

Indiana Daily Times

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EVEN A SANITARY board will improve if given time.

SOME ARE ELECTED and others appoint themselves to the Senate.

SOME ONE should organize a firebug prevention and extermination committee.

WHY WILL a man spend ten times as much energy trying to get a political job as he will working at a real job?

WITH ABOUT a million dollars' worth of rental property now on its hands the city should give an exhibition of the model landlord.

NOR IS THERE any way of escaping being surfeited with the fulsome praise that one-half of the old Jewett-News machine is now handing out to its other half!

HOW LONG will it be before the plaza that was sought as a memorial to the world war veterans is publicly referred to as a memorial to the Jewett administration!

Mr. Swift's Fall

Sympathy for Lucius D. Swift in his sudden and summary fall from the chairmanship of the board of sanitary commissioners to a minority member thereof will be confined solely to that rather limited part of Indianapolis' citizenry which, along with Mr. Swift, has felt it an ordained duty to regulate the municipality.

As chairman of the board Mr. Swift has given a great deal of his time and best efforts toward the solution of the biggest problem the city has. He has worked faithfully and with the highest type of integrity for what he deemed the best interests of the city. Could he have also been tolerant and exercised a reasonable amount of consideration for others who are also fond of Indianapolis there would have been some regret over his undoing.

But Mr. Swift appears never to have read that part of the law establishing the commission which says that all its sessions shall be public. He appears never to have been impressed with the fact that as a public official he was the servant of the public. To him there was never any question of the absolute correctness of his position and he could brook no evidence of interest on the part of citizens in what his board was doing.

This attitude, rather than a question of his ability, led to the memorable declaration by Father Weber that Mr. Swift "ought to be run out of town." It further led to a great deal of resentment that was not deserved.

Mr. Craven and Mr. Elliott are in a position to revamp the sanitary board's affairs so that a mere citizen who has business to transact with it will not be subjected to insult for his presumptuousness in approaching the members. They have started right by declaring that all their sessions will be open to the public and that they want the public to know what they are doing.

Under that kind of a policy the public will be in a position to protest against any such unusual affairs as the reletting of a contract at an increased figure to the bondsman of a contractor who fails to perform his contract.

As a minority member of a board that proposes to digress so far from the Swift policies, doubtless the ex-chairman will feel ill at ease. But may reflect that throughout the world there has been a great upheaval against the upheaval and the upheaval has been felt even in Indianapolis.

Discrimination

For Shank's order rescinding the "no parking zones" established by the Jewett administration at the behest of merchants and others to maintain delivery systems will probably have the desired effect of giving the merchants to the mayor for a "real traffic law."

There is no question as to the necessity of keeping part of the curb clear in the operation of some businesses. For example, it would be impossible for a wholesale grocer to effect deliveries if his trucks were compelled to give way to the auto driver who desires to leave his car parked in front of the business place for the limit of one and one-half hours.

On the other hand, there can be no dispute over the statement of the mayor that these "no parking zones" constitute a special privilege of doubtful legality. The mayor's order recalls the attitude of a bank president who arranged for a "no parking zone" in front of his bank and became very indignant when a traffic officer ordered him into headquarters for parking his car in the center of the "no parking zone." This man was under the impression that on the payment of a fee he could preserve a parking place in the street for his own car to the exclusion of the cars of others.

Certainly, this parking question is one on which the business men of Indianapolis and the mayor must get together. It may not be particularly pleasing to a lot of business men to be forced to go to the mayor to settle it, but on the other hand the mayor can hardly be expected to go to the business men for the purpose of arranging something that is as much desired by them as a proper parking ordinance.

Take This, Philadelphia!

Claude G. Bowers, the editor of the Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette, is a former resident of Terre Haute and a loyal Indian. He waxes more or less indignant over the provincialism of the Philadelphia Public Ledger and expresses himself as follows:

"That certain condescension on the part of Easterners toward the middle West may be forgiven as something of little consequence or as the inevitable result of ignorance. The average Philadelphian, that city of brotherly love and inefable corruption, can hardly be blamed for imagining that the buffalo still meanders through the crooked mud streets of Indianapolis. But take this from Jay E. House— whoever he may be—in the Philadelphia Public Ledger:

"That Terre Haute gave Mr. Debs cordial and neighborly greeting is not surprising. He is the town's claim to distinction and fame. Were it not for Mr. Debs, one never would hear of Terre Haute. The impressive thing in connection with the Debs homecoming was the feat of legende-main performed by the esteemed telegraph in providing accommodations for 50,000 persons. Terre Haute can take care of about 600 spectators; the telegraph forecast a crowd of 30,000 and found places for 50,000."

"The idea that 50,000 people could be crowded into Terre Haute is grotesque. Indeed that city of 60,000 could not be expected to take care of more than 600 spectators. And who would ever have heard of Terre Haute but for Debs? The fact that Abraham Lincoln heard about it and went there for a member of his Cabinet; that Hayes heard about it and went there for a member of his; that it was the home of Voorhies and Colonel Nelson could hardly be expected to come within the range of the Philadelphian's information. He knows about Mait Quay and Boies Penrose—and there he stops. The fact that the Rose Polytechnic Institute has educated quite a number of Philadelphians could scarcely have reached Mr. House. But we are surprised that a Philadelphian is not familiar with the name of Champagne Velvet and the race track where so many records were made and so many Philadelphians were relieved of their money."

Fire Prevention

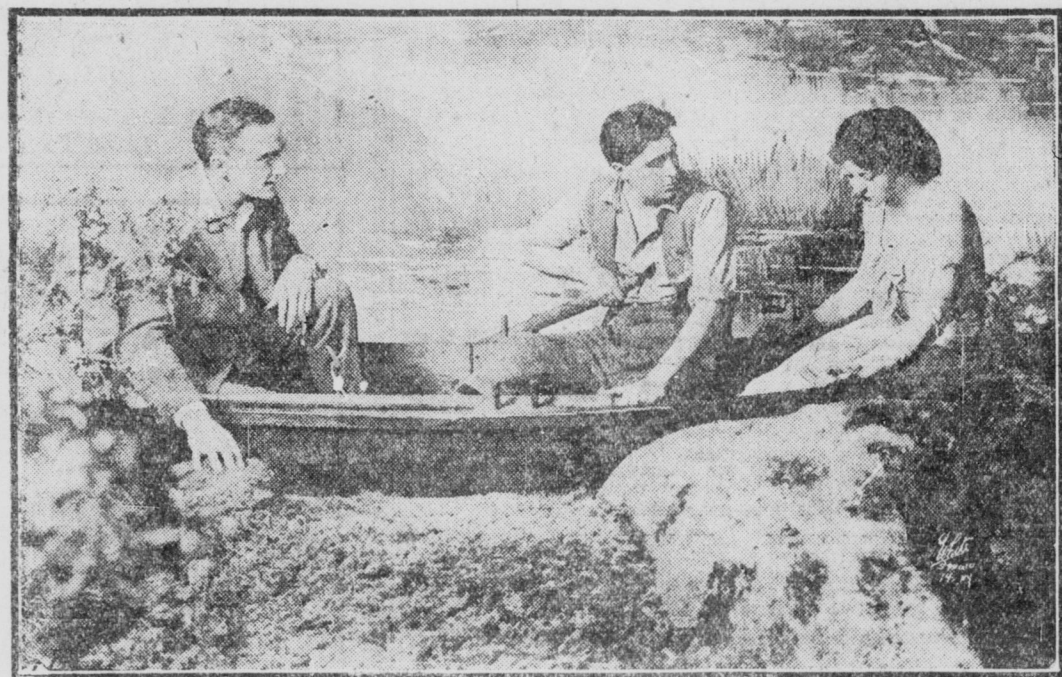
That fire prevention work in Indianapolis resulted in the saving of a half million dollars appears from the records of the fire department for the year just ended. The gross loss from fires in 1921 was \$1,262,750, as compared with \$1,182,930 for 1920. The number of fire alarms for 1920 was 3,465, as compared with 3,103 for 1921, thus proving that the reduction in the fire loss was really due to fewer fires rather than to better control of those fires that occurred.

Thus it is again demonstrated that an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure, for in the accomplishment of that work which resulted in the saving of half a million, there were only a few thousand dollars expended.

It is also significant that the movement for the prevention of fires was quasi official in its nature. There was ready and proper cooperation on the part of the city administration, but the real results were accomplished by citizens who gave of their time and ability without pay.

Indianapolis citizens can accomplish much when they determine to face the few obstacles presented and work for a better city.

RUTH AND 'MARY ROSE' WILL BE A REMINDER Of Spring and the Good Old Summer Time When Revealed at English's



IT TAKES STUDY TO PLAY A BARRIE ROLE.

What preparation and theatrical education would seem necessary to make an actress a successful interpreter of the elusive J. M. Barrie?

The followers of the little Scotch playwright are a clanish and purportful lot and each individual has opinions of his own, firm and emphatic, concerning the varied qualities demanded of the player for the fitting portrayal of the unusual characters peopling the stories from the hands of their idol.

To face such a discriminating jury, rendering its first Barrie role, requires much courage, determination and painstaking preparation. The task is far from a simple or easy one.

So, to Ruth Chatterton, now playing the heroine of Barrie's "Mary Rose" in which she is to be seen here at the English Theater, in New York, there is no surprise at the ease with which she goes a generous amount of approbation and deserved credit for the degree in which she has embodied even the most critical and particular of Barrie's roles.

Throughout her portrayal of the picturesque and dainty girl who disappears into the mysterious "Island that likes to be visited" to return a quarter of a century later to find those whom she loved all grown old while she is as she was when she disappeared, there are clear indications of the careful training and study to which she undoubtedly applied herself before accepting what, to the confirmed Barrie follower, is the greatest honor that can come to a player—a new Barrie role.

And yet, among those players who have been devoted to Ruth Chatterton since her first role success, with Henry Miller in "The Rainbow" at the Liberty Theater, in New York, there is no surprise at the ease with which the chestnut-haired young actress took the transition from her previous school girl and sub-adolescent to the more subtle task of picturing the most recent and most difficult of the Barrie heroines, Ruth Chatterton, a real student of the theater, they said, and to her even the most hyper-critical Barrie worshipper may entrust this task.

Hasn't she been an indefatigable worker ever since she made her first professional appearance on the stage as a result of a school girl "date," with a stock company in Washington? The arduous task of a new role each week, endless rehearsing and study, she approached fearlessly and with no tremors, to that kind of girl the labor of placing the enormous Barrie role would come only as a glorious new task, the hard work to be repaid wonderfully whatever degree of success she might achieve.

In Ruth Chatterton's earlier roles there may be found little trace of the more serious acting qualities she displayed so generously in "Mary Rose." Surely, there was a little of the subtle about the character she pictured in "The Rainbow." And when that "date" came, in the form of "Mary Rose," the actress was not found wanting, and came through the Barrie test with all colors bravely flying, to find herself safely and triumphantly ensconced in the difficult esteem of the J. M. Barrie clan.

"MECCA" CONTINUES
AT THE MURAT THEATER.
"Mecca," by far the most pleasing of the spectacles presented here, continues at the Murat today and for the balance of the week.

The music is by Percy Fletcher, the costumes were designed by Percy Anderson of London and Leon Balist of Paris, the scenery is from the London studios of the famous Barker Brothers, while B. Lyall Swets, who put on "The Blue Bird" in London, staged the production. "Mecca" is a stirring, stirring, costumed and musical setting have been highly praised; but the ballet and Bacchanale, devised and staged by the incomparable Mabel Talbot, creator of the Russian ballet, stand out as the culminating triumph of stage genius.

The scene of the ballet represents an old Egyptian palace, with a series of stairs rising to distant heights. The dancers appear in old Egyptian costumes, and in the moonlight which filters through the decaying columns, dance a ballet which Talbot has termed "Memories of the Past."

The story of "Mecca" concerns itself with the love of a sultan of ancient days for a beggar girl, a daughter of All Shur, the wrestler and strong man from Baghdad. The wrestler is used as a pawn by conspirators who wish to overthrow the sultan and abduct the beggar maid, and the plot shows how their plans miscarry and love triumphs in the end.

Before this happy ending, however, there is much singing and dancing and many beautiful stage pictures which reveal hundreds of gorgeous and bizarre costumes.

The long cast contains all the original players who participated in the sensational run of "Mecca" at the Century Theater, New York, and includes Gladys Hanson, Lionel Braham, Ida Muelle, Hannah Tobeck, Orville Caldwell, Thomas C. Leary, Harold Skinner, John Doran, Olga Borowksi, Audrey Anderson, Rita Hall, Dorothy Durland, Billie Wilcox, Genevieve Delano, Margaret Brodus, Dorothy Johnston, Elizabeth Talma, John Pison, Robert Rhodes, Basil Smith and Lionel Chalmers, together with Miss Martha Lorber and Sergei Perakoff, principal dancers in the Peking ballet.

BRINGING UP FATHER.



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Lower—Miss Chatterton as she appears in "Mary Rose." Rather reminds one of Maude Adams, eh?

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MEN AND BUSINESS

By RICHARD SPILLANE

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4.—There went out to the business men of Philadelphia the other day an inquiry: "Do you wish to subscribe to the foreign students' dinner this year?" There was a unanimous "You bet" in reply. The dinner will be held in February. That it will be greater than the one of last year is certain. The question now is whether there is a banquet hall in the city capable of accommodating all who will be eager to attend.

Some one has said this foreign students' dinner is a real league of nations. It is. Why other centers of learning have not followed the example of Philadelphia is difficult to understand. There are 6,000 foreign students in America. About 500 are at the universities, schools and colleges in the Philadelphia neighborhood. There are large groups of these bright young people from foreign lands attending Yale, Harvard, Cornell, the University of Chicago, the University of California and at other educational centers. They are the flower of their lands. If they were not they would not be sent here to be educated. They will be among the leaders of thought, finance, industry, commerce and progress generally in their countries later on.

IT IS not surprising that Philadelphians answered "yes" to the question as to whether they wished to have the foreign students' dinner this year. There never, perhaps, was a more colorful dinner in America than that one of last February at the Bellevue-Stratford. There were more than four hundred students—young men and young women. Many of them came in their native costumes. Each one was the guest of a citizen of prominence, and the citizens of prominence sat by the side of his guest. Fifty-eight nations were represented—fifty-seven foreign lands and the United States. The American ambassador to Japan, Roland S. Morris, who happened to be home just then, presided.

Each continent had its spokesman—Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, South America, Central America and the United States. There was more of a drawing together of the ends of the earth than at any other time in the history of the world.

This year effort will be made to have a geographical division of the world represented and to have all the flags of all the nations on view.

And what is this banquet? Nothing but an expression of American hospitality and good will. It is appreciated, of course, that the six thousand foreign students now in America will go back to their lands and remember the United States as they found them. It is the aim of Philadelphia's leading citizens to make those attending the universities and colleges of the Quaker City know the magnitude and the range of Philadelphia's industrial and business establishments. The object is to make them feel, too, that they are not "strangers in a strange land" while in this country.

There may be a thought perhaps that in their homelands when they return to the students of today may be no "gentle" welcome for American goods through the knowledge they learned of products and American workmanship and American products and American workmanship and American ideals while in this country.

Ye TOWNE GOSSIP
Copyright, 1921, by Star Company.
—By K. C. B.

HER EMPLOYER.
HAD SAID to her.
THAT SHE might go back.
TO HER Michigan home.

FOR HER holidays.
AND SHE looked at her balance.
IN A savings bank.

AND THERE was enough.
AND A little left.
FOR ANOTHER start.

WHEN SHE got back.
AND SHE hurried away.
AND DREW the sum.

THAT WOULD take her home.
AND ON the street.
IN THE Christmas crowd.

SHE LOST it all.
FROM OUT her bag.
AND DISCOVERED her loss.

AND STARTED back.
AND A traffic cop.
JOINED in the search.

AND BEFORE the two.
HAD GONE a block.
THREE other men.

TOOK UP the hunt.
AND THE poor girl cried.
AND FINALLY.

THE TRAFFIC cop.
AND THE three other men.
AND THE saddened girl.

HELD A conference.
AND SHE told her tale.
AND RIGHT out there.

ON THE city street.
THE THREE other men.
AND THE traffic cop.

MADE UP the sum.
THAT SHE had lost.
AND SHE protested.

BUT TO no avail.
AND NOW she's back.
AND CAN'T find the cop.

AND HAS written me.
I THANK you.

AND THE saddened girl.
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MCUMBER TO HAVE BATTLE FOR HIS JOB