

At Syracuse Theaters

Stage Hands Offer Plan to Aid "Road"

Bahn Points Out That Its Adoption Here Has Been Futile

By CHESTER B. BAHN William J. Canavan, president of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, having given deep thought to the decline of the road, proposes a solution in an interview with The Herald.

Mr. Canavan proposes that the Shuberts and A. L. Erlanger make a series of booking arrangements covering the cities throughout the country in which they own or control theaters. Canavan further proposes that the two chains take official cognizance of the fact that outside of New York there is a lessened demand for legitimate attractions and retain in road cities only so many houses as will assure visiting shows a profit.

Another point Mr. Canavan stresses is that there are not enough good road shows to warrant the Shuberts and Erlanger keeping open all their out-of-town theaters. By closing some of the road theaters and maintaining a high standard for the shows that are sent on tour, Canavan asserted, the managers could once again restore the faith of the public in the legitimate theater, which has all but been destroyed by poor touring companies.

With regard to the oft-quoted plaint that the stagehands' demands were making theater operation unprofitable, Canavan has this to say: "It is thought for a moment that any sacrifice by the stagehands would help the legitimate theater. I would take the responsibility on myself to see that it was done."

Canavan declares that by accurate computation he has figured out that the stagehands cost to the managers was only 4.6 per cent of their total operating cost.

Mr. Canavan's plan is interesting, but from the experience of this city, it cannot be said that it guarantees a survival of "the road." Syracuse was one of the first cities for which the Shuberts and the Erlanger offices reached an "understanding" some years back. Erlanger shows for 10 years played the Empire in addition to Shubert attractions at the Wieting.

When the Empire lease expired, Erlanger bookings for a brief period went to the Vestable. Then came the "understanding" through which the longer shows and bookings were assured, local housing at the Wieting, Trup, they have been few and far between—the Theater Guild's "Forsy" was the last—but the "understanding" still prevails.

That it has failed to assure Syracuse adequate attractions scarcely requires reiteration here. Not in over 20 years has this city been so poorly treated in the matter of road shows.

Mr. Canavan is on more solid ground when he strikes at poor touring companies and cites the modest exactions of the city, accepting the figures given as correct.

What happens to star actresses when they leave college? The technician—laboratory and camera departments in Hollywood seem to be a haven for some of them.

Frank Walton, back stroke swimming champion of the United States, formerly of Washington University, is founding cameraman for technical cinematographer, Tommy Blankenhorn, national breast stroke champion, and a member of the 1928 Olympic team, is working with him.

Many film colony extras, no doubt, have heard of the French Revolution, nor of Danton, Robespierre or Marie Antoinette, yet it is to that great upheaval of 140 years ago that they owe their most certain opportunity for a day's work in many a long month of this year of grace and talkies.

Already 800 extras have been called for mob scenes in this first spectacle talkie to be attempted, and under studio plans some 3,000 more, recruited from employment agencies, as well as regular extra ranks, are to be called before completion of "La Marcellaise," a singing romance based on the history of the French national tune.

All of which is by way of pointing out the roar of surging mobs, the chanting of immense choruses, the wild cries of a frenzied populace—all "heard" through subtle and pictures in numerous spectacles of the silent movie era—soon may be pouring into Hollywood's microphones to add variety to the talkie fare and shakels to the extras purse.

THEATER GUIDE Wieting—"Pinafore" revived by Civic Opera Association. "The Thirteenth Chair." It's Tod Browning's mystery production of the Year. Mystery incidents wherein you make uncanny journeys into the spirit world. Conrad Nagel, Lella Hyams and Margaret Wycherly top the cast. On the stage, Wendie Boreo et al. Saturday, "The Locked Door."

"Turn on the Heat"



They'll "Turn on the Heat" at the Eckel for another—the fourth week. Decision to hold over the Janet Gaynor-Charles Farrell musical was announced today by Morris Shulman, managing director. This gives "Sunny Side Up" the Eckel's own long run title.

Up and Down The Rialtos

The Play Must Go On! George Bunny, brother of the late comedy star, Johnny Bunny, plays a part in the all-talking picture "The Locked Door," which reaches Loew's Saturday.

On the last day of filming at the United Artists studio he appeared punctual as usual. He went through his comedy scenes with that hilarious spirit so characteristic of the Bunny's.

Yet that very morning Mrs. Bunny had died, severing 30 years of an extremely happy married life. Of course Bunny's heart was broken, but the show had to go on. There was no alternative.

Another girl who headed numerologists when she went into pictures is Sally O'Neill, co-featured with John Mack Brown in Keith's next offering, Radio Pictures' dramatic, musical "Jazz Heaven," which opens at Loew's Saturday.

Thomas Meighan is starred at the Rivoli for today and Friday in all talking mystery murder picture, "The Argyle Case." Meighan plays the part of a super-detective, employed in the unraveling of a baffling murder mystery.

The first "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Street parade to be held in Los Angeles for 32 years took place recently during the making of "The Girl in the Show," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, which opens at Loew's Saturday.

Samuel Goldwyn, pioneer picture producer and owner-member of United Artists, and Mrs. Goldwyn, the former Frances McLaughlin of local stock memories, sail on the Bremen Saturday for London.

James Cruze is dodging brickbats. The missiles are being hurled by the Circuit Riders' Association, the ire of which has been aroused by Mr. Cruze's preparation to film Jim Tully's book, "Circus Parade," talkie of "taking steps to stop the filming" has been for had no preventive results at the source of the trouble.

The foreign actor is coming into his own again in the cinema as producers appear to battle to re-win foreign trade. Fox will use him in "La Marcellaise," making French versions of Chevalier's "Love Parade" and "The Big Pond."

MGM is doing Vilma Banky's "Sun-Kissed" in German. Roach making all his comedies in Spanish, including Laurel and Hardy's, and "Broadway" and "Show Boat" made in German. Universal will now do "The Last Performance" in Hungarian.

Sono-Art is making "Blaze of Glory" in English and Spanish simultaneously. James Cruze Productions announces that eight of its pictures will be made with French and German dialogue.

Here is the complete cast of "Bride of the Regiment," technical talkie version of "The Lady in Ermine": Vivienne Segal, Alan Prior, Walter Pidgeon, Louise Fazenda, Ford Stebbins, Myra Loy, Richard Dix, Harry Cording and Claude Fleming.

Civic Night Planned by Opera Group

Local Notables Will See "H.M.S. Pinafore" at the Wieting

"H. M. S. Pinafore" ties up at the Wieting wharf tonight for a three day stay, the Gilbert and Sullivan man-of-war being brought to port by the Civic Opera Association.

Tomorrow night will find the association observing Civic Night, with these Syracuse notables, among others, enjoying the performance: Mayor Charles E. Hanna, Rolland E. Marvin, mayor-elect; George N. Crouse, Joseph Griffin, Frank C. Love, Police Chief Martin L. Cadin, Frank Westcott, commissioner of public works; Senator George R. Pearson, P. Frank Durkin and Oscar F. Soule.

Last minute Rialto news—This city's Mitchell Lewis has been signed for Doris Del Rio's first talkie, "The Bad One." Jack Holt has starred "Black Sheep," Congo tale by Ralph Graves. . . . Lila Lee will have the femme lead in "All the King's Men" for R-K-O. . . . Georges Cartier sails for France to spend Christmas, but will return in February or March for more film work. . . . Monte Blue's next will be "Those Who Dancer" . . . Viola Mae Norris, Louisville's claim to fame, opens an engagement at the Olympic, Union, Saturday. . . . "Jango" moves from the Empire to the Brighton Sunday. . . . Philadelphia will see "The Sap From Syracuse" before New York. . . . Walter Hampden's "Richelle" will have a Hartford, Conn., test Dec. 19. . . . That Helen Kane feature will be a face of the Frozen North, "Dangerous Nan McGrew." . . . Lupion Lane is returning to London to star in a musical show, "Silverwings." . . . Warner's will make "Scarlet Pages" as a talkie. . . . While the Federal ship's pinnacles on the Coast, her starring film, "Evidence," starts at the Strand at midnight tonight.

A long search was ended the other day at First National when the production department was able to locate a real "epitaph writer." Cyrus P. Giggis, 72, who once wrote epitaphs for churches in small Kansas towns, was discovered through his grandson, an extra player. He was employed to write lines in the stone in a churchyard cemetery for the film "Billie Dove's 'The Other Tomorrow,'" which Lloyd Bacon is directing. Giggis is believed to be one of the oldest "technical experts" ever employed by a film studio.

Miss Elizabeth Dexter, head-physicist worker and visiting teacher in the Child Guidance Clinic of the Newark, N. J., Board of Education, will describe the psychiatric and visiting teacher work in that city at a luncheon meeting at the Onondaga Hotel at 12:15 o'clock tomorrow noon.

The meeting is to be held under the joint auspices of the local Board of Education and the Mental Hygiene Committee of Onondaga County Health Association. Supt. G. Carl Alverson of the Syracuse public schools who will preside has invited the members of the Board of Education and all school principals and supervisors to attend.

Miss Dexter has a staff of 11 visiting teachers under her. They deal primarily with the social and educational maladjustments of pupils in elementary schools. She held an important position in the Child Guidance Clinic of Westchester County, New York, before going to her present position in Newark four years ago. Miss Dexter is one of the recognized leaders in this type of work in this country.

The meeting will have special significance in view of the recently announced desire of Superintendent Alverson to extend the visiting teacher work which has been started in certain local public schools.

Christmas Lights Is League Topic Harry C. White of the Edison Lamp Works, Harrison, N. J., spoke last night at the monthly meeting of the Syracuse Electric League at Uhrig's restaurant. His subject was "Christmas Lighting."

The Syracuse Electric League is an organization of the electric men in Syracuse and vicinity. Its purpose is to cultivate harmony within the industry and to assist persons in becoming better acquainted with electrical conveniences.

MANLIUS The regular meeting of the members of the Manlius Chamber of Commerce was observed by a banquet served by the women of the Methodist Church in the gymnasium Wednesday night. Wives of the members were invited.

A special feature of the evening was the showing of movies taken by W. E. Gould of local people. Initiatory degrees were conferred at the regular meeting of the Manlius Order of the Eastern Star on Wednesday night.

Old Geddes Farm in Path Of Progress

Home Built Century Ago At Fairmount Razed In Development

(Continued from Page 1, Section 2) but all but one died comparatively young.

That son, George Geddes, born in the log house in 1809, lived on the Geddes farm all his life and is still remembered by some of the older residents of Onondaga County.

He made farming an intensive study and also followed the profession of his father, who died in 1839 at the age of 75. George Geddes served as State Senator from Onondaga County in 1848, 1850 and 1851. He was a contributor to agricultural journals and wrote extensively on farm problems for the New York Tribune, then at the height of its popularity.

An Onondaga County Agricultural Society had been formed in 1819 and for four or five years staged county fairs at Onondaga Valley. In April, 1839, when the second such organization was formed, George Geddes was one of the trustees. Others were James L. Voorhees, David Munro, Harvey Baldwin, Sanford C. Parker, Willis Gaylord, Henry F. King, Grove Lawrence, Anson Burt, Oliver Teal, George Pettit and Rufus Coeser.

All these names have come down to the present generation in names of streets, villages or towns. Syracuse was once known as Cosset's Corners. In 1859 George Geddes made the first complete survey of the topography, geology and resources of Onondaga County. This report is still on file in the records of the State Agricultural Society.

George Geddes lived until nearly 90 and when he died the big farm passed into the possession of his son, James Geddes, the last of the name to own the old homestead. Robert Geddes, the last of the line, grandson of the second James Geddes and great-great grandson of the pioneer of that name, is still living in Syracuse.

He is the son of George Geddes, second of that name, who died when Robert, born in 1822, in the Geddes homestead, was a young boy. Robert Geddes' mother afterward became the wife of the late Alton Simmons, Syracuse banker, and is still living in Syracuse.

Robert Geddes attended St. Johns Military School at Manlius, now Manlius School, and St. Louis Academy in Montreal. He was employed by the Syracuse Rapid Transit Company for a number of years and is now with the F. P. Collins Paint Company. He lives at 310 1/2 Rensselaer Street.

When Mrs. James Geddes, grandmother of Robert, died in the West about 25 years ago, the farm was allowed to pass out of the family. Various portions have been sold from it until the original 1,000 acres have been reduced to 500.

RKO KEITH'S STAGE & SCREEN SUPER ATTRACTIONS STARTS SATURDAY Direct From GLOBE THEATER NEW YORK at \$2.00 RADIO PICTURES MIRTHFUL MELODY DRAMA "JAZZ HEAVEN" with SALLY O'NEIL JOHN MACK BROWN and a great Supporting Cast! Stage Attraction Filled With Laughter, Sparkling Fun Tinkling Melodies HEADED BY THE FUNNIEST SCREEN STAR George K. Arthur IN PERSON OTHER GREAT ACTS

LOEWS STATE "THE 13th CHAIR" EMILE BOREO AND OTHER LOEW ACTS LAST 2 DAYS

SATURDAY! "The LOCKED DOOR" with Rod La Rocque Barbara Stanwyck William Boyd Betty Bronson An All-Talking Drama of This Wild Jazz Age. Full of Whoopie, Revels, Action and Romance. ANOTHER MONSTER LOEW VAUDEVILLE BILL HEADED BY ALEX HYDE AND HIS 15 MODERN MAIDENS TONEY & NORMAN IN "A MAN ABOUT TOWN" OTHER BIG ACTS

Strand DIRECTION WARNER BROS. Last Times Today 7 DAYS Beginning Tonight at Midnite IRENE BORDONI in "PARIS" SEE! LOVE SCENES THAT ALMOST BURN THE FILM! SWAN Formerly HAPPY HOUR LOWEST PRICE IN CITY—10c Today—Big Double Shows—"THE FAKIR" with Warner Oland. Also "Come Across," with Lita Stakette, Sunday—Clara Bow; also Tim McCoy. Wieting Thurs.—Fri.—Sat. Dec. 12, 13, 14 The Syracuse Civic Opera Association Will Present Gilbert & Sullivan's Most Popular Opera Pinafore Company of 25 Augmented Orchestra Special Secretary

HAROLD LLOYD in his first ALL-TALKING Laugh Special "Welcome Danger" with BAREARA KENT All the laughs of "Speedy" and "Grandma's Boy" plus a raft of new rib-ticklers that keep you gasping for breath! Lloyd in his greatest laugh provoker. And it's ALL-TALKING! A Paramount Release ADDED FEATURES ON THE SCREEN JANS & WIALEN Stars of Musical Comedy "TRAVELING ALONG" A Paramount Novelty SCREEN CARTOON PARAMOUNT SOUND NEWS PERFORMANCES AT 11-1:30-1:00 6:30 and 9:00 PRICES 11 to 1-25c 1 to 6-35c After 6-50c Children 15c All day Public Theaters presents this new home of Paramount Pictures for your comfort and entertainment—enjoy the best. SYRACUSE Paramount Theatre So. Saline Formerly the Temple

FOX ECKEL SUNNY SIDE UP 3RD WEEK AND STILL GOING BIG Hear These Song Hits! Turn On the Heat If I Had a Talking Picture of You I'm a Dreamer Aren't We All? Mid-night Show Every Friday Night

EMPIRE TODAY—Continuous 11 A. M. to 11 P. M. DR. D. DAVENPORT IN PERSON With His Cannibal Guides—Presenting JANGO A Sensational Film His 5-Year Expedition Lord of Africa STARTING SATURDAY SMASHING BIG STAGE SHOW 25—PEOPLE—25 Singers, Dancers, Comedians "MUSIC BOX REVUE" BEAUTIFUL GIRLS—GORGEOUS COSTUMES A CARLOAD OF STAGE SETTINGS ALSO RALPH INCE AND AILEEN PRINGLE "WALL STREET" A Timely All-Talking Dramatic Hit BIGGEST SHOW IN TOWN MAT. 25c NIGHTS 40c Children 15c—All Times

TINA LERNER Soloist Fourth Subscription Concert Dec. 14 at 11:45 A. M. Strand SYRACUSE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM Overture, "Marriage of Figaro" W. A. Mozart "Don Juan," tone. Richard Brown Concerto for Piano, No. 2, in A Major Frank Lauter SOLOIST TINA LERNER, Soprano. McKittrick, McKinley Tickets on Sale at Symphony Office, Keith Bldg., and Clark's

FOX ECKEL—"Sunny Side Up," wherein Janet Gaynor and Charles Farrell go musical comedy, the way of all cinematic flesh. You may safely take the kiddie's "Jango," a thrilling record of jungle perils. Dr. David Davenport appears in person. Also "The College Coquette," Saturday, "Wall Street" and "Music Box Revue." Warner's Strand—"Paris," Irene Bordoni appears in a talkie version of her own stage hit and sings at least one naughty number. Tonight midnight, "Evidence." Rivoli—"The Argyle Case." Empire—"The Girl in the Show." Strand—"The College Coquette."