

## Home Town Looks Good to Actress

London Audiences Demand Own Version of Jokes, Miss Petri Reports.

BY JOHN W. THOMPSON  
Indianapolis' "roaming lady" of the stage, Miss Helene Petri, and her traveling companion, a personable Carin terrier, "Musky," came home from London yesterday for what she hopes is a "long vacation."

Miss Petri's mother, Mrs. E. E. Petri of 5306 N. Pennsylvania-st, is going to try and keep Helene at home this time, but from what we heard of the latter's enthusiasm for the stage, we feel sure she will be getting back to the boards after a rest.

"It's been two years since Helene has been home. She first appeared with the New York Repertory Company on Broadway in a number of plays including "Burn the Dead," "A Lady Detained," "I'll Take My Stand," "Private Hicks," "Angelo Herndon."

**London's Laughter Light**

For four months before her return to Indianapolis Helene had one of the leading roles in last season's hit burlesque on Hollywood, "Boy Meets Girl," in its London engagement.

Londoners seem as receptive to the play's rather bawdy comedy tactics as American audiences, according to Miss Petri. The lines at which Indianapolis guffawed fell a little flat in the foggy city until Producer George Abbott had rewritten them and cut certain portions. Then it turned out to be quite successful.

Attired in a natty gray traveling suit trimmed in royal blue, Miss Petri didn't appear to have acquired any English customs on account. She wasn't particularly enthusiastic about English food.

"It's too starchy," she said. "It's just Yorkshire pudding and more Yorkshire pudding until it almost runs out your ears."

**Enjoyed Country Week-Ends**

"What I liked best about the London customs," smiled the local actress, "were my week-ends in Maidenhead. And I would certainly like to build myself a cottage on the English countryside. Oh, those cut-thatched roofs! I would have brought one home with me if I could."

One of the impressive ceremonies indulged in by the English theater-going public is the opening of "God Save the King" after every performance. The theater in which "Boy Meets Girl" was presented was built in 1930. Miss Petri said, and contained old-fashioned stage construction, which kept the players running about on a 15-degree incline.

Although the "old home town" looked pretty good to the traveling Thespian, we have no doubt that Helene will be hopping back to Broadway when the new season's greasepaint begins to get in the air.

## FEATURED IN WAR FILM



### Conservatory

#### Term Is Begun

#### Increase in Students Seen as Registration Opens.

Preparations have been completed at the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music for the opening of the annual school year today.

An increase in enrollments over the 1935-36 figure of 1700 persons, both adults and children, is expected by conservatory officials. Mrs. Evelyn Green and Stanley Norris, music school registrars, will be in charge of enrollments from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily.

Four additions have been made to the faculty for the new year. They include Mrs. Fannie Kiser Rosenak, who will head the department of harp; Mrs. Jane Ogburn Bruce, dramatics; Austin E. Coggan, piano, and Virgil Phemister, voice.

Registrations for private lessons will be received each day this fall. Group instruction in music, drama and dancing will begin today and Sunday. The college department, affiliated with Butler University, will open registration Sept. 11. Classes in this department will begin Sept. 14 and continue on a schedule similar to that of the university.

The conservatory will offer instruction at four locations this year. They are the north branch, 3411 N. Pennsylvania-st; Metropolitan branch, 106 E. North-st., and the main campus, 1116 and 1204 N. Delaware-st. The latter location houses the conservatory administrative offices.

Three of the outstanding male stars in movie circles, starred with a youthful debutante in cinema ranks, are principals in "The Road to Glory" which has been secured for the Lyric Theater the week of Sept. 11. In the top photo is shown June Lang, heroine of the movie war story. Warner Baxter and Lionel Barrymore are seen in the center photo, and Fredric March, the hero, below.



## TODAY IS OURS

BEGIN HERE TODAY

JUDITH HOWARD has been engaged to STEPHEN FOWLER for four years. She wants to be married and keep her job as a business office for Steve will not have this.

Judith meets Steve for lunch and they go over the familiar arguments. Judith points out that her friends, VIRGINIA and BOB BENT, are happily married, though both have jobs. Steve refuses to be convinced. Finally Judith threatens to break the engagement.

Steve asks her if she would like to come to her apartment that evening to talk the matter over. He comes and a short time later Bob and Virginia arrive with their friend, TOBY LYNCH. Steve is the only one who is absent and the evening is awkward for everyone. Steve remains after the others have gone. He begs Judith not to break the engagement, but she remains firm.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER FIVE

IT was the Bents' habit to drop by Judith on their way to work. But next morning Virginia stopped at Judith's apartment without her husband.

"Bob left early," Virginia explained. "He had some work he wanted to finish before the day's rush."

Judith knew better, but she said nothing. Virginia wanted to know the outcome of last night's encounter with Steve—and she didn't care to be hampered by Bob in her questioning.

"Sit down," Judith invited. "You've time to have a cup of coffee with me."

"Thanks, darling. And I'll take on a piece of toast, too. I rushed so to get Bob away that I'm afraid I neglected my own calories." She took the proffered cup, searching Judith's eyes. "Well, what happened?"

The other smiled. "Nothing at all, Virginia. He left right after you did—and I didn't change my mind." "Good!" exclaimed Virginia. She loosened a mock sigh. "I was scared to death you'd give him another chance. I was trying to stay here longer than he did, but finally I saw that he'd caught on to my scheme." Young Mrs. Bent stirred her coffee in silence for a moment. Then, looking up at Judith, she said: "Did Steve tell you what he did to Toby Lynch last night?"

JUDITH nodded. "Terrible, wasn't it."

"Well . . . Bob seemed to think that Toby had it coming. But you know how Toby is—always opening his mouth before he thinks. If you ask me, I think it was stupid of Steve."

Judith Howard's gaze met her friend's quizzically. "Stupid? Perhaps you're right, Virginia. But when a gal has had her good name defamed it's hard for her to think of it as stupid."

"That," said Virginia in her most cynical fashion, "is a lot of bacon oil, and you know it. No girl nowadays gets all excited about a man because he lets his arms fly around."

"Don't be so sure," Judith laughed. "Come on, we'll have to work on a novel."

## REEL SHORT

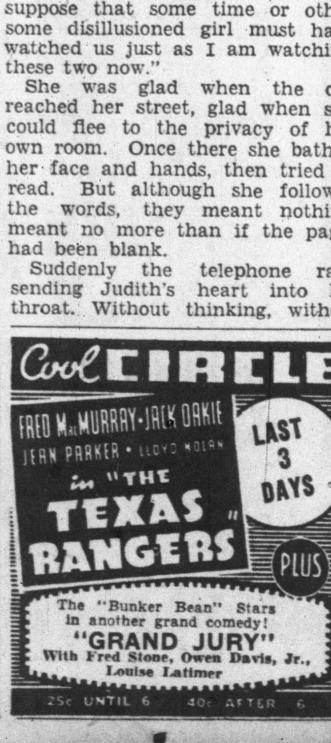
Gertrude Michael has been mentioned for the coveted role of "Scarlett" in the movie adaptation of "Gone With the Wind." . . . John Beal is thrilled over his new role in the musical, "Round the Town, in which he sings and dances. . . . During his recent trip to Wichita to play in a charity baseball game, Gene Raymond spent more money on phone calls to Jeanette MacDonald than he did for the rest of the trip. . . . When William Wyler drives to the "Dowdsworth" set where he is directing the movie of that name he has his chauffeur bring his motorcycle in case he feels like going home on the two-wheeler.

### HAS MANY TALENTS

Marsha Hunt, now appearing in "The Accusing Finger," though still in her early teens, is a talented pianist and a sculptress of no mean ability in addition to being a singer and sketcher.

### CROSBY'S AMBITION

Bing Crosby is ambitious to be an author. He has written several short stories which he doesn't believe good enough for publication, but isn't discouraged. Now he's at work on a novel.



## Local Booking Advanced for Astaire-Rogers' Film

A shift of Circle bookings (for reasons known only to showmen) will give the latest Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers tune and terpsichore movie being shown at the local theater the week of Sept. 11 instead of a week later.

A solo dance in blackface by Mr. Astaire, the presentation of the new dance "Swing Waltz," and seven of Jerome Kern's tunes are highlights of the coming film.

Victor Moore and Helen Broderick, both stage musical veterans, are teamed as comedy partners in a well-meaning but embarrassing match-makers who attempt to get the hero and heroine together. Eric Blore, Betty Furness and Georges Meeka are also in the cast.

A glittering aerial night club of

mirrors and chromium, moored to the tower of Manhattan's skyscraper is one of the numerous settings in the production. It was directed by John Harkrider of "Great Ziegfeld" fame and is the spot where Astaire and 24 dancing girls go through the blackface number.

Local Booking Advanced

for Astaire-Rogers' Film

## MISTAKE

BY ARMSTRONG LIVINGSTON

Daily Short Story

MR. SMEDLEY-KERR'S horse whinnied and stopped short nose to nose with another horse bound in the opposite direction along the dusty trail. The second rider was Chase, who ran the sugar mill.

"Hello, S. K. Heard the bad news?"

"All news is bad in this country," said Mr. Smedley-Kerr east coast glances over the endless stretches of dry, sun-scorched savannah. "What is it now?"

"Typhoid fever. Twenty of my men are down—for keeps! It'll reach your neighborhood next, I guess."

"Typhoid?" Mr. Smedley-Kerr's face paled. "Can't it be stopped?" What is the cause of it?

"Up-country rains. The Rio Tigre flooded its banks and is bringing all sorts of filth into this district. Doc Amberry tested the water yesterday. Says it's so full of typhoid germs, nearly crawled up the slide of his microscope. As for stopping the epidemic—nothing doing!" Chase shrugged his shoulders. "Where are you headed for?"

"SAN MARCOS. An errand for my wife."

"You'll be crossing the Tigre then. Watch out you don't get absent-minded and take a drink!"

Mr. Smedley-Kerr winced, and rode on.

"Doubt Disease and death!" He shivered. Presently, he drew rein, took a small flask of brandy from his pocket, and swallowed half the contents.

Mingled with his new fear, was an old, sullen hatred. He hated his present occupation and mode of living. He hated the natives. But most of all, he hated the rich woman whom he had married for her money. In his straitened circumstances, her wealth had seemed like a gift from the gods, but now he realized that the marriage had been a mistake, the greatest blunder in his life already full of mistakes.

How could he have foreseen that she would want him to work? He was a Smedley-Kerr. With the New York social season in full swing, to drag him down here to assist her in the management of a beastly sugar property left by her first husband!

Chase's prediction proved true. Typhoid came to them, taking heavy toll of their laborers. With its coming, horror rode with Mr. Smedley-Kerr by day, terror slept with him by night. He could eat or drink nothing without inward shrinking. When he went with his wife to visit the sick and dying, he suffered until tortured.

"Whoohoo, it's hot! Me for a shower! Get me a lemonade, Johnny! Bring it to me myself like a good boy!"

She strode away, alert, competent. Her physique, the way she carried herself, were an affront to the man who knew himself a weakling.

Mr. Smedley-Kerr ordered the drink and when a servant brought it, he took out his flask.

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