

Circus Ball Proves Gay and Colorful Occasion for Civic Theater Patrons

Tumblers, Bareback Riders and Trained Elephant Form Part of Atmosphere; Several Dinners Precede Event.

BY BEATRICE BURGAN Times Woman's Page Editor

It was circus day Saturday for civic theater patrons, who were given the opportunity to realize their childhood ambitions to join the circus. They joined the theater circus ball at the Athenaeum with such enthusiasm that their stunts and cavorting would do credit to any "big tent" old-timers. Perry Meek lent a realistic savor as the ring master, announcing Miss Jane Weil, the elephant trainer, whose job was none less than urging Reginald and William Garstang to perform elephantine tricks.

Undaunted were the tumblers, who caused an uproar of laughter as they rolled and vaulted to the accompaniment of the brass-banded band. The tumblers were John Wildhack, Egan Leck, Paul Kraus III, William Cragle, Lawrence Hill and Francis Sunday, also a flying trapeze performer.

Miss Katherine Morris was the tightrope artist and shared clown honors with Dr. William Cook. Robert Enhardt "amazed" the audience with his strong-arm feats.

All the circus players joined the grand march led by Mrs. Irving M. Favre, chairman, costumed as Tira, the lion tamer, in gold-braided white satin, white boots and black top. Mr. Favre hailed from the wild west in chaps and ten-gallon hat. Mr. and Mrs. John K. Ruckelshaus were westerners, and Miss Anne Ayres was attractive in a white kid western outfit with a white ten-gallon hat. Her brother, Lyman Ayres, came as a ranch "hand."

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Beveridge Jr. wore Swiss peasant costumes, which they bought in their travels. Mrs. William Wemmer was a dazzling bareback rider, with whirling pink tartan skirt and spangled bodice.

Mrs. Elias C. Atkins' Persian costume of gold and blue satin was applied with figures of signs of the zodiac and worn with a turban. Topping Mrs. Henry Todd's white satin headdress was a red and white striped candy cane handle, harmonizing with her barber pole striped gown. Mrs. Kurt Panzer was a tuft of cotton candy, represented by pink tartan ruffled skirt and a pink cotton headdress ornamented with a candy stick.

Mr. and Mrs. Todd entertained informally at their home before attending the carnival. Their guests were: Mr. and Mrs. Dillon B. Hilder, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Baker Williams, Miss Betty Wallerker, Frederick Pier and Oscar Kaelin. Miss Wallerker was in a mandarin costume.

Mrs. Meek was a cunning white rabbit and Mr. and Mrs. Laurens Henderson were in gingham rompers. Coucheron Aamot, popular Civic player, portrayed Hitler, and his wife came as a gay bareback rider.

Dinner Given at Club
Before coming to the dance Mr. and Mrs. Orland Church gave a dinner at the Woodstock Club in honor of their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Draper, Knoxville, Tenn. These circus guests were Messrs. and Mesdames Perry Lesh, Erwin C. Stout, William H. Mooney and T. A. W. Gilliam.

Arriving at the circus from Mrs. Lafayette Page's dinner were Dr. and Mrs. J. Jerome Littell, Dr. and Mrs. Alan Sparks, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wolff, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Kothe and Bonar Cramer.

Guests in Governor and Mrs. Paul V. McNutt's box were Messrs. and Mesdames Sylvester Johnson Jr., W. Richardson Sinclair, Frederick J. Holliday, Hathaway Simmons, J. J. Daniels and Judge and Mrs. Russell J. Ryan. The group came from a dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

Mrs. McNutt's crepe gown was of the spring mode with large rose flowers strewn over a white background. Mrs. Page's white lace gown had a skirt tiered with flounces and its green sash, frayed at the edges, fell to the hem. Contrasting with her green crepe gown were darker green and rust flowers, swirling around the neckline in front from the shoulders.

Wears Black Chiffon
One of the most unusual gowns was Mrs. George M. Bailey's black chiffon, the skirt graceful and trailing with ruffles. The matching cape was pointed and ruffled and fell three-quarters length. The cape was caught together in front with crossed straps, forming an unusual neckline. The dress was of a case.

While guests were not amusing themselves watching the circus performers, they were hearing their fortunes from the tent of Madame Hawkes, crystal gazer, and having their pictures taken in one of the booths. The orchestra provided music from behind the bars of a cage.

Circus posters, dangling animal silhouettes, gaudy paper streamers and colored lights provided the carnival atmosphere.

School Group to Meet
A nominating committee will be appointed at a meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association of School 78 at 2:30 Wednesday. Mrs. Ruth Eaney, soloist, will be accompanied by Mrs. Zella Lauman. David Dunwoody will play accordion numbers. The association will be addressed by a representative of the Smoke Abatement League.

A Woman's Viewpoint

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

"MARRIAGE is my investment," writes a wise young wife, "so I try to keep my husband well and happy. Nagging and bossing are definitely out of the plan. If he likes a night off I visit some one he is not fond of. He likes to drink. I encourage him and he drinks less than ever. I flatter and never criticize. Life can be so thrilling when thought and sanity are used in marriage as they are in any other business."

Now there's a woman who would make a success out of anything she started, because she has taught herself the value of studying human beings first and methods afterward. Probably, long years from now, her friends will say she has been a lucky person. They will think she has been blessed by kind fates who have destined her for a happy life. They will envy her a little, perhaps.

But what they will not understand is the important part she has had in making her happiness, nor will they be likely to recognize the master craftsmanship which went into her building of a house of life.

The will to succeed is the first requisite of a successful marriage. It is more necessary here than in any other partnership entered into by men and women.

If psychology plays any part at all in our lives, then the lurking, almost unconscious idea carried these days in the minds of all brides and grooms—the idea of divorce if they can't hit it off together—must be a contributing factor in many broken marriages.

Because marriage is a battle—in other words, the wise cracking sense—and the first enemy to be conquered is yourself. It is, for years, a perpetual fight against your own selfishness, emotionalism and habits. To adjust oneself to intimate living with another being can never be an easy matter—but it can be by and by, as an accomplished fact.

And certainly it is true that thought and sanity are used less in our marriages than anywhere else, although their absence is pronounced in most of our relationships. The only way to keep romance alive in your marriage is to be unromantic in your approach to its problems.

Carnival Spirit Prevails Beneath 'The Big Top'



Upper Left—Miss Jane Weil. Upper Right—Mrs. Laurens Henderson, Miss Mildred Blackledge, Mrs. Perry Meek, Bill Adams and Mr. Henderson. Lower Left—Stuart Dean, Mrs. Elsa Pantzer Haerle and Richard Mansfield. Lower Right—Fritz Souder and Miss Ayres.

Modern Mail Efficiency Grew From Hardships

BY MRS. C. O. ROBINSON Times Hobby Editor

THE speed and efficiency of our modern postal service has become a necessary part of our business and social life. It is a factor which we take for granted and seldom analyze from the standpoint of growth and progress. Recently, however, two items have come to my attention which picture vividly the contrast between the early postal conditions in Indiana and today's vast and vital system of communication.

On March 12, 1934, just 109 years to the day after its first journey through the mail, a stampless cover was sent to me by H. Edgar French, Newcastle. It is an official document commissioning "Lot Gard, a justice of the peace for the county of Union for and during the term of five years from the date hereof, should be so long behave well."

The lower half of the page shows the state seal and the signature of James Brown, acting Governor, and Secretary William W. Wick. The commission is printed on the inside section of a double sheet of paper, approximately 8x10 inches, and when sent to James Levison, clerk of Union county, Liberty, Ind., the paper was folded so that the first sheet inclosed the second as a cover in lieu of an envelope. It was then sealed with red wax and, we presume, was given into the care of Postmaster Samuel Henderson at his Washington Hall tavern, on the corner of Washington street and Kentucky avenue. After it was stamped with the name of the town, Indianapolis, and the date, March 12, 1825, it was placed in the saddlebags of a post rider and carried over the trail to Brookville.

The old cover carried no postage stamp as none were used until 1847. The postage, 12 cents, was paid by the recipient as was the custom, although often letters remained in the postoffice because of the scarcity of cash with which to redeem them. In the first Indianapolis newspapers, The Gazette and The Journal, long lists of unclaimed letters were printed, and in the Journal on Nov. 14, 1826, Postmaster Henderson notified the public, "persons expecting letters must bring postage. No letters can be given. Newspaper postage must be paid at the commencement of the quarter."

Newspaper items tell also of the difficulties encountered in postal delivery. In 1825 the Journal states, "In consequence of the non-arrival of the mail occasioned by high water, no paper will be issued. Subscribers have protested that their newspapers have been delayed because the postmasters kept them to read. We suggest that the government appoint a postoffice inspector."

Coincident with the arrival of the stampless cover, George C. Forrey III sent me an old newspaper clipping which gives added information about early postal history. It quotes from a reminiscence address given by Nathaniel Bolton who assisted in starting the first Indianapolis newspaper, in January, 1822. Mr. Bolton said in part:

"The Gazette was established in a Buckeye log cabin of but one room, part of which was occupied as a family residence. It was printed on new type and the ink was put on with balls made of dressed deer skin stuffed with wool. The balls were kept soft by the application of racoon oil."

"There was no postoffice nearer than Connersville, a distance of sixty miles, but a private mail was established and a person employed to go to Connersville every four weeks to bring letters and newspapers. In February, 1823, the President's message, delivered in December, 1822, came to hand and was published in the two or three succeeding numbers of The Gazette. During the year 1822, a United States mail was established and in short time we had our mail from the east every two weeks unless detained by high water."

"In 1823, having received a contract from the postmaster-general, I proceeded with the first mail north of Indianapolis to the then recently deserted Indian village of Andersonstown. A postoffice on route was established at the home of William Conner, four miles south of Noblesville. There was another postoffice at Strawtown, a prairie of considerable magnitude, where many remains of the Indian villages that had been located there were still standing."

Mr. Bolton continued with a description of the advancement of civilization along his route and with a recital of his varied experiences. We would enjoy reading also the recollections of other postriders such as "Old Madcap," who carried the mail to Madison, or Lewis Jones, who made the first trip under government contract from Centerville to Indianapolis, and whose picture and saddlebags are preserved at the Indianapolis postoffice.

These gallant spirits were beset with many dangers as they traveled through the wilderness described by Mr. Bolton as "Nature's forest only broken by the occasional cabins and small patches of cleared land of the early settlers."

Nevertheless, the mail went through.

While laying the foundation of Indiana's present postal system, the courageous postriders added a romantic chapter to the state's history and the stampless letters they carried are prized highly by philatelists today.

Bridge Play Set
Tri-Psi Mothers' Club will continue its bridge tournament at 1:30 tomorrow at the Delta Delta Delta chapter house, 809 West Hampton drive.

Building Model Planes No Longer Boys' Hobby; Mothers Interested, Too

Girls and Business Men Also Among Those Devoted to Work; Em-Roe Store Offers Supplies and Aid.

BY HELEN LINDSAY

INDIANAPOLIS boys who have been interested in the building of model airplanes will have a chance to enter the products of their skill in national competition. The Em-Roe Sporting Goods Company is organizing a club among boys and men in Indianapolis and vicinity interested in the construction of these models. Girls who are interested in aeronautics may join the club, too, according to Cecil Flynn, in charge of the model airplane department of the store. Mr. Flynn recently became a member of the National Aeronautic Association. Directors of the association include Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, Major James H. Doolittle, Lieutenant-Commander Frank Hawks, Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh and Will Rogers.

The club being organized at Em-Roe's had its second meeting Saturday. Officers and directors from among boys joining the club will be elected next Saturday.

"Interest in model airplanes has advanced more rapidly than any dealer in parts realized until recently," Mr. Flynn said, explaining the incentive for the organization of the club. "We have maintained a department here for eight years, where parts of the planes could be purchased, but it was only at Christmas time that we discovered the extent of the interest. We received a shipment of six dozen kits for the construction of model planes, and sold all of them within three days. It was then that we realized that boys and men in Indianapolis were enthusiastic about building model airplanes."

Not only boys and men are interested, but many mothers, watching their sons painstakingly construct the small aircraft, have become enthusiastic. One mother, after assisting her son in constructing a plane, abandoned a former hobby of making artificial flowers, and bought a kit of her own. She now is making small reproductions of the most modern planes.

Suspended in the air over the cases of tiny parts in the Em-Roe store are flying models and scale models of planes, made by Indianapolis school boys. One of the most interesting of these is a scale plane constructed by Roger Ahl, 16-year-old Technical high school pupil. There are 1,650 pieces in the plane, which is a copy of a Pittsman mail wing. It is scaled for one-half inch to equal one foot, and is correct in every detail. It has movable controls, and took a year and a half of Roger's spare time for its completion.

Reproduces World's Speediest Plane

ANOTHER interesting model is a copy of a Macchi-Castoldi Italian seaplane, the fastest plane built today. The original plane from which the model was copied flew at a speed of 435 miles an hour. The tiny model has a speed of twenty-five miles an hour.

In the window of the Em-Roe store is a reproduction of a 247 Boeing transport, with a wing spread of 55 1/2 inches. It was built by Byron Robbins, Brownsburg, Ind., and represents ninety hours of work. Byron, unlike most of the boys interested in the modern hobby, does not plan to take up flying in the future but is interested in aeronautical engineering. He plans to enter Tri-State college at Angola, Ind., in the fall, where he will take a course in this type of engineering.

Not only boys, but business men of the city have become interested in the construction of these tiny planes. Enrolled in the Em-Roe club is Rodman Ellis, 2330 East Ninth street, who has been building model airplanes for fifteen years. Another adult member of the club is F. H. Smith, secretary to the manager for this district of the Norfolk & Western railroad. Mr. Smith not only has built planes, but has drawn original plans for a low wing monoplane, blueprints of which are distributed by Em-Roe's.

Squadron Organization Used

THE club is being organized on a squadron plan. Membership cards the pins will be given members.

Eight ranks are listed in the organization. The first is that of student flier. To qualify for the bars for this rank, a club member must have built and flown a Baley R. O. G. not less than twenty seconds, and must be able to define five aeronautical terms.

Other ranks for which club members may qualify are private pilot, limited commercial, transport A pilot, transport B pilot, transport C pilot, squadron leader and ace. An ace must have organized a squadron of not less than eight beginners, and acted as their leader until at least five of the number have obtained transport C pilot licenses.

The club will sponsor flying meets in parks and airports, and award trophies for flying models and scale models. Work tables will be set up in the Em-Roe store, where boys may spend their time constructing planes. Washington, Technical and Shortridge high schools now have ground mechanics' courses. A club to be organized at Cathedral high school will be affiliated with the Em-Roe club, as will a Y. M. C. A. model plane building class.

Sororities

Delta Sigma Chi sorority will meet tonight at the home of Mrs. Florence Edmondson, 1603 Hoyt avenue. Beta chapter, Iota Psi Omega sorority will hold preliminary initiation tonight at the home of Mrs. Henry Eder, 910 North Bosart avenue.

Epsilon chapter, Alpha Omicron Alpha sorority, will meet at 2 Wednesday at the home of Mrs. E. John White, 5254 Park avenue. Miss Dorothy Julian, 42 South Warner avenue, will be hostess for a meeting of Alpha Chapter, Phi Tau Delta sorority, Friday night.

Beta chapter, Phi Theta Delta sorority, will meet at 8 tonight at the home of Miss Betty Hancock, 1403 Finley avenue.

Lambda chapter, Omega Phi Tau sorority, will hold a business meeting at the home of Mrs. Violet Brown, 443 South Pine street, tonight.

Beta chapter, Alpha Beta Phi sorority, will meet at 8:30 Wednesday night at the home of Miss Mildred Hobmans, 1005 East Raymond street.

Omega Chi sorority will be entertained by Miss Mary Hockersmith, 804 North Hamilton avenue, at 8 Wednesday night. Another party will be held Saturday night at the home of Mrs. Inez Fields.

Announcements

International Travel-Study Club, Inc., glee club will rehearse at 7:30 tonight in the Sunshine studios.

Hamilton Berry chapter, Service Star Legion, will meet at 2 tomorrow at the home of Mrs. John Brosnan, 1475 North Delaware street.

Council to Meet
Mrs. R. L. Haymacker will be hostess for a 12:30 luncheon meeting of the Indianapolis Educational Council Wednesday at the Webb tearoom, 1300 North Pennsylvania street. Mrs. Olive Edwards of Christamore House will talk on "Character Building and Prohibition."

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Mrs. Arnold Tilden, Greenecastle, will be speaker at the luncheon of the annual meeting of the Indiana Indorsers of Photoplays, April 13, in the Claypool.

SERVICE GROUP TO GIVE BENEFIT PARTY

Miss Mamie D. Larsh, president of the Mutual Service Association, has announced committees for a benefit bridge party at 8 Monday, April 23, in the Columbia Club.

Miss Marie M. Bowen is chairman of general arrangements, assisted by Misses Fannie Greuter, Agnes Cruse, Estella Franz, Elizabeth Boyle, Gertrude Forrest and Mrs. M. B. M. Guedelhoefer. Other committees are tickets, Miss Mary Stubbs and Mrs. Stella B. Coleman; prizes, Miss Helen Brown and Mrs. Walter R. Mayer, and publicity, Misses Edith L. Hoffman, Cerene Orr, Louise Ford, Natalie Coffin, Berna Lemming and Mrs. Izona Shirley.

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Card Parties

Ways and means committee of the Women's auxiliary to Sahara Grotto will sponsor a card party at 8 tonight at the Grotto home. Mrs. Stewart Houston is chairman.

A card party will be held tomorrow night at St. Roch's hall, 3600 South Meridian street. The committee is composed of Raymond Dransfield, Leo Steffen, Harold Dietz, Merle Egan, Masdames Fred Heideberger and Frank Hagib.

New Hope Council, D. of A. will sponsor a card party at 8 tonight at its hall, Morris and Lee streets.

Ramona Grove, Supreme Forest Circle, will sponsor a card party tonight at the Athenaeum.

Personals

Dr. and Mrs. Clark Day returned yesterday from a month's stay in New York, where Dr. Day took a post-graduate hospital course at Columbia university.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Hudgins have returned from a short wedding trip and are at home at 3946 North New Jersey street.

Mrs. Hudgins was Miss Grace Hobson before her marriage last Wednesday at the Second Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Frederick E. Matson has returned from a six weeks' visit with her sister, Mrs. Montgomery L. Lasley, Beverly Hills, Cal.

George T. Landis sailed Friday night on the SS Mauretania bound for a cruise to the West Indies and South America.

Alpha Theta Pi sorority will meet tonight with Miss Letitia Smith, 1311 North Kealing avenue.

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