

SAVING FOLK LORE

THE Carolina Playmakers are a group of playwrights and actors who have not yet had and may never have their inning on Broadway. Yet their contribution to American drama will be none the less.

These Carolina Playmakers are students of Frederick W. Koch, professor of dramatics at the University of North Carolina. He has taught them to create new drama out of materials close at hand and to act the roles they originate.

First they turned their talents to the folklore of the Carolinas, which has proven rich in dramatic possibilities. It is drama of everyday life, full of human interest, heart-throbs and tense adventure, and above all is a fairly true record of living folks.

Under the stately trees of the University campus, they were their own scene painters, stage hands and costumers. That done, they acted their plays with the understanding of those who know first hand the characters they are portraying.

The interesting thing about this folk play movement is that it can be used anywhere to foster and preserve the folklore of the different regions of the country. Mr. Koch, when a professor at the University of South Dakota, inspired his students to weave the life of the plains into open-air drama. Out in California, the mission plays depicted the romance of the early Spanish padres among the Indians.

Generally speaking, American folklore has been neglected. If this start in the dramatization of American traditions can spread across the land, America will be the richer for it.

STRENGTH THAT COUNTS

STRONGEST man in the world probably is Arthur Giroux, giant French-Canadian constable. In Montreal he lifts 530 pounds of iron dumb-bells from the ground to the level of his chest. Interesting—but unimportant, for a child can lift more than that with a chain-hoist.

If Giroux had lived a few thousand years ago, he would have whipped all comers and by his strength made himself king. But brain muscles are what count today.

Place Giroux alongside a slender, graceful, half-effeminate movie star with dreamy eyes, and Giroux wouldn't get much attention from the ladies. The notion that women are primarily interested in strength in a man is hokum. A beautiful strong man probably started the belief, and other men were afraid to contradict.

GOOD TIMES GUESSES

HOW long until we have another business slump? A Wall Street banker tells us his studies of the past show that business cycles (periods of depression or hard times) usually last three to four years. They are shorter or longer when interfered with by wars or changes in the banking system.

If this is true, we have at least eighteen months of good times ahead of us. For the present revival of industry began late in July, 1921, when the steel industry hit bottom and began climbing back toward normal. A three-year cycle would not end until July, 1924. Add another year, for a four-year cycle.

Every natural law has its exceptions. A period of prosperity began in 1878 and lasted until 1885. By going ahead seven years before reacting in a slump, it broke the rule. The period of prosperity was abnormally long, because from 1878 to 1885 the national banks were very active. Maybe something will happen to break the rule again and make our current prosperity last until 1928 or longer.

Business is the most uncertain of all games of chance, measured over long periods, and one guess probably is as good as another.

WHERE FIGURES FAIL

AMERICA imported 43,646,948 tons of goods from other countries, in the fiscal year ended last June 30. In the same time, shipped abroad only 36,585,004 tons of exports. We ferret this out of a long and complicated Government report.

On the surface, it looks as if we are losing out in foreign trade. But tons do not tell the full story, any more than money value. For instance, we'd have to import many tons of lumber to equal one ton of costly chemicals exported. Statistics tell more truth than any other form of knowledge—also, more lies.

IS OURS A CIVILIZED NATION?

UNCLE SAM reports that over a million children, 10 to 15 years old, were "gainfully employed" in 1919. If we had that situation in a year of record prosperity, think what conditions must be when the pinch of hard times or even normal business drives the young into the ranks of child labor.

A nation's degree of civilization is measured by its child labor situation and by its treatment of women. Progress by inventions is surface stuff, not basic, except as it helps eliminate human slavery.

John Jay of New York Was First Secretary of State

QUESTIONS ANSWERED
You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1325 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps. Medical, legal and love and marriage advice cannot be given. Unsigned letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential and personal replies. Although the business does not require it, we will assure prompt replies if readers will confine questions to a single subject, writing more than one letter if answers on various subjects are desired.—Editor.

Who was the first Secretary of State?
John Jay of New York was the first Secretary of State or Secretary of Foreign Affairs, as it was called, under the Confederation, and he continued to act, at the request of Washington, until Jefferson's arrival, March 21, 1790.

What are the meanings of the names Lorraine, Ivan, Aralia and Jeanette?
Lorraine, "laurel"; Ivan, "grace of God"; Aralia, "golden"; Jeanette, "she loved of God."

Where is the statue of the God-dess of Liberty?
The bronze statue of Liberty Enlightening the World, by Bartholdi, the largest statue of modern times, stands on Bedloe Island, New York harbor.

Where is Chillon?
A castle and fortress of Switzerland, it is situated in the canton of Vaud, at the eastern end of the Lake Geneva, celebrated in connection with Don Quixote, the Gervais of the castle.

WILHELMINA HAS LONGEST REIGN OF LIVING SOVEREIGNS

Holland's Queen May Rival Record of Queen Victoria.

By MILTON BRONNER
NEA Service Staff Correspondent
LONDON, Feb. 10.—Late next summer the citizens of the little kingdom of Holland will celebrate their Queen Wilhelmina's forty-third birthday and the silver anniversary of her reign. She is the only woman in Europe who rules a country in her own right and who did not attain the title by marrying a king. King Alfonso of Spain is the only ruler in Europe who acceded to the throne before she did. He became king the day he was born. But since he did not really rule until later, Wilhelmina has had a longer continuous reign than any living sovereign—twenty-five years.

Is 43 Years Old
As she is only 43 and healthy, she bids fair to rival the long reign of Queen Victoria of Britain who mounted the throne in 1838 and held scepter until her death sixty-three years later. The sturdy, independent, semi-republican Dutch say that the best thing about their queen is that so little is heard about her. She is content to let her ministers and Parliament run the country.

Though she leads a simple life in the plain little palace in The Hague, she has an enormous income from her crown lands and possessions in the East Indies. It is estimated she draws down about five million dollars annually.

Womanly Woman
When 22 years ago, she married the German Prince Henry of Mecklenburg, there was a feeling in Holland that she would be very much under German influence. But Wilhelmina is still boss and friend husband is even more in the background than was Queen Victoria's German husband. It is Wilhelmina who has personally supervised the education and training of their only child, the Princess Juliana, who is heir to the throne.

Watson Stirs Up
Progressives by
1924 Prediction
Statement That Harding Will
Seek Re-election Rouses
Primary Advocates.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Progressives have been stirred to action by the recent prediction of Senator James E. Watson of Indiana, an Administration leader, that President Harding would be re-elected in 1924.

Anticipating an effort by the Harding forces to control the next Republican convention, progressives are endeavoring to make that convocation a more directly representative body by seeking additional presidential preference primary laws in States where Legislatures are in session.

Letters indicating extension of the direct primary method have been written by Senator Hiram Johnson of California and Senator Arthur Capper of Kansas. Although both Johnson and Capper have been mentioned as possible candidates for the presidential nomination next year, both asserted Friday that they had no such purpose in mind.

Harding is an avowed friend of the convention system. Just a year ago, as he was concluding his first year in the White House, he made a speech at a Republican gathering here, lauding the convention method of selecting delegates and candidates as superior to the primary system.

Public Opinion
That "Hotel" at Pendleton
To the Editor of The Times
We have several criminals in Morgan County who wish to make reservations for rooms when completed in the Governor McCray Hotel Superior at Pendleton.

Doctor Figures Day He'll Die and Plans Funeral

A Philosophy of Death

BATH, Me., Feb. 10.—This is the philosophy of Dr. William M. Rouse, who believes he will die Feb. 20:

"I didn't worry about being born, so why should I worry about dying? I haven't taken life very seriously, so why should I take death seriously? If it comes, it comes—that's all there is about it."

By NEA Service
BATH, Maine, Feb. 10.—"I expect to die on Feb. 20," says Dr. William M. Rouse. Calmly he waits for death. He has made arrangements for his own funeral. He has bought farewell gifts for his grandchildren.

The fatal day has been fixed, Dr. Rouse says, by mathematical calculation. This is the basis. His mother, Elvina Winslow Rouse, and his grandfather, William Winslow, died exactly forty-three days before their seventy-seventh birthday. His own seventy-seventh birthday anniversary will be April 4—forty-three days after Feb. 20.

No terror chills Dr. Rouse's heart—though he believes he will be seized with a mysterious malady, as his mother and grandfather were, literally starving to death as they did.

"Ponder this," he said. "The curious coincidence that my mother's birthday and my grandfather's were on the same date, Dec. 25—that both died on the Nov. 13 preceding their seventy-seventh birthdays! That both died of the same mysterious disease!"

"Both were in apparent good health until two days before they died. Suddenly came a stomach infection, in each case. Physicians could find no organic trouble—yet neither could digest food, and they starved to death."

The aged, white-bearded doctor keeps the vigil of his own death in three furnished rooms on the second floor of a front street business block in Bath.

Dr. William M. Rouse
sibility lingers in his hands that he may be wrong in his death prophecy. For he added, as if pronouncing it his chance to escape one in 100: "If it doesn't come I shall not be disappointed."

Daily, Dr. Rouse goes about his simple routine, broken only by arranging well-ordered plans for his funeral. Since his wife died twenty-five years ago he has lived the life of a hermit. He rises early, builds a fire in the stove, cooks breakfast, does what mending is necessary, and then takes a walk along the water front, feeding the seagulls he loves so ardently.

Shelbyville Will Dedicate School to Charles Major

SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Feb. 10.—Tribute to this city's most distinguished citizen and writer is the immediate plan of the Shelbyville school board, under the direction of which the new Charles Major school was completed last week. The new building, erected in "commemoration of one whose name has brought signal honor to the city and community," is to be dedicated within the next few weeks, according to plans.

The Charles Major Memorial Tablet, which will be placed in the building later, is now being cast in bronze. It is artistically modeled with a profile of Mr. Major in meditation at the top and a quotation from "When Knighthood Was in Flower," with names and dates inscribed. Although the date for unveiling the tablet has not been set, it probably will be before spring.

The Majors, although childless, were especially fond of children and were frequent hosts to scores of the younger blood of the city. Largely through the influence of these former youngsters, ready listeners to the compelling tales of a master storyteller, the new memorial school was its inception. To one of these early friends of the community, Dr. Wayne De Prez, president head of the city school board, is due a large share of the credit for the memorial school. De Prez, a Shelbyville merchant, is a colonel in the Indiana National Guard and did responsible work as an officer during the World War.

Major, too, held a colonelcy at one time during his life, winning a commission in an unusual way. His father, Judge Major, was a close friend of Governor Oliver P. Morton. Young Major's chief delight was to annoy, although pleasantly, the congenial Governor, with innumerable questions about the Army. One morning the mail carrier brought Charles an envelope containing a commission for him as colonel of the 25th Regiment.

That Major's fame was both undying and destined to strike a popular keynote later is shown in the following extract from the pen of

CHEMIST TO RISK LIFE TO TEST ILL EFFECTS OF GAS

Doctor Will Enter Sealed Chamber to Inhale Poison Fumes.

By NEA Service
BALTIMORE, Feb. 10.—Risking his life for the sake of science, a man here will soon enter a sealed chamber, which will then be filled with illuminating gas.

With him will go a dog. Observers watching through glass panels, will take him out when he shows signs of acute distress. The dog will be taken out—dead.

It will be the first of a series of experiments conducted by the city authorities to discover what makes Baltimore gas so deadly. In the past year forty-seven persons died from its effects and scores were overcome.

Volunteered Job
When the health officials, in an attempt to discover the cause, decided on these tests Dr. J. H. Shrader, city chemist, was the first to volunteer at the human subject.

Case Explained
"French medical experts," he explained, "report a case in Paris where thirty-six out of forty persons living in one house suffered from chronic carbon monoxide poisoning. The resultant lowered vitality was favorable to the development in them of tendencies to diseases they may have inherited from their parents or of contagions to which they may have been exposed."

There as carbon monoxide in the gas served here. If it looks, a result such as that found in Paris may develop.

In his experiments Dr. Shrader will be assisted by Walter M. Berry, engineer of the United States Bureau of Standards; Dr. C. W. Mitchell of the United States Public Health Service, and other Government experts.

TOM SIMS' SAYS:

THOSE girls will take anything you leave around the house. We have auto schools. Why not pedestrian schools?

The flaxseed crop was short last season. Be very careful about getting things in your eyes.

An American will try to win the world's snooker billiards championship, whatever that is.

Bandits are holding up street cars in Indianapolis, but that isn't what makes them late here.

A Congressman wants to protect oysters, which always have been reticent about speaking for themselves.

The main trouble with the young people of today is they are the young people of tonight.

Well-formed girls get before the public eye much more often than the well-informed girls.

A man gets soaked by the bootlegger and gets soaked on the booze and still the judge soaks him.

The sad thing about having a wife is she always wants her husband to quit being so foolish.

The influenza germ has been discovered and will be isolated. It brought it all on itself.

Just to show you how ignorant Japanese girls are, 3,000 Japanese men in Korea can't find wives.

Women jurors in Pittsburgh want a smoking room. We thought all rooms in Pittsburgh were smoking rooms.

There has been an earthquake in Alaska, which undoubtedly was caused by some seal hunter's lies.

They do funny things with radio. Some people even make money.

A dog in Washington smokes cigarettes. Better watch him or he will learn to shoot pool.

Oldest national bank in the U. S. burned, but being in practice they saved all the money.

King Tutankhamen has been gone 3,400 years, so it can't make much difference how you pronounce his name.



30-Hour Mail Service Across Nation Is Air Plan



By HARRY HUNT
NEA Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Thirty-hour transcontinental mail service from New York to San Francisco is scheduled as the next step in development of Uncle Sam's air mail lines.

Present plans contemplate inauguration of this thirty-hour transcontinental service by late spring or early summer, although no definite date has been set.

The route to be followed is that now covered by the air mail service already in operation," says Carl F. Edge, general superintendent of the air mail division of the Postoffice Department. "That is from New York to Cleveland, Chicago, Omaha, North Platte, Cheyenne, Rock Springs, Salt Lake City, Elko, Reno, San Francisco."

"The lighted airway and emergency landing fields for night flying will be along that part of the route between Chicago and Cheyenne."

"Leaving New York at noon, the through air mail will reach Chicago by evening. The 500 miles between Chicago and Cheyenne will then be covered by night flying. Out of Cheyenne at daylight the following morning, the mail would be delivered in Frisco that evening—thirty hours after leaving New York."

"Surveying parties are now engaged in locating the emergency landing fields that will be required for the stretch to be covered by night flying."

"All the planes used in this stretch of the route will be equipped with landing lights to assist in making forced landings at night. These emergency fields must be about forty acres each with clear approaches."

"Every three miles along this Chicago-Cheyenne route there will be a guide light that will alternately flash on and off, so it may not be mistaken for other lighted fields. With emergency landing fields lighted and ready at intervals of every twenty-five miles and with a lighted airway along the whole of the route covered by night flying, the difficulties and dangers of night flying will be minimized to the utmost."

CHANGE IN LAWS ON IMMIGRATION EXCLUDES ORIENT

Herbert Quick Declares Com- mittee Shows Construc- tive Statesmanship.

By HERBERT QUICK
The House Committee on Immigration proposes to change our laws so as to exclude Japanese immigration almost completely, as well as that of Chinese and low-caste Hindus, and to cut almost in two immigration from the rest of the world.

It proposes to do this by admitting only 2 per cent a year of the number of naturalized Americans under the census of 1890, as against the present 3 per cent of those in the 1910 census. This will discriminate in favor of British, Irish, German and Scandinavian immigrants—the kind we used to get—and against the southern Europeans, the Balkan countries, the Poles and Russians.

Shows Statesmanship
The committee shows real constructive statesmanship in this. The people must freely admitted if this law passes, will be those whom we have shown ourselves able to assimilate into the best Americans. We are used to them.

There are in Europe and Asia millions and millions of aliens who ought not to be mixed into our already adulterated citizenship, who will move like armies to invade us if allowed. They are not of our sort. Their imminent invasion is a great national peril.

Inferior Race Not Point
The question as to whether they are inferior or superior is not the point. They are not demons. They are not demigods.

Common imperfections may promote understanding, and if we are to work together as citizens, we must understand each other. People who are hard for us to understand have been coming in too fast recently. The flood should be kept out by the dykes of such laws as the committee is said to have approved.

And they should go a step farther. They should exclude completely all immigration of the negro race.

Verse
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Congressional Record is going in for verse. The editor won't say how much he pays per line, but here are samples of the latest contribution. This first one by Senator Heflin of Alabama:

"As bees on flowers alight—
in cease their hum.
Some Senators elected
soon grow dumb."

Representative Thomas of Kentucky resorts to verse to describe colleague Blanton of Texas, whom he accuses of being:

"Every day and every min-
ute,
The Record's wrong if I'm
not in it."

Valentines to Mother, Dearest Being, Deluge Contest Editor

At 12 o'clock tonight The Times contest for Valentine verses "To Mother" closes. Entries postmarked after midnight will not be considered. Although the heap of poems received by the Valentine Editor numbers many more than a thousand, postmen today brought in hundreds more. Scores of contributions also were brought in person.

The best verse will win a \$15 prize; the five next \$2 prizes. Winners will be announced Valentine day.

Contestants are limited to one verse of not more than eight lines. The verse must be original.

John C. Mollett, short story writer, Miss Mary Dyer Lemon of the Indianapolis Public Library, and John S. Harrison, head of the Butler College English department, are the judges.

Here are a few of the poems entered:

Mrs. James Davidson, Indianapolis
In years as in a day,
When death stretched forth a searching,
feverish hand,
From out the dismal tangle which lay before us,
And struggling life grasped vainly at the sand,
Trickling so slowly down the bright beach
of existence,
Your heroism—grand
As that of some great Pompeii's portals—
Brought me, near lifeless, to the solid
land of the living.

Mrs. Helen Deem, 1344 Charles St.
I made a package of love,
With ribbon spun I bound it,
I wove the blue forget-me-not
Around and round and round it.

I filled it up with tender love,
And sent it to Mother mine,
To say that no one else but you
Can be my Valentine.

Mary E. Brown, 21 E. St. Joe St.
This a day of fond greeting, love's old
That sweetest exchange with each other,
But the sweetest word, like the voice of a bird,
Is a message of love for you, Mother.

"Twas a day of love blushing, old lovers
I delirious
In troths they have pledged to another,
But the happiest romance recorded in love
is the one that I've had with you, Mother.



CHARLES MAJOR

Leone Kenton Lowden, his biographer.
"When Knighthood Was in Flower" was his first book and made him very famous; some day you may see this in motion pictures, as perhaps, you will also see "Dorothy Vernon," another remarkable success."

To the children and the grownup youngsters, however, Major will be much better remembered for his book, "The Bears of Blue River."

REMEDY FOR DIABETES
DISCOVERED BY MEDICS
By United Press
CHICAGO, Feb. 10.—The discovery of insulin as a remedy for diabetes was announced today by Chicago physicians. Dr. F. C. Banting and Prof. J. J. R. McLeod of the University of Toronto are credited with the discovery. Insulin is a pancreatic extract.