

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 com-

stable. 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-efeminate 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 boastful 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 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

A MERICA 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

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 McCrary Hotel Superior at Pendleton.

However, we feel that to make the environment more complete and also that the money of the people should be spent for a high class of thoroughly built citizens of this glorious State, there should also be a private bath, toilet and washstand in each room.

There should be porter service and we should also be assured that our morning and evening papers would be delivered at our rooms promptly each morning.

Of course the imbeciles, insane, maniacs, idiots and other afflicted people who are dependent on the State should have full consideration. In due time, but not until at least the favored criminal class has been taken care of and ample provided for, the question now is just what felony that one can commit will insure the longest stay and the choice of rooms and accommodation while repaying at the McCrary Hotel Superior. We are strong for the Hotel Superior down in old Morgan.

The Past
By BERTON BRALEY
"GIRLS ain't the same as the girls I knew." The dawger says, and sighs. "Those old-time maidens would never do such things as they do now. But she failed to recall, in a large degree, some things which she saw occur. Girls ain't the same as they used to be. And they never were."

"MEN ain't the same as the men of old. But he didn't know that, he can't be told. But put up a single howl. And then both were right in their sad decree. To whom the last of them flew. With 'Men ain't at all what they used to be. And they never were.'

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

Where is the statue of the Goddess 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 Bonivard, the Genoan patriot, who

WILHELMINA HAS LONGEST REIGN OF LIVING SOVEREIGNS

Holland's Queen May Rival
Record of Queen
Victoria.

By MILTON BRONNER
NEA Service Staff Correspondent

ONDON, Feb. 10.—Late next summer the citizens of the little kingdom of Holland will celebrate their Queen Wilhelmina's forty-second 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 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 kept it 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, King Alfonso, 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 News

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 renominated in 1924.

Anticipating an effort by the Hardingers to control the next Republican convention, Progressives are endeavoring to make that conclude a more directly representative body by seeking additional presidential preference primary laws in States where legislatures are in session.

Letters endorsing 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.

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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. Dage, general superintendent of the air mail division of the Postage 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 900 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 lights.

"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."

The best route 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. Mellett, short story writer, Miss Mary Dyer Lemon of the Indianapolis Public Library, and John S. Harrison, English department, are the judges.

Here are a few of the poems entered:

Mrs. Frank D. Dugay, 243 Caven St.

Birds among the branchesittering
Always seem to sing of you.

Flowers on my pathway stretching
Always seem to sing about you too.

Clouds day and night about you
Whispers of a joy that's mine.

And a thousand glad things tell me
You're my life, my Valentine.

Tie then the name of Mother is on us a
And hovering low we seem to feel the shelter
of a wing.

Mrs. James Davidson, Indianapolis

In years as distant as the far horizon,

When I am stretched far to the searching,

From out the dismal torn which lay before

And struggling life grasped vainly at the

Trickling slowly down the bright beach

Of existence.

As the sun rose over Pompei's portals,

Brought me here lifeless, to the solid

land.

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.

Major, too, held a colony 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 250th Regiment.

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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, Me., 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, Elvira Winslow Rouse, and his grandfather, William Winslow, died in exactly forty-three days before their seventy-seventh birthdays. 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 shabby wooden business block in Front St.

"Although I am well today," he said, "the same trouble may develop within the few weeks left. If it does I shall be expecting it. If death comes I shall be ready."

Only the slenderest kind of a possibility lingers in his hands that he may be wrong in his death prophecy. For he added, as if pronouncing his chance to escape one in 100: "If it doesn't come I shall not be disappointed."