy Kelly's)

AQUARIUM, N. Y.

Don Healy, Ralph Jameson, Fay... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

With a no minimum, no cover... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

For instance, the present layout... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

The rest of the bill is well diversified... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

Pay Karol is a young singer of... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

The Barry Bros. play adequately... (Aquarium, N.Y.)

Kahs.

CURLY'S, MPLS.

Minnesota, Dec. 12. 'Knights of the Night', Collette, Ethel... (Curly's)

This nitery bounces back into the... (Curly's)

In keeping with the times Miss... (Curly's)

Hal Saunders has been here for... (Curly's)

Jimmy Kelly's, N. Y.

Glenda Hope, Helen Holmes, Marjorie... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Jimmy Kelly's spot on Sullivan... (Jimmy Kelly's)

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Miss Hope keeps things moving... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Eleonor Russell, soft show aerobic... (Jimmy Kelly's)

Russ Margan's Orchestra is ideally... (Jimmy Kelly's)

New Act

CAROL RAYE, New York

Carol Raye is a personable, bubbly... (Carol Raye)

She has a new act through the... (Carol Raye)

Appearance is an asset and... (Carol Raye)

Bigger, better known precision... (Carol Raye)

Without exception, they require... (Carol Raye)

Interact arrangements that have... (Carol Raye)

Grade-B Bands

Continued from page 1

their spots by Uncle Sam's 'Greet... (Grade-B Bands)

placements invariably are better... (Grade-B Bands)

with enthusiasm for a new job... (Grade-B Bands)

replacements themselves don't last... (Grade-B Bands)

One leader put it not long ago... (Grade-B Bands)

In the past few months I've met... (Grade-B Bands)

of 14 men, but now I've got the... (Grade-B Bands)

Bigger, better known precision... (Grade-B Bands)

Without exception, they require... (Grade-B Bands)

Interact arrangements that have... (Grade-B Bands)

established them on top. These bands... (Grade-B Bands)

are insured by constant equipment... (Grade-B Bands)

Legit Showmen Heave the Shivers, And It's Not All Due to the Weather

It's not unusual for Broadway managers to be apprehensive at this period of the season, when attendance slumps at the approach of Christmas, but the right now most showmen have marked cases of jitters. Nothing sold out entirely on the last week, and many of the nearly all grosses sagged. Holiday shopping undoubtedly accounted for the business, and stores were crowded earlier than usual with gift buyers.

Indications are for better attendance this week, particularly after the first three days. Some houses report lively ticket sales even for night of the winter.

The strike and last week's newspaper strike didn't help, neither was the weather, which was particularly unpropitious on Thursday (17). Value of the newspapers to theatres was demonstrated, viz., some people closely connected with show business were uncertain when the various attractions were spotted.

War conditions now and during the last world conflict are much different, and so managers are puzzled as to business possibilities after New Year's, when taxes are expected to affect the entire population. Federal income taxes are not payable until March 15, but will be way over last year's increased levies. Starting Jan. 1, 5% must be added to all salaries, with the deductions, of course, being credited to the taxpayer.

A forerunner of what may happen in the gasoline situation was indicated last week when many autos were withheld from passenger cars. So many private motors were off the streets over the week that Broadway was forced to abandon its limited number of taxis only being in evidence. While gas rationing is doubtless reducing down the number of theatregoers residing in the suburbs, it is one of the difficulties in reaching the audience. For some time it has been noticed that the number of persons arriving at theatres in private cars has been dropping for some time. That class of patronage is using taxis for the most part.

MAX GORDON GOES SINGLE-O AS PROD.

Max Gordon intends going single-o in his theatrical ventures. Heretofore Marcus Helman has been interested in Gordon attractions. Helman retains interest in current Gordon attractions, and it is stated the duo remain friendly.

Gordon opens 'Doughgirls' at the Lyceum, N. Y., next week, and has 'The Shadow' to produce here, going to the Coast, where he is doing picture activity in March.

Gordon has dissolved his play picture corporation, but that is for tax purposes, and he'll hereafter do business as an individual.

Billy Rose Takes Over 'All-Colored 'Carmen'

With Max Gordon relinquishing his rights, Billy Rose has taken over production of 'Carmen' at the all-colored version of Bizer's 'Carmen' for which Oscar Hammerstein, 2d, has written the lyrics.

While Bizer's score will not be swung or jazzed, Russell Bennett is doing the show tunes. The arrangements and will also conduct. Cast has not yet been selected.

The show takes place at North Carolina and the time will be the present. Carmen becomes transposed into a Negro cigarette girl and Joe (Jose) a colored doughboy. The producer will be cast as 'Hepeet Miller,' a band leader.

Mpls., 3 for Jan.

Minneapolis, Dec. 22. While Minneapolis had had only one legitimate roadshow thus far this season, the Henry Miller theatre, 'Com Is Green,' Leo Murray, Lyceum manager, has three January shows booked up. 'The Watch on Rhine,' 14-16; 'Priorities of 1942,' 19-22; and 'Student Prince,' 27-30. The road show up this time, too, the Lyceum had had only one show

Kid Musical in N. Y.

Xmas Performances Completing a 10,000-mile tour through New England, the south and the middle west, during which it gave 57 performances for soldiers at USO centres and for children, 'Daddy Dandy of the U. S. A.' opens at the Belasco theatre, N. Y., Saturday (23) for a series of eight matinee performances.

The Saul Lancourt-Ellie Siegmeyer musical for children, 'The Children in N. Y. for one performance Oct. 18, at the Hunter College theatre. Since then, it has visited 49 cities and towns.

Cast of 10 gave 46 performance this morning (23) at Bellevue hospital as Xmas treat for patients.

Would End Equity's Quarterly Meetings Until End of the War

Proposal to discontinue Equity's quarterly meetings until the end of the war again came up at the recent session at the Hotel Astor, N. Y., when less than 200 members attended. A large percentage of young legit actors are in uniform, while many others in Equity are busy with war aid or looking for jobs.

It was revealed that meetings are still being held when controversial issues are on tap, but council has ruled for continuance of the sessions because it has been a practice of the association for over 20 years, although for the past year or so the meetings have been a waste of time and money, it was conceded.

Proceedings early this month were desultory. There were no new matters, with the result that secretary Paul Dulizel's report was principally a rehash of previous reports. There were motions to memorialize George M. Cohan and Lem Ward, but it is doubtful that the council will act on either proposal, there being no similar precedent.

Anne Nichols Mends Anne Nichols has been hospitalized in New York for about two weeks as the result of a taxi accident that resulted in a severe knee sprain, necessitating a plaster cast. Author is convalescing at her hotel in Gotham.

The Inside on George Jessel by

George Jessel

A preview of his forthcoming autobiography which Random House will publish in Feb.

An Added Feature in

'Show Business At War'

theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

PIX SALE KEY TO 'STRIP' CHANCE

Although it was reported that 'Strip for Action' might be sent to Chicago, the show definitely closed at the National, N. Y., in another week. After an excellent start, with grosses high for some time, show started dropping and last week's takings were about \$10,500. 'Strip' is more costly to operate than the average straight 'play but is claimed to have earned an operating profit until the past week or two.

Approximate production outlay for 'Strip' was \$60,000, and of that amount about half was recovered. Backers recently received 10 percent of the money they invested, and will get more, as there is about \$15,000 on deposit to guarantee salaries.

While the show will not turn a profit for its stage engagement, there is a chance to get well out of the red, if the picture rights are sold. Understood, however, that 'Strip' may not pass the Hays office, and unless it gets the green light there, Hollywood offers will be out. Show's angles include most of those who have a piece of 'Arsenic and Old Lace' and with melons being cut monthly from latter show, they haven't as much to squawk about as ordinarily.

The release date of the film version of 'Arsenic' has again been set back, Warners now slating it for Easter. That is the stage version several additional months prior to the film show still running at the Fulton, N. Y., and faring well on the road, too, last week in Boston being very good in face of the pre-holiday slump.

Herk's 6-Mo. Sentence in 'Wine' Conviction Shocks Broadway; Other 2 Defendants Free, Appeal Started

Postpone 'Claudia' % Suit Until Jan. 11

Suit of the estate of Adrienne Morrison, play broker, against Rose Franken for commissions on 'Claudia,' has been postponed to Jan. 11, 1943, as filed in New York supreme court in 1941 and was on the calendar for last week.

Mrs. Fleisher is representing Sidney Franken while Schwartz & Frolich are attorneys for the estate of the play broker.

Hike to 10% Seen by Equity As Factor in Agents' Push For Recognition by Union

At a recent New York meeting of the association of legit agents it was agreed that the casters continue efforts to have Equity recognize them as a group. Annual fee of \$25 for each agency was due Equity Dec. 1, and while some individuals paid on schedule, the others awaited action by their association. Latter is expected to remit the fees of its members via one check this week.

When the agents' association made a bank payment last season Equity insisted that it was a move to obtain the wanted recognition and insisted on giving each agent individual receipts. Equity figures that the association seeks a basis whereby it can make demands, principally a change in the rules that would raise the legal rate of commission from 5% to 10%. It has long been suspected that an unestimated number of Equities are paying 10% despite the rule, which does not apply for royalties, radio and other engagements.

Casters also aim to have all agents join the association so that they can present a 'united front' but a number have remained outside. One agent was charged with asking 10% from an organization, and so his permit was canceled, even though it was clear that while he might have sought the added commission, it was not paid.

It had been hoped that fines and suspended sentences would be ruled in the 'Wine, Women and Song' incident show convictions and when last Thursday (17) the court ordered J. H. Herk to be imprisoned for six months, Broadway was shocked. Fact that the other two defendants were given suspended sentences, an acknowledgment that they were not amply justified by the evidence performance, hardly mitigated the court's drastic decision in the case of Herk, who is 72 and has been ailing for years with a heart condition.

Application for a writ of reasonableness was made by Arthur Markewicz, attorney for the defendants, and will be argued before Judge Charles S. Herrmann in the Supreme Court Thursday (24). Herk must remain in custody, but if the application is granted he may be freed on bail, as an appeal will be made. Judge Owen W. Bohan declared that the verdict had been amply justified by the evidence. He particularly condemned 'artists like the strip tease.'

It had been reported that application for a renewal of the license of the Ambassador where the 'Wine, Women and Song' had been made. Commissioner Paul Moss denied this and added that the license will not be renewed for one year. Moss was mentioned prominently when the 'Wine' charges were first made, but that the complaint was really made by (Continued on page 52)

Pitt Hears Beefs On Dialectician In 'Spring Again'

Pittsburgh, Dec. 22. Many letters of protest have been received by the management of Nixon theatre, here, over the character of the film producer in the C. Aubrey Smith George Co. 'Spring Again,' which played here last week. Letters of complaint are still coming in, although show departed Saturday night (19). All complained that character was in bad taste, said reviewer also commenting on it. Latter complained the part wasn't lampoon, as probably originally intended, but an embarrassing caricature. There was even an official protest from an organization for better understanding between Jew and Christian.

Joseph Buloff scored a personal click in the role of the Hollywood tycoon when show was on Broadway. On the road part is being played by Michael Rosenberg, who does it pretty broadly—like an old-time vaudeville comedian. One critic put it in a protesting company in a letter to Bill Tisdale, company manager, who is still coming in although show departed Saturday night (19). All complained that character was in bad taste, said reviewer also commenting on it. Latter complained the part wasn't lampoon, as probably originally intended, but an embarrassing caricature. There was even an official protest from an organization for better understanding between Jew and Christian.

One protest was received shortly after the N. Y. opening, according to Quintric McClintic's office, which is presenting the play, a Jewish characterization asking that the Buloff character be eliminated or given another slant.

'Variety' (here) in its review of 'Spring Again' when it opened originally at the Henry Miller theatre, N. Y., Nov. 10, 1941, recalled to readers as 'providing real laughter in his 10-minute appearance as a producer with a dialect in the third act.' The part was called a natural for him and his comic 'Ludwig is plenty amusing.'

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of VARIETY

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PRICE, 25 CENTS

4 LET'S CROSS \$115,200,

'White Xmas' Soars Berlin Music Co. Profits to Record of \$250,000 in '42

By ABEL GREEN
Predicated on an estimated 10% of the profits divided to the Irving Berlin, Inc., and ABC Music Corp., these two affiliated firms are estimated to have earned around \$250,000 profit this year, in the light of the 25¢ which was divided among the personnel. This embraced a minimum of three weeks' salary up to seven weeks, with special bonuses to executive personnel. This is perhaps a record in the music biz, and certainly pays anything in the past.

The unusualness of the profits stems from the fact that but one song, "White Christmas," out of Berlin's "Holiday Inn" score (with Crosby & Fred Astaire Paramount) made all this gravy possible. As of yesterday (Tue.) the song has sold just over 1,000,000 copies.

Not since the sensational Walt Disney "Snow White" clicks has there been a score of this calibre. The group sold 700,000 (also published by Berlin), whereas "Holiday Inn" has already gone 1,500,000, counting the

(Continued on page 33)

San Diego Rated With the Klondike As Boom Town

By KAY CAMPBELL

San Diego, Dec. 29.

The greatest boom town since the Klondike.
So San Diego was logged by one of the west's largest hotel and resort owners, who himself was a member in the Gold Rush.
The town has changed overnight from a sleepy resort city of homes with approximately 200,000 population into a war-fervent, inflation-ridden fortress with an added 150,000 civilian population influxes from all sections of the hinterlands to work in delicate plants and a score of new service men from all branches of the military forces. Shortage of talent is used as an excuse for the dearth of entertainment in a good many of the cities. While other operators disdain offering any extras whatsoever, but lead the cash tumbler to the bar, invite him to spend his money and offer no variety of soft lights and sweet music.

It's nickel and dime coin which jingles the cash registers, 40¢ tops, but it's easy flowing and sales up, in some instances to \$50,000-\$60,000 a week. Until June period, the swankiest hotel in vicinity, the El Cortez, offered orch and floorshow

(Continued on page 40)

HERE IS TRULY A MORAL VICTORY

Milwaukee, Dec. 29.
Many night spots in this area have passed out completely as a result of the war, but the swank Toner's Forest Studio, an elaborate brick and Lannon stone structure in a suburban location, has undergone the most unique transformation. It has been purchased by the Calhoun Evangelical Lutheran church and is now being used for religious services.

The main dining room is now the auditorium of the house of worship, and the band stand has become the choir loft, and the cocktail lounge is now the Sunday school.

With Their Shirt-Tails Hanging Out, Hawaii Has Gone Jive-Crazy

By MABEL THOMAS

Honolulu, Dec. 29.

Hawaii's gone jive crazy. Newest fad here in Honolulu is cement callisthenics, which means jiving on the cement floor at the Civic Auditorium. Even the demure Korean girls, along with those of every other nationality, are "going for broke," which is the Hawaiian approximation of "give out with everything you got."

Although colored females until the past year were practically nonexistent here, today you'll see hundreds of handsome service lads dancing with attractive dark-skinned girls. And they run the gamut—Chinese, Japanese, Hawaiians, Portuguese, Filipinos, East Indians and Porto Ricans.

Here you'll see a sight unparalleled anywhere else; try to visualize 3,000 men, of all nationalities, in patriotism. (Continued on page 21)

Dance Team Breaks Up; He to Army; She, WAC

DETROIT, Dec. 29.

After 17 years the partnership of Frank Alexander and Elizabeth Swanson has been broken up. Both have gone into service.
The dance couple, featured in musical shows as "Good News," "Folky Through" and the "Zodiac Follies," married in 1925, and became patriots. Following the shows the duo had appeared in clubs and hotels all over the world before they retired four years ago, making their home in Franklin Village, Mich.
However, the war's the wack. Alexander joined the Army. Following his acceptance, Mrs. Alexander enlisted in the WACS.

'42 TAKINGS NEW RECORD; CBS TOPS

CBS, NBC, Blue and MBS Exceeded 1941's \$108,800,000—Columbia's Billings to Reach Total \$45,500,000, With NBC's \$43,800,000

'43 LOOKS OKAY

By BEN BODEE

The four national networks combined will wind up 1942 with about \$132,000,000 in gross time sales. It establishes a new high for that division of the radio industry.

In 1941, the group's joint turnover in billings was \$106,800,000.

The edge of '42 over '41 in terms of percentage will be slightly less than it was for 1941 over 1940.

The foursome's business edge for 1942 over 1941 will be 8%, whereas the comprehensive time sales of 1941 figured 9% better than they had been for 1940. The indica-

(Continued on page 26)

Marjorie Lawrence, Though Paralyzed, Due For Best B. O. Season

As a result of her phenomenal comeback at both Town Hall and the Metropolitan, Marjorie Lawrence, Australian soprano who has been paralyzed in both legs for the past two years, is heading toward the most lucrative years of her career, despite her inability to sing except in a reclining position. Her comeback is considered the outstanding musical event of the year.

Singer has been booked for an appearance with the Philadelphia Orchestra at Carnegie Hall, N. Y., under Eugene Ormandy, Feb. 16. Her manager, Austin Wilder, has eight other dates with major symphonies pending. Four radio programs have also been set for her.

Miss Lawrence's price has jumped to \$1,500-\$2,000 per appearance in concert and radio. The M.C. will use her as "Venus in Tannhauser" and possibly as the "Suffered" Brunhilde.

Another Gimmick

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.

Philly nighties and bars are featuring a "Gremlin Cocktail" for the holiday season.
If one orders a "Gremlin" (list price two bits) he gets an empty cocktail glass with a 25c. war stamp.

Friml Would Rather His Works Die Than Be Produced By Shuberts

TOTE CHOICE EDIBLES FROM COAST TO COAST

Chicago, Dec. 29.
Performers are taking no chances on going without certain foods if they can help it. Acts leaving the east for the Pacific Coast are wiring friends here to buy them a supply of ham, bacon, eggs and butter, and other food that is short on the Coast, which they pick up, cram into their suitcases and bags and continue their journey.

On recent trip to the Coast, a local showman was loaded down with two suitcases and three bundles of foodstuffs for two other persons prominent in show biz, plus himself.

'Proof Thro' Night' Reported Arousing Beefs Among Nurses

"Proof Thro' the Night," which opened at the Morosco, N. Y., Friday (28), and which was known as "Cry Havo!" in Hollywood, where it was touted highly as a war drama, is said to have aroused resentment in certain quarters of the nursing profession. There is no national association of nurses, so the reported feeling about the matter has been voiced only on the inside.

Opposition to "Night" is not clear to those who have seen the performance, for most of the characters are supposed to be telephonists in the Philippines, assigned to help keep the lines open in report of Gen. A. MacArthur's four-day efforts on volunteer nursing duty. One likely objection is that the head nurse has a drug habit, yet it is explained that (Continued on page 38)

Roch. Patriotic Benefit Grosses \$6,238; Net: \$2,236

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 29.
High cost of some patriotic efforts was shown in a report of Gen. A. MacArthur's four-day benefit show to send cigarettes to soldiers. The enterprise grossed \$6,238 and netted \$2,236.

The small net was despite the fact that most of the talent donated their services. The Eastman theatre was given one night free, the Auditorium 100% of the gross, excepted only \$100 to cover expenses.

Principal items of expense included salary of Beatrice Kay, the star, \$950; theatre rental, standstills, musicians, and equipment, \$1,586; taxes, \$653.75; and advertising, \$1,286.50.

One of the bitter feuds in show business is on between Rudolf Friml and J. J. Shubert as the result of a message sent the manager by the composer protesting the revival of Friml's "The Firefly." When the opera went on some weeks ago, Friml read a telegram of protest so pungent that the manager became incensed. Friml stated that he would rather his works "... die forever than have you produce them.

Shubert is reported having tossed out the original score entirely, inserting numbers of Jean Schwarz and Irving Actman, while Rowland Leigh supplied the book. Otto Harbach, who wrote "Fleddy" with Friml, also complained. Shubert then changed title to "Full Steam Ahead."

"Firefly" dates back to 1912, when it was presented by Arthur Hammerstein with Ethel Mayhew starred. When Hammerstein went bankrupt some years ago, rights to the show he produced were disposed of by the receiver and the Shuberts took over the operetta for a lump sum.

Expect Record New Year's Eve On Broadway

Akin to the last-finging which jam-packed Broadway this weekend, with returning service men on Xmas furlough, such will be the status of "New Year's Eve" which is reported crowd and grosses are expected. That further restrictions in 1943 are inevitable, as the war progresses, has been used to the man-in-the-street, by agriculture secretaries are of new every occasion to make it a big whoopee will be seized upon.

"Paradoxically, the Xmas spirit, while generous in its support of show business, was somewhat restrained. It is expected such may occur tomorrow night, with an earlier finale, although the reservations are of new every occasion. On the New York scene, the folding of the Rocketteers' two class nighties, the Rainbow Room and Rainbow Grill, are something of a personal loss to the night-liters who have openly cherished the existence of so cleanly operated and classily run nighties; amidst the more at the Rockefeller Center's Hugh W. S. Robertson, managing director, although a labor situation aggravated (Continued on page 33)

10-15c Beer, 25-30-35c Whiskey, Miami Nite Life Chieftly for Soldier Trade

Miami Beach, Dec. 24. Editor, Variety:
It is hard now to credit that there is more to write about this city than on any other. It is not so much the streets at night and during the day that are the scene of the activity. It is the bars and the saloons. There are not many girls and the soldiers just "Want a Girl" they drink. In bars you see nothing but soldiers and they are lined three to civilian goes into a bar he seems out of place.

Yesterday I walked on Washington avenue, from Fifth to 13th street, and the most on any other day there would be crowds on the streets and not one soldier. I had a life time of it like it used to be. Mother Kelly opened up with only a piano player and singers. The only place here where you are well known is Gus Van at Mother Kelly's and Will Osborne's orch at the Prolet. See admission there.

The Nut Club, which I worked the last two years, is for sale. I doubt if anyone will buy it, especially with the gas situation as it is.

Les Simmonds writes on the night side for the Miami Herald. He writes so scarce that he ran that article about me. It is hard to believe here that he ran that article about me. It is hard to believe here that he ran that article about me.

Bob Fredricks on the Miami Herald, writes mostly about moving pictures. K. J. Davis has practically the only night club on Miami Beach, a line of six girls and starting Christmas vaudeville on a one-day-a-week basis. Except for holidays she will have vaudeville Sunday afternoons at 4 o'clock and charge the admission.

In previous years the prices of drinks here were as high as anywhere. No doubt king. This year beer is 10 and ice everywhere and whiskey 25. 25. All bars must close at midnight except on Saturday when they can be open until 1 a.m. They are very young here by letting them stay open until 1 a.m.

Conditions in Miami seem much better than on the Beach. Streets are crowded there and every night like New Year's Eve. There are more soldiers there than anywhere. I see so many soldiers. You see plenty of civilians in Miami. I don't see any soldiers as much as a soldier asked me last night why I wasn't in a uniform. I told him I was in the last war and was in the A.E.F. for two years.

Miami Beach has more civilians than some of the small towns in France did during the last war. I know more civilians in Great France. In September, 1918, than I see here. Soldiers are practically nothing but customers as customers. I am working on Miami Beach, and it is the only place in Miami where you can work in France for the Over There League with Will Morrissey, Tommy King, Margaret Mayo, Elizabeth Rice, etc.

Ray Walker.

A. J. Balaban's Daughter In Reno for Divorce

Reno, Dec. 29. Ida Joy Balaban, daughter of Carrie and A. J. Balaban, has established residence here to divorce Jean Aberbach, employee of T. B. Harms Music Co. They were married three months ago in New York, on Sept. 19, at the Balaban family's Dorset hotel residence.

From here, Mrs. Aberbach, who has given piano recitals, is studying for the concert platform when she would have proceeded to winter in California.

RUTH'S OLD XMAS

Providence, Dec. 29. Hollywood's Ruth Hussey spent a cold Christmas with her parents, Capt. and Mrs. William O. Clarke in Providence, when the oil tank in the basement of their Providence home sprang a leak and lost at least 275 gallons of oil was lost. A wood burning stove was pressed into service.

1942 - Biggest Year

for
Biggest Pictures
In History of the Film Industry

An Added Feature in
'Show Business
At War'

theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

N. Y. Film Critics Vote Coward's 'Serve' And Cagney's 'Cohan' Best

New York Film Critics have awarded the annual prize for best picture of the year, and John Farrow's 'In Which We Serve' (UA) as the best picture of the year. James Cagney was picked as the outstanding actor of the year for his portrayal of George M. Cohan in 'Yankee Doodle Dandy'. Agnes Moorhead, who played Aunt Fanny in 'The Magnificent Ambersons', was named as the best actress of the year, and John Farrow, who filmed 'Wake Island', was named as the best director of the year. A special award will also be given by the critics to 'Moscow Strikes Back', as the outstanding war fact film of the year.

'Runner-up' in 'In Which We Serve' was 'Wake Island'. 'Runner-up' to Farrow as director was Noel Coward.

Cagney won out as the best actor of the year on the first ballot, and Agnes Moorhead won out over Greer Garson as the best actress of the year.

Awards will be presented to the winners, or their representatives, at a cocktail party next Sunday (3) at the Barbary Room. Coast-to-coast hookup is being arranged for Blue network, and they are trying to put in the 'strangest' for Noel Coward to come in from England to accept his award over the air.

Because of priorities and war restrictions the usual bronze plaque the critics annually award will be replaced by a scroll.

Eighteen critics took part in the voting, representing all the major daily newspapers in New York, with the exception of the Sun and Daily Mirror.

CAPT. MAURICE EVANS' SPOT

Honolulu, Dec. 15. Capt. Maurice Evans, the Shakespearean actor, assisting Col. Davidson, head of Army recreation here,

EPSTEINS IN DET. ON 'ARMY' FILM TREATMENT

Detroit, Dec. 29. Philip and Juliet Epstein, Warner Bros. writers and producers, are here gathering Irving Berlin's 'This is the Army' and will assist in the screen treatment, which Casey Robinson otherwise prepared. The Epstein brothers also assisted on 'Yankee Doodle Dandy', for which Robert Buckner and Edmund Joseph left WB, planning his own production unit. Michael Curtiz will direct.

McIntire, Warner's still battling to get 'The Sign of the Cross' into production. Charles Gable or James Stewart from Uncle Sam, but their Metro commitments in civilian life may stymie that. Gingers Rogers most likely will be 'Eileen', and of course Berlin and the original soldier cast will recreate the film version in Technicolor. However, if stars of Gable or Stewart's stature can't be obtained, it may be decided to do the stage version 100%, sans marquee values.

But WB shooting for a record gross—everything goes to Army Emergency Relief Fund—and reactions of the box takings can only be fortified by sturdy star values. Incidentally, the 'Army' show here is having its best press of its time so far, with overwhelming editorial support for the soldier show. Beams of stuff, to news and editorial pages alike, and big laudatory.

Still Dickering for Names
Hollywood, Dec. 29.

WB is talking to Gingers Rogers for the film version of Irving Berlin's 'This Is the Army' and says she'll likely accept.

As far as efforts to enlist services of Clark Gable or Jimmy Stewart, Charlie Rindoff said, 'It's up to the Army to produce them and there's nothing the studio can do about it. It's generally agreed, however, that recruiting of either or both of the' (Continued on page 47)

H'wood Aided By Easing of Curfew On German Aliens

Hollywood, Dec. 29. German aliens in the motion picture area were relieved of curfew restrictions by Lieut. Gen. John T. DeWitt, as a follow-up of the easing of the law on Italian aliens several months ago.

Removal of the ban will free many film personalities, formerly restricted to their homes from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. Numerous players, directors and technical men will be permitted to work longer schedules to speed up picture production and go out to town on location.

Famous First Nights

'The Admirable Orlotron' (New Lycium, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1932). William Gillette, wrote a strong Broadway farce, drew a large audience, with a new play by J. M. Barrie, which appeared. The story was far off the beaten track and the playing excellent, with Gillette never better cast than as the model builder. The deductive audience realized it had been present at the birth of a new era out to spread the word. The play enjoyed a long run and later formed the framework for DeMille's 'Male and Female'. It also was done by Helen Hayes.

Benny Troupe Wows Servicemen In 95-Minute Show at Lakehurst

Harry M. Warner
Exposures on
'Patriotism and Entertainment
in the Cinematic Art'

An Added Feature in
'Show Business
At War'

theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

What Jack Benny said last week about there being nothing he's proud of, Monday night's show was quite so important—as to make a soldier laugh, went double for the war effort. Benny's troupe, tired but happy after a strenuous performance at the Lakehurst (N. J.) Naval Air Station, some 2,000 servicemen whom they had entertained at the Xmas Eve package of entertainment deposited within the shadows of the night's laughter.

As far as the boys stationed at Lakehurst are concerned, Benny's troupe Santa Claus—and from Benny's viewpoint, Monday night's show served even to emphasize the point he's been stressing—the lads serving Uncle Sam have starved for need plenty of entertainment and the best that's available.

Create New Academy Award to Include Coward's 'Serve'

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Deadline for candidates in the Oscar Derby Dec. 31 was approved by the British-made production of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, with a loophole for the British-made picture, 'In Which We Serve'. The Noel Coward production, distributed by United Artists, is being shown at the best feature film produced outside the U. S. and brought to this country during the awards year, although not necessarily exhibited in Los Angeles during that period.

Added award was made for the better recognition of international screen artistry, and to obviate problems of local booking beyond the jurisdiction of the Academy. David O. Selznick recently made a fight for recognition of the British film.

JUNE KNIGHT TESTIFIES HUBBY WAS A BRUTE

Houston, Dec. 26. June Knight, former stage and screen star, testified before District Judge W. B. Egan today that her husband, Arthur A. Cameron, oil millionaire, 'beat me, half-choked me, kidnapped the baby and threatened to take him to Mexico if I wouldn't give up my interest in our property.' As a result of the testimony, Cameron's Texas properties were ordered placed in receivership.

Mrs. Knight, who seeks \$4,000 a month alimony during her husband's divorce suit filed by her on Nov. 25, married Cameron in Beverly Hills in 1930.

Lyman Starts It Rolling
Alie Lyman's new act things rolling with a hot jump on 'Biggie Call 'Em' Later. Al Pollock, his top attraction, will get the new act of Clyde McCoy, Henry Busse and Louis Armstrong, all well done, and succeed with a lot of cheering.

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If Rationing Can Do This, It's Welcome to Stay

With film curtailment, and the obvious necessity for fewer pictures, the entire essence of the major picture production scheme of things will call for careful weighing of all values for maximum gross results in films which can't gross \$3,000,000 or better may hardly be considered worth the effort in the light of fewer pictures which will have to be made.

Thus, in inmost executive powwows, it's patent that only stories and ideas of widest appeal get consideration. These will be endowed with everything possible, so as to aim for topmost taking. This is the answer to the question of fancy prices paid for hit plays and books.

FORVICTORY

BUY UNITED STATES WAR SAVINGS BONDS STAMPS

It will cost money to defeat Germany, Japan and Italy. Buy war savings bonds and stamps. Buy war savings bonds and stamps every day if you can. Buy them on a regular basis.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Abbott and Costello

British-Made Film Poses Delicate Problem for Haysites; Violates Code

Hays office has another censorship hot potato on its hands in 'Next of Kin,' the heroine an English girl, released by Universal in the U. S. 'Kin' has more lurid dialog than anything that has ever made the Production Code Authority blush heretofore. Only this time it's a film which must be released in the U. S. even on a treaty with the British Government.

Besides the choice language used in 'Kin,' the heroine an English girl, is a dope fiend, under the influence of the Nazis, hence an unwilling spy.

Following close on the heels of the controversy over 'In Which We Serve' and 'We Are the Marines,' this latest has so many eyes wide open that it shows the two other pictures completely in the shade. After seeing 'Kin,' one should never be surprised if the expressions are so tough that the picture shouldn't be allowed to the States.

Universal got the release of the picture after lots were drawn at the Hays office. Each of the eight material will, in turn, release a British Government film under the agreement.

The Hays office tries to make deletions it would have to consult with and possibly overcome objections from the British Ministry of Information.

'Kin,' which was reportedly made before the abortive release of 'Dieppe,' stresses the danger of loose talk. Its value has since been emphasized by the fact, which occurred when the Dieppe raid was planned and the picture still under attention in the States, in high official quarters in Britain and, for this reason, British Ministry of Information officials in the U. S. first considered it untitled to release film here.

Teddy Carr, United Artists managing director in England, arranged for the distribution of the film in America. His last views were in consultation with and approval of the British War Ministry. Deal was delayed while objected back to the Information Ministry were aired.

Glenn Ill. McClintic Replaces in 'Sisters' For 1st Role in 15 Yrs.

With Edmund Glenn forced out of the newly-arrived "Three Sisters" at the Barmore, N. Y., with his absence on Christmas day, Glenn McClintic, who directed the Chekhov revival, has stepped into the part. Glenn is not expected back until later in the week.

McClintic's appearance as Dr. Conklin marks his first stage appearance since 1927. In that year he toured with Fay Bainter in "A Woman of Affairs." (Glenn's return prior to his N. Y. opening. In those days McClintic was a character actor and essayed "Three Sisters" is one of the most difficult in playing because of Chebutykin's vodka-imbibing scenes in second act one of cow's standouts.)

McClintic's wife, Katharine Cornell, who presented "Three Sisters," described her husband's performance as commendable. She continued on page 47.

Helen O'Connell Leaving Jimmy Dorsey Band

Helen O'Connell, credited with being a strong bo, draw with Bob Eberly, who presented "Three Sisters," leaves that band after the current play at the Strand theatre, N. Y. She will be replaced by Kitty Kallen, formerly with Jack Teagarden. O'Connell is leaving the Dorsey outfit mainly because Jimmy Dorsey out her fiance, with the Army theatre work. She will do radio and theatre work.

Brecher Back West

His play, 'Sweet Charity,' having premiered Monday (28) at the Manhattan, N. Y., Irving Brecher returns to Metro tomorrow (Thurs.). He has been away 13 weeks and producer Arthur Freed has been SOS-ing for his return.

Brecher and Manny Self co-authored the play, which Al Bitensky, Ingaldie, the Shuberts and Eddie Small are financing. Brecher also has a piece of the likewise Monroe Greenhall, ex-UA pub and ad head, now in U. S. service. George Abbott staged.

COLLIER'S MAG PLUG FOR PIX IN WAR

Kyle Critchton in the Jan. 9 Collier's draws attention to the danger of losing America's most potent single moral medium—motion pictures—as result of the indifference of the public to the industry's manpower problem. Critchton's 'Hollywood Gets Its Teeth Kicked In' deals with the phenomena responsible for the loss.

Critchton explains that it 'doesn't mean that people hate the movies; it means that they have a mental image of Hollywood parties. Hollywood swimming pools, Hollywood caddy, Hollywood income tax returns, Hollywood scandals. The idea that this might be lost makes America cough.' Yes, do you care if the movies go out of business? Yes. Do either of us care if every big shot in Hollywood goes broke? Not.

'But I care and you care and America cares if anything keeps Hollywood from making the best pictures of its life in these war days,' Critchton says. 'We'd go nuts without the movies.' He points out that when President Roosevelt wants to relax he runs a movie at the White House, that he has bombarded Edw. D. Weillike with questions about Hollywood; that Winston Churchill has himself had a health spa at Hollywood films; that 90,000,000 of us a week plank 'our dough down on the war and war worry.'

Critchton contends that actors should be acting in pictures and not pointing out that Russians kept theatres and studios going even under the most direst conditions. He studied pictures as 'one of our lines of defense' and says that 'the job is to be a picture on the world and keep on making them.'

A. & C. Plaqued

Hollywood, Dec. 29

Enlisted men and officers at Fort McArthur gave Abbott & Costello a plaque 'in grateful appreciation of their services of Army camps, entertainments unexcelled as a morale building force.'

Presentation was made Monday.

Nick Stuart Marries

St. Louis, Dec. 29

Nick Stuart, 39, married the daughter, now the maestro of his own band, as wed for the fourth time last week to Martha Burnett, of Biloxi, Miss.

Stuart, currently in his 16th week at the Club Continental, Hotel Jefferson, is his first wife's second wife. Carol, while his second and third was Ruth Skinner, who married and divorced him twice.

WAIT \$25,000

CONFIRMATION

Big Air Shows Can't Get Names and Hollywood Studios 'Cue' Its Stars to Standard Their Earnings Via Pix, Not Radio

'EXCHANGE' SYSTEM

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Studios are having the word passed around to keep their stars at home. In other words, stay away from radio. Not willing to stick out their necks by telling their high priced contracts to the world, the procedure is more devious, generally via agents handling percentage lists for radio.

It's beginning to hurt, but there's nothing the agencies or networks can do about it. Talent buyers are feeling the squeeze but, pressure being the worst part of discretion, they just grin and bear it. Naturally, the big idea is to keep away from microphones those whose earnings are the ceiling. The studios want the stars to know, ever so firmly if not too openly, that if there's only \$47,200 to be earned this year they would 'pre' that it be used up before the cameras began, then rationed off in part on the kilowatt line.

Lux Hard Hit

The blow falls harder on Lux Radio Theatre than any of the others because of the type and number of guests used on their glorified (Continued on page 45)

Disney Returns With Mexican Material For New Good Will Cartoon

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Walt Disney returned from a three-week stay in Mexico with background material for his second Latin-American feature as a gesture of goodwill to the neighbors south of the Rio Grande. 'Tite of the new cartoon will be 'Surprise Package,' with a special section set aside for Mexico under the subtitle, 'La Pinta.'

Disney brought back 150 feet of 16 mm. kodachrome film, hundreds of sketches and dozens of records, plus a stack of notes and bands. Trip was made with the blessing of the U. S. Department of State and the entourage was warmly received by Avila Camacho, president of Mexico.

McCormick Cuts Hand; Continues Performance

Unknown to the audience, Myron McCormick cut his hand severely during last Thursday night's (24) performance of 'The Danabak Cleeck' at the Playhouse, N. Y. Accident occurred as the actor was opening a champagne bottle. McCormick was hurt as Christmas Eve, it was McCoy champagne.

As he tried to pull the cork from the bottle, McCormick gashed his hand, but turned quickly to hide it from the audience. As Flora Robinson, who had continued to perform, scene, Joan Tetzel, who was also on stage at the time, attracted the attention of the stage manager, she then sauntered over near the wings to get a bandage he handed her. She handed it to McCormick and he bound the cut.

Whole incident was over so quickly, even Miss Robinson was unaware of it until after the show was finished. McCormick completed the performance without further happening to the two.

Some 50 Specific Contracts Further Middle the \$25,000 Ceiling As Zero Hour Approaches; See a Test Suit

Milton L. Cashy

Veteran Banker and Advisor Gives Some Sage Advice

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT FOR HOLLYWOOD PEOPLE

An Added Feature in 'Show Business At War'

theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

UP BOB RISKIN

IN Q. T. OF SHAKEUP

Washington, Dec. 29. A quiet shakeup in the hierarchy of the War Information Office's various subdivisions gave Overseas Motion Picture Unit the organization has ceased being a division of the OWI and assumes the rank of a Bureau.

More puts it on a par with the Bureau of Motion Pictures, which is the unit headed by Lowell Mellett. Latter deals entirely with domestic films. Coincidentally, Robert Riskin, former Hollywood producer-writer, who heads the Overseas Film Bureau, assumes a status on a par with Mellett.

Change resulted not from any difficulties between Riskin and Mellett but primarily as a matter of more efficient management. Riskin previously had been the victim of being subject to too many superiors. Being both in motion pictures and dealing with foreign audiences, Riskin was boosted by both the Motion Picture Bureau and the Overseas Branch.

He was under Ed Stellas, chief of the Publications Bureau of Overseas. Playwright Robert Sherwood is director of the Overseas Branch and now Riskin is subject only to him. Sherwood is immediately under OWI head Elmer Davis. As a matter of fact, however, Sherwood is widely known here to be one of the President's closest confidantes and more of an associate of Davis' than a subordinate.

Formerly former picture editor of the Associated Press and one of the conceivers and planners of New York's 'Industrially' has been moved out of his job as chief of the Publications Bureau in New York City and brought here as deputy director of the Overseas branch in charge of operational planning. John Macchett, former editor of Look magazine, has succeeded Stellas in New York.

Dick Foran to Marry Carole Gallagher, U

Trenton, Dec. 29. Hollywood reports that Dick Foran, picture cowboy, is about to marry a second time. His former wife, by his mother, Mrs. Arthur P. Foran, at Flemington, N. J., was the bride-to-be in 1934. Gallagher, Universal starlet, Foran and his fiancee are on a holiday visit at the Flemington home of his former wife's industrial and political.

The actor is divorced from social-fighter Hollingsworth and has custody of the two.

Major company heads were scheduled to meet the exhibition with U. S. Treasury officials yesterday (Tues.) for further discussions on the income ceiling and wage stabilization in an effort to get clarification regarding some 50 cases involving contractual obligations, which have been submitted by various producer-distributors.

As the Dec. 31 deadline approaches, when the \$47,200 grossing ceiling goes into effect, industry attorneys representing several major companies are still working on papers designed to meet the new conditions.

Among those reported in the Capital are Barney Blazan, Austin Keough, N. Frank Lathoun, Joe Hazen, V. Peter Freeman and Nick Schenck. A talk with Lowell Mellett regarding script censorship was also planned.

Despite all that's been written and said about the \$47,200 gross earned income edict, confusion still prevails over the issue when it comes to application of the regulations in specific cases. U. S. Treasury officials stated from the beginning that many questions relating to the regulations would remain unanswered for the time being.

As a result, and likely because Treasury officials are swamped with queries from scores of industries, a definite ruling on the specific case (Continued on page 38)

Harper's Bazaar Editor Alleges She Had Collab Deal With Gypsy Rose Lee

Louise Hovick, known as Gypsy Rose Lee, was named as a defendant in N. Y. supreme court last week, involving two causes of action against her by Dorothy Wheeler Latta, associate editor of Harper's Bazaar, alleged collaborating with her in the latter's book. (Continued on page 19)

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Film Salesmen Burned Up at Their 'Forgotten Man' Status; Can't Get Gas But Urged to Push Propaganda Pix

Editor 'Variety':
Pittsburgh.
A huge chorus of resentment and anger, which is gaining momentum as the troublousness of the war is founded on a real grievance—especially against vested organizations for their inactivity in their half—is the entirely legitimate demand by all film salesmen that we have been the neglected persons in the governing edicts of the Government.

With the advent of the war, and the hardships it has imposed on every one, the hard working and conscientious film salesmen of all distributing organizations have been the patsies insofar as gas rationing is concerned. With the Government turning out hundreds of reels for propaganda purposes, and in turn, the distributing organizations turning to it that they are properly shown in all of the theatres, from the very largest to the smallest, it has devolved upon the film salesmen to see that these propaganda reels are shown.

With respect orders that they are to devote so much of their time to the hooking of the Government reels, each man has to make in many instances hundreds of miles to cover his territory—territory he has already made in the sale of his company's product, to impress upon the theatre the absolute necessity for the showing of the propaganda films and that are being turned out like doughnuts in Washington and elsewhere.

All of the road men are public spirited and patriotic and they have accepted an exceptional burden in the added burden of extra travel over dangerous and hazardous winter roads to see that their reels are set in all of the theatres in their zones. But with all this—a real patriotic zeal—they have been neglected in the various gas rationing boards which they have applied for additional gas to do their own work and that of the Government? Just plain and truth "noes," when asking for the gas cards. And they are older men and women get the coupons with less excuse for getting into the film salesmen.

Repeatedly have the road men been braced all this to their respective Branch Managers, who can turn back. (Continued on page 14)

Lots of Latin Goodwill Atmosphere in Pix on B'way; CIAA Rates Bow

Success of the Office of Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs in making Hollywood Latin American-conscious has been evidenced on Broadway in the past month. Three reels of good material are being shown under the aegis of the CIAA, were playing Broadway houses almost simultaneously.

They were 'You Were Never Lovelier' (Columbia), 'Now, Voyager' (Paramount) and 'Springtime in the Rockies' (20th-Fox). 'Lovelier' has an Argentine locale and characters and 'Springtime' its first made into a film, 'Orchids' by an Argentine producer. 'Voyager' sends Bette Davis on a cruise to Rio and as background shows the beautiful Rio harbor. 'Springtime' has several Latin scenes.

Amazingly enough, there has been a lack from Latin America about any of the films. This is definitely recognized by the establishment of the CIAA little more than two years ago. There was 'Springtime' a pic with anything in it before that time that

WB'S ACAD SHORTS ART GROUP NAMED

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Three short subjects have been entered as candidates for Academy Awards by Warners, leading off with the Capt. Hewitt T. Whelless two-reeler, 'Beyond the Line of Duty.' Other entries are 'Winning Your Wings,' a documentary with James Stewart, and a one-reeler, 'The United States Marine Band.'

Walter Wagner, presy. of Academy, appointed a committee of art directors to adopt rules governing their particular sector of 1942 Academy Awards. They are Lionel Banks, Albert D'Agostino, Jerry Ferguson, William Ferris, Bob Haas, Earl Hedrick, Russell Kimball, Martin Obizna and Joseph C. Wright.

RKO AT PEAK AS '43 STARTER

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—RKO shows off the new year with the heaviest January production schedule in its history, comprising six features and two probable added starters.

First starter for next month will be 'The Falcon Sings,' to be followed by 'The Fallen Sparrow,' 'The Falcon Comes Back,' 'The Leopard Man,' 'Queen of Burlesque' and 'Gilderew's Bad Boy.' Two biggest budgeters on the new slate are 'Look Out Below,' co-starring Fred Astaire and Jean Arthur, and 'Free for All,' with Joan Arthur and John Wayne in the top spots.

GRAD SEARS LAID UP
Grad Sears was bedded by cold which nearly turned into pneumonia over the past weekend. He's not due back at his desk until next week.

didn't bring down all sorts of criticism on Hollywood and the U. S. in general. Careful sowing of seeds by a CIAA rep has been partially responsible for the lack of squawks, but principally it's the result of increased diligence on the part of individual studios anxious to do everything possible to cooperate with the aims of the CIAA.

Films, like the tri mentioned above, serve a dual purpose. For by a CIAA rep has been partially responsible for the lack of squawks, but principally it's the result of increased diligence on the part of individual studios anxious to do everything possible to cooperate with the aims of the CIAA.

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PREPARE TO COPE WITH SHORTAGES

Curb on Duals Via Government Decree Being Given Increased Consideration in D. C. As Means of Conserving Materials—Exhibs See No Saving in Celluloid Because Shorts Would Be Needed to Fill—Fear Adequate Audience Reaction

MELLETT BALLOON ?

Government action to eliminate double billing is getting increased consideration in Washington, as a result of growing shortages in vital materials. Lovell Mellett's recent declaration against duals, was generally regarded as a trial balloon to test industry response, and while many theatre operators and exhibitor associations backed Mellett's suggestion openly, inside reaction remained unfavorable.

War Production Board officials, reluctant to impose any regulations which would shutter houses or affect boxoffice grosses adversely, are meantime gathering additional statistics and information on the dualing situation. Should the materials shortage become more acute WPB would be in a position to apply restrictive measures aimed to produce the least harmful effects.

While a large number of producers and exhibits are in favor of single billing, a larger number are opposed to such a move, contending that there would be virtually no saving in either celluloid or theatre equipment. Paid circuits, through both chain and independent operators show that every attempt to establish single bill policy has been disastrous, boxoffice wise. Contention, also, that supposition there would be a saving in celluloid by eliminating double feature picture is a fallacy. It would only result in a change of program with shorts filling in, rather than a curbing of running time. Those against single-billing, even if it is established on a nationwide basis by Government edict, which would give no undue advantage to any operator, claim that theatre patrons buy film entertainment in units of time. Exhibs also believe that public reactions would be hurt since theatre-goers would think the theatres were unnecessarily deprived of additional entertainment.

While exhibitors are under the impression that elimination of double feature decrees is merely in a theoretical stage, the realities of war emergency are such that the authorities to examine the problem with a view to direct action.

As respects eliminating double feature duals on a uniform basis, in all situations, would be beneficial in that it would conserve materials and conserve and distribution forces facing raw coal, transportation and manpower shortages. The chief of the government's advocating single billing prior to the war, have been warning exhibits not to have product farther than it can be produced.

Victor Herbert Heirs OK 3d 'Marietta' Film

The heirs of Victor Herbert last week issued a license to Metro for a third film to make another version of 'Naughty Marietta.' The agreement restricts the exhibition of the film to 15 cities and the price was set at over \$50,000. Deal was handled by the Warner Bros. music group. Purpose was to carry out the aim of Herbert's heirs. Metro has done 'Marietta' twice before.

Wall Street Cheered on Film Backlog That Includes Many Top Features; Over 200 Pictures Await Distribution

WAC's Proud Record

By FRANCIS S. HARMON
(Exec. Vice-President of WAC)
An Added Feature in
'Show Business At War'
Theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

STILL HOPEFUL ON BRIT. FREEZE

Although no word had been received from London up until 'Variety's' press time yesterday ('Tuesday'), major company foreign sales chiefs still were hopeful that the remaining frozen funds in Great Britain would be disgorged by the end of the year. This covers the period between Sept. 29 and Oct. 24, amounting to upwards of \$6,000,000. This amount was left in Britain representing about the two months business, at the time the British unfroze approximately \$42,500,000 last October.

When this coin is remitted, all American distributor funds up to Oct. 24 will have been remitted to M. V. After that, U. S. distributors plan to seek free flow of all rental revenue in Britain.

Frances Hanson at Rep

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Story editor Paul at Republic goes to Frances Hanson, formerly with Goldwyn and Columbia. She replaces Francis Langton, now in the Army.

Ontario Censor Rescinds Ban On Documentary Film As 'Propaganda'

Toronto, Dec. 29.—On the charge that the film is political propaganda favoring the Federal administration, release to Ontario theatres of the National Film Board's documentary, 'Inside Fighting Canada,' was first banned by Ontario Board of Censors, and later okayed. The film had been passed by all the other provinces of Canada. Hepburn, who is also treasurer of Ontario, further charged that the film is different from those produced films of a purely political nature and that it has been withheld from the Ontario government for years not to let pictures be shown to the political advantage of any party, whether it is in power or out.

He further charged that the version of 'Inside Fighting Canada' released in Ontario is different from that released in other parts of Canada.

In announcing approval of the film Ontario censors said it had been held up nine days in order to check the commentary. According to John Grierson, head

of the National Film Board, the documentary was made at the request of the U. S. Government and is to be issued from Washington as an official release in the latter part of the year. The film was sent to Washington and it was decided to release it in Ontario. Grierson said that the film makes reference to the fact that Mackenzie King is the Prime Minister of Canada. It would be strange if in a survey of British war effort, special care were taken to ignore the United States. Churchill. It would seem perversity in a film of the United States' war effort to ignore the U. S. regulator, to mention Mr. Roosevelt.

As leader of the Liberal party of Ontario, Hepburn has before now banned films for his current reason. A month before the Federal election he issued the ban on the March of Time release, 'Canada at War.' Newreed clips of CIO fights and discrediting of the U. S. regulator failed when Hepburn, then holding a re-election campaign and fighting the Ontario election, had to be then termed party propaganda via the screen, though this would have been in his political advantage.

Large portion of the bullish enthusiasm generated for motion picture started in Wall Street during the last few weeks is directly attributable to the vast inventory of unreleased pictures being piled up in Hollywood. Even in the face of numerous handouts and War Production Board rulings, it is now estimated that the industry has the greatest inventory on record for the American film business. Latest checkup indicates more than 200 features are in the cans available for release or in the final stages of completion, with cutting and some dubbing still pending. Some are "semi-available" for distribution. It is estimated that 80 or 90 are in "A" classification, which would land them in first-run of key cities. This is the most pleasing factor to the street because it means extended runs in the big money houses which gives the distributor his greatest return per production. The fact that many name players, since joining the colors, are in these finished productions also is rated good by Wall Street.

Inroads on manpower really hurt the industry in the latter part of the past year, yet the ability to stack up such a huge backlog of product is expected to make a big exception at the boxoffice until producers are able to re-arrange their schedules. The fact that the scarcity of draft-age male stars and the increased use of femme talent, opinion polls in the past year, and the Y. financial circles is that production headicals will be less severe in 1943. This amount was left in Britain representing about the two months business, at the time the British unfroze approximately \$42,500,000 last October.

When this coin is remitted, all American distributor funds up to Oct. 24 will have been remitted to M. V. After that, U. S. distributors plan to seek free flow of all rental revenue in Britain.

Information received in financial quarters is that the bulk of the backlog piled up in Hollywood represents well-made pictures, with production values and merit seldom sacrificed for speed to finish the product. This was possible because the industry as a whole started building this inventory of pictures because it had the foresight to see discoloration of manpower. Also major companies were encouraged to extend runs wherever possible since this season. This, too, has aided in increasing the overall inventory.

WORK WEEK FO

Ass't Mgr. Calls 'Drill,' Clears Theatre Before Patrons Realize It's Real Fire

Milwaukee, Dec. 29. Quick thinking by Jack Parrot, assistant manager of the Uptown theatre, saved the Fox name, probably averted a panic among the audience of 400, mostly children, when fire broke out Saturday night at 10:24. House was emptied before fire department arrived, although seven employees were made ill by poisonous incident to the blaze.

When the fire was discovered, Parrot ran to the stage and announced: "Now we're going to have an emergency fire drill just to see what we could do if there really was a fire. We want to see just how quickly we can empty the theatre, but don't rush and don't crowd. You can all come right back in again when the drill is over. The crowd exited in perfect order and without confusion before they arrived at their homes. Although some 'imagined' they smelled smoke on their way out.

Fire apparently was caused by someone dropping a lighted cigaret into the drawer of a desk in the manager's office where a number of smaller films were kept. The blazing film generated nitrogen peroxide which affected several employees who rushed in to subdue the fire, but they were given oxygen at a first-aid station. Fire department rescue squad and suffered no serious effects.

Tom Connors Wins Dispensation For M.O.T. on Raw Film

March of Time and 20th-Fox have reportedly reached an agreement with the War Production Board with regard to use of raw film stock which 20th-Fox contended should not be charged up to its allocation for features.

When M.O.T. switched its release from RKO it appeared, under the WPB allocation system whereby only distributors are granted raw stock allotments, that the producer would not be granted recognition as a raw stock user.

The 20th deal, from accounts, is solely a releasing agreement with March of Time and if later were to be refused stock the distributors felt that they could not afford to supply the film at the expense of their own schedules.

20th excess also argued, it is reported, that M.O.T. was in the nature of a reward and was outside the restrictions applying to features. When the new overall raw stock regulations were outlined recently, embracing newsreels in the footage out, 20th was placed in the position where it would have been obliged to take footage from its regular program. If the M.O.T. pictures were released, it understood that M.O.T. used approximately 12,000,000 feet of film.

Tom Connors, meantime, was scheduled to huddle with Harold Kipper again shortly regarding newsreel stock allocations. Tentative plans call for newsreels to cut approximately one minute from the newsreel running time, which would acreely be noticed.

It is understood that sufficient raw film will be made in 1943 for running footage from the Bureau of Motion Pictures of the War Information Office to maintain virtually the same number of prints as in the past. This would satisfy the OWI inasmuch as prompt distribution is concerned.

Timefilm for Malvern

Two musicals were assigned to Paul Malvern's production slate at Universal, starting with "Crombone" on New Year's next month.

Second timefilm will be 'Cowboy from Manhattan'

Hope, Bracken, Get Gals For Par's 'Let's Face It'

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Marjorie Reynolds and Betty Rhodes draw the femme leads opposite Bob Hope and Eddie Bracken in the forthcoming Paramount film-visual, 'Let's Face It,' rewritten from the Broadway show.

Production starts in January with Sidney Lanfield directing.

National Negro Congress Scores

Tenn. Johnson

The Office of War Information, Lovell Mellett, the OWI film chief, Metro and its film, 'Tennessee Johnson,' were put on the pan last week by the National Negro Congress which claims to represent 3,000 affiliated organizations, via a call for protests arguing that the film be shelved for the duration. The NNC further claims that 'apprehension' in Hollywood are planning to utilize the influence of the OWI itself to justify Metro's release of the film.

'Tennessee Johnson' has been under attack since it was first announced by M-G by various liberal groups and individuals who claim that the film is an apology for slavery. Last week, after a special preview in New York, representatives of 19 Negro and white organizations and newspapers issued a statement attacking the film, sent copies of the release to M-G and the OWI and asked the OWI to stop the film and investigate the source of its production.

Workers Happier

Plans for 36-Hr. Week

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Plans for putting the film industry on a 48-hour work week were set in motion following a conference attended by major studio managers, Pat Casey and business representatives of studio unions and guilds. Examination of the 36-hour week was under discussion over the past weekend by studio and union officials and William Hopkins, regional director of the War Manpower Commission.

Union leaders were told the Government was preparing to officially designate the picture industry as 'essential' to the war effort and reportedly the industry will be forced on a longer week to release many expert technicians for defense work.

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MAY RESULT IN SOME DISMISSALS

Studio Guilds and Unions Move to Abrogate 36-Hr. Week as Government Prepares to Give Film Industry 'Essential' Status—Defense Plants Will Quickly Absorb Men Leaving Studios

WORKERS HAPPIER

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B'way Theatre Mgrs. Doing a Hot Burn at N. Y. Fire Dept.'s New Ideas Of 'Safety Talks' to Audiences

Henry Henigson Leaving Selznick Agency As G.M.

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Myron Selznick is losing his general agency manager, Henry Henigson, who is pulling out Jan. 1 after running the organization for a year while Selznick, as being serving in Washington with the War Production Board.

Henigson was with Selznick one before, leaving to become general manager for James Roosevelt's Globe Productions.

Technical Ratings

Asked for 3,000 Filmites in Army

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Motion picture industry has turned over a list of more than 3,000 actors, directors and technicians, now in the armed services, with a suggestion that their talents be utilized for their technical picture experience. In addition to Hollywood, lists are being prepared at the home offices in New York, with details of the various guild and union men and their particular adaptation to wartime work.

Idea is to co-relate experienced technicians into the war machine where they can do the most good. Many of the electrical, sound, photographic and laboratory experts have been taken into the various services without regard to their technical skill.

Broadway theatre managers are doing a hot burn that may end up in a plea to the corporation to make an announcement in Sunday's daily newspapers that the Fire Department intends to plant a fireman in every film and legit theatre stage to deliver a five-minute 'safety lecture' at each performance. Fire Commissioner Patrick Walsh, who announced the plan, has not yet put it into effect, but is training his non-desert-dust-and-dem boys in the art of public speaking, in anticipation of the imminent presentation. Night club catastrophe in Boston started the whole thing.

Because of political implications, the idea is not expected to occur in court via lawyers. One Broadway manager, with years of experience in the field as well as on the main stem, wary of backhanded wallops from politicians, refused to talk until promise was made to withhold his name.

In the first place, if theatres or places of public assembly are not closed at every show, the men be placed until they are made so. A newswired shot now and then in the movie theatres, special display ads in programs, and stories in the newspapers will accomplish everything that is necessary in an educational way.

"But putting five-minute bores on the stage at every show is not a taste in the amusement appetite of the public at all performances, will promptly irritate people to slay away from the boxoffice entirely. Especially now, with so many war-papers being made, it's tough on the audiences. But the idea of putting firemen out to spiel is silly and destructive to the industry."

I suppose next week, the milk inspector will demand a chance to win a soapbox and the men be garbage collector will want a hearing on his problem. The theatre is a place of amusement, not an educational forum, no matter what anyone says. The amusement industry, Presidential pronouncements, is doing a magnificent war job. No one should interfere, or overload. Someone in authority, with vision, should come forward to defend the wartime amusement industry from boobyism like this.

In 1936, when the Iroquois theatre catastrophe in Chicago cost hundreds of lives, it launched a new design theatre architecture, and laws, which make theatres amazingly safe. There has been no theatre catastrophe involving panic since, nor is there likely to be, as long as honest inspection, non-political enforcement, and high managerial standards continue.

Why the Fire Department should suddenly elect itself to be public speakers in behalf of its duty-problem, is a mystery. With a still appearance of a fireman will put on an audience. No performance could successfully follow such a mood of fear and horror."

Circuit operators and managers in N. Y. have issued the following instructions from the Fire Dept. Theatres which use programs have been printing warnings on program-tomers to look around and choose the nearest exit in the case of fire, signing the insertions with the name of Commissioner Walsh. This has been done voluntarily.

New Other Bill Directs

Hollywood, Dec. 29. Bill Thomas, co-producer of the Pine-Thomas unit for Paramount release, makes his debut as a director in 'Mine Sweeper.' His original intent was to pilot the 'Highway.' The other Bill, Pine, broke in as a director recently on 'Aerial Gunner.'

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE 37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER



OUT NEXT WEEK—AN. 6

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Wired to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St. HOLLYWOOD 1708 No. Vine St. CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St. LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Monday, December 27, 1942

Review

"When Johnny Comes Marching Home" (Universal)

Hollywood, Dec. 20

THIS is the attraction of which Universal's vice-president in charge of sales, W. A. Scully, said to exhibitors over the first signing of his name to an advertisement in kind, "We request that you do not book this picture until you see it." With no wish to discourage exhibitors from heeding the Scully suggestion, but for the convenience of those prevented by gasoline rationing or otherwise from doing so, your correspondent, having inspected the product on preview display in a theatre of appropriate selection, ventures the assurance that the film is an item which may be booked blind with fully as much confidence as any other in its class and with more than most."

Continued: "We believe in the subject just as we believed in 'Buck Privates.'" Your correspondent points out that this is not literally a comparison likening the two pictures or promising equivalent box-office yield from the second. The picture didn't send its preview audience into the panic which "Buck Privates" precipitated, nor was it designed to. On the other hand, Mr. Scully's assertion that "It's the kind of a picture that will entertain your patrons and send them out with a smile" was supported fully and in very particular by the preview reaction.

The film offers Allan Jones as a soldier hero home on leave, Jane Frazee as a singer he falls in love with vice-versa, the youthful Gloria Jean, Donald O'Connor and Peggy Ryan as youngsters intent upon correcting a circumstance which keeps the romantic pair apart for a while, plus Phil Spitalny and his All-Girl Orchestra, the Four Step Brothers and other talent in support. The screenplay by Oscar Brodney and Dorothy Bennett is a narrative of no consequence save as connective, but the dialogue is sprightly, up-to-date and furnishes laughs. The film all mounts up to a wealth of music and most of it is well above par. The film, in whole, is a lively package of diversion, a thing of spirit, lilt and bounce, with no pretensions or apologies in evidence at any point to divert attention from the general pleasantness of the enterprise. Production by Bernard W. Burton and direction by Charles Lamont justify Mr. Scully's enthusiasm fully. Running time, 74 minutes. "G."

*"G" denotes general classification.

ROSCOE WILLIAMS

When Johnny Comes Marching Home

For the "Show Me Showman," ask Col. Arthur Frudenfeld about the "Johnny" engagement at the Albee, Cincinnati the week before Xmas...



GOOD NEWS FOR YOUR EYE... EAR... AND BOXOFFICE!

THRILLING SAGA OF AMERICA'S SEA POWER!



ROAR NAVY ROAR!

All the color and romance of the fighting men of the sea... and their courageous ships... from the trim, swift frigates to the floating fortresses of today!

**NOW AVAILABLE FOR
KEY CITY BOOKINGS!**

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS

A UNIVERSAL SPECIAL FEATURETT



'Cargo,' 'Honeymoon and Stage Bill'
Huge \$34,000 Apiece in Hot Frisco

San Francisco, Dec. 29. Holiday biz here is reaching terrific levels, with 'White Cargo' at the box, pacing ahead. 'Stage Bill' and 'Once Upon a Honeymoon,' plus a stage bill at the Golden Gate, is equally powerful.

Estimates for This Week
Frisco (P-W) (5,000; 30-45)—'White Cargo' (M-G) and 'Omaha Trail' (M-G). Building up to huge \$34,000. Last week, \$19,000. 'Once Upon a Honeymoon' (P-W) (2d wk), up to \$18,000.

Golden Gate (RKO) (2,550; 44-55-75). Once Upon a Honeymoon' (P-W) 3d week, huge. Terrific \$17,000. 'Stage Bill' (P-W) (2d wk), \$17,000. 'Arctic Adventure' (P-W) (2d wk), \$17,000.

Paramount (F-W) (2,470; 30-45)—'Thunder Bird' (M-G) (2d wk). 'Trouble' (20th) (2d wk). Set for a hefty \$22,000. Last week, strong \$21,500.

St. Francis (F-W) (1,415; 50-65)—'Road to Morocco' and 'Wildcat' (P-W) (2d wk). 'Hiding' (2d wk). 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' (2d wk). \$18,000 on mover after three weeks at the Warfield.

Warfield (P-W) (2,650)—'Now, Voyager' (WB) and 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). Holiday season will boom this to \$22,000 for second week. Last week \$23,000, grand.

'STORY' OK 9% IN HEFTY PLAYS.

Minneapolis, Dec. 29. With boxoffices back in the real running for this holiday season, the slump that set in following the gasoline rationing's start seems retarded, temporarily at least. Picture westerners are flocking to movie and office employees proved a decided business boon. Crowds poured into the loop theatres despite unfavorable weather.

Palms Beach Story (P-W) (2d wk) most important offering, has the State well out ahead of the pack. 'Now, Voyager' (WB) and 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) well enough, too, with 'The Navy Comes to Town' (WB) and 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) in several weeks hits the Orpheum mid-night Thursday.

Estimates for This Week
Aster (Par-Serv) (100; 17-28)—'Sherlock Holmes and Voice of Terror' (P-W) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). \$2,200 in six days indicated.

Mog Town (U) and 'Army Strong' (P-W) (RKO) (P-W) (2d wk). Last week, 'Daring Young Man' (P-W) (2d wk) and 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) \$1,800 in six days.

Century (P-S) (1,600; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Hiding for good \$5,500. Last week, 'Springing in Rockies' (20th) (2d wk) \$4,000, healthy. Best of the period and on top of very nice \$12,400 final.

Gopher (P-S) (1,000; 28-30)—'Mrs. Wiggs of Cabbage Patch' (Par). Line of attractions at this house recently hasn't been so strong from boxoffice standpoint or otherwise.

Orpheum (P-W) (1,800; 30-40-50)—'Navy Comes to Town' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). \$3,500. Last week, 'Here We Go Again' (RKO), miserable \$3,800. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Palm Beach Story' (Par). Proving \$3,500. Last week, 'Here We Go Again' (RKO), miserable \$3,800.

Parama Theatre (M-G) (110; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Hiding for good \$5,500 in 20th'. Last week, 'IceLand' (20th) (2d wk), \$2,300. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk), \$2,300. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk), \$2,300.

First Runs on Broadway
(Subject to Change)

Week of Dec. 21
Actor—'For Me and My Gal' (M-G) (11th week).
Reviewed in Variety Sept. 9.
Capitol—'In Which We Serve' (U) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Oct. 7.
Criterion—'Whistling in Dixie' (M-G) (3d).
Reviewed in Variety Oct. 23.
Globe-Jacarc (U) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Dec. 23.
Hollywood—'Casablanca' (WB) (6th).
Reviewed in Variety Dec. 2.
Music Hall—'Random Harvest' (M-G) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Nov. 25.
Paramount—'Star Spangled Banner' (Par) (2d).
Reviewed in current issue.

Rialto—'Quiet Please, Murder' (20th) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Dec. 16.
Rivoli—'Arabian Nights' (U) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Dec. 23.
Roxy—'The Black Swan' (20th) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety Oct. 21.
Strand—'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d week).
Reviewed in Variety June 3.
Week of Jan. 7
Actor—'For Me and My Gal' (M-G) (11th week).
Capitol—'In Which We Serve' (U) (2d week).
Criterion—'Whistling in Dixie' (M-G) (3d week).
Reviewed in Variety Dec. 23.
Hollywood—'Casablanca' (WB) (7th week).
Music Hall—'Random Harvest' (M-G) (2d week).
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'Nights Soak \$43,500,' 'Voyager,' 'Big 43G,' 'Three L.A. Houses,' 'Honeymoon'
Great 41G, Story 32 1/2 G, 2 Spots

'Rangers' High \$9,000
In L'ville; 'Reunion' 8 1/2 G, 'Ice-Capades' 4 1/2 G

Louisville, Dec. 29. With a holiday, closed schools and soldiers in town on week-end leave, biz began picking up from Thursday (24) on through Friday. All houses reported much better Christmas week, but last year, 'Forest Rangers' at the Rialto is going along okay, as is 'Pulling in the Straw' in Reunion. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) is holding its own.

Estimates for This Week
Brews (Fourth Avenue-Loew's) (1,400; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

Keeney (P-W) (1,250; 15-20-25)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

Howell (G&S) (1,100; 33-44-55-75)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

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Los Angeles, Dec. 29. Town is overrun with spenders in uniform and in civilian attire. Marine plants and the picture houses are getting a healthy cut out of what's in the air. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) is getting in on the biggest of all. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) is getting in on the biggest of all. 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk) is getting in on the biggest of all.

Fact that three attractions this week passed the \$40,000 mark (testimony of H. A. Warner, 20th) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk).

Estimates for This Week
Carthay Circle (F-W) (1,516; 33-44-55-75)—'Bambi' (RKO) (19th) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk).

Carthay Circle (F-W) (1,516; 33-44-55-75)—'Bambi' (RKO) (19th) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk).

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'Nights' Strong 17G, 'Reunion' Solid 16G, Providence Toppers

Providence, Dec. 29. Slight lull in attendance during Christmas week, was more than offset by upsurge all around 'Nights' (M-G) (17th) (2d wk), 'Reunion' (M-G) (16th) (2d wk), 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk), 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk), 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk).

Estimates for This Week
Albee (RKO) (2,300; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

Albee (RKO) (2,300; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

Albee (RKO) (2,300; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

Albee (RKO) (2,300; 30-40-50)—'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk). 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk). 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk).

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NATIONAL OFFICE SURVEY
White Christmas For Exhibitors As Biz Booms—'Serve,' 'Harvest,' 'Honeymoon,' 'Nights,' 'Johnny' Outstanding

It is a White Christmas for exhibitors generally over the country, and particularly in New York where astounding totals are being chalked up. Many distributors are trotting out some of current hits for the key cities, and smash business is reflecting the general picture.

Not a week ago, exhibitors were being told to get ready for a lull in business. Now, they are being told to get ready for a boom. 'Nights' (M-G) (17th) (2d wk), 'Reunion' (M-G) (16th) (2d wk), 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk), 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB) (2d wk), 'The Sign of the Cross' (WB) (2d wk).

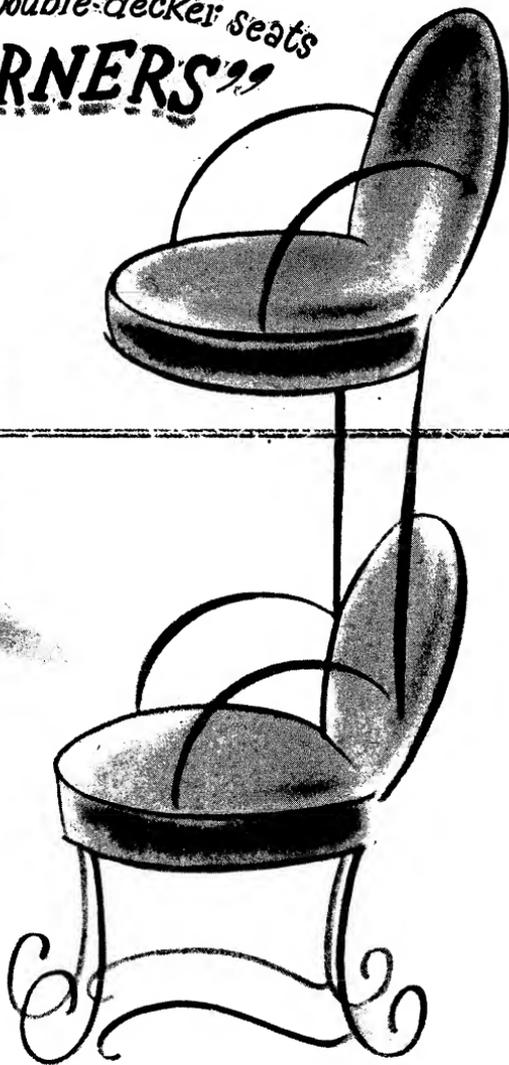
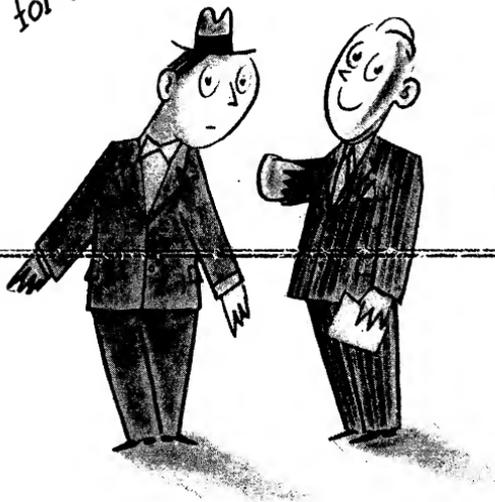
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'Nights' (M-G) (17th) (2d wk), 'Reunion' (M-G) (16th) (2d wk), 'The Sign of the Cross

“It's our latest model. Double-decker seats
for houses playing **WARNERS**”



Until these ingenious seats are available,
to take care of their overflow smart
exhibitors are doubling and tripling
their playing time for:

**'YANKEE DOODLE DANDY' / CASABLANCA' / GEO. WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE' /
'GENTLEMAN JIM' / 'FLYING FORTRESS' / 'NOW, VOYAGER' / 'YOU CAN'T ESCAPE
FOREVER' / 'DESPERATE JOURNEY' / 'ACROSS THE PACIFIC' / Next → 'AIR FORCE'!**

'Swan' Hits New York, Terrific \$43,300 In Solid Det.; 'Story' Giant \$25, 2d

Holiday week find Detroit market on the upbeat. Despite a week-end street storm which left the well-wheeled war workers and a long holiday for the school kids combined with other factors here for unprecedented hit.

Estimates for This Week Adams (Balaban) (1,700; 50-65)—'Springtime Rockies' (20th) (4th wk) and 'Junior Army' (Col.) With Freshener added to the holiday, took \$20,000 after last week's \$7,500 with 'Sin Town' (U) as coupling.

Broadway-Capitol (United) (2,200; 50-65)—'Ave. (Par.)' (Par.) Showing strongly at \$12,500. Last week, 'Now You See It' (WB) and 'Broadway' (Par.) (3d wk), took \$8,500.

Fox (Fox-Michigan) (5,000; 50-65)—'Black Swan' (20th) and 'Devil With Her Tail' (A). Setting a terrific pace to crack the holiday record at \$43,000. Last week, 'Between Us Girls' (U) and 'Sin Town' (U), nice \$16,000.

Madison (United) (1,800; 50-65)—'Bambi' (RKO) (2d wk), a great \$12,000 after last week's sound \$10,000.

30-55)—'Pain Behind Bars' (Par.) (2d wk) riding much higher than in last week with \$25,000 net to top first three great \$16,000.

Palms-Slate (United) (Detroit) (3,000; 50-65)—'Forest Rangers' (WB) and 'Friendly Enemies' (U). Great \$22,000. Last week, 'Wings for Victory' (WB) and 'Big Gangster' (WB) (2d wk), fair \$9,500 after first week's nice \$17,000.

United Artists (United) (Detroit) (2,000; 50-65)—'Yank at Eton' (M-G) (2d wk) terrific \$16,000 after first week, okay \$12,000 after big \$14,000 last week.

'SWAN' SLASH \$26, PHILLY

Terrific business in Philadelphia. Dec. 29, weekend is sending boxoffice grosses zoning this semester. Topping the list is the M-G picture, 'Black Swan,' at the Boyd running a close second.

Boyd is faring nicely among the newcomers 'Moon and Sixpence' and 'Whistle in Dixie' plus 'Tony Tucker's Band' also are big money at the Star.

Estimates for This Week Aldine (WB) (1,300; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Moon and Sixpence' (UA). Plenty solid \$16,000. Last week, 'Between Us Girls' (U), scraped bottom at \$7,000.

30-55) (Sasky) (600; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Major and Minor' (Par.) (2d wk) (3d wk). Buoyed up by excellent boxoffice big first \$20,000. Last week, fair \$3,300.

WB) (1,650; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Black Swan' (20th) (4th wk) took \$22,000, with good \$5,200 for 'Starline' show 'Sunday' (WB) week, 'Me My Gal' (M-G) sloughed off on third week to \$7,500.

Fair (WB) (2,700; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Whistle in Dixie' (M-G) (2d wk) with Tony Tucker on stage. Total \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000. Adam (RKO) (1,500; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Foxy' (WB) (2d wk) (3d wk) took \$10,000.

Fox (WB) (2,425; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Who Done It' (U) (2d wk). Even then initial \$12,000. Last week, 30w-in netted okay \$16,000.

Thalson (WB) (1,065; 35-45)-'82-75'—'Yankee Doodle' (WB) (2d wk) took \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000. Last week, \$10,000.

Key City Grosses

Estimated Total Gross 20th-22,627,700 (Based on 23 cities, 168 theatres, chiefly first run, including N.Y.) Total Gross Same Week Last Year (same cities, 151 theatres) (Based on 22 cities, 151 theatres)

MOROCCO LEADER IN DENVER, RECORD 1746

Denver, Dec. 29. Heavy Saturday snowfall effected most first-run hits with 'Morocco' at 'Road to Morocco' at the Denham (M-G) and 'The Big Guy' (RKO). Naturally, holds over. All downtown deluxers are way above average.

Estimates for This Week Aladdin (Fox) (1,400; 30-40-50-80)—'The Big Guy' (RKO) (Par.) (2d wk) on Parade' (Rep), after day and date week at Denver and 'Now, Voyager' (WB) after day-date week at Denver. 'Gone With the Wind' (M-G) (2d wk) (3d wk) at Orpheum, \$12,500. Last week, 'Seven Days Leave' (RKO) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$10,000.

Denham (Cockrill) (1,750; 30-40-50-80)—'Road to Morocco' (Par.) Big \$10,000. Last week, 'The Big Guy' (RKO) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$10,000. Last week, 'Class Key' (Par.) and 'Wrecking Crew' (Par.), fine \$9,000.

Denver (Fox) (2,525; 30-40-50-80)—'Who Done It' (U) and 'Great Impersonation' (U). Day and date with Equire. Fine \$12,000. Last week, 'The Big Guy' (RKO) (Par.) (2d wk) on Parade' (Rep) day-date with Denver and first indie double bill to Equire. Last week, \$4,000.

Orpheum (RKO) (2,800; 30-40-50-80)—'The Big Guy' (RKO) (Par.) (2d wk) and 'Seven Sweethearts' (M-G). Fine \$12,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500 and would have led. 'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

Grand (RKO) (1,430; 33-40-50)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

Bob Hope Great \$23,000, Newark; 'Done It' Big 186

Newark, Dec. 29. Bix back on the scene after two weeks of pre-Christmas ho-ho-doungers 'Road to Morocco' at the Paragon and 'Who Done It' also is substantial at the Brantford.

Estimates for This Week Adams (Adams-Paramount) (1,950; 25-45-75-99)—'Smith Minneville' (WB) (2d wk) (3d wk) on Parade' (Rep), after day and date week at Newark. Last week, \$11,500. Last week, \$11,500.

Brantford (WB) (2,800; 30-35-60-80)—'Who Done It' (U) and 'Great Impersonation' (U). Nice \$18,000. Last week, \$18,000. Last week, \$18,000.

Wakel Island (Par.) (2,200; 30-35-60-80)—'Who Done It' (U) and 'Great Impersonation' (U). Nice \$18,000. Last week, \$18,000. Last week, \$18,000.

Paramount (Adams-Par.) (2,000) (Par.) Riding to terrific \$23,000 on 'Who Done It' (U) and 'Great Impersonation' (U). Last week, \$18,000. Last week, \$18,000.

'HONEYMOON' BANGUP \$18,000 D.C.; 'KEY' 20G

Washington, Dec. 29. Christmas lull is over though theatrical biz has not yet fully warmed for government departments more than half the normally employed Saturday holiday.

Estimates for This Week Capitol (Loew) (3,430; 29-39-44-60)—'Key' (Par.) (2d wk) on Parade' (Rep), after day and date week at Washington. Last week, 'Journey for Margaret' (M-G) with vaudeville, liked by critics. \$18,000.

'Major and Minor' (Par.) (Nifty 3,000). Last week, 'We Are Marines' (WB) (2,216; 28-39-44-60)—'Now, Voyager' (WB) plus vaudeville. Booming \$21,500 indicated. Last week, 'Neve Lovelace' (Col) (2d wk), subnormal \$8,000 after opening week smash of \$21,000.

'Once Upon Honeymoon' (RKO). Rolling in high for \$20,000. Last week, 'Journey for Margaret' (M-G) (2d wk) (3d wk) at \$18,000. Last week, 'Journey for Margaret' (M-G) (2d wk) (3d wk) at \$18,000.

'Morocco' Socko \$22,000 in Cincy; 'Dandy Fine' 4G

Cincinnati, Dec. 29. Christmas week's boxoffice drive for cinema center is almost double that of last year. 'Morocco' at the Palace is local season's high. 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' back at top prices, is starting a run in the Capitol with 'The Captive' (RKO) (2,200; 31-40-50-80)—'Yankee Doodle Dandy' (WB). Encouraging postcard for several weeks. 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d run), said \$20,000.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

Grand (RKO) (1,430; 33-40-50)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

White Cargo (M-G) (2d run), said \$20,000.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

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White Cargo (M-G) (2d run), said \$20,000.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

White Cargo (M-G) (2d run), said \$20,000.

Family (RKO) (1,000; 20-30)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500. Last week, 'White Cargo' (M-G) (2d wk) at Orpheum, \$11,500.

Sock Biz for Pittsburgh; Washington Plus Stager \$23,000, 'Morocco' 22 1/2 G

Broadway Grosses

Estimated Total Gross This Week (Based on 13 theatres) Total Gross Same Week Last Year (Based on theatres)

'Major' Stout \$11,000 In Omaha; 'Tigers' And 'Get Her' Fine \$10,800

Omaha, Dec. 29. Best pre-Christmas week here in many years is being followed by strong business despite a blizzard.

Estimates for This Week Branded (Mont Sinner) (1,500; 11-20-30-40)—'Flying Fool' (WB) (2d wk) on Parade' (Rep), after day and date week at Omaha. Last week, 'Neve Lovelace' (Col) (2d wk) (3d wk) at \$11,000.

Orpheum (Tristates) (3,000; 11-20-30-40)—'Major and Minor' (Par.) and 'Behind the 8 Ball' (U). Great \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

Tristates (2,000; 11-20-30-50)—'Plying Ties' (Rep) and 'Get Her to Love' (U). Stout \$10,800. Last week, \$10,800.

Omaha (RKO) (2,200; 11-20-30-40)—'Major and Minor' (Par.) and 'Behind the 8 Ball' (U). Great \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

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Omaha (RKO) (2,200; 11-20-30-40)—'Major and Minor' (Par.) and 'Behind the 8 Ball' (U). Great \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

Wov Xmas Pittsburgh, Dec. 29. Golden Triangle. And it is well-known coming after the Christmas season. Higher figures here so far to stand on 'Parade' (Rep.) (2d wk) at \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

Ina Ray Hutton, backed by excellent stage support and 'George Washington Slept Here'. It is putting Stanley back in higher brackets after a season of depressing weeks.

Estimates for This Week Fulton (Shea) (1,700; 30-40-55)—'The Christmas Story' (WB) (Par.) (2d wk) on Parade' (Rep), after day and date week at Pittsburgh. Last week, \$11,000.

Omaha (RKO) (2,200; 11-20-30-40)—'Major and Minor' (Par.) and 'Behind the 8 Ball' (U). Great \$11,000. Last week, \$11,000.

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Taking Back to the Screen Again In Louisville, Joe Heckling Not Taken as Seriously as Elsewhere

Louisville, Dec. 29.—Another outbreak of heckling at one of the downtown deluxe houses has resulted in the regular sessions of the first runs. Cause of the new rash of audience razing of the picture is the paying customer-only produced pic, with a cast of unknowns.

Acting was so obviously crude, and dialogue so trite, that youths of high school age had a field day talking back to the film players. Even audience left the house at the Saturday night show, more in disgust at the picture than at the exuberance of the juve patrons. Picture has created plenty of word-of-mouth of the worst sort.

Juve heckling in the nabes is becoming commonplace hereabouts, but the picture that at the exuberance of the juve patrons. Picture has created plenty of word-of-mouth of the worst sort.

More Than Vandamism
San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Juvenile lawlessness, as far as theaters are concerned, has been set out of the vandamism class where four youths knocked down and ran off with a \$100 bill from the boxoffice to a safe in his office when one of the youths kicked a him down with a fist while the other bandit grabbed the money and began running, with the other two carrying their load.

Patrons succeeded in capturing a \$50 bill from a purveyor of the money. The three others escaped, but two of them were taken into custody later.

Delinquency in Mich. Too
Rising tide of protest against juvenile delinquency here, which has been agitated for a year, has gathered strength with the enactment of such laws in out-State centers.

Young mobs here not only have been a problem in the theaters but also in the streets. More than 100 have gone on destruction raids which caused thousands of dollars' worth of damage in night clubs and bars which had banned them for their trouble making.

Guys who are the cause of curfew laws in the out-state towns. At Louisville, the chief difficulty is shown by the crowd of curfew laws in the out-state towns. At Louisville, the chief difficulty is shown by the crowd of curfew laws in the out-state towns.

Gimmicks Get Brush
In More L. A. Houses
Los Angeles, Dec. 29.—Gimmicks have been dropped after nearly three years by Jack Berman's Eastland Theatre.

Elimination of business stimuli from the general picture bill has been the territory. Fox-West Coast started it in November and various independents have followed the idea.

Negro Canteen

Wings and Morgan renamed the opening, stating that the entire committee of white canteens had pledged its support and would attend the opening ceremonies in a body. But on the opening night not one member of the Theatre Wing set up shop.

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Morgan was openly disappointed at the lack of cooperation from the white community. He was particularly burned at the fact that no white entertainer showed up to perform for the 60-odd servicemen who attended. Collections from a public meeting netted about \$400 and 500 packages of food and cigarettes.

Negro entertainers from local nightclubs, such as the 400 and 500 packages of food and cigarettes. Negro entertainers from local nightclubs, such as the 400 and 500 packages of food and cigarettes.

I feel that something ought to be done something for our own boys. That's why I opened the Negro canteen. I don't want to see any more of this I'll close my place up.

Asked what he'd do to get the funds and he replied: "I'll close my place up. I'll probably turn it all over to the USO."

There is no restriction against Negroes at the Stage Door Canteen here. The leaders here are white. Colored boys 'don't feel at home' at the spot in the basement of the Academy of Music.

Salesmen Burned

Ben Smith to Albany
Ben M. Smith, veteran film man, is new booker for Monogram in Albany, replacing Bill Murray, who shifted to 20th Fox as assistant after Elmer's departure.

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Skouras Managers Jommg MPA; KU Promotions; Exchange Briefs

With 76 Skouras managers brought into the Motion Picture Associates, Bill O'Connell, president, believes that by re first of the year or shortly thereafter the membership will be planned the reorganization, originally just set for film distributors, is now being handled by the managers. The 76 Skouras men were brought in by Bill Rodgers, general manager of Metro.

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"Swell picture...real-
istic and inspiring."
—N. Y. Journal-American

"The *Real* thing...
something you ought
to see." —N. Y. Post

"Brisk... lively...
Dramatic." —N. Y. Sun

"Pulls no punches...
Stirring film."
—N. Y. Herald Tribune

"Absorbing. *Exciting.*"
—N. Y. Times

"Marines have the
Boxoffice situation
well in hand."
—N. Y. Daily News

"*Rousing* tribute to
the greatest fighting
men on earth."
—N. Y. World-Telegram

"This is it!"



WE ARE THE MARINES

20TH
CENTURY-FOX
RELEASE



**A FULL-LENGTH
Fighting FEATURE**

Produced by THE MARCH OF TIME
in cooperation with the U. S. MARINE CORPS

Send in your Pledge today! UNITED NATIONS WEEK, Jan. 14-20

"DID YOU EVER LOVE A MAN SO MUCH THAT
TEN-INCH WALLS COULDN'T KEEP YOU FROM HIM?"



*Every
Woman
Will Want
the Man
She Loves
to See it!*



SOLID SMACK TO THE HEART

CITY WITHOUT MEN

LINDA
WITH
DARNELL

EDGAR BUCHANAN · MICHAEL DUANE
SARA ALLGOOD · GLENDA FARRELL · LESLIE BROOKS · BORIS DUDLEY



SEND IN YOUR
PLEGE FOR
"UNITED NATIONS"
WEEK

'Intolerable' Film Rentals Beef Again Has Mpls. Indies Boiling

Minneapolis, Dec. 29.—Northwest Allied has appointed a special committee to find 'effective means' of bringing about immediate relief for the territory's independent exhibitors from present 'intolerable' film rental demands. The move was made necessary, it was announced, by the current 'desperate plight' of the theatre owners in consequence of the boxoffice collapse due to gas rationing and numerous other adverse factors.

No inkling has been made public as to how the committee intends to operate or function. Some of the more bellicose independents are demanding that an appeal be made directly to the Government to intercede. They charge that while business generally is at the lowest ebb in years and many exhibitors are on the brink of bankruptcy, the distributors are demanding 'exorbitant' rentals for new-season product.

'There is no organized buyers' mandate that Northwest Allied heads assert, but, it's stated, few independent exhibitors deals have been made with any of the companies. The exhibitors are clamoring for action, according to Donald Guttman, Northwest Allied Minneapolis governor. They want to 'blow the lid off' regardless of the consequences, he says. However, at an indignation meeting cooler heads prevailed and induced the members to refer the matter to a committee with authority to decide on the course of action to be pursued.

GUTTMAN RESIGNS IN N.W. ALLIED SPILT

Minneapolis, Dec. 29.—A split within Northwest Allied independent exhibitors' organization, over policy, has been brought out into the open with the resignation of Donald Guttman as Minneapolis governor. Guttman wanted to continue a more conservative course in the efforts to obtain relief for the territory's downtrodden independents and was the target of a sizable group which demands drastic action, including, if necessary, an appeal to the federal government to intercede in theatre-owners behalf, recourse to law courts, and a national and legislative program designed to bring 'relief,' according to those in the know.

Guttman himself refused to elaborate on his brief statement that an conflict of opinion existed over policy and that he is stepping out 'in the interest of harmony and the organization's welfare.'

'Saludos' Set for Long Run at N.Y. Globe

RKO is setting up a special long-run deal for 'Saludos Amigos,' latest Walt Disney feature on Latin-American life, at the Globe, N. Y. Film Palace to open in January. Disney says, which runs less than an hour, likely will follow 'Jacare.'

Sutker Col.'s Caster

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Columbia signed Victor Sutker as a new casting director to succeed the late Paul Spierke. Sutker reports for work next week after winding up his current chores for Sol Lesser.

Hopper's N. Y. Visit

Harold Hopper was in New York yesterday (Tues.) for Huddles with the production branch of the War Relocation Authority. Hopper is expected to take up matters relating to supplies for theatre maintenance and also materials needed in studio production.

\$110,000 Damage Suit On Potential Pix Career

Detroit, Dec. 29.—Claiming that a street car and train crash had ended a promising Hollywood career, a 21-year-old girl has sued for \$110,000 weekly, the parents filed damage suits totaling \$110,000 against Detroit Street Railways and the Grand Trunk Railroad.

The girl, a dancer who had made professional appearances here, was one of 16 persons killed when the city bus was struck by the train. Both the DSR and the railway were charged with criminal negligence, with the father, Leon Chocianowski, seeking \$100,000 damages and his wife \$10,000.

The suit alleges that the girl, because of her outstanding talent, was slated to start her film career following her 18th birthday. Attorneys for the parents said that the girl not only did not come to the trial but that contracts had been arranged with the Hollywood studio.

KOMM EXTENDING HIS CIRCUIT, ADDS TWO

St. Louis, Dec. 29.—Sam Komm is expanding his indie theatre house chain in St. Louis, St. Louis County and Illinois communities, having last week acquired the Aubert, a unit in the St. Louis, Mo. American Co.'s chain, and the American, a shuttered name in South St. Louis. Possession of the Aubert, a 1,440-seater, will become effective when the present lease to Amusement Co. expires.

The American, a 550-seater, was purchased for estimated \$30,000. Komm is not indicated whether he will reopen the American, but the Aubert will continue to be lighted and the plans continue. Komm also is owner or interested in the Brentwood, Ivanhoe, Longwood, Maryland, New Merry Widow, New Shenandoah, Peerless and White Way in St. Louis and St. Louis County, and the Merit and Will Rogers in Collinsville, Ill.

Gypsy Rose Lee

The G String Murders' and was frozen from her contract. The details of the note of issue revealed from Miss Wheelock's attorney, Maurice J. Speiser, who declared that the two causes of action involved 'profits' from the book, which were to be equally divided and 'consideration' for services rendered. Both actions, the attorney declared, are predicated on Gypsy's breach of contract.

The alleged agreement, Speiser said, dates back to Aug. 21, 1940, when the stripteuse-author and Miss Wheelock were introduced to each other by George Davis, owner of Harper's Bazaar, while Gypsy was appearing in the 'Streets of Paris' revue at the N. Y. World's Fair for Mike Todd.

According to Speiser, the joint venture was settled in Miss Horvick's apartment with the understanding that all income from the book were to be equally divided, with Miss Wheelock receiving her share for conceiving, constructing and exploiting the book. They collaborated until November, 1940, when Miss Lee allegedly decided she wanted an accounting of its profits, which she published on Oct. 3, 1941 and proved to be a success. She then admitted she filed his complaint on Monday (28). He seeks \$5,000 for services rendered and an accounting of its profits, which were to be equally divided according to the charges. She denied, however, that she had met in August, 1940, and that latter had written a 'sample book.' She denied, however, that any agreement was made or published or that any resemblance existed between the two manuscripts except such similarities as might have stemmed from notes Gypsy turned over to Miss Wheelock.

OPA's 'Or Else'

Bridgeport, Dec. 29.—New ruling by the Office of Price Administration gives theatres, other places of amusement and public buildings one month to convert to coal, or else. The 'or else' means they likely will have to shutter if unable to switch to coal by that time.

Several deluxe theatres, still converting to coal, may have to shut down temporarily because of delay in switching to coal heating. Loew's Poli and Malessic, which are switching to coal, are having trouble obtaining necessary parts and labor required to convert. Warners' downtown deluxo also may not be able to convert in time because now burning oil. WB other house is okay.

Col. Ready for '43

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Columbia is stepping into 1943 with four features slated to start in January and two more to face the cameras in February. Next month's starters are 'Appointment in Berlin,' 'Our Friends Curly,' 'Redhead from Rio' and 'What's Buzin's Cousin?' February launches will be 'Daughboys in Ireland' and 'Two Seniors from Chicago.'

United Nations Drive All Set to Go; Some Captiousness (Midwest) On 'Bad Timing' With Community Chest

Despite some opposition to the United Nations drive among theatre operators in Illinois, Michigan and Massachusetts, U. N. campaign managers hope to line up majority of the 16,000 houses in the U. S. in the fund-raising campaign Jan. 14-20.

Several theatre heads in Boston, Chicago and in various cities in Michigan are reported opposing to collections in theatres, claiming bad timing.

Opposition is considered due to Community Chest workers in various municipalities who are averse to any theatre collections because they figure coin should be raised primarily for the main local charity with donations, if any, to be made from the common fund. Only exceptions are the President's Infantine Paralysis Fund and Red Cross scheduled in March.

Majority of major circuit execs in the East are supporting the drive, pointing out that the United Nations cause is of paramount importance at this time. Leonard Goldenson, Paramount circuit operator, pointed out during a rally at the Ziegfeld theatre, New York, last week that theatres should consider themselves fortunate to be in a position to help.

Great press book, containing innumerable explanation ideas for the campaign, has meantime been issued. Front cover, with the Statue of Liberty, is designed to serve for lobby poster displays.

E. L. Alperzo, campaign chairman, currently lining up exhibitor support on the Coast and in western cities, is due back in New York around Jan. 7.

The Perpetual Bride

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Erle Kenton draws the director job on 'Always a Bride,' the next Andrews Sisters starrer at Universal. Currently Kenton is piloting the trio in 'Sold Sinders' on the same lot.



U. S. Signal Corps Photo. Making a training film at the Army Photographic Center, operated by the Signal Corps.

To end the war—sooner!

FROM the simplest rudiments of military drill to the most complex procedures in handling big guns... from the best methods of destroying their enemies to the best methods of protecting themselves... American boys in the armed forces are learning faster and better through the medium of talking pictures.

The whole-hearted cooperation of producers with the government agencies responsible for the preparation of training films has been of tremendous aid to our armed forces in the making of many of these special films.

We at Western Electric... who gave the screen its voice in 1926... are glad that our continuing contributions to the art of talking pictures are helping now to speed the day of Victory!

Electrical Research Products Division
of
Western Electric Company
193 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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AS THE GREATEST POPULAR-PRICE GROSSER EVER TO PLAY THE CAPITOL THEATRE, NEW YORK. The first four days have shattered every house record for pictures playing at regular prices!

IT STANDS ALONE

as the critics' choice in holiday hits!

"One of the finest pictures ever made!"
—*New York Daily News*

"Makes everything that either the stage or screen has done in a long time pale in comparison!"
—*Herald-Tribune*

"Will rank high among the great films of all time!"
—*Journal-American*

"Will stand among the great pictures of the war!"
—*Mirror*

"Would be a top-listed picture in any year . . . especially in this!"
—*Post*

"One of the great screen achievements of our time!"
—*World-Telegram*

"One of the most unusual tales ever filmed!"
—*Sun*

FIRST

in the National Board of Review's Ten Best Pictures of the Year . . .

**NOEL COWARD'S
IN WHICH
WE SERVE**



ON A SILVER PLATTER!

RONALD COLMAN, GREER GARSON in "RANDOM HARVEST"
(Biggest holiday week-end in 10-year history of Radio City Music Hall!)

Robert TAYLOR, Charles LAUGHTON, Brian DONLEVY in "STAND BY FOR ACTION"
(Biggest attendance in history of Valentine Theatre, Toledo, Ohio!)

Joan CRAWFORD, John WAYNE, Philip DORN in "REUNION IN FRANCE"
 "ANDY HARDY'S DOUBLE LIFE" with LEWIS STONE, MICKEY ROONEY and the Folks
 SPENCER TRACY, KATHARINE HEPBURN in "KEEPER OF THE FLAME"

"TENNESSEE JOHNSON" with Van HEFLIN, Lionel BARRYMORE, Ruth HUSSEY
 RED SKELTON, LUCILLE BALL, GENE KELLY in "DU BARRY WAS A LADY"
 LANA TURNER, ROBERT YOUNG in "CARELESS"

JUDY GARLAND, VAN HEFLIN in "PRESENTING LILY MARS"
 "CABIN IN THE SKY" with Ethel WATERS, 'ROCHESTER' and All Star Cast
 RED SKELTON in "WHISTLING IN DIXIE"

"JOURNEY FOR MARGARET" with Robert YOUNG, Laraine DAY, 'Margaret' O'BRIEN
 ANN SOTHERN, MELVYN DOUGLAS in "THREE HEARTS FOR JULIA"
 William Saroyan's "THE HUMAN COMEDY" starring MICKEY ROONEY

M-G-M, THE GOOD PROVIDER

Not for just a day, not for just a season — but ALWAYS!

YOUR
 PLEDGE,
 PLEASE!
 United Nations
 Week!

Film Reviews

Continued from page 16

LADY BODYGUARD

Anne Shirley is an advertising rep... Anne Shirley is an advertising rep... Anne Shirley is an advertising rep...

Henry Aldrich Gets Glamour

Paramount's version of Walter MacFadden... Henry Aldrich gets glamour... Henry Aldrich gets glamour...

This latest Henry Aldrich picture... Henry Aldrich picture... Henry Aldrich picture...

Plot then attempts to show Henry... Henry Aldrich picture... Henry Aldrich picture...

Jimmy Lydon is much improved... Henry Aldrich picture... Henry Aldrich picture...

Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon

Unusual production... Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon... Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon...

Action of a catastrophe movie has... Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon... Sherlock Holmes and the Secret Weapon...

Bathhouse uses in tracking down the... Bathhouse uses in tracking down the... Bathhouse uses in tracking down the...

Except for the identities of the leading... Bathhouse uses in tracking down the... Bathhouse uses in tracking down the...

THUNDER ROCK (BRITISH-MADE)

London, Dec. 29.—Metro picture... Thunder Rock (British-made)... Thunder Rock (British-made)...

"Thunder Rock" is a remarkable picture... Thunder Rock (British-made)... Thunder Rock (British-made)...

The Tanks Are Coming (SONGS)

Producers DeLoach... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

As an artistic and technical production... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

The vital defect of "The Tanks" is that... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

El Demonio Del Oro (REVIEWS)

Buenos Aires, Dec. 29.—"El Demonio... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)...

(In German)

Opening scenebook in what appears to be... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)...

writer, used the same background for... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

Claiming to be based entirely on fact... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

Only Nazi newspapers have to date... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

The Tanks Are Coming (SONGS)

Producers DeLoach... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

Producing a western on a short budget... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

Plot is about an arrogant band leader... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)... The Tanks Are Coming (Songs)...

El Demonio Del Oro (REVIEWS)

Buenos Aires, Dec. 29.—"El Demonio... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)...

(In German)

Opening scenebook in what appears to be... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)... El Demonio Del Oro (Reviews)...

Shadows on the Sage (SONGS)

Reminiscence review of Louis Vuitton... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

"Shadows on the Sage" is the latest... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

There is a goodly amount of scrapping... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

There are two tunes, "Happy Cowboy... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)... Shadows on the Sage (Songs)...

New York Theatres

2nd WEEK... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

At GEO. M. COHAN in "YANKEE DOODLE DANDY"...

JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Producing a western on a short budget... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Plot is about an arrogant band leader... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Help Over... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

"In Which We Sertle"... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Capitol... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Paramount... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Maisie's War Fever... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

FDR PRAISES VARIETY CLUBS

Variety Club of Washington, D. C. has... FDR PRAISES VARIETY CLUBS... FDR PRAISES VARIETY CLUBS...

Sounds Like Sucker Play

Top role in "Warner's" "I Wasn't Born Yesterday" goes to Humphrey Bogart... Sounds Like Sucker Play... Sounds Like Sucker Play...

Generous in Canada

All of the local film distribution... Generous in Canada... Generous in Canada...

New York Theatres

6TH WEEK... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

At GEO. M. COHAN in "YANKEE DOODLE DANDY"...

JIMMY DORSEY AND HIS ORCHESTRA... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Producing a western on a short budget... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Plot is about an arrogant band leader... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Help Over... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

"In Which We Sertle"... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Capitol... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Paramount... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Maisie's War Fever... New York Theatres... New York Theatres...

Paramount's **HAPPY NEW YEAR**



R BEGINS TODAY



The Greatest Cast in History *starring*

BOB HOPE * FRED MacMURRAY
 FRANCHOT TONE * BOB HOPE * VICTOR MOORE
 * DOROTHY LAMOUR * RAY MILLAND * VERA ZORINA
 * MARY MARTIN * DICK POWELL * BETTY HUTTON
 * EDDIE BRACKEN * VERONICA LAKE
 * ALAN LADD * ROCHESTER

AND ALL THESE OTHERS

WILLIAM BENDIX * JERRY COLONNA * MACDONALD CAREY
 ALBERT DENKER * WALTER ABEL
 SUSAN HAYWARD * MARIORÉ REYNOLDS * BETTY RHODES
 DONA DRAKE * LYNNE OVERMAN
 GARY CROSBY * GIL LAMB * CASS DALEY * JOHNNIE JOHNSTON and
 CECIL B. DeMILLE * PRESTON S. URGES * RALPH MURPHY

Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL
 Original Screen Play by HARRY TUGENO

Ad Agencies Take Note of Squawks About Spice on Air; Inform Comics

Several advertising agencies last week took special cognizance of a story in Variety's Dec. 22 issue of ad agencies received from local broadcasters and of the growing tendency of networks to bring into blue material and of certain network script shops to deal in pro and anti-war material. The agencies obtained extra copies of the article and mailed them to their clients and associated material writers.

One agency radio exec explained that the article's publication had proved quite timely as far as he was concerned, since he had been told late with one of his comedians over that very subject.

Appended to the story was a letter from Barron H. Collier, business manager of WRVA, Richmond, in which he warned that if radio didn't accept the damper soon to these proivities the medium would find itself the target of the reformer element.

RUPPEL GOING INTO MAINES

Louis Ruppel, former CBS public affairs director, quietly resigned from that post last week with Crowell Publications about three weeks to become a First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He expects to be assigned to the aerial photography and map-making branch of the air branch.

WSIX AND MUTUAL RENEW RELATIONSHIP

WSIX, Nashville, and the Mutual network have patched up their differences and the station has resumed normal Mutual service. WSIX dropped the Mutual line a couple of months ago on the ground that the network violated its contract when it discontinued sustaining service on the instance of the American Federation of Musicians. The latter situation developed from an employment tangle between WSIX and the AFM's Nashville local.

WSIX also has been talking the big radio networks' side and apparently will continue to do so.

Pitt Brewer Buys 2 Shows for Soldiers

Pittsburgh, Dec. 29.—Pittsburgh Brewing Co. has just signed with KDKA for six quarter-hour musical shows weekly featuring two different sets of talent. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6:30 p.m., Jeanne Baxter and Buzz Aston, singers, will do 15 minutes of request melodies for soldiers, and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays they will spot a variety of acts and a lad in 'Songs for Service Men.' Group is composed of Gene Davis, Alice Camp, Miss Baker and George Heid.

On Saturdays, Bill Sutherland, staff announcer, will also occupy a portion of the program with a resume of the week's sports news.

Representative

Detroit, Dec. 29.—As if two sons in active service was not enough representation, Val Clare, CKLW news commentator, last week asked another member of his family into the armed forces. His daughter, Betty, 18, joined the Navy as a WREN.

Clifford Evans Back

Clifford Evans resumes as news commentator and analyst WJLB, Brooklyn, Monday (4). He had been off the air during a two month tour of the nation to mingle public opinion.

Evans, in addition to his three-weekly air comment, has shifted to Hollywood for the Brooklyn Daily Eagle.

Premieres

Dec. 30-Jan. 10

Dec. 30

'Mr. and Mrs. North,' comedy-drama, based on Owen Davis play version of Richard and Frances Lockridge sketch; Thursday, 8-8:30 p.m. WEAF; NBC; Woodbury song (Jergens), Lennen & Mitchell agency.

Jan. 4

Gracie Fields, comedy-song series expands to 15 minutes; Monday-Friday, 10-10:15 p.m. WJZ-Blue; Pat Healy cigars (General American), tobacco, Ruthrauff & Ryan agency.

Jan. 5

'Singsin' Sam,' songs by Harry Frank; Tuesday, Thursday, 8-8:15 p.m. WOR-Mutual; Baraboo; Erwin, Wasley agency.

Jan. 7

'Maule Hall' with Bing Crosby, Victor Borge, John Scott Trotter orch., shrinks to half-hour; Thursday, 9-9:30 p.m. WEAF; NBC; Kraft cheese, Thompson agency.

Jan. 8

Kate Smith, with Ted Collins, Olyn Landick, contracts to half-hour; Friday, 8-8:30 p.m. WEAF; NBC; Young & Rubicam agency.

Jan. 10

John Charles Thomas, John Nesbit; Sunday, 2:30-3 p.m. WEA; NBC; Young & Rubicam agency.

'Steepers,' comedy-quiz, with Col. Steagoble (F. Chase Tav-
nend); Sunday, 6:05-6:20 p.m. WJZ-Blue; Schutter candy; Roche, Williams & Cunningham agency.

Trenton (N. J.) Station Employees Claim They're Striking for Back Pay

Trenton, Dec. 29.—A strike of employees of the radio station WZTM here remains unsettled. A score of announcers, staff workers, advertising salesmen and clerical help have been out since Dec. 18. They are members of a recently chartered local of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFI).

The spokesman for the strikers said the stoppage of work resulted from what he termed a screwy system of paying the help. For several months, he said, the station made no part payments on salaries; the rest was 'owed' to the employees. The management, he claimed, finally has become more than \$4,000 in debt to the hands, most of whom, of course, have no money to cash. He declared, the strikers would return to work if they could be guaranteed regular salary payments. The station contends the back pay amounts claimed are ridiculous. Some advertising salesmen, however, say so far there has been no serious curtailment of station business. The station located many of the strikers, but so far there has been no picketed. Conciliation with the aid of federal mediators and IBEW representatives has been going forward.

A. L. ALEXANDER MOVING 'MEDIATION BD.' TO WOR

A. L. Alexander is moving his walling-wall program, 'Mediation Board,' from WJZ to WOR, N. Y. It will have the Monday, 9:15-10 p.m. slot on WOR, starting Jan. 6. The series will go Mutual four weeks later.

'Mediation Board' is the title of the line of 'Good Will' programs which Alexander created on WMCA, N. Y., some seven years ago.

Sao Francisco—Leonard Gross, formerly in charge of public service programs at WOR, has shifted to Hollywood in similar capacity.

10th Annual SHOWMANAGEMENT AWARDS

based on

WHAT LOCAL RADIO STATIONS ARE DOING FOR THE WAR

To Be Published in the 37th Anniversary Edition

VARIETY OUT NEXT WEEK

YANK NETS OK OTTAWA FOR PEACE TALKS

Officials of the four major American networks look with favor on a proposal advanced by several Canadian newspapers that the United Nations make Ottawa, Canadian capital, the scene of their peace conference. A situation of this sort, the webs point out, would suit them perfectly. They wouldn't have to worry about the unpredictable troubles that come with shortwave relays or time differences, as would be the case were the conferences to be held in Europe. It would also be convenient for commentators to cover the gathering and maintain their regular commercial commitments.

COLWELL OFFERED NEW OWI POST

Robert T. Colwell, J. Walter Thompson v. p. has been approached about taking the post of radio copy chief with the Office of War Information. It would be a liaison assignment involving his executive status under W. H. Lewis, head of the OWI's radio division. The post would be newly created. Colwell has had two other war-related connections under consideration. Colwell, whose specialty for the past 14 years has been copy and continuity planning, writing and editing, would have charge of all script contact between the OWI's radio division and advertising agencies. He would have a committee of agency radio execs, expressly appointed for the purpose, sit in with him on consultations. Colwell would also split his working week between New York and Washington.

Vick Knight Has his own ideas about "The New Boss of Radio"

'Show Business At War'

theme of the

37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

NETWORK GROSS TIME SALES (Estimated)

	1942	1941	%
Blue	\$1,700,000	\$1,200,000	+48
Columbia	4,150,000	4,850,000	-14
Mutual	910,000	860,000	+5
NBC	3,870,000	3,700,000	+5
Total	\$10,710,000	\$9,720,000	+10

	1942	1941	%
Blue	\$14,100,000	\$11,000,000	+28
Columbia	41,200,000	43,500,000	-4
Mutual	8,775,000	8,300,000	+6
NBC	39,950,000	38,000,000	+5
Total	\$104,125,000	\$95,710,000	+9

4 Nets Gross Continued from page 1

tions are that the webs as a contingent will be able to hold their own for at least the first quarter of 1943.

The batch of new business set to start after New Year's should suffice to make up for the reduction of the time portions of such shows as Kraft Music Hall, Kate Smith and Good Caravan.

Columbia is figured to lead the network gross list for 1942 with accumulated gross of \$45,500,000, compared to \$44,550,000 for 1941. NBC will be next with \$43,800,000, compared with \$38,750,000 in 1941. The Blue Network, it is estimated, will do \$18,200,000 this year, while Mutual's gross will be \$12,000,000. The 1942 estimate for Mutual is \$9,700,000. In 1940 that network grossed \$7,300,000.

All networks excepting Mutual last month ran ahead of their November, 1941, grosses. Columbia's \$41,500,000 gave it a 10 per cent gain of 7%. NBC got \$3,870,000, or plus 5%. The Blue grossed \$1,780,000, which was 4% over what the net had had for November, 1941. Mutual's \$910,000 represented a slide of 5%.

Van Nostrand Now Has Green Light From Draft Bd. to Join OWI in N. Y.

The way has been cleared for Jack Van Nostrand, Young & Rubicam's production head in New York, to join the New York office of the Office of War Information's radio division as info to Pete Barrum. Van Nostrand has been on OWI's radio section and Van Nostrand will be assistant chief. Van Nostrand makes the change Jan. 15. After Van Nostrand several weeks ago accepted the OWI post, the Hollywood draft board, with which he is connected, sent him a card to report for a physical. It wasn't until recently that the draft board accepted the OWI request for his deferment. Van Nostrand, who is married, will be 38 years old in four months.

Ex-Pitt Radio Ed Wins Freedom on Parole

Pittsburgh, Dec. 29.—Darrell W. Martin, former radio editor of the Post-Gazette, was released on parole from the Federal workhouse last week by Judge John Egan. Martin is serving 30 days of a six-month sentence on a charge of embezzling \$2,000 from a local advertising sales agency. Martin had made full restitution to Mr. and Mrs. Roy V. Claypool, who had invested in money in a radio magazine which Martin had planned to publish. In his plea to the court, Martin stated that when a \$2,000 cashier's check was presented in court, the Claypools, in a signed statement, they were willing to agree to Martin's release. Egan placed him on a six-month parole to be terminated when he also pays the costs of the case.

'Dr. I. Q.' on Hub Stage

'Dr. I. Q.' will broadcast his NBC quiz program from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera theatre here starting Jan. 18 for six successive Monday Program moves from Atlanta, Ga. It plus other NBC two years ago. WBEZ will emulate show.

AD AGCYS. FREE WITH BONUSES

Bonuses flowed freely among the advertising agencies the day before Christmas, but the year-end gift at Young & Rubicam turned out to be a double-barreled one. Y & R employees not only received an extra check representing 75% of their accumulative 1942 salaries, but the news that the firm had also established a profit-sharing plan for 1943.

The average bonus was 10% of the accumulative salary, although there were lots of extra checks. Young & Rubicam's plan was 10% of the accumulative salary, although there were lots of extra checks. Young & Rubicam's plan was 10% of the accumulative salary, although there were lots of extra checks.

BREWER BUYS ST. L. B.B. GAMES FOR 3D YEAR

St. Louis, Dec. 29.—For the third consecutive year the Hyde Park Breweries, Inc., St. Louis, Mo., has purchased a play-by-play home games of the Brown Cardinals of St. Louis. The station Missouri and Illinois web, originating at KXOK, France Laux, chief engineer at KXOK, the CBS outlet here, will again do the announcing, having been brought for the stint for this third consecutive year. This assignment will not interfere with Laux's regular radio program each p.m. over his home station.

Cunningham in Sales Promotion Post at WEEI

Boston, Dec. 29.—Guy W. Cunningham, formerly sales promotion manager for film fan mags, has joined WEEI in a similar capacity.

He obtained his first radio-writing experience while studying Voice of the City, advertising program sponsored by Barron G. Collier and broadcast over WHN, New York.

Dorothy Lowell Undergoes Emergency Appendectomy

Dorothy Lowell, title actress of the 'Our Gal Sunday' serial, underwent an emergency appendectomy Friday night (28) in the Boston hospital, N. Y. She is recovering satisfactorily. Meanwhile, Vivian Smolen, who suffered in the past last year when Miss Lowell became a mother, is again recuperating. Lowell will be the wife of William Spire, of the Office of War Information radio department.

WHEC Gets F-M Permit

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 29.—WHEC applied authority Voice of the City, a commercial frequency modulation station to replace its experimental WHEZ. The station will be the wife of William Spire, of the Office of War Information radio department.

Abram—Russell Lengs has joined WJL, replacing Gene Peterson, announcer, who was recently inducted by the Army.

TRAINING BUDGET

Sinatra Moves Into 'Hit Parade' When Barry Wood Shifts to A.K. Song Show

Frank Sinatra, former Tommy Dorsey vocalist now on CBS sustaining, will replace Barry Wood on American Tobacco's Lucky Strike Hit Parade. Wood will shift over to the new Friday night replacement show for 'Information, Please,' which starts Feb. 12 with a 50-piece orchestra under Mark Warrnow plus Marie Greene, and Lynn Murray's chorus. This program will originate in Carnegie Hall, N. Y., and consist of an 'All-Time Hit Parade' melodies popular 20 or more years ago.

George Washington Hill, head of American Tobacco, spent approximately \$150 last week to have both shows produced and transcribed for his personal benefit, with Sinatra on 'Hit Parade.' Wood has been in that spot for three consecutive years.

Sinatra has been receiving a concentrated buildup from CBS since leaving Dorsey. He has two shows, one half-hour and a quarter-hour, and on Jan. 4 begins 15 minutes across the board at 11:15 p.m. He will be similarly treated by Columbia Records, to record solo after the settlement of the present controversy with the AFM. Today (Wednesday) Sinatra begins 10 consecutive weeks at the Paramount Theatre, N. Y.

Frank Cooper, of General Amusement Corp., manages Sinatra.

Unions Watch NBC Production Schooling Plan

The American Federation of Radio Artists, the Radio Writers Guild and other talent organizations are watching the projected move of NBC to form an Employee Production Group aimed to 'give free instruction and training in radio directing, sound effects, scripting and announcing to its employees.' Garnet Garrison, radio instructor at Wayne University, Detroit, has been hired by NBC to have charge of the instruction, starting next week. C. L. Menser, NBC vice-president in charge of programs, will supervise. Leaders of AFRA, I.R.W.G. and the other radio talent groups are concerned lest NBC use the employee organization as a training ground for possible replacements for program production personnel, with the idea of holding down wage standards and otherwise combating their objectives. Meanwhile, the Radio Directors Guild has noted that it already has in effect a plan for training program production men and directors from out-of-town stations and non-network outlets in New York.

Cresta Blanca Going All-Musical on MBS; Jack Pearl Off Show

Cresta Blanca wine (Schenley) is converting its 45-minute stint on Mutual Wednesdays to an all-musical show starting with the Jan. 6 broadcast. Jack Pearl will have terminated a run of 13 weeks.

Only other change made will be the augmentation of the NBC and Grand orchestra. Jean Merrill and Bud Reynolds will continue as program's head vocalists.

'Victory Hour' Layoff
The Victory Hour Government program over the Blue network and directed by George W. Denny, Jr., is off the air until Jan. 15. Then a new series of broadcasts will be launched.

Mrs. Elaine Ewing In New Post With OWI

Washington, Dec. 29. Mrs. Elaine Ewing has been appointed assistant chief of the liaison relations section of the Office of War Information's domestic radio bureau. Before her new appointment, Mrs. Ewing was assistant to Douglas Meservey, deputy chief of the radio bureau. In her new position she will assist Richard F. Connor, chief of the liaison relations section. Prior to joining OWI, Mrs. Ewing was with NBC and before that was executive secretary of Transamerica Broadcasting and Television Corp.

KAYE VICE EDDY FOR OLD GOLD

Sammy Kaye's orchestra will replace Nelson Eddy for Old Gold in the latter's Wednesday period on CBS starting Jan. 27. The format will include a glee club and guests. Eddy's contract with Walter Joe E. Lewis had been under consideration for the new setup but the thing went cold last week. Lorillard planned originally to retrain Eddy and buy a pop musical program as a second show, but that idea had to be shelved because the agency on the account, the Walter Thompson, couldn't find another satisfactory half-hour open on NBC or CBS. Eddy will have been on the Lorillard payroll for 39 weeks. It will make Kaye's second air alliance with Lorillard. The bandman did a 26-week series on NBC in 1940 for another one of the manufacturer's brands, Sensation cigarettes.

SOAP CO. NO RADIO CUSTOMER

Retrenchment in 1943 Had Been Expected, but Not Known How Much Will Come Out of Broadcasting — P & G Spent \$10,000,000 in Radio in '42

WILL CLIP WEAKIES

Radio's No. 1 customer, Procter & Gamble, has decided to cut its advertising appropriation for 1943 by 10%. It is not known how much of this clip will come out of broadcasting, since the policy surrounding the proposed reduction is not a horizontal one. The basic plan of economy will be restricted to those soap brands that have been consistently on the losing side of the ledger. The amount involved in the 10% will come from appropriations for the weakie products, and the new policy also calls for further exploitation savings from that group and the transfer of such money to the further promotion of the stronger brands. Some sort of economy move in the soap industry had been expected within advertising circles for some time. The price freeze hit the soap business unusually hard and it was felt, that, despite the industry's prosperity because of war needs (glycerine), the time was not far off when the soap contestant would resort to some sort of fiscal readjustment. It is estimated that P & G's expenditures in radio both network and spot, for 1942 totalled around \$10,000,000. According to information from ad agency execs who specialize in soap accounts, few of the P & G products now on the networks fall within the category. P & G's expenditures with the networks during the final quarter of

Albert Lasker Retires 2d Time; Lord-Thomas Agcy., One of World's Largest, Now Foote, Cone & Belding

Purina Buys 'Opry' On 29-Station NBC Hookup

Purina Mills has bought a hookup of 29 stations on NBC for sponsorship of the 'Grand Ole Opry' program, starting Jan. 2. The link will take in the southeastern, south central, southwestern and Florida districts. Camel underwrites the same show on the same network on 82 stations, but the latter are in other sections of the country. Gardner is the agency on the Purina account.

HUB ROBINSON UP AT Y-R AGCY.

Hubbell Robinson, Jr., has been named associate director of radio of the Young & Rubicam agency. The promotion makes him second in authority within Y & R's radio setup to Tom Harrington, v.p. in charge of radio. Robinson will continue for the time being to run the talent end of the department also. His main task for the past two years has been the buying of talent, lining up material for auditions and contacting clients along with Harrington on program matters. Robinson has been with the agency for over 15 years, joining its radio department in 1930. Robinson was materially off, anyway, as compared to the fore part of the year, so that it is quite possible that the webs have already experienced the full force of the P & G retrenchment.

After Jan. 1 the famed Lord & Thomas advertising agency, one of the largest and oldest in the world, becomes no more. Albert D. Lasker, principal owner, retires Jan. 1 for a second time after being impressed into service even following an original retirement in 1936. Under the name of Foote, Cone & Belding, Lasker's associates in Lord & Thomas will take over, occupying the same quarters and retaining the same personnel. Emgrson Foote, Fairfax M. Cone and Don Belding have been the executive vice presidents in charge of New York, Chicago and Los Angeles offices of L&T, respectively. When Lasker retired in '36, as president and director, it was his intention to devote himself entirely to public affairs, which he will now continue to do once again. When Don Francisco, president of L&T, took a leave this year to become one of the chiefs of the Office of Governmental Affairs, Lasker's advertising tycoon had to come back into advertising activity, principally in the field of "hot" men going into the military service. These included his son, Eddie, g.m. of the American Inter-American (Continued on page 32)

RCA, CBS Reviews Of '42 Play Up Radio's War Role

Both RCA and CBS, in their year-end reviews for 1942 as released this week, stress the part that radio has played in the war. Col. David Sarnoff, RCA prez, declared that when the achievements of radio invention for 1942, now military secrets, are released to the public, Americans will be proud of the radio research workers and engineers who equipped our armed services with apparatus unsurpassed in efficiency. William Paley, CBS prez, pointed in his report with pride to the all-around war service of the network plus such series as Norman Corwin's 'An American in England' and Larry LeSueur's 'An American in Russia' series. Radio in 1942, declared the RCA report, played an important part in turning the tide of victory to the United Nations' Television, it stated, had likewise played an important role in air raid instructions and civilian defense and that the medium's recent developments in the laboratory give promise that television will emerge from this war in such form as to make possible a great post-war industry.

CBS Planning Russian Facsimile of Corwin's 'American in England'

CBS is tentatively planning to follow Norman Corwin's 'An American in England' series with one called 'An American in Russia.' It would be narrated by a Russian agent, who recently returned from an extended stay as the network's correspondent in Moscow. LeSueur would also narrate the series. Bill Robison is slated to produce-direct the series, but the adapter, time and starting date are undetermined. Corwin's 'England' series ended a sequel edition, originating in New York, last week. His original series, originating in London, was aired by CBS via shortwave.

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE

37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER

of

VARIETY

OUT NEXT WEEK JAN. 6

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy May Be Wired to Any Variety Office

NEW YORK 154 W. 46th St.	HOLLYWOOD 1708 N. Vine St.	CHICAGO 54 W. Randolph St.	LONDON 8 St. Martin's Pl.
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AFRA Wins Transcription Dispute With B-S-H; \$10,000 to Performers

American Federation of Radio Artists won a complete victory in its dispute with the Chicago office of the Blackett-Sample-Hume agency over the matter of recorded versions of the "Lone Journey" and "Light of the World" series. Variety was handed down by an American Arbitration Association panel consisting of Herman A. Gray, professor of law at New York University; M. E. Tompkins, of BMI, and Holgar J. Johnson, an insurance executive.

Amount involved totals nearly \$10,000 and includes fees of \$10 for each artist for each performance. Dispute was over the question of classification of the recorded versions of the series. Recordings are made from dress rehearsals of the show. AFRA claiming they should be classed as "prior" recordings, paying a \$10 fee per actor, and the agency saying that they should be regarded as off-line recordings, for which no extra fee is required in the existing circumstances. After hearing evidence and arguments of both sides, the arbiters issued a decision completely favorable to AFRA.

"Lone Journey," originating in Chicago, is co-authored by Sandra and Peter Michael, directed by Fred Weibe and produced by the John Gibbs office for Procter & Gamble. It is heard on a midwest and Coast hookup of NBC. "Light of the World," originating in New York, is adapted by Katharine and Adele Seymour, directed by Axel Gruenberg and produced by Transamerica for General Mills. It airs on NBC.

Grove's Buys Musical

Philadelphia, Dec. 29. Grove's Bromo-Quinine last week bought a musical show on KYW featuring the Art Hinetri trio and Roger Williams' vocals. Peter Roberts is handling the commercials.

\$22,000,000 Mex Budget For Education to Provide Liberal Use of Radio

Mexico City, Dec. 29. Greater use of radio for public instruction, adults as well as children, is to feature the ambitious program for the spread of learning throughout Mexico next year by the Ministry of Public Education. A budget allowance of \$22,000,000 has been granted for 1943, the most that Mexico ever spent for education in any year.

Radio, explained Minister Octavio Vezar Vasquez, is to be brought into bigger play for education, not only in the cities but in remote rural regions, some of which are so far away that they are eight days horse-back ride from the railroads.

CAN. STATION PLUGS SHOWS VIA CAR CARDS

Montreal, Dec. 29. Canadian Marconi station CFCF will tie up a unique advertising campaign for this city and province and possibly for all Canada on Friday (1). It is the utilization of the city's street car system as a medium to advertise not only the outstanding programs on the station, but also the names of their sponsors.

At first only 18 outstanding programs will be advertised for a period of six months, with option for continuation indefinitely. Sales promotion director Ernest Smith is responsible for the idea.

William B. Lewis Chief of Radio, OWI

Expands on Radio Propaganda as added feature in 'Show Business At War' theme of the 37th Anniversary Number of VARIETY

STATION OPENS SPIELER CLASS

Boston, Dec. 29. The dearth of radio announcers has prompted WEEI to start a course to train men for the station. Curriculum planned comprises three classes weekly and completion of course depends upon ability and versatility of the individual. Applications are being accepted from men with deferred draft classifications. Auditions will then be held the week of Jan. 4, and 10 will be selected for the initial class starting Jan. 11.

Arthur F. Edes, director of radio courses at Emerson College and former WEEI program director, will conduct individual training courses in voice, radio production and style twice a week. The third class will consist of group lectures covering every phase of operation by heads of various WEEI departments. Transcription, sound effects, continuity, ad libbing, news, engineering and music clearance will be stressed during these classes. In addition, students will participate in actual work on the air.

Inside Stuff—Radio

Phil Cohan has replaced Bill Bacher as director of 'Camel Caravan' (CBS) under disputed circumstances. As far as Bacher is concerned, Bacher's option had not been picked up and his last 'Caravan' direction was to be that of the Jan. 1 broadcast. He failed to appear for the rehearsal of last Friday night's program. William Esty, producer of the agency, William Esty, under the impression that he was not going to do the show any more, hurriedly retained Cohan by telephone late that night (Wednesday).

Bacher appeared the next day (Thursday) to stage rehearsals, explaining that he had been in Washington, but he was told that another director had been hired in his place. Cohan's claim that he was not going to do the show is now under discussion between himself and the agency.

Besides losing the 'Caravan' assignment, Bacher resigned last week as director of two Treasury Department programs, the 'Over Here' series on the Blue network and the recorded 'Star Parade' shows. His action followed a dispute with William B. Murray, president of the William Esty agency, producer of the programs. He had previously been reprimanded by the American Federation of Radio Artists for an infraction of the union's code of fair practice.

As a buildup for 'Star Spangled Rhym', which has its world premiere at the Paramount, N. Y. today (30), Paramount went on the air Monday night (28) with a 15-minute transcription specialty prepared for the stunt in Hollywood. It's the first time that any film company has purchased time on six different N. Y. stations, three of which are identified with major networks. Program was on WJZ, WGB, WNEW, WJLN and WJVA, N. Y., at 10:45 p.m. Monday evening (28), and on WABC at 11:15.

In addition to plugs for the picture by announcer Ken Carpenter, NBC night (28) with a 15-minute transcription specialty prepared for the stunt in Hollywood. It's the first time that any film company has purchased time on six different N. Y. stations, three of which are identified with major networks. Program was on WJZ, WGB, WNEW, WJLN and WJVA, N. Y., at 10:45 p.m. Monday evening (28), and on WABC at 11:15.

Redcliffe Hall, NBC announcer, learned of the rescue of his close friend, Boatwain's Mate Curtis Arnall, last week, as he was reading a new program. The flash about Arnall arrived in the NBC press room after the program had started and he was so taken up with the news that he didn't know what it contained. When he read it over, he realized its meaning. Hall almost broke up, then he remarked, 'God bless him and reward him for his courage and heroism.'

Arnall and Hall have been friends for years, having worked together as respective title actor and announcer of the 'Pepper Young' series when it first went on the air. He had gone on an assignment several years ago, but Arnall left the part of Pepper only a few months ago to join the Coast Guard. The boat from which he and his crew were rescued after drifting helplessly for 21 days in heavy Atlantic storms was formerly Arnall's yacht, the 'Red Cliff'. Arnall formerly sailed to Bermuda, but gave it to the government when he enlisted in the Coast Guard. He was subsequently assigned to command it.

While in Pittsburgh on business last week, Mark Woods, president of the Blue network, and Keith Higgins, vice-president, got the idea of having the web pick up a broadcast of Sigmund Romberg's from the Metropolitan Club Canteen here at 730 on Christmas Eve (24). Back to New York they went with the suggestion, while KQV, the 'Blue outlet' in Pitt, prepared copy on the show for the newspaper.

But KQV's releases were promptly pinceneoled; for it seems even the president and vice-president of a network don't always have the last say. Seems somebody in N. Y., ostensibly Phillips Carlton, president of the Blue network, vetoed the idea. Probably because at 7:30 on Thursdays the Blue carries 'Metropolitan Opera, U. S. A.' the sustainer which serves as ballyhoo the sponsored broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera. Obviously Woods and Higgins had forgotten the Met tie-up. KQV carried the Romberg broadcast locally just the same.

Bob Mucks, public relations rep for Young & Rubicam agency, was a nonplussed individual as he greeted members of press recently at a party was giving for Jack Benny at the Ritz-Carlton hotel, Boston. The newspapermen smacked Mucks at the door for the Warner Bros. party, with later questions centered about Benny's picture, 'George Washington Slept Here.' Mucks and the agency were not concerned in the party's activities. P. S.: Young & Rubicam paid the hotel tab.

'Buildup Drummond' incorrectly reported going off the air, continues indefinitely Monday nights on Mutual for Horton's lecture. It's free-lance-written, directed by H. Brown and handled by Young & Rubicam. Program which folded was 'True Story Theatre of the Air,' which Howard clothes-sponsored on Mutual Wednesday nights through the Redfield-Johnstone agency.

The 150 programs aired by Frisco's eight stations, on a gratis basis, for the War Chest campaign would add up, in dollar value, to \$16,000. The committee in charge has totalled the cost of the 150 programs, including orchestra costs and artists' fees, all of which were donated by the radio industry.

Though in the agency business for 17 years, Danny Danker, v.p. in charge of J. Walter Thompson's Hollywood office, has just written his first piece of copy. It's a Saturday broadcast of the Metropolitan Opera's anniversary issue next Wednesday (6).

The name of Lanny Ross was inadvertently omitted from a story in last week's (23) issue which reported that contracts had been extended for all performances in the cast of 'Camel Caravan' (CBS). Ross' services were among those included in the renewal.

The American Forum of the Air broadcasts over the Mutual network is on a two-week vacation when it returns in the new year will celebrate its 15th anniversary. Theodore Granick, Washington lawyer and commentator, is moderator of the 45-minute Sunday evening roundtable.

FCC Issues KGNO Bid For Night Power Boost
Washington, Dec. 29. Application of the Dodge City Broadcasting Co. for increased nighttime operating power for station KGNO, of Dodge City, Kansas, has been denied by the Federal Communications Commission. Station contended that increase of power from 250 to 500 watts at night would enable it to extend service to an additional area of 231 square miles and bring in some 1,068 more potential listeners who do not now obtain primary broadcast service.

This gain, it was found, would be at the expense of some 1,638 listeners who would lose service from KFRO, Longview, Texas.

Glen Gray Moving Off Country Program

Glen Gray's band is being replaced in a few weeks on the 'Soldiers of Production' program on the Blue network. The new outfit is the 'Defence Health and Welfare' Successor band isn't set.

Production of the series is also being taken over by the War Production Board, with Irving Sudds of the WPB Labor Division, slated to supervise.

Westco, Texas—Brad H. Smith, news editor of KR.G., former editor of Victoria (X.G.) Advocate.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING SUNDAY AT 6:30 ?

How would you like to meet a lot of nice people every Sunday evening? Come over to our place any Sunday at 6:30 and we can fix it for you. You'll find microphones and wires and things already hitched to millions of homes where these people are waiting for you. When you arrive, they'll have just finished listening to two of the most popular programs in radio... both on Mutual, of course. Here's how we time it:

At 6:30 comes "The Shadow" for D. L. & W. Coal Co.—currently rated by Hooper at 14.0 with 43.3% of all listeners.

At 6:00 comes "First Nighter" for Campana Sale Co.—currently rated by Hooper at 12.0 with 40.7% of all listeners.

At 6:30 comes Your Program—currently rated as one of the best buys in broadcasting. For actual costs, get in touch with your Mutual man at once.

THIS IS MUTUAL

Yes—Santa was there!

THROUGHOUT the nation, this year, millions of young men in uniform spent Christmas Day—not with their families but in Army Camps, Naval Bases, Marine Corps and Air Corps Centers.

BUT SANTA CLAUS WAS THERE!

The Coca-Cola Company, in a magnificent presentation, contributed a very great share of the gaiety and lift and enjoyment which are an inseparable part of Christmas. Working with their advertising agency, The D'Arcy Advertising Company, Coca-Cola staged "Uncle Sam's Christmas Tree"—one of the great radio programs of all time—a program that lasted from noon to midnight of Christmas Day.

From Service Centers in twenty-four states, FORTY-THREE of the nation's top bands not only entertained the men at these centers, but

their music went out over the airwaves to "bring together" these men and their families in homes throughout the country. Each band was on the air fifteen minutes . . . but the live show lasted several hours. Multiply that by forty-three . . . and you will realize that SANTA CLAUS INDEED WAS THERE.

The Blue Network was privileged to carry this great program and we are proud of our part.

We and our stations want to thank and to salute The Coca-Cola Company, The D'Arcy Advertising Company, the Music Corporation of America and the Bands for one of the greatest contributions ever made to American morale in time of war.



Here is the list of Spotlight Bands which took part in "Uncle Sam's Christmas Tree"—and the Camps and Bases from which they broadcast.

RAYMOND PAIGE
Introductory Program, Radio City, New York

SAMMY KAYE
Fort Monmouth, N. J.

SHEP FIELDS
Quantico Marine Barracks, Quantico, Va.

JACK TEAGARDEN
Camp Polk, Leesville, La.

RICHARD HIMBER
War College, Washington, D. C.

VINCENT LOPEZ
Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, Pa.

TONY PASTOR
Edgewood Arsenal, Baltimore, Md.

DICK JURGENS
From An Aircraft Carrier

FLETCHER HENDERSON
Fort Snelling, St. Paul, Minn.

ART JARRETT
Fort Niagara, Youngstown, N. Y.

JOHNNY "SCAT" DAVIS
Army Air Base, Salina, Kansas

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga.

LIGON SMITH
Camp Wolters, Mineral Wells, Texas

LOUIS PRIMA
Camp Allen, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Training Base, Little Creek, Va.

WILL OSBORNE
Naval Air Gunners School, Hollywood, Fla.

CHARLIE SPIVAK
Fort Dix, N. J.

JAN SAVITT
Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, N. J.

TED LEWIS
Naval Training Station, New Orleans, La.

RUSS MORGAN
Naval Reserve Aviation Base, Glenview, Ill.

GENE KRUPA
March Field, Los Angeles, Cal.

AL KAVELIN
Camp McCoy, La Crosse, Wis.

JOHNNY RICHARDS
Hill Field, Ogden, Utah

EARL HINES
U. S. Naval Training School, Noroton Heights, Conn.

BLUE BARRON
U. S. Maritime Training Station, Hoffman Island, N. Y.

JOE SANDERS
Naval Training Station, Oxford, Ohio

EDDIE ROGERS
Lowry Field, Denver, Col.

FREDDY MARTIN
Camp Haan, Riverside, Cal.

HENRY KING
Scott Field, Belleville, Ill.

CARL RAVAZZA
Navy Pier, Chicago, Ill.

HAL GRAYSON
Thunderbird Field, Phoenix, Ariz.

JAN GARBER
Pomona Ordnance Base, Pomona, Cal.

BOB MOHR
Desert Training Command, Indio, Cal.

CHARLIE BARNET
Manhattan Beach Coast Guard, Manhattan Beach, N. Y.

GEORGE OLSEN
U. S. Coast Guard Training Station, Alameda, Cal.

DEL COURTNEY
Camp Stoneman, Pittsburgh, Cal.

GLEN HENRY
Fort Lewis, Tacoma, Wash.

BENNY GOODMAN
Seaman's Institute, New York City

JOE REICHMAN
U. S. Destroyer Base, San Diego, Cal.

LES HITE
Fort Huachuca, Douglas, Ariz.

FREDDIE SLACK
Gardner Field, Taft, Cal.

TED FIORITO
Camp Roberts, Paso Robles, Cal.

HORACE HEIDT
War Veteran's Hospital, Sawtelle, Cal.

TOMMY DORSEY
San Pedro Naval Base, San Pedro, Cal.

The Blue Network

THE GOV'T PROGRAM PLAN

OWI TO SELECT NETWORK SHOWS

4 Weeks Will Be Asked to Contribute Several Hours Per Week—Program Idea Based on Government Survey of All Network Shows

TO END CONFLICTIONS

Four major networks will be asked to contribute several hours of time a week for Government programs under a new plan being formulated by the Office of War Information. Shows to be heard in the donated time would be selected by the OWI, according to the present idea of William B. Lewis, OWI radio head. That would be a departure in network-Government policy.

Although the projected plan is not completely set, those to whom Lewis and other OWI officials have explained it say it is based on a Government survey of all network programs, both commercial and sustaining, and their comparative effectiveness as purveyors of Government and sponsor messages. Presumably the shows to be chosen by the OWI and broadcast in periods contributed by the networks would be selected on the basis of the survey's findings.

It's expected that when the new plan gets under way such conflicts as the two Office of Price Administrator programs, "100,000,000 Questions" and "Neighborhood Call," both heard at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays, but respectively on CBS and NBC, will be eliminated. Under the present schedule the programs compete for the same audience, though they're on for the same Government agency. Somewhat analogous case is offered by the Treasury Department's "Bond Wagon" at 10:15-10:45 p.m. Saturday on Mutual, and the same agency's "Over Here" show 7-8 o'clock the same night on the Blue.

FCC K.O.'S RULES FOR BETTER DX

Washington, Dec. 29. In order to coordinate the operation of all international broadcast stations in the interest of the Government's propaganda warfare, the Federal Communications Commission has suspended indefinitely certain of the rules and regulations governing DX outlets.

Parts suspended were subsection (f) (1), (2) and (3) of Section 443, subsections (d) and (e) of section 444, and section 446.

By the suspensions it will no longer be necessary for international broadcast stations to make and keep for inspection verbatim mechanical records of international programs, nor will it be necessary to furnish the FCC, on request, record and scripts together with translations if the programs are in any language other than English.

Suspension also removes the restriction against an international broadcast station from using more than one frequency. Nor will it be necessary any longer to file with and make part of each application for license renewal, information about hours operated on each frequency, list of transmitted programs and outlines of reports of reception and transmission characteristics of the assigned frequency.

FCC also ruled that subsections (d) and (e) of section 443 require a single station identification for all stations which are carrying the same program, and require identification of international broadcast stations only at the beginning and end of a transmission.

Gene Buck
Compares World War I Show Business with the Global War period of now.
an Added Feature in
'Show Business At War'
theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

Philly Show Change
Philadelphia, Dec. 29.
Bill Perry last week replaced Frank Coleman as the vocalist on a KYW variety show sponsored by Esslinger's Beer. Coleman is in service. Another addition to the show is Frances Kay.

New Argentine DX-er Aims for Gen'l Listening; Pro-Democratic Policy

Buenos Aires, Dec. 22. First local short-wave transmitter aimed specifically at attracting general listeners inaugurated by Argentine provincial newspaper, Los Andes, located in Mendoza. Station, known as LRN, Radio Arconcapa, will operate on 10 kilowatts and 49 meters. It increases to eight the number of local short-wave transmitters.

Because of its location, 800 miles from Buenos Aires (it's also in the western part of the country, close to the Andes), a regular long-wave transmitter would have been impossible to tune in most other parts of the country. Newspaper Los Andes, which is strongly pro-democratic, plans to keep outlet on a full-day

Arthur Kober
Satirizes Mr. Anthony's Radio Program
an Added Feature In
'Show Business At War'
theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

Diplomat Joins CBC for Special Post-War Series

Robert B. Inch has taken a temporary appointment with the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. to do special work on a projected series of broadcasts dealing with questions of reconstruction after the war, particularly as they affect Canada. It is announced by Dr. James S. Thomson, general manager CBC. CBC is organizing a special advisory committee, representing a wide variety of interests, to assist in preparing the series.

Inch, who was until lately secretary of the League of Nations Society in Canada, has traveled widely and is expert in international affairs.

*M*ost extensive survey on radio listenership ever made in the Philadelphia Market Area!!!

Ten thousand five hundred personal interviews, made in one week, show . . .

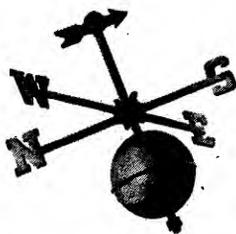
WCAU IS FIRST!

More people listen more to WCAU than to any other radio station in the Philadelphia Market Area.

Copies of the complete survey, with fifteen-minute breakdowns for the combined Monday through Friday, Saturday and Sunday ratings, are now on the press. We shall be glad to send you a copy if you so desire.

WCAU PHILADELPHIA

50,000 WATTS IN ALL DIRECTIONS



*The Bell Telephone Co. of Pennsylvania is authority for the fact that only 44% of homes in Philadelphia are telephone equipped. This survey, an accurate cross-section sample of the population of the Philadelphia Area, included the other very important 56%.

Met's 5th Good 'B' Wk. Climaxed by Brilliant Return of Marjorie Lawrence

Smashing all previous records of the Metropolitan Opera, the house closed out its fifth week of the season Monday (28) with a net profit for each week of the season of \$100,000. Performance value was adequate, but hardly of a sensational nature. "Manon," Wednesday's main event, was a first-class performance. In the title role, Juli Sayag had yet to get under the title, but her characterization, both vocal and while not in the best of voice, sang well, but Manon's agony and vivaciousness seem to escape her. Charles Kulman worked hard as Des Grieux, but while the tenor's "Le Reveur" was the work of a Manon Cordon as the senior Des Grieux, with the bass' commanding but not exciting and completely unimpressive splendid vocalism, Cordon has come a long way and it is steadily approaching the top. John Brownlee was a somewhat effemi-

dated vocal, delivered a "Che gelida manina" with a fine touch of color and act one. Francesco Valtolina and Norman Cordon, as Marcello and Collier, were both excellent. The young tenor Bacaloni again scored big in his dual comedy part. Annamary D'Amico, who should do much better, whose voice was unpleasant as the character she represents in the second act. Cesare Sodero did an adequate job in the pit.

Viennese Diva
"Aida," Friday (23), served to introduce Hertha Glaz, Viennese mezzo to the Met. The singer looked well and acted with distinction. Her "I tace" was more of a limited lyrical soprano than mezzo. It was almost inaudible in the middle and nearly as inaudible in the first much color, although with sufficient range for her upper tones. In second act, she was amazingly good, but better. Stella Roman had her senior son's part as Aida and again showed a remarkable dramatic soprano badly used. Her excessive use of chest voice with its hard, metallic soundings contrasted with her exquisite pianissimo and occasional brilliant top 'B' flares and high notes.

Met's \$1,000 Profit

Breaking all previous records for successive black ink, the Metropolitan Opera Co. closed Monday (28) its fifth week of its current season with an estimated \$100,000 net profit on a total gross of \$2,500,000. This did not include an additional \$6,000 raised for the Red Cross by the benefit performance at which Marjorie Lawrence made her return to the actual stage of the company.

Estimates are as follows: "Manon" Wednesday (23), gross \$8,000; loss \$3,500.

"Aida," Thursday (24), gross \$10,000; even break.

"Bohème," Friday (25), gross \$12,000; profit \$1,000.

"The Merry Widow," Saturday afternoon (26), gross \$12,500; profit, \$1,500.

"Cavalleria," Saturday evening (28), gross \$8,000; profit, \$1,000.

"Traviata" and "Salome," Monday (29), gross \$12,000; profit, \$1,000.

mate soldier and his singing seems to be on the decline and the acting is dry and uninteresting. Sir Thomas Beecham frequently drowned out his singers with the noise of his orchestra.

Sunday (27) the greatest human interest story to have come out of Broadway in recent years was that of Marjorie Lawrence, dramatic soprano, whose legs had been paralyzed two years ago, made her triumphant appearance on the stage since the onset of her illness. The role of her re-entry was Venus, and she did the complete first act with Lauritz Melchior. Miss Lawrence was in splendid voice and acted with finesse. Venus the house has had since the last act it there. If anything, her voice has improved. Her singing for the voice has a warmer, richer quality and her large voluminous tones from a low 'A' to a ringing top 'B,' cut through the orchestra like a knife. All her acting was determined from a cough and was good.

The entire house rose en masse at the conclusion to applaud for five minutes without a pause. The Metropolitan orchestra, chorus, conductors, other stars, boxoffice staff and managers all shared their appreciation of her making her return a gala one. Of the other scenes presented, Marjorie Novata presented an outstanding performance. Manon brilliantly sang her role. Manon brilliantly sang her role. Manon brilliantly sang her role.

"Bohème," Thursday (24), brought back Marjorie Novata to the role of her debut. The singer acted with her customary charm and made her voice with its falling top tones just what was able to cope with Mimì's line. It is regrettable that her voice was cast as opposite Jago, since she has a deep lover. The tenor, in apen-

One for Ripley

Pittsburgh, Dec. 28. The voice of Milton Lomask, assistant manager of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, is changing—and at his age, too. Lomask appeared with the Pittsburgh Opera Society last year in "Eugen Onegin as a tenor. This week he is appearing with the same group in "Fanciullini and Crete"—as a baritone.

"The Magic Flute," Saturday (28) afternoon, was generally good performance. Charles Kulman found the role of the Prince more suited than he is to the part. He looks well. John Brownlee's Papageno was humorous and sung with brilliant top 'B's and with large, strong vocal notes well but lacking vocally as Pamina. Josephine Antone sang Queen of the Night with her last aria, with the difficult 'E's above high 'C' and tricky runs and melismae taken with finesse. Eusebio Pinza's Sarastro was imposing dramatically and brilliantly sung with a firm and dignified Italian Raymond rounded out excellent solo instances.

Bruno Waller conducted well as usual. "Traviata," Saturday evening (26), was an improvement over the last from the vocal and dramatic aspect, is providing the Met with one of its best vocal performances in recent years. Her 'A's for 'Lui' and 'Sempre Libero' in the first act were sung with brilliant top 'C's and with large-lined bravura effects. The second act duets were the best of good. Jan Kargin was excellent as the good Alfredo. The 'Un di felice' and 'Lungi da lei' were both sung with considerable spirit and with tonal quality that is his noted. The tenor's dramatic "Questa donna" of the third act was the performance and his acting continues to improve. Leonard Warren rounded out excellently. In the second act, both his duets with Albenize went well, as was the short aria "Pura imitazione di Maria." "Provenza Il Mar," however, was a high point being superbly sung from top 'B's and with a fine touch of the Cesare Sodero, while conducting his orchestra a bit louder than usual, was well matched by the power of the voices on the stage.

"Traviata" (Act 2) and "Salome" comprised the double bill Monday (28) at the Met as "La Serva Padrona" and "The Merry Widow" was cancelled due to the illness of the soprano. The opera served to introduce to Met audiences the Alfredo of James Melchior, who is a fine singer. The tenor's "Dei Miei bollelli" position was well sung. The phrasing was good. Lucia Albanese and Leonard Warren performed well in "The Merry Widow" evening (28). In "Salome," Lily Djaneff's performance was excellent. Her acting and dancing as the princess. Karin Branzell was the Voltress. Herbert Janssen did well by Jokanaan. Rene Herod, vocally he was well above par. George Seitz conducted well.

Milw. '43 Park Series to Link Chi Chi and Jive

Milwaukee, Dec. 29. The University of Wisconsin's series of summer concerts in Washington Park is being extended from the usual two to three nights on July 19, 1943 season, the extra five to be of the 'popular' type to appeal to the general student body. The series is sponsored by business concerns and manufacturers. Enlarged program is desirable to attract a hostler morale in the war progress.

Don Griffin, program director, has engaged guest artist program as follows:
Robert Weede, June 29; Rise Steinhilber, July 1; John J. Kelly, July 15; John Pons, July 20; Kenny Baker, July 27; Anna Kaskas and Eleanor Heller, Aug. 3; Nelson Egan, Aug. 10; Josephine Antone, Aug. 17.

The 'popular' program:
Horace Carter, July 1; Kate Smith, July 8; Kay Kyser, band, July 15; Ginny Simms or Dinah Shore, July 22; Phil Spalding, Aug. 12.

Guest artists will appear with the newly organized Milwaukee Symphony orchestra, while a Milwaukee band, still to be selected, will provide the background for the popular programs of Kate Smith, Ginny Simms or Dinah Shore.

Attendance in the past has attracted audiences of as high as 40,000 and 50,000 persons. Gasoline and parking are not a problem. Attendance in 1943, as Washington Park is easily accessible by street car and bus.

INDPLS. R.R. BUYS SYMPH FOR EMPLOYEES

Indianapolis, Dec. 28. The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra has been hired by the Indianapolis Railways to play a concert for its employees under the direction of Faurien Sevier at the Murat theatre Jan. 3. This follows up an idea for a series of performances under industrial sponsors to bolster the orchestra's finances, which started with a program for P. R. Mallory Co. employees last month. A fee of \$1,500 was understood to be paid the orchestra for the Mallory concert.

Dr. Rodzinski New Head of N. Y. Symph

Dr. Arthur Rodzinski has been appointed musical director of the N. Y. Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra for the season of 1943-44. He succeeds Kurt Siodman, who for over a decade head of the Cleveland Orchestra, was also as permanent head of the orchestra and conductor. Conducted by Bruno Walter, who will conduct at least six weeks and Howard Barlow.

Kuttner's Fractured Wrist Stymies Trenton Symph

Trenton, Dec. 29. A double blow to Trenton's twin civic musical enterprises, the Trenton Symphony and the Trenton Opera Association, has been struck by injury to Michael Kuttner, president of the latter. Hospitalized by a New York subway step tumble, the young maestro, who is convalescing in the left wrist and a slight forehead fracture, will be unable to conduct the season's first concert, which will be on Jan. 12.

Sigmund Romberg's Concert Venture Both Appealing and Commercial

Eve Hoopla

Continued from page 1
matters at first. It's expected still, however, that the famed composer's photo also might appear the first.

Montreal Very Whoopie

Canvass of the first run theatres along the Main street here reveals abundance of New Year's Eve midnight shows at Palace (51, Capitol 81), Loew's (\$1-50), Princess (50c-81), Orpheum (60c) and reports from a large number of second-run houses show promise of similar big returns and possible sell-outs. The turn-away big shows to whatever is going.

Stuyvesant (\$150-42.50) vaude house for its show from 11:45 p.m. to 3 a.m. by Christmas Eve has almost a sell-out.

Business at these shows is regarded as a good indication of why money is moving and points to big spending in the coming year. Hotels and cabarets New Year Eve midnight shows are not now being bought and there is a certain amount of scapting with prices rocketing to 1928 levels.

Berlin's Bonuses

Continued from page 1
10 other tunes therein, although "White Christmas" is the outstanding one. The record is a gem. The copy click like "Christmas" is the equivalent of four or five hits, since it spells out substantial advance in production to create a 200,000 or a 250,000-copy hit, which is deemed big enough.

Big Record Sales
Furthermore, the disk sales have been terrific. Decca alone, which has been the mainstay of the past, has sold 2,000,000 platters. The last big disk sensations were Glenn Miller's "Chorus Line" and "Swing Time" with 1,300,000 platters, and Jimmy Dorsey's "Maria Elena"—Green Eyes—over 1,000,000. "New Year's Eve" and "White Christmas" are about the same time. "New Year's Eve" disks outdressed sheet music. The all-time record, perhaps, is "The Sonny Boy." The first Brunswick record statement on it was \$1,000,000. Before that, Decca daniel sold over 1,000,000 disks, as did "The Merry Widow."

From the Berlin, Inc. perspective, the company's fiscal year starts in July, which actually means that this profit made, but six months ago, since the firm had nothing worth while prior thereto until the "Holiday" record. The material was developed by Irving Berlin and his manager, Saul H. Bornstein, are anticipated profit totals to some degree; and if the first six months' pace continues, the firm may well set a new record high with a half-million net profit.

Whether forscit or not, the fact that Berlin had written his general record, and returned back to the fact that "if we have a good year I want to see our bonuses to the staff good" is a very good thing. It is conventional for both the Berlin, Inc. and ABC personnel. This differs from the rest of the industry, which is bound by the board to exceed what has been expected. The record is the preceding year. Since 1941 was an exceedingly poor year for music publishers, having been hit by the SCAAP-radio-IBM strike, the precedent was at lowest ebb, when only bonuses of single ebb, were being paid.

Bonuses in the music business are the rule rather than the exception, with pluggers and executives participating in the gravy profits. At Berlin's example, at one time the record staff Henry Link, its professional manager, a \$125,000 bonus. "White Christmas" is Berlin's first record copy hit since 1928-29, and the "Remember"—"What'll I Do?"—"Always" ballads clicked for those sales. Berlin's "God Bless America" is only one good record better than 900,000 sales.

WB's Music Bonus
Warner Bros. gave its professional music men a bonus of four weeks salary, while the rest of the personnel received checks for two weeks extra.

Concert—Opera

Pittsburgh, Dec. 28. Concert Opera, under direction of Sigmund Romberg and Frank Croce; soloists, Grace Panavini, Charles Kulman, and Sir Thomas Beecham. Pittsburgh, Dec. 25-26, \$2.75 to 5.00.

Title of this new venture into the music field tells all. "An Evening With Sigmund Romberg" is a new and it was a pleasant evening, too, with program made up chiefly of matches, whether or not there is a place in American music for something new, but it is a very good thing. Obviously there is, for big 3,000-seat Mosque was comfortably filled for both nights at \$2.75 to 5.00.

Practically everything that could went wrong here closing night (26), but crowd did seem to mind Grace Panavini, one of soloists, singing with her best of her best to eliminate a couple of her programmed numbers; the Mike Marjorie, who had a fine voice, but went still in the upper part of her range; and the orchestra, which seemed for last third of concert, leaving Romberg to accompany Miss Panavini, who had a fine voice, but piano, because musicians had to be replaced. But spirit of whole Romberg enterprise is informal so customers appreciate this sort of thing.

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Soloists are excellent. Miss Panavini is an attractive coloratura; Charles Kulman, conductor, did a long musical comedy and a long piece of music, which was well done. Practically entire last voice hit is deplorable. The program was brought out on the stage to announce the numbers; but crowd did seem to mind Grace Panavini, one of soloists, singing with her best of her best to eliminate a couple of her programmed numbers; the Mike Marjorie, who had a fine voice, but went still in the upper part of her range; and the orchestra, which seemed for last third of concert, leaving Romberg to accompany Miss Panavini, who had a fine voice, but piano, because musicians had to be replaced. But spirit of whole Romberg enterprise is informal so customers appreciate this sort of thing.

Mpls. Decides to Keep Many Aud in Operation

Minneapolis, Dec. 29. The city council has decided to keep the municipal auditorium in operation throughout 1943, although it has been proposed to discontinue the operation to close it for the consideration. The building's income from various sources, including trade and other shows, concerts, etc., has fallen considerably below previous years.

A plan submitted by manager George Adams to save approximately \$100,000 by closing the auditorium was rejected. The staff will be whittled down to 15, a skeleton crew and Adams will be paid \$4,800 a year. The stagehands' union agreed to the elimination of the auditorium for two days a week, and the stage employees will go on a straight five-day week. The plan is being technically on July seven days a week.

All Bands Theatre Business Boost;

Brown-Morocco 65G, Chir; J. Dorsey Plus 'Dandy' 70C, N. Y., New Record

(Estimates for This Week)
Los Brown, Chicago (Morocco); 4,000; 35-55-75... Plus 'Road to Morocco'...

2,200; 28-34-44-55... With 'Lido' in Distress...
Ina Ray Hutton, Pittsburgh (Stanley); 3,800; 30-44-55-60... With Marion Hutton and Modernaires...

Best Sheet Music Sellers

- White Christmas... Berlin Lights Go On Again...
Why Fall in Love... Harold Young and Lord...
Manhattan Serenade... Robbins

Bands at Hotel B. O.'s

(Presented herewith, as a weekly tabulation, is the estimated cover charge business being done by name bands in various New York hotels...

Table with columns: Band Name, Cover Charge, Total Cover, and Total Business. Includes bands like Ray Reinhart, Vaughn Monroe, and Art Kassel.

Jerry Wald, In But. Aud, Draws 'Sweet' \$1,700

Sluggish attendance (Estimated)
Bob Allen (Shubert theatre, New Haven, Conn., Dec. 27)...
Merle Kay (Chernoff B., Omaha, Neb., Dec. 28)...

Chicago

Griff Williams (Empire Room, Palmer House; 600; \$3-4.50 min.)...
Art Kassel (Walnut Room, Bismarck hotel; 300; \$1.50-2.00 min.)...

Boston

Eddy Oliver (Oval Room, Copley Place; 250; \$1 cover)...
John Kirby (Colonial Room, Copley Place; 308; \$0.81-1.01)...
Chick Floyd (Terrace Room, Hotel Statler; 450; \$1 cover)...

St. Louis

Bill Stuart (Club Continental, Hotel Jefferson; 800; \$1-2 min.)...
Freddy Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-1.50)...

Minneapolis

George Wald (Minnesota Terrace; Nicollet hotel; 500; \$1-1.50)...
Freddy Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-1.50)...

Los Angeles

Freddy Martin (Ambassador; 900; \$1-1.50)...
Billy Marshall (Garden Terrace, Benjamin Franklin hotel; 500; no cover, \$1.50-2.50 min.)...

Philadelphia

Lu Breeze (Chez Paree; 650; \$1-3.50 min.)...
Chloe Marx (Blackhawk; 500; \$1.00 min.)...
Bob Owen (Happy Hour; 850; no cover or min.)...

Location Jobs, Not in Hotels

Gene Krupa (Palladium B., Hollywood; sixth week)...
Horace Helst (Casa Manana B. Culver City; third week)...
Nogie Slaten (Trionon B., Southgate, first week)...

No Green-Knight Deal

The deal for the Green Bros. & Knight estate has gone cold...
The price, \$100,000, was not a factor in the switch of interest.

GOV'T FILES AMENDED PETITION VS. PETRILLO

The Government filed an amended petition in the U. S. District Court here on an injunction to enjoin against James C. Petrillo, the American Federation of Musicians and other officers of the union...

Inside Staff—Orchestras

Xavier Cugat and Carmen Cavallaro continue to be mentioned as the bands which will probably get the most sought after date at the new Hotel Statler on Sixteenth street in Washington...

Roosevelt hotel, N. Y., denies that it has any intention, or was even thinking about closing its Grill next month, for any reason whatever...

Somebody has been opening the mail of Paul Schwarz, president of district 181, Washington. Mixture from the U. S. Department sent on Dec. 4 arrived Dec. 20, marked 'opened by minkie'...

10 Best Sellers on Coin-Machines

(Records below are grabbing most nickels this week in jukeboxes throughout the country, as reported by operators to 'Variety' Names are those of one band or socielist; if the title indicates, in order of popularity, such recordings are being played.)

- 1. White Christmas (1) (Berlin)... Decca
2. When Lights Go On (10) (C.L.P.)... Decca
3. Had Craziest Dream (4)... Decca
4. Dearly Beloved (6) (Chappell)... Victor
5. Manhattan Serenade (8) (Robbins)... Decca
6. Five By Five (9) (Leeds)... Decca
7. Daybreak (6) (Fest)... Decca
8. Moonlight Becomes You (1) (Famous)... Decca

OTHER FAVORITES

- Praise Lord (11) (Famous)... Columbia
Touch Texas (Southern)... Decca
Brazil (Southern)... Victor
This Is Army (Army)... Decca
There'll Never Be Another You (Miller)... Victor
For Me, My Gal (Mills)... Decca
Here Comes Navy (Shapiro)... Decca

Blue Gardens Burns With \$30,000 Loss; 5th Band Spot Lost in Year

Blue Gardens, Armonk, N. Y., roadside which plays name bands up until six months ago, burned to the ground Saturday (28) evening with a loss of \$30,000, which it claimed, was partly covered by insurance...

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Mrs. Kramer Crosses Ritz Deal With Harvard U.

Mrs. Maria Kramer and Harvard University last week reached agreement on a price for the swanky Ritz hotel, New York, said to be around \$3,500,000. Details of a deal are now being worked out and it's believed Mrs. Kramer will take over by Feb. 1.

Gov't Files Amended Petition vs. Petrillo

The Government filed an amended petition in the U. S. District Court here on an injunction to enjoin against James C. Petrillo, the American Federation of Musicians and other officers of the union...

Sengstack Scores Maddy's 'Libel' That Pubs Nixed Patriotic Tunes For OCD Songsheet; No Offers Made

Dr. James E. Maddy's charge that certain patriotic numbers to be included on a national song sheet of his tunes this week aroused bitter protest from the publishing industry. F. F. Sengstack, president of the Standard Music Publishers' Assn. of the United States, scored Dr. Maddy's accusation as unfounded, since no offer had been made to or refused by any publisher. Sengstack received the chairman of the Michigan wartime civic music committee for "libelling reputable music publishers."

Dr. Maddy, who has worked for several music firms as compiler of folios, declared in his statement that the royalty demands of publishers had tyramid him from including "The Caisson Song," "Semper Paratus" and "The Army Air Corps Song" in a songsheet of 25 patriotic numbers which was to be published by the Federal Office of Civilian Defense for use in community singing. He said that he had offered the publishers a penny a sheet for use of the numbers, but they had rejected the offer.

Louis Bernstein, head of Shapiro, Bernstein & Co., which holds the copyright to "Caisson" was among those who protested to Dr. Maddy by wire. The latter telegraphed

back, "Unfortunately news release due to misunderstanding. Correction statement sent to newspapers. Letters to publishers." Sengstack also furnished a protest to Col. Harold A. Furlong, Michigan Auditor General, and the War Trade Association's proxy wrote that he was surprised that a representative of the American Federation of Musicists "should have been permitted to libel reputable music publishers" and to give the impression that the council believes that it is proper to appropriate the property of another.

Maddy regretting Sengstack that Col. Furlong answered Sengstack that the libelous statement which had arisen over Dr. Maddy's statement was "most unfortunate and is fully realized that the Standard Music Publishers' Assn. and its membership are anxious to help the war program in every possible manner." Attached to the column's letter was a statement from Dr. Maddy in which he stated that he accepted the responsibility of publishing that no offer of payments for their patriotic numbers had been made to them in "complete good faith," and that he agreed that an injustice had been done them if the public had gained the impression that they are actively opposed to an arrangement for the use of their songs." Dr. Maddy stated that he was "sorry for any such injustice."

Best-Selling Records in S. America

U. R. pulled ahead of Central American and Mexican numbers in South American best-selling disc lists during December. Following best 10, compiled from data obtained from dealers and producing companies' headquarters in Buenos Aires, represent choice not only in this country but for adjoining South American republics:

	Victor	Odeon
1. Amour, Amour (Mex), Corrido.....	Pedro Vargas	Victor
	David Norton	Odeon
	Feliciana Brunelli	Victor
	Elvira Rios	Victor
	John Calabry	Victor
2. Insensiblement (French).....	Roy Ventura	Odeon
	Eduardo Armani	Victor
	Eduardo Armani	Victor
	Mary Mercs	Odeon
	Guy Lombardo	Odeon
3. No te Apures Carablanca, (Arg.).....	Lucio Demare	Odeon
	Anibal Troilo	Victor
4. Don't Sit Under Apple Tree (U.S.).....	Glenn Miller	Victor
	Andrew Sisters	Odeon
	Bob Crosby	Odeon
	Louis Brown	Columbia
	Jimmy Dorsey	Odeon
	Jan Savitt	Victor
	Eugenio Noble	Odeon
	Roy Smick	Odeon
	Kenny Baker	Odeon
5. Always in My Heart (U.S.).....	Feliciana Brunelli	Victor
	Jose Garcia (rumba)	Victor
	Anibal Troilo (Pichuco)	Victor
	Miguel Calo	Odeon
	Alfred Cress	Odeon
	Eugenio Noble	Odeon
	Anibal Troilo	Victor
	Mary Mercs	Odeon
6. Window Washer Man (U.S.).....	Eduardo Armani	Victor

Just Like Ft. Wayne

Chicago, Dec. 22. When Art Jarrett arrived in Ft. Wayne, recently to play the date, publicity agents had planted several signs throughout the city saying "Welcome Art Jarrett."

A hotel across the street from the theatre he was playing also displayed the sign, but when Jarrett applied for a room he was told, "Sorry, we're all out of rooms."

3 WB FIRMS TO PLUG ONE SCORE

Three music publishing firms have been designated by Warners to handle the score for its "Thank You Lucky Stars," the first time a single score has been so divided up among three publishers. WB's Benj. Harms and Witmark will publish. There are 13 tunes, eight of them to be staged.

Arthur Schwartz and Frank (Praise the Lord) Loesser wrote the music.

PEACE SONGS SELL THE BEST

The fancy of the music publishing industry is tickled by the top-sellers of 1942 fall within the category songs. They are "White Christmas," "White Cliffs of Dover" and "When the Lights Go Out Again." No outright fighting song, "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition" being accepted as a semi-jive novelty, has even come close to the trio's sales levels. Street music buyers obviously preferred those songs which struck a responding chord to their yearning for the day when peace and light would again prevail.

"White Cliffs" reached a total sale of 375,000 copies, "White Christmas" has gone over 1,000,000, while the sheet turnover on "Lights" is already 375,000 copies.

Arnstein Sues Again

Altering the piracy of his copyrighted song, "Kalamazoo" Ira B. Arnstein of N. Y. Monday (28) filed suit in the U. S. District Court seeking the recovery of more than \$12,500,000, based on 50,000 copies at \$250 per. The defendants named in the action are 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., which used "I Got a Gal" in "Kalamazoo" in film titled "Orchestra Wives"; Bregman, Vocco & Co., Inc. publishers, and Harry Warren and Mack Gordon, writers.

Arnstein is a consistent litigant in the music biz. In fact, his complaint states that, this song is the 48th of such infringements by the Tin Pan Alley publishers and song writers.

Music Pubs Agree to \$10 Per Master Royalty Fee for Transcription Makers

The music publishers, whom Harry Fox serves as agent and trustee on mechanical rights, last week decided to go along with the manufacturers of recorded radio libraries for another year on the basis of the 1942 royalty fee, which is \$10 per tune per master. The transcription men had argued that their plea for the status quo in price was a fair one, since there is no telling how hard their library subscriptions would be hit by the continuance of the American Federation of Musicians' ban on recording.

It was also pointed out by the transcribers that their income from

libraries had already been seriously affected by the drop in local retail accounts among local stations. Local retail advertisers commonly make heavy use of recorded libraries.

After obtaining the price decision from his clients, Fox last week issued agreements covering the 1943 period to the World Broadcasting System and the Associated Music Publishers. In the case of a library master in 1941 was \$15. The publishers granted the transcribers' request for a reduction at the turn of 1942 because many of their station subscribers had not as yet obtained ASCAP licenses.

NBC, CBS, Blue, Mutual Plugs

Following tabulation of popular music performances embraces all four networks—NBC, CBS, Blue and Mutual—as represented by WEAF, WJZ, WABC and WOR. N. Y. Compilation herewith covers week beginning Monday through Sunday, Dec. 21-27, from 5 p. m. to 1 a. m., and is based on data provided by Accurate Reporting Service, regular source for music publishing industry.

TITLE	PUBLISHER	TOTAL
White Christmas—"Holiday Inn"	Berlin	38
You'll Be So Nice to Come Home To	Chappell	32
Why Don't You Fall in Love With Me	Harms	29
Rose Ann of Charing Cross	Shapiro	28
It Had the Sazaz Dream	Southern	23
Moonlight Becomes You—"Road to Morocco"	BVC	21
There Are Such Things	Yankee	21
For Me and My Gal—"Me and My Gal"	Mills	21
A Touch of Texas—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	20
When the Lights Go On Again	CLP	19
Moonlight Mood	Robbins	17
Please Think of Me	Witmark	17
Mr. 5 by 5—"Behind 8 Ball"	Leeds	15
Constantly—"Road to Morocco"	Paramount	13
I'd Do It Again	Santly	13
If I Cared a Little Bit Less	Feist	13
That Soldier of Mine	National	13
Pennsylvania Polka	Polka	13
Three Dreams—"Powers Girl"	Remick	13
Yesterday's Gardenas	Army	11
I Can't Be Wrong—"Now Voyager"	Harms	11
Street Sonata	Famous	10
Street of Dreams	Miller	10
Velvet Moon	Chappell	10
Deeply Beloved—"You Were Never Loved"	Witmark	10
Hip Hip Hooryay	Robbins	9
I Wish I Wish I Wish	Marks	9
I Just Kissed Your Picture Goodbye	Crawford	9
Can't Get Out of Mood—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	9
Manhattan Serenade	Robbins	8
The Steam Is on the Beam	Shapiro	8
Take It From the Beam	Miller	8
Winter Wonderland	BVC	8
Rosie the Riveter	Paramount	8
Santa Claus is Coming to Town	Feist	7
Babylee Babblee	World	6
Daybreak—"I Put Miss Jones"	Feist	6
Get Meek of Chicken—"Seven Days Leave"	Southern	6
There'll Never Be Another You—"Iceland"	Morris	6
"I'm Getting Tired So I'm Going Home"	Army	6
This Is the Love My Lady	Dorsey Bros.	6
Who No More My Another	Harms	6
As Time Goes By	Robbins	5
Blue Skies	Feist	5
Over There—"Yankee Doodle Dandy"	Feist	5
Paradise Valley	Atlas	5

*This is the "Army" publishing subed.
 Phil Oldham and Foster Carling filled "Lullaby of the Heart" for Harry Sherman's "Meet John Bonniwell."
 Madi King and Jack Norberto created a new song, "Keep Em Happening" for printing by Memorex Publishing Co.

For the New Year—Two New Hits for Your Programs!

MUSIC Lyric by Harold Adamson

DO NOT GET ALIQUID ANYMORE Music by Peter De Rose

ROBBINS MUSIC CORPORATION Lyric by Bob Russell

799 Seventh Avenue, New York, N. Y. Music by Duke Ellington

Murray Baker, Prof. Mgr.



ELLA FITZGERALD AND THE 4 KEYS
the great new instrumental group

OPENING AT LOEW'S STATE, NEW YORK
THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Featured on Blue Network, Sundays 8:15-8:30 P. M., E. W. T.

Personal Management GALE, Inc., 48 W. 48th Street, New York

Equity Data on Increased Costs Of Living to Serve As Basis For Increased Pay Demands to Mgrs.

Data on boosted rates out of town has been compiled by the Equity and in connection with the general raise in the cost of living. It will be the basis for demands upon managers for additional compensation to accompany fluctuations on the subject of the union. There is a provision in the basic agreement between the association and the League of New York Theatres which would open the way for either increasing the minimum pay of \$50 weekly or allowing the players an increase above their contracted salaries should living costs go up 15% or more, as has happened from the level at the time the pact was signed.

Equity is obtaining a complete list of the more reasonable hotels, boarding houses and restaurants of town, with the assistance of the Travelers' Aid Society. Difficulty in getting living quarters has been reported by many actors, and where hotel rooms are to be had and the rates are so high that actors, especially those receiving comparatively modest salaries, are apprehensive. They say that after paying for hotel and meals, they virtually owe themselves money. Engagements in stands that are war centers have been over-crowded and the toughest for visiting professionals, nor do other traveling finds include secure accommodations.

Reports from players in USO camp shows are descriptive of the situation, particularly the transportation end. Most jumps are made in day coaches, with the players and an getting catnaps through the night. Recently some players were taken from seats in day coaches and sat on their suitcases in the crowded cars. Understood that the number of military auditions on turlough for the holidays accounts for the over-capacity trains. Reports were also received in the letters from USO outfits on travel conditions, because they were apprehensive that they would be easy when they accepted the jobs.

Author Sues Max Malin For \$25,000, Charges N. Y. Contract Breach

Charging breach of contract and interference with continued operation of his play, David M. Malin, author of "The Last Generation," which foisted Dec. 17 over two performances at the Malin Studio, on West 44th street, N. Y., has brought suit in 4th N. Y. Supreme Court for \$25,000 damages against Max Malin, studio owner.

Malin claims he and Malin parted an agreement to organize the M. & M. Repertory Co., a co-op venture enlisting a group of young Broadway hopefuls to produce three plays. Contract was to run a year, with "Generation" as curtain raiser followed by "The Last Generation" and "Welcome Home Ulysses," and "Merry Ghost" from Stratford. Malin claims Malin, after initial show played two nights to fair buzz, was down and kicked pact with Leo Shull for production of "Dracula" at studio. Also claims that venue of his own claim that should have been paid by Malin as business manager, including hiring of two union stagehands and boxoffice man.

Malin, particularly incensed because cast, which included Robert Knicker and Guy Kibbee, the film actor, had rehearsed for five weeks and had looked upon the co-op thing as a stepping stone to bigger things.

SHUBERTS LOSE TAX BAR-OUT TEST CASE

Supreme Court decision upholding the state law guaranteeing holders of theatre tickets admission to the performance was reaffirmed yesterday (Tuesday) by the Appellate Division, in Albany. Appeal, brought by the Shuberts, to reverse the lower court ruling, was turned down. Case was to reverse in the autumn of 1941 in Hudson Falls, N. Y., by (Continued on page 45)

Mrs. W. Averell Harriman
Tells About Mrs. Bob Sherwood, Mrs. Minnie Astor, Mrs. Irving Berlin, Mrs. Edna Whitney, Bourne and other efforts "Ship Service" War Work.

An Added Feature in
'Show Business
At War'
theme of the
37th Anniversary Number
of
VARIETY

B'way Showmen, ATAM Still at Odds on Salary Raise; Shubert Squabble

Broadway showmen and the Association of Theatrical Agents and Managers have met again to iron out their difficulties over the union's demand for more salary. With Paul Brisenden, economic professor at Columbia University, sitting as arbitrator, the dispute was not settled and it was hardly an amicable session.

There were verbal interchanges between J. Shubert and Sidney Conn, counsel for ATAM. Attorney wanted to know whether Shubert had not admitted trying to break up ATAM with the aid of George Browne, former stagehands leader, who is now in prison, convicted of extortion. A mixup occurred when the factions met before James W. Fitzpatrick as mediator some weeks ago. Showman flared up, whereupon Prof. Brisenden said, "we'll have no more remarks" from Shubert.

Arbitrator ruled that briefs be filed by both sides, including not only the pay phase, but changes in the contract sought by ATAM. It is the longest union squabble the managers have had for some time.

Sir Cedric's Footlighter

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Sir Cedric Hardwicke, currently working in "The Moon Is Down" at 20th-Fox, shoves off for New York early next month to star in the Jerome Weingman stage piece, "All These Years."

Play was originally slated for a November start, but Hardwicke's picture work caused a postponement. He's co-producer thereof.

Herk Wins Right to Appeal When Sup. Ct. Justice Upholds Contention That Jury Should've Seen 'Wine'

4 Tix for Price of What 1 Cost Last Year Is Nifty Pulled for N. Y. 'Claudia'

Something unique in cut-rating was put across as an experiment by S. Jay Kaufman, company manager of "Claudia," at the Forrest St. last week. Show, which John Golden brought back to repeat on Broadway, an engagement which has been running more than six months, has a reduced top of \$1.65. Kaufman tried two for ones at that scale for three nights, with the result that takings jumped, in short, 83c per seat.

Reason was that as "Claudia" originally was priced at \$3.30, two for ones at the present \$1.65 top really meant that a patron could buy four tickets for the price of what one cost last year. Slant worked so well that it was necessary for cops to be called, it was claimed. Frank Goodman, of the Golden office, handled the two-for-one distribution, it being one of his specialties. Regular half price rate applied thereafter.

LEGIT BUSINESS BOOMS ON B'WAY

With eighth shows making their first Broadway appearances last week and this, list totals 33 shows, probably the peak number this season. Some of the arrivals are in the doubtful division, indications being that their expected prompt exit will ease up the booking situation, which approximates a house shortage.

Anticipated good attendance on Christmas eve proved to be a fact, and from that evening the last half (Continued on page 44)

That equal to an appeal of the conviction of I. H. Herk, who got a six months sentence, stiffest known on Broadway, in the "Wine, Women and Song" case, was recent case, opened Monday (28) when N. Y. Supreme Court Justice J. J. Anderson, Jr., granted a writ of reasonable doubt. Herk was released (Tues.) from the hospital after 18 days, since he had been transferred because of illness, under bail of \$1,000. Case is due to go to the Appellate Division of the Supreme court and may reach the Court of Appeals, highest tribunal in the state.

Arthur Markewich, attorney for the defendant, was upheld in his argument that the court had erred in not permitting the jury to witness the performance at the theatre (Am-

Justice Bernstein, in his decision, made the following notable comment in stating that "...the description (of the show) had been given to the jury in accuracy and comprehensiveness. It cannot constitute the basis for a reversal of the verdict."

He added that "...if there were a prosecution for the exhibition of obscene book, statue or picture, the best evidence would be furnished by a showing of the actual performance rather than by its oral description."

assessor), where it would have been the actual evidence rather than a verbal description by witnesses. He contended that an alleged obscene book, statue or picture might be examined in court but in this instance it was a matter of performance, which could not be judged only by seeing the show; and it therefore was an unusual case, where the actual evidence was as to body movements and alleged nudity, which should have been witnessed by the audience in the sphere of the theatre, not word of mouth.

Justice Bernstein ruled: "Whether a play is decent or indecent may depend upon the reaction of the person who observes the play, and the foundations in which it is exhibited. There may be a vast difference between the bare description in words of what has been seen and that on the stage and in actual view of the performance."

Justice was regarded as important to show business and the Justice indicated that Judge Owen W. Bohan General Sessions court, in refusing to permit the jury to see the performance. "The kind of evidence is real evidence," he said, "whose admissibility does not depend upon the discretion of the trial court and the refusal to receive it constituted, in the opinion of this court, a refusal to receive relevant, material and important evidence."

Prosecutor Sol Gelb contended that if the court had been held in the theatre, different show might have gone on. He opined that a dance by Scarlett Kelly, which he thought to be the most objectionable part of "Wine," would not have been shown to the judge and jury, as he saw it and that the girl would not have done the bumps in the same manner. Gelb also admitted that Jimmy Savo, also of "Wine," would have confined himself to fanning himself with a handkerchief, according to Margie Hart, the show's stripper. (Continued on page 44)

YURKA CAST TOPPER IN COAST BREAK-IN

Hollywood, Dec. 29.—Blanche Yurka draws top billing in the Jess Smith production of "The Stage Hand" The Stage Hand, featuring in New Year's night at the Lobero in Santa Barbara. Drama is by Tom Duggan and James Hogan and will play in other coast spots to test its possibilities for Broadway. Cast being directed by Neville Buckle, includes Tulla Rolf, Tom Keene, Walter Brooke, Herbert Corthell, Edith Angold, J. Arthur Amund, Richard O'Connor, Fairfax Young, Wolfgang Zisser, Alfred Fritts, Alfred Zevier, Kurt Steinbrunn and

HUB 'SYSTEM' ON TIX CRIMPS TODD SHOW

Authentic reports from Boston are to the effect that the new "Something For The Boys," at the Shubert theatre, is involved in the alleged straight-hold toddie ticket situation and that Michael Todd, who produced the musical, is the latest independent manager to be bothered by the Hub agency system.

As soon as the show won a strong press, tickets for New Year's Eve disappeared. It is claimed that Herk's had the bundle. That agency has been repeatedly reported under Shubert direction, though the managers deny this.

Todd demanded that at least 80 tickets for choice locations be returned. (Continued on page 45)

"Show Business At War"

THEME OF THE
37th ANNIVERSARY NUMBER
of
VARIETY

OUT NEXT WEEK—JAN. 6

USUAL ADVERTISING RATES PREVAIL

Special Exploitation Advantages

Reservations and Copy may be Wired to Any
Variety Office

NEW YORK	HOLLYWOOD	CHICAGO	LONDON
154 W. 46th St.	1708 N. Vine St.	54 W. Randolph St.	8 St. Martin's Pl.

Playwrights Co. Plays Santa

The Playwrights Company has been the most consistent legit firm to distribute bonuses, and for the fifth straight season gifts in cash were given to Christmas players in amount amounting around \$4,000.

Inside Stuff—Legit

Despite letters of protests received by management of the Nixon, Pittsburgh, over character of the Jewish film producer as portrayed by Michael Rosenberg in the Aubrey Smith comedy, 'Spring Again'...

That the engagement of 'Without Love,' starring Katharine Hepburn at the St. James, N. Y., will conclude in February, is again reported.

'Love' has been a good thing for the Theatre Guild. It had a spring tour of at least eight weeks, when the show earned considerably more than the production cost.

There were pre-Christmas parties galore in Broadway offices, particularly in film circles, but the most elaborate legit affair was in the lounge of the Music Box, the 'Star' and 'Garter' company being feasted and wined by Michael Todd, show producer, who made a flying trip from Boston...

Estimated that Todd went over \$5,000 for the 'Star' party. Men were given money clips made of gold and silver, girls got bracelets with similar insignia.

Louis Cahern has resigned from Equity's council with the explanation that he found it impossible to attend that body's meetings, which are held every two weeks.

Frank Gillmore, former head of Equity and currently managing director of the Associated Actors and Artists of America, was in the hospital for observation recently.

DET. JUMPIN', 'Russian People' Neat

DET. JUMPIN', 'Russian People' Neat... \$11,000 in Washington

More shows are in the loop here this holiday season than in any time in years, with the majority as Christmas Day starters.

Only old settler along the riotous is Walter Hampden and Cissie Loftis company, which registered a sturdy \$8,800 in its first week at \$1.85 top.

Opening with an \$11 top last Monday, Irving Berlin's 'This Is the Real Me' due to open in the \$20,000 in its two-week stay at the \$1.50 additional in the most weeks to 500 seats.

Also will also retail on Christmas Day 'Springtime for Henry,' which had a \$1.75 top last week, for \$1.75 also set for New Year's.

'CHOCOLATE SOLDIER' FINE 1942, HOLLYWOOD

Holiday spending has brightened the legit scene here, and the box-office-profiting 'Bulk of the trade since Christmas broke down to the Biltmore for 'Chocolate Soldier.' It's here for two and half weeks...

'Cry Havoc' called 'Prof Through The Night' in N.Y. chalked up \$5,000 in its first week...

'KNOCKING OUT SLUMP': 25G IN BOSTON

With Something or Other as the Hub's standby during Christmas week, 'Knocking Out the Boys' for all and the end-of-the-week grosses, 'house' making satisfactory...

'Arsenic and Old Lace,' Colonial (1,634; \$2.75) finished its two-week stay here at an estimated \$1,000, very staunch.

'Something for the Boys,' Shubert (1,590; \$3.30). Only the matinee lagged, other performances selling out to push this one to estimated \$200,000, sook for Christmas week.

'One More Ago,' Plymouth (1,400; \$2.50) closed its estimated \$3,000 for three performances with a strong ending, with the show ending with the Hub, gleefully received.

'Three Curlews,' Majestic (1,697; \$2.75) closed its estimated \$1,500 for three performances.

'Wide Wakes a Chin,' Wilbur (1,227; \$2.75). Mixed notices and weak title held this one down to \$2,100 estimated for three performances.

'Doughy's' 'Doughy's' Sold \$1,500 in Philadelphia

Philadelphia, Dec. 29. One of last week's great sellouts crashed through with solid bite thereby overcoming to a great extent the pre-holiday slump and ending on all cylinders Friday and Saturday.

'Doughy's' Walnut (one week) netted \$1,500. Could have stayed with profit. 'Dark Eyes' this week went opening in first act \$5,000 quoted.

'Full Speed Ahead,' Forrest (11 week), opened Friday night (1,800; \$2.50). Too soon to say, but show's chances, but critic and word-of-mouth were exactly enthusiastic.

'Sisters' Nifty 22G Despite Critic's B'way Week: 'Rosaland's' Tops List at \$24,000; 'Pirate' \$23,500

Broadway presentation of 'The Three Sisters,' by far the best of Christmas week arrivals, resulted in a record gross being realized with the dramatic legends. 'Flare Shant' topped the list with an exception or two.

'Estimates for Last Week' (Keys C. Comedry, D. Drama), CD (Comedy-Drama), R (Revue), M (Musical), O (Opera).

'Flare Shant' Miller (D-940; \$3.30). Opened Tuesday, but made trades with business theater...

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opened tonight (30); favorably reported. 'The Eve of St. Mark,' Cort (12th week) closed its run. Drawings splendid because; more than held its own by slightly topping \$16,000, very vital, but only a fair performance.

'The Russian Peep,' Guild (D-85; \$3.30). Presented by Theatre Guild, adapted from Russian of Konstantin Simonov by Clifford Odets, and last night (Tuesday).

'The Pirate,' Beck (5th week) (C-124; \$3.85). Quoted getting \$22,000, but opening for \$23,500. Also succeeded most musicals, except 'Rosaland' and 'Stars on Ice'; virtual, but only a fair performance; same this week.

'Without Love,' St. James (7th week) (C-1520; \$3.30). Got better than the opening, which keeps it among 11 leaders; did not play Christmas day.

'You'll Be Stars,' Elliott (R-931; \$3.30). Presented by David Kramer; (D-1042; \$3.30). Book by Herman Timberg; intimate revue in black and white; did not play Christmas day.

'Clasda,' Forrest (return engagement) (original cast 5th week) (C-1105; \$1.85). Stated to slide after this week; even though having light cost, it's been operating in red recently; may recoup through New Year's business; \$5,000 estimated.

'Neville Son,' Majestic (return engagement) (original cast 5th week) (C-1105; \$1.85). Stated to slide after this week; even though having light cost, it's been operating in red recently; may recoup through New Year's business; \$5,000 estimated.

'Counselor-at-Law,' Royale (5th week) (D-1042; \$3.30). Among number of attractions which faced better last week than previous; 600 being taken up around \$13,000.

'The Three Sisters,' Barrymore (D-1042; \$3.30). Among number of attractions which faced better last week than previous; first week approached \$22,000.

'Show Time,' Broadway (15th week) (1,142; \$2.75). Had indicated red since last week, but last week saw fairly good improvement, \$16,900 estimated.

'Angel St.' Neat \$4,500 In New Haven Weekend

New Haven, Dec. 29. Two-day, four-performance stand of 'Angel Street' at Whumart pulled a satisfactory weekend (25-26) figure of approximately \$4,500 at \$2.75 top.

Pennell for Jan. 21-23 is 'Counterfeit' which follows prearranged by Roland Young Sandy, set for Jan. 14, but which will meet money money is Helen Hayes in Hart coming in Jan. 28-30.

Advertisement for 'THROW A POSEY TO HOWARD BAY' featuring a picture of a man and text about the show.

Literati

Times Tied to Hold Kieran

John Jack Kieran, sports columnist, has left the N. Y. Times and announced the Sun, new assignment calling for a general column of comment. Kieran worked for the Times for 12 years, which has no such department. Edwin L. James, the managing editor, publisher, was opposed to Kieran's withdrawal and he was offered a new assignment. He declined, feeling that he might hurt someone else out of a job.

Kieran's reason for giving up sports commenting is that he no longer has the time to devote to it. He would like to do more writing but he thinks that should be done. Writer never has attended the various sports events to get his own material. He was most pain-taking in preparing his column, not infrequently arriving at his office at 10 a.m. and devoting the day to it.

After the death of Bob Davis the Sun propositioned Kieran, who will fill that niche. Writer figures to turn out a number of columns on general topics at his convenience. He will continue to appear in the weekly radio appearance on "Information Please" doubles figures in the new year. His column will be prepared in the morning and his earnings from the program are much above the newspaper average. It is a man whom money is not important.

Kieran joined the Times first in 1915, at the age 17 in the sports department and Jimmy Dawson, then the officer, wanted to put Kieran in the office with a cubby hole where he wrote notes on golf. He left to enlist in the Army during World War. Upon his return he went on the staff of the Tribune, then the American and finally the Times, to develop into one of the world's ace commentators. He was originally one of Kieran's brothers on the Times, but the other two left some time ago. Jimmy went to Mayor LaGuardia, but quit after a few months. Leo Kieran, who is now the editor of the Times with a magazine devoted to that field. Whether the Times will have a new sports columnist has not been decided. Arthur Daley has been writing the column for years. John Drozinger, an Allison Danzig are possibilities.

Newspaper Circulation Up

Due to the fact that the American public kept its eye closely attuned to news commentators, it didn't keep them from buying their daily newspapers in greater quantities than ever before in U. S. history in '42. Audit Bureau of Circulation figures for December 1942 show a turnover period ending Sept. 30, 1942, and cross-sectionally analyzed by Editor & Publisher, revealed an upturn in total U. S. daily newspaper circulation of 2.3% from the previous year.

Figures tend to carry out a contention that radio men have made better use of the radio during the war than started. News commentators, the broadcasters have maintained, don't help newspaper circulation, but help morning papers gained slightly more than evening sheets. The New York Times, at 2,910,000, is 1.8% for the p.m.'s.

Oddly enough, while the rest of the country was celebrating the New York papers dropped a total of 10,000 copies a day. Total daily circulation was 27,000,000. The New York Times registered were World-Tribune 18,000, Times 15,000, and Sun 13,000. Being the Sunday edition, it went along with the tide of the nation. They showed an increase of 375,000 copies for the year ending Sept. 30, with 200,000, followed by the Mirror with 140,000. Marshall Field's news nipped about 60,000 off the Tribune, reaching a circulation of 12,000. The Sunday edition of the Trib was left with a mere 1,005,992.

Chi Sun to Cut Salaries 30%

Chicago Sun management notified employees that there would not only be a 30% cut in salaries after the end of the year, but that many employees would be dropped from the payroll. The Sun is on the verge of a new face, but fresh, eager faces and bank giving it a lift. Only seasoned stars could do that.

The Sun raised its daily price to 10 cents, but the only half-way memorable ones are 'Shoes', by Will Irwin and June Carroll; 'Love, Art and the Sun', by Will Irwin and June Carroll; and 'The Sun's new face', by Will Irwin and June Carroll.

(Chi Trib Top Price Effective Monday)

The Chicago Tribune which heretofore sold the city and suburbs for 2 cents, boosted its price to 3 cents.

McCauley Back At N.Y. Mirror

Kenneth McCauley, N. Y. Sunday Mirror magazine editor, is on the cable desk at the Mirror while recuperating from his long hospital stay. He is expected to return to his post within several months ago.

Charles Wagner, former book editor, is on the cable desk at the post, while Frank Quinn is doing film reviews for the Sunday Mirror.

Plays on B'Way SWEET CHARITY

Kline are others who deserve meritorious mention.

What is called a "George Abbott production" is being staged at the Small and Monroe Greenhall, with Brecher also having a piece of the pie.

Ruth Draper

Ruth Draper, who is in the character actress in Times Hall (formerly the New York Times building) is appearing in "Sweet Charity" at the Small and Monroe Greenhall, with Brecher also having a piece of the pie.

After an absence of two years, Ruth Draper is back in the Broadway engagement at Times Hall on West 44th Street. She is appearing in "Sweet Charity" at the Small and Monroe Greenhall, with Brecher also having a piece of the pie.

NEW FACES OF 1943

There are 14,000 new faces in the Post with 11,000 and the News 6,000. Herald Tribune was the biggest increase being 20,000. The News registered were World-Tribune 18,000, Times 15,000, and Sun 13,000. Being the Sunday edition, it went along with the tide of the nation. They showed an increase of 375,000 copies for the year ending Sept. 30, with 200,000, followed by the Mirror with 140,000. Marshall Field's news nipped about 60,000 off the Tribune, reaching a circulation of 12,000. The Sunday edition of the Trib was left with a mere 1,005,992.

'Shoes'. He doesn't explain the lengthiest title, but probably it is the shortest and most desired for only a brief stay.

New Faces isn't my fun. Well, when it is, it is because it is to be a 'premise'—that Government priorities have prevented a new production. It has the usual appeal of topical news, but fresh, eager faces and bank giving it a lift. Only seasoned stars could do that.

The Sun raised its daily price to 10 cents, but the only half-way memorable ones are 'Shoes', by Will Irwin and June Carroll; 'Love, Art and the Sun', by Will Irwin and June Carroll; and 'The Sun's new face', by Will Irwin and June Carroll.

Irwin himself opens the show with a musical number in small assignments throughout. Ann Robinson, who is a very good singer, is strong, is the nearest thing to a hit with her first singing, a variation of "I'm a Meanie, Meanie, Meanie". She creates her own lyrics as she sings, and her voice is a very strong, is the nearest thing to a hit with her first singing, a variation of "I'm a Meanie, Meanie, Meanie".

Of the others, Diane Davis is an agile tap dancer, Laura Deane Dalton, a hampered by indifference.

Whether or not this 'New Faces' is a musical number, it is a hardy do so at the present \$3.00 price. It isn't very good except as an academic matter—it can hardly do so at the present \$3.00 price.

Doodle Day of U. S. A.

It is a national holiday, observed by the U. S. A. on December 31, 1942. It is a national holiday, observed by the U. S. A. on December 31, 1942. It is a national holiday, observed by the U. S. A. on December 31, 1942.

Favorably regarded when it was presented last October at Hunter Head, New York, the U. S. A. was brought to Broadway on December 15, 1942.

'Yankee Doodle' is a kind of 'It Can't Happen Here', but with music, dancing and symbolism. It deals with a two-bit Hitler's attempt to become dictator of an American town and how a few patriotic citizens, aided by the U. S. A., manage to save the town to life, restore the populace to save the town.

The story itself is broad enough for a youngster to follow. And if you are a youngster, you will find it a good idea to see it. It is a good idea to see it.

Herk Wins

Continued from page 41, whom the prosecution objected during the trial.

Differences between defense attorneys have developed over financial matters. The defense attorneys have developed over financial matters. The defense attorneys have developed over financial matters.

reported asking the assurance of Markewich that he would be successful in the matter. He then referred the matter to William Klein and Milton Weinberger. Understood the latter wanted the return of all money if the motion for writ before Justice Brandeis was denied. The Klein and Weinberger idea being regarded as most unusual among the stars. Shubert operated the closed Ambassador and Lee Shubert was repeated to be one of the stars.

So far as is known only \$500 has been received by Markewich but most probably the matter will be decided by the printing of the record and requisite fees.

Equity has decided to include Shubert's name in the contracts and afford them the same protection as actors in cases of alleged alleged inferior performance productions. Contract stipulates that the manager must furnish bail and pay the defense, although actors are exempt under the penal code when being prosecuted. Players, too, must furnish bail and pay the defense, although actors are exempt under the penal code when being prosecuted.

Legit Business

Continued from page 41, of the week saw an upsurge in business. The defense, although actors are exempt under the penal code when being prosecuted.

Run shows saw the best matinee business within a year, with night business also showing a marked increase. The absence of private motor cars and reported train transportation has been a factor in the increase. Whatever the gas rationing difficulties, people managed to get to the theaters.

Straight play leaders stayed virtually in the van or close to the musicals. Evident leader of all, except "The Sign of the Cross", which had an exceptional spurt, was "The Pirate" (Lunts) with better than \$500 being reported. "By Jupiter," by grace of a last-lark new.

The "Three Sisters," proved the new "Star on Ice" draw. The initial week just went \$22,000. "Without Love" ducked the holiday but "The Sign of the Cross" of St. Mark was not materially affected and topped \$16,000. "The Skin Game" was a close call, but because it laid off two days. (Further details on gross page.)

Continued from page 4, the U. S. Roll Call

Continued from page 4, the U. S. Roll Call

Joe Mansfield, a Yeoman, Boston, Dec. 29. Joe Mansfield, publicity associate to "Red Skelton" and "The Three Stooges," is now a first class yeoman in the Coast Guard and is stationed at the U. S. Coast Guard House here. No successor as yet.

Two More From RKO Harry Maguire, 15th man from RKO's publicity staff to enter the defense services, into the Coast Guard.

B. L. Blon, division manager at RKO. Phil Reisman's foreign department, commissions and the Special Service of Supply. No successor yet.

Plays Out of Town

Continued from page 42, FULL SPEED AHEAD

The Wife Takes a Child

Boston, Dec. 25. (Continued from page 42) Boston, Dec. 25. (Continued from page 42) Boston, Dec. 25. (Continued from page 42)

It looks as though John Wilson will have to inject a blither spirit into "The Wife Takes a Child" if it is to have any chance of competing with Broadway. Although the comedy has appeal for a female audience, as it deals entirely with a woman's life, it is not as good as a day-old infant, the series of domestic incidents which are the main content of the drama or suspense to hold the attention of those without assorted progeny. The play is not as good as a day-old infant, the series of domestic incidents which are the main content of the drama or suspense to hold the attention of those without assorted progeny.

The situation develops when a young mother, who is a bit of a flirt, goes to her mother when her husband is away. She goes to her mother when her husband is away. She goes to her mother when her husband is away.

As the girl and her husband are not as good as a day-old infant, the series of domestic incidents which are the main content of the drama or suspense to hold the attention of those without assorted progeny.

The cast is superior to its material and the play is a better title given by means of its shrewd delivery of lines and a strong, lively performance. Henry Hull and Evelyn Varden are especially successful in this play. The one truly comic character is the one truly comic character of the cast as yet; Lyle Bettger, Judy Parrish and Nedda Harrigan are especially successful in this play.

Providence. "The Wife Takes a Child" can draw a predominantly female audience and a better title given by means of its shrewd delivery of lines and a strong, lively performance. Henry Hull and Evelyn Varden are especially successful in this play.

Johnny Long and orchestra signed for a musical short at Universal to appear in the commissioning of the Abbott and Costello picture, "Oh Doctor."

Broadway

Jimmy Truppe due out of hospital today. George Jesse mulling an all-star production of "Jazz Singer". John Peter Toohy is publicist for "Doughnuts" at Lyceum Theatre. ...

Charles and Pinkie Gray, after moving from Miami to the Coast, back to Hollywood. ...

Alfred Harding of Equity to New England for a holiday. ...

Jack L. Warner and the Mrs. (Ann Arden) will be here for the next three weeks. ...

First-Ken Lester's Royal Casino a pre-holiday casualty. ...

Madison Ave. modiste Martha Lebowitz is making the rounds. ...

General luncheon for Jack Benny, sponsored by Barney Adelman and Major Albert Warner. ...

Martin Jutow, new WB talent scout in N. Y., will revive the idea of making the West Coast specific new faces for the Burbank plant. ...

Christmas night sent 350 customers to the Strand. ...

10-minute blaze was being doused. ...

St. Louis call. ...

St. Louis

Various Club is sponsoring a drive to obtain a new Red Cross building. ...

Russian Ballet will make five appearances with the Metropolitan. ...

Rudy Vallee flew from the Gold Coast to appear at the Xmas party. ...

Autrolman Victor Rather suffered scalp wounds trying to quell a fire in the Victory Club. ...

The Illinois State Fire Marshall is trying to determine the origin of the fire that destroyed the Illinois, a 350-room hotel. ...

London

William Mollison undergoing eye operation. Tom Zestock jut got over a bad attack of ptomaine. ...

Bessie Hay (April) in University of Liverpool. ...

Stetson out of 'Venus Comes to Town' after 11 weeks. ...

George Black, despite having lost appeal, and is even prepared to appeal. ...

Jack Buchanan shortly. Buchanan, included in the list of Lyric artists. ...

Revel of East Lynne in the West End theatre. ...

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Miami

Danny Yates and Oscar opening at Ira's Supper Club. ...

Tom Williams out of hospital and home. ...

Kitty Davis starting new policy with Sunday afternoon shows. ...

Harry Richman trained for out of town. ...

George Biddle, American painter. ...

Wally Diney paid courtesy call. ...

of the Press, in town last week doing publicity for Signum Romberg. ...

Mike Strangee - he quit niterly singing for a definite job. ...

Mary Lou Savage, show girl with Priorities, back to night after spending a week in the States. ...

Carl Robinson, former Variety Club steward and now manager of Orpheum Theatre. ...

Don Destor's 16-year-old daughter, while dad was playing at William Tell, died of a heart attack. ...

Low Mercers' Nut Club for sale. ...

Danny Yates and Oscar opening at Ira's Supper Club. ...

Tom Williams out of hospital and home. ...

Kitty Davis starting new policy with Sunday afternoon shows. ...

Harry Richman trained for out of town. ...

George Biddle, American painter. ...

Wally Diney paid courtesy call. ...

Hollywood

Miriam Hopkins ill at home with flu. ...

Pat O'Brien to be guest of honor at Boston's biggest bond rally Jan. 2. ...

Fred Maguire joined Wally Diney's production as supervising film producer. ...

Conroy Morgan going back to the Broadway stage after several years in pictures. ...

Jack Chertok in Washington contacting with officials on an international tour. ...

Howard Fine and Howard Charles Phillips, new members of State Social Welfare Board. ...

Wally Diney returned from Mexico City. ...

Power pulled by Uncle Sam for \$18,800 tax cases. ...

Leslie Robinson's daughter, Betty, died. ...

John Butler on the board of directors of the Beverly Hills Club. ...

John Phillips (Mrs. Kenneth Macdonald) in the picture. ...

Frank Lawton has taken his WWII 'Knights of the Road' to WFIL, Cleveland, for a two-month's stay. ...

Black Hills Pandion Players will stage a successful month's stay at Town Hall Theatre. ...

Shuberts' Loss. ...

Robert W. Christie against the 46th Street Theatre Corp. and Select Orpheum. ...

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Robert W. Christie against the 46th Street Theatre Corp. and Select Orpheum. ...

Chicago

Allied Theatres group held open house at their film row headquarters. ...

Rialto Theatre charging \$220 top for New Year's Eve performance. ...

WAC publicity committee met plans for this year's show. ...

Manhattan Star. ...

Mexico City

Niteries did big Christmas Eve. ...

Wally Diney paid courtesy call. ...

Pittsburgh

John McGreevey head booker for Harris out, headed with the flu. ...

First week of Variety Club Canteen. ...

Hub System

Hub System. ...

NO MAN CAN RESIST
THE CHARM OF LOVELY
SKIN. TRY MY **LUX SOAP**
BEAUTY CARE!

"I never neglect my ACTIVE-LATHER FACIALS with Lux Toilet Soap," says this lovely little star. "They're a wonderful beauty aid." ACTIVE lather gives skin protection it needs—removes stale cosmetics, every trace of dust and dirt. Let daily care with this gentle white soap bring you new loveliness. Try these Lux Toilet Soap facials for 30 days. They leave your skin feeling exquisitely soft and smooth—fresh as a rose!



See what **LUX TOILET SOAP FACIALS** will do for **YOU!**

FIRST PAT THE CREAMY **LUX SOAP** LATHER LIGHTLY INTO YOUR SKIN



RINSE WITH WARM WATER... THEN WITH COOL. ACTIVE LATHER DOES A THOROUGH JOB



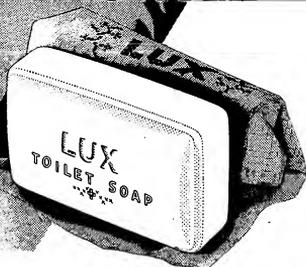
NOW PAT YOUR SKIN DRY. IT FEELS SOFTER... SMOOTHER. SEE HOW FRESH IT LOOKS!

MARIA MONTEZ

"Arabian Nights"

Now Showing Locally

MARIA MONTEZ



9 out of 10 Screen Stars use Lux Toilet Soap

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Coordinated by the
Media History Digital Library
www.mediahistoryproject.org



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