

## STOKES TO TAKE STAND FOR SELF

Millionaire Will Tell Why He  
Probed Wife's Past.

**By United Press** CHICAGO, March 2.—W. E. D. Stokes, New York millionaire, planned to take the stand late today in his own defense and tell why he decided to investigate the past of his beautiful young bride, the evidence found and the activities which brought about his indictment on a charge of conspiracy to defame Helen Elwood Stokes' character.

Charles Rathbun, chief defense attorney, said Stokes agreed to be the first defense witness. The State expects to rest its case sometime today.

Rathbun said he would show the jury that Stokes had "an honest suspicion" and that it was lawful for him to take every step he thought necessary to determine whether or not his wife had once lived in the notorious Everleigh Club here, as certain underworld characters told him.

### Hoosier Briefs

**S**PIRIT of the early Quaker settlers, who were the first residents of Wabash County, is to be preserved by a proposed memorial to be erected at Wabash by the Friends Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodorus F. Trusler of Huntington will celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary Wednesday with open house for friends.

Sam Snider, farmer south of Huntington, has contributed the latest freak egg story. He exhibits two eggs, one weighing  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an ounce and the other weighing  $\frac{1}{4}$  pound. He says these eggs of a 16 to 1 ratio were laid by the same hen on the same day.

The Hartford City Kiwanis Club will entertain the Rotary Club, Thursday, at dinner and listen to a radio program broadcast from Omaha by the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs of North Platte, Neb.

Albert Crowell, 25, of Waynedale, left a young wife to begin his fifth term at the Indiana State Reformatory. He was sentenced for issuing fraudulent checks.

**C**ROP values in the Twelfth district of Indiana amounted to \$16,980,000 last year. This district grows 13.8 per cent of the entire state crops.

Caylor Kelly, 16, son of Will A. Kelly, living near Washington, is being held in Germany until receipt of his birth certificate to prove he is an American citizen. Young Kelly, employed on a steamship line, while on shore leave crossed the German border, and officials refused to allow him to return.

Saying men of every profession but the newspaper profession had delivered commencement addresses at Decatur, City School Superintendent M. F. Wortham announces he has secured one of the leading journalists to make the graduation speech next May, when fifty-five students graduate.

Four foreigners will become American citizens Wednesday in the Jay Circuit Court. Ceremonies have been planned.

George Nibarger, farmer near Lankirk, unearched ten gallons of white mule while breaking down cornstalks on his farm preparatory to plowing.

**Freight Robbers Sentenced** *By Times Special*

SEYMOUR, Ind., March 3.—Leander Hays of Seymour and Chris Bier of Crothersville were sentenced to ten to twenty years in the Indiana State prison at Brownstown today by Judge James A. Cox of the Jackson Circuit Court. The men were caught robbing a B. & O. freight car in the Seymour yards recently.

## Throwing Some Light on 'Moonlight'; Three Women Lead Field at Keith's

By WALTER D. HICKMAN

NOT always does a favorite on the stage have a winning vehicle.

Julia Sanderson and Frank Crumit are not happily cast in "Moonlight." The story of "Moonlight" is so light and often so weak that it does not give real talent any chance. I know that people buy "Moonlight" as entertainment, because Miss Sanderson does not have a chance to come into her own only once and that is while singing "Old Man in the Moon" with Crumit. Here you find all the charm and artistry that you expect Miss Sanderson to use. She just doesn't have the work to do in "Moonlight."

"I sang a rime." Crumit is not suited to a butler role and he does not really come into his own until the second act when he does his vaudeville specialty. And Crumit is an artist in this line of song. He does not fit into the scheme of things as a butler. He doesn't have the butler look, of course we are not expected to have him in a musical comedy.

Miss Sanderson did not take over the Betty Duncan role until near the close of New York run of this musical comedy. "Moonlight" needs Miss Sanderson much more than she needs it.

Louis Simon played the role of Jimmie Farnsworth last night although the program had the name of Charles Lawrence in the role. Simon opened in the role in New York, but was replaced by Lawrence. Simon gives a lisping effect to the role which is not my idea of comedy acting.

Frank Woods now has the part of Peter Darby which was created by Ernest Glendinning. This is supposed to be a fat comedy part, but not in the hands of Woods.

The weakness of the show rests in the book, especially in the first act. All the real merit (what there is of it) is to be found in the second act. From a scenic standpoint, "Moonlight" is beautiful. The chorus wears some smart gowns. In fact, the women are beautifully gowned, especially Miss Sanderson.

This is my opinion. Kindly have your own.

"Moonlight" is on view all week at the Murat.

**GOOD COMEDY BILL  
ON VIEW AT LYRIC**

A comedy bill with enough variety for every one is the program at the Lyric this week.

With all but two acts of the laughing kind there are still no two that dispense the same brand of comedy. Nellie V. Nichols, a first-class singing comedienne, is the headliner. Miss Nichols specializes in character and dialect songs. Her Italian song is cleverly done and her impression of a Scotchman singing "What'll I Do?" is a scream.

El Cota, the comic xylophone player, is back this week. He was greeted like an old favorite. This time his act is "dressed up" with a special drapery and a lady assistant. The girl dances well, but really isn't needed. El Cota earned an encore with his unique comedy and then stopped the show with the legitimate rendition of Liszt's "Rhapsody No. 2." He is a musician, a comedian and a showman.

Art Lewis and Peggy Ames were easy winners with their comedy offering. Lewis is an eccentric comic with a style of his own. Techow's Cats open the show with a remarkable exhibition of the things cats do here and a lot of things they are not expected to do. In the first class belongs the "impression" of a fight on a back yard fence. These cats go through their routine as perfectly and as easily as the members of the best dog or animal acts. This is an unusual and interesting demonstration of training and animal intelligence.

Mme. Besson knows how to read her lines so they can be heard over the footlights.

Clara Barry

BEN MEROFF romps through to success while Orville Whittedge plays the piano

At the Lyric all week.

**WOMEN ARE WINNERS  
AT KEITH'S THIS WEEK**

The personality of three women claimed my attention when I looked over the bill at Keith's.

I list the three as follows: Mme. Besson in "Smarty's Party"; Clara Barry with Orville Whittedge in "Jest for Awhile," and Olive Thorne with Frank Rose in "Solid."

It is seldom that you will find on this bill three women of such different personalities. Mme. Besson appears in a one-act play, "Smarty's Party," by George Kelly. This is a worldly sketch which really gets nowhere. It does give Mme. Besson a chance to show what a woman can do with words and a lot of them. It is talk and more talk with little action. By the artistry of the featured player, this little play takes on life and actually wins the strict attention of the audience.

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