

What Irvin S. Cobb Thinks about

Cures for Communism. SANTA MONICA, CALIF.—A certain rich man out here—rich but indulgent—got a letter from his heir, a sophomore at one of the big eastern colleges. The lad announced he had been converted to communism and was contributing to the cause. So what about it? The old man wrote back: "Son, you have a perfect right to follow the dictates of your conscience. But as a consistent communist you naturally would not continue to live on the ill-gotten gains of a wicked money-grabber. Today I am cutting off your somewhat generous allowance. You will also vacate the luxurious apartment you now occupy because I'm not paying the rent of same any longer. So go ahead, my boy, and commune freely—with my blessings! But from date that'll be about all from this end of the line."



Irvin S. Cobb

Exactly four hours after the arrival by air mail of this ultimatum, the hard-hearted parent got back a rush telegram stating that the young man had been thinking things over and had decided not to take up the new doctrine.

The Art of Listening. WE HAD a party at which there appeared what I may call the dumb poets—Sam Hoffenstein and Ogden Nash. At the studios where they're both turning out epics, there's a rule that neither shall burst forth into poetry while he's under contract—no thumbing of the harp, no sounding of the lute. Cinema's gain is creation's loss. Maybe that explains why they made such good listeners the other night. And isn't a good listener a boon! I don't mind being interrupted, provided the interrupter chooses the right subject. Mute and rapt, I can harken for hours on hours if someone is talking about me, say, or even reading from my published works. But these two mincingers only broke in to ask that the pickled shrimp be passed or gently to suggest that another little drink or two wouldn't do any harm.

Ogden Nash has attained the highest peak of distinction attainable for a writer. His chief imitator has an imitator who is bringing up his old-boy to be an imitator.

Resurrecting Old Words. WHEN a word gets fashionable—especially a new word which some wordsmith thought up right out of his head—it gets too doggone fashionable. The same applies to old words which have been disinterred from their forgotten tombs in the dictionary.

I seem to see grave robbers prowling through the unabridged, starting in at "aard-vark," which is an animal formerly common only to Africa but not frequently found in cross-word puzzles; and working on through to "zythum," a very strong brew drunk by ancient tribes. I guess those old-timers imbibed copiously of the brew and then named it. It doesn't sound like the sort of word a dead-sober party deliberately would make up.

Do you remember the run "in-trigued" had? I never got so sick of a word in my life. And then along came "provocative," and it turned out to be a pest. People went around just looking for a chance to work "provocative" into the conversation. The only way to lick 'em was to pretend to be deaf and dumb. And now the reigning favorite is "allergic." Folks spout it everywhere, whether they know what it means or not. I don't mind saying I'm getting awfully allergic to "allergic." There must be many others like me.

Campaign Books. LET us not cavil too much because high pressure salesmen, working on commission, have been unloading upon the faithful, at fancy prices, the gift book put out by Washington headquarters to pay off campaign debts. In fact, 15 cents' worth would cover practically all the cavil I personally have used up in this connection.

The result tends to prove the gratifying fact that, while more Democrats may not necessarily have learned how to read and write, obviously more of us have got money than formerly was the case when the Republicans were in power.

Besides, think of what the strain would have been upon the poor postman if the national committee had been stuck with all this bulk literature and congressmen had started franking copies out to their constituents. To give you a further idea about this franking privilege, I may state that it was named for Frank, Jesse's brother—and you'll remember how careless those James boys were with the United States mails!

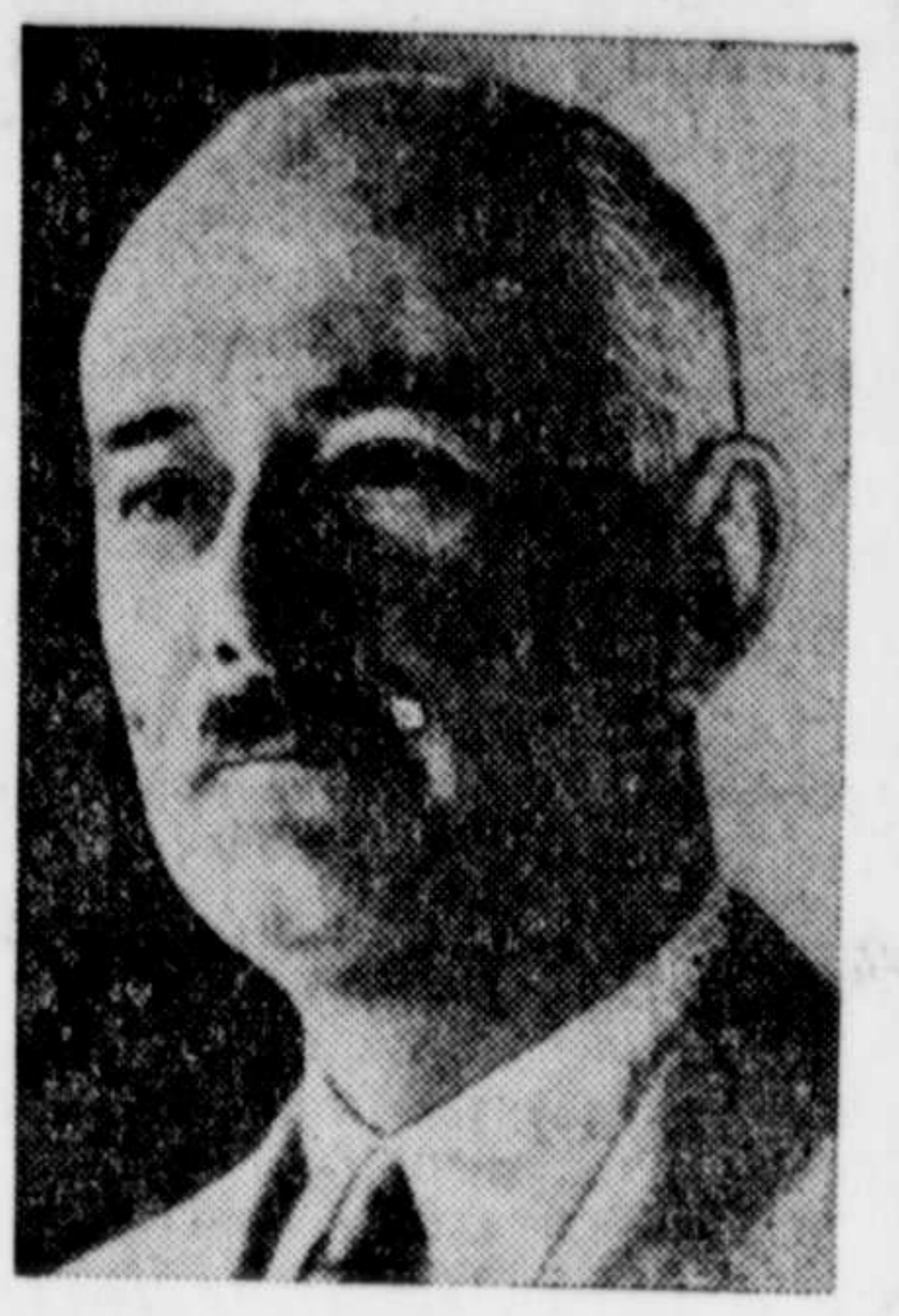
IRVIN S. COBB. ©-WNU Service.

News Review of Current Events

BOMB AMERICAN LINER Chinese Wound 7 on Dollar Ship . . . Britain Protests Shooting of Envoy to China . . . Unions Gird for Ford

Edward W. Pickard SUMMARIZES THE WORLD'S WEEK © Western Newspaper Union.

International Crises ONE grave international crisis followed another in the new Sino-Japanese war. Britain was still awaiting reply to her protest over the wounding of His Majesty's ambassador to China by a Japanese airman when four airplanes, identified as Chinese, swooped down upon the American liner, President Hoover, flagship of the Dollar line, dropping bombs which wounded seven persons aboard.



Wounded by Japanese airmen, Sir Hugh Montgomery Knatchbull-Hugessen is center of strained international relations.

The President Hoover, having deposited a load of refugees in Manila, was nearing Shanghai to pick up another load when the bombs struck, tearing 25 holes in the ship above the water line. The ship immediately notified Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, commander of the American fleet, who took command of all American shipping in the emergency. He ordered the President Hoover to continue to Japan, and radioed other vessels that they must not enter "hostile" waters off the Wosung and Yangtze lightships. It was only a few days before the President Lincoln, another Dollar liner, had had to run a gauntlet of artillery fire to get 160 American refugees on their way to Manila.

More spectacular, but only because of the importance of the person it involved, was the shooting of Sir Hugh Montgomery Knatchbull-Hugessen, British ambassador to China.

With several of his attaches, Sir Hugh sped along a Chinese road near Shanghai to attend a conference with British foreign service officials. His conveyance and one which accompanied it flew the union jack. But a Japanese airplane swooped down and began to pour machine-gun fire into the car. One of the bullets pierced the body of the ambassador, grazing his spine. He was rushed 50 miles to Country hospital where an operation was performed and blood transfusions were given.

Sir Hugh was the highest ranking British official in China, where Great Britain has enormous interests at stake. He was attacked by a Japanese airplane which did not even have the right of a belligerent—since no war had been declared—while his car was flying the British colors. The last comparable incident in China was at the time of the Boxer rebellion in 1900, when the German ambassador Von Kettler was shot and killed in Peiping.

Britain's note to Tokyo was couched in stringent terms. It said, in part:

"The plea, should it be advanced, that the flags carried on the cars were too small to be visible is irrelevant. There would have been no justification for the attack even had the cars carried no flags at all.

"The foreign and even the diplomatic status of the occupants is also irrelevant. The real issue is that they were noncombatants . . .

"Such events are inseparable from the practice of drawing that clear distinction between combatants and noncombatants in the conduct of hostilities which international law no less than the conscience of mankind has always enjoined.

"His majesty's government must therefore request:

"FIRST—A formal apology to be conveyed by the Japanese government to his majesty's government;

"SECOND—Suitable punishment for those responsible for the attack;

"THIRD—An assurance by the Japanese authorities that necessary measures will be taken to prevent recurrence of events of such a character."

Tokyo's reply was temporarily withheld, pending a complete investigation.

Trouble Ahead for Ford

JOHN L. LEWIS' magic touch effected a compromise between warring factions of the United Automobile Workers of America sufficient to permit the election of officers, but that failed to cover up the fierce dissension in the C. I. O. affiliate's Milwaukee convention.

Several times only a fortunately-timed adjournment saved a day's meeting from breaking up in a riot. The clashes were between the "progressive" faction of the union, headed by President Homer Martin, and the "unity" members, who opposed Martin's program. In the end, the Lewis compromise forced Martin to retain several unity group officers he had apparently been anxious to depose. New officers added were, however, chiefly adherents of Martin, and it was believed his faction still held control of the executive board.

Of chief importance in the convention was the decision to go ahead with the campaign to organize the employees of the Ford Motor company. A special tax of \$1 per member, which would bring in a net of something like \$400,000, was voted for the purpose. Lewis predicted, "Some day Henry Ford is going to be so very tired he will be willing

to accord to his employees the rights that are due them."

Both Lewis and Martin roundly flayed William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in speeches. Lewis upbraided him for allegedly aiding the General Motors corporation while C. I. O. strike was in progress last winter. Martin ridiculed Green's abhorrence of the sit-down strike. "I don't see why a man who has been on a sit-down strike as long as Bill Green should find fault with the automobile workers," he said.

The convention approved a raise in officials' salaries which steps up the total payroll of officers from \$15,000 to \$80,000. Martin's salary was increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000.

Death Strikes Noncombatants

THE undeclared war in China continued to mean death or injury to hundreds of noncombatants as the Japanese continued to bomb densely populated native city areas. Three hundred civilians were killed and several hundred wounded as bombs fell on Shanghai's Chapei district. Two hundred houses were set in flames.

A Chinese communique said that 20 Japanese bombers raided Nanking, the central government capital, bringing death to 100, including many women and children, and wounding 400 more. Bombs fell on the National Central university and the Tzesheng hospital.

Nearly 400 miles inland from Shanghai, at Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi province, it was reported Japanese bombers had killed or wounded 300 Chinese noncombatants.

In an effort to hit the South station at Nantao, ancient walled-in Shanghai settlement neighboring the French concession, Japanese bombers killed 200 and wounded 400 civilians.

Puppet King for Ethiopia?

WHEN Mussolini captured Ethiopia (or did he?) it was frequently said that he would never be able to control it, much less develop it, for the Ethiopian tribes are wild and terrible. Apparently he is now coming to the same conclusion and is about to turn for help to—of all people!—the former emperor, Haile Selassie.

It is known that the Italian government has made certain overtures to Great Britain to determine how she feels about the "Conquering Lion of Judah" ascending his throne once more, but strictly as a puppet for whom Il Duce would pull the strings. Britain is said to be willing because of the ever-present Italian threat along her Mediterranean lifeline.

France, too, has been approached on the matter. Frenchmen own the important railroad from Addis Ababa to Djibuti, but one of the principal stockholders in the French corporation is Haile Selassie, and the Italians refuse to recognize his holdings. It is believed that if the French agree to the puppet monarchy the validity of the emperor's shares will not be questioned. Then France will be able to buy them.

The fly in the ointment is that Haile Selassie will have none of this. He will rest his fate entirely with the League of Nations, of which Ethiopia is still a member. Meanwhile the continual raids by native tribesmen, still faithful to their emperor, leave no Italian life safe in the African country, and are making Il Duce's "colonization" a joke.

Louis Retains Championship

TOMMY FARR, the Welsh fighter whom all the "smart guys" thought was a set-up for Joe Louis, world's heavyweight champion, gave the "Brown Bomber" the surprise of his life in New York, when he stayed 15 rounds. Louis got the eminently fair decision, but Tommy was still fighting like a tiger when the final bell rang.

Japanese Turn Tide

SUCCESSFUL in landing thousands of reinforcements from their transport ships, the Japanese appeared ready to turn the tide of ground battle in the undeclared war in China, while their navy threw a blockade around 800 miles of the Chinese seacoast from Shanghai nearly to Canton, in South China.

Only at terrific cost were the reinforcements getting ashore. Many entire landing parties were blown to bits as they attempted to take shore positions under a blaze of machine gun fire and in the face of artillery shells and land mine explosions.

More than a quarter of a million men were reported engaged in the fighting along a front stretching from Shanghai northwestward to Tientsin, Peiping, Nankow and Changpei, deep in Chahar province and north to the Great Wall.

At the northern end of the front the pro-Japanese Mongol troops of Prince Teh battled combined Chinese regular and communist armies. Japanese reported the capture of Kalgan, capital of Chahar, shutting off Chinese communication with Mongolia, while the routed Chinese forces broke through the stubborn Chinese defenses at Nankow pass and penetrated the Great Wall. They were reported to have succeeded in escaping narrowly a strategic Chinese maneuver which would have trapped 30,000 Japanese troops south of Peiping. Chinese positions south of Peiping were dominated by the well-equipped, well-trained, and mechanized Japanese army, which captured the commanding high land.

Andrew W. Mellon Is Dead

ANDREW W. MELLON, reputedly one of the four richest men in the United States and secretary of the treasury in three cabinets, died of uremia and bronchial pneumonia at the home of his son-in-law at Southampton, N. Y. He was eighty-two years old.

Shortly before his death he had fulfilled the ambition of his life by giving to the nation what he termed the "nucleus" of one of the finest art collections in the world. The collection he gave was valued at \$50,000,000. Excavation is now under way for a \$15,000,000 building to house the collection in Washington.

All but \$180,000 of the great Mellon fortune was willed to the A. W. Mellon educational and charitable trust. The statement of the attorney who announced the terms of the trust provides that its funds shall be applied exclusively to religious, charitable and educational uses and purposes. It already has distributed millions of dollars during its existence. The \$180,000 went to secretaries and employees. Mellon's two children received no bequests. The will explained they had already been adequately provided for.

Planes Land Without Eyes

AT OAKLAND, CALIF., civilian and army fliers proved that air transport planes can now be landed under conditions which prevent the pilot from gaining the slightest glimpse of the ground. Using only a radio beam for "eyes," pilots made 100 perfect "blind" landings at the airport there with a Boeing 247-D plane, of the type now used on several of the nation's commercial air lines.

The cockpit windows were covered with metal screens to prevent their sneaking so much as a peek at the field. Many pilots flew the ship and, although some of them had never operated that type of plane before, not a single landing was made outside the 300-foot runway.

So successful were the tests, the bureau of air commerce, army, navy and commercial airlines representatives present agreed that the system would be adopted for the country as a whole. The system, which makes it possible to bring a ship safely to earth, even through snow, rain, fog or dust, was called by authorities the most dramatic thing of its kind since the first flight of the Wright brothers.

Santander Falls to Franco

SPAIN'S thirteen-month-old civil war drew one step nearer to a close as Gen. Francisco Franco's army captured the city of Santander, last important government outpost on the northern coast. As the insurgent troops filed in to occupy the city, it was apparent that the remaining government army of 50,000 men was trapped in the hills south-east of the city in an area 15 miles square.

During the last of the twelve days of Franco's furious thrusts, the city's streets had run red with the blood of anarchists' victims, as thirst, hunger and terrorism crazed the populace. By the thousands civilians were fleeing by sea—the only way—to France. Every available craft was put into service; hundreds even attempted a getaway in rowboats, canoes, dories and other small craft, some of them using improvised sails made from sheets.

Railroad Strike Threatens

ONLY successful mediation by the United States government appeared as a chance to prevent a nationwide strike of 350,000 railroad workers as railroad representatives flatly refused the 20 per cent pay increase demanded by the "big five" railroad brotherhoods in Chicago conference. The unions said their only recourse was to call out conductors, engineers, firemen, switchmen and trainmen.

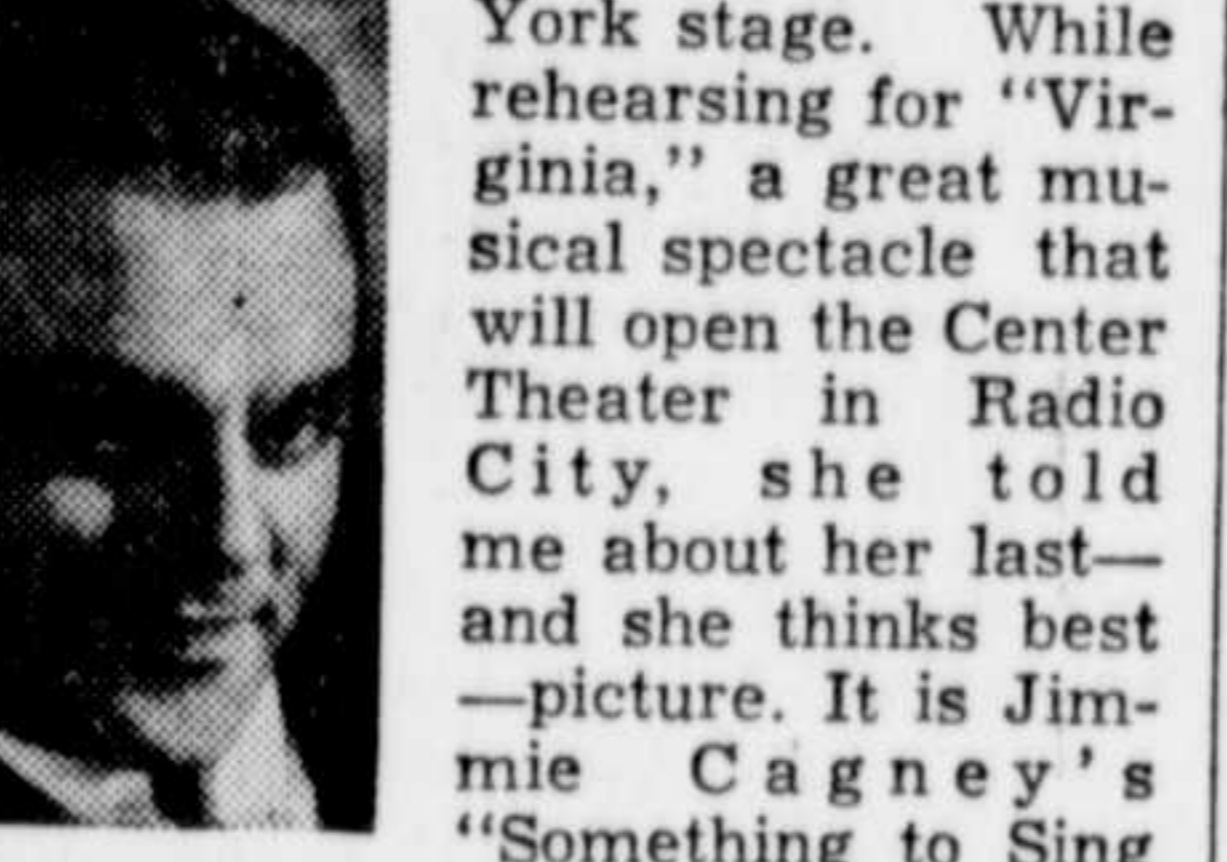
STAR DUST Movie Radio

By VIRGINIA VALE

ONCE more Rudy Vallee has shown that he is the greatest talent scout in the radio business. Tommy Riggs, the two-voiced personality who has been appearing on his program the last few weeks has made an outstanding success and will soon have a program of his own.

The brash little girl that Mr. Riggs plays with such devastating humor promises to be as popular one of these days as is Charlie McCarthy. Incidentally, the people whom Vallee started on the road to radio success ought to get together and put on a gala program as a tribute to him. It would include such headliners as Walter O'Keefe, Bob Burns, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, and Tommy Riggs. And what a program that would be!

Mona Barrie is the latest screen belle to seek a change from Hollywood on the New York stage. While rehearsing for "Virginia," a great musical spectacle that will open the Center Theater in Radio City, she told me about her last—and she thinks best—picture. It is Jimmie Cagney's "Something to Sing About," in which



James Cagney plays her first real comedy role. She plays a foreign actress with a heavy accent and has a glorious time swooping through scenes in the grand manner. She says that Jimmy is just tops to work with, which makes the verdict practically unanimous.

The greatest picture of the year, perhaps of many years, has received a chorus of critical acclaim such as has never been heard before. It is "The Life of Emile Zola" with Paul Muni. As crusader for the oppressed, as the most eloquent and forceful man of his time, Paul Muni gives an inspired performance. Don't let the praise of this picture drive you away from it with a faint suspicion that it may be educational, but dull. It offers the most exciting and thrilling evening you could spend in a theater.

With radio's summer lull over soon dozens of big programs will be angling for your attention. Irene Wicker, the greatly-beloved singing lady, moves to the Mutual network early in October offering a series of original sketches with music. Jack Benny returns to the air at the same time.

Margaret Tallichet, who abandoned a newspaper job in Texas to break into the movies, has found that even after a career is well started, it still has as many downs as ups. You may recall that she appealed to Carole Lombard for help and through her got a small contract with Selznick-International. Well, Miss Tallichet played small roles in "A Star Is Born" and then the studio decided to gamble on her to the extent of sending her east to dramatic school for further training. She appeared at the Mt. Kisco theater opposite no less a personage than Henry Fonda and proved conclusively that she needs a lot more training before she can play big roles.

Up in Dennis, Massachusetts, Gertrude Michael appeared on the stage in a play of early Colonial days and made a big hit.

A regular parade of automobiles made the long trip from New York to see her, and when she came out on the stage the rafters rung with applause from her Broadway friends. They were saluting her courage in winning a two-year battle with serious illness as well as her fine skill as an actress.

ODDS AND ENDS—After trying to borrow Kenny Baker, or John Payne, or Jimmy Stewart, or Cary Grant, or Dick Arlen, the producer of Lily Pons' next picture has finally given up the search for a new leading man and given the role to Gene Raymond who played in her last picture. . . . Jack Benny's friends are saving all the reviews of "Artists and Models" which rave about his performance to show him when he returns from Europe. . . . All through the making of the picture he quarreled with the director and objected to his lines and felt utterly dismal over what he expected would be the flop of the year. . . . Joan Crawford likes to run her pictures at home for her young niece to see. The child hovers every time she sees Auntie Joan on the screen.

John Barrymore is working up a hilarious imitation of Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy to amuse his friends between scenes at the studio. © Western Newspaper Union.

Ask Me Another A General Quiz

- 1. What is the cost of the paper used in printing United States currency?
2. In baseball what do the following letters stand for: AB, R, H, O, A, E, and BB?
3. How much is a skein of woolen yarn?
4. What is the significance of edelweiss?
5. How is the air in Carlsbad caverns kept fresh?
6. What was the boudoir parliament?
7. What state collects the most money in sales taxes?
8. How much of the retail business of the United States is done on a cash basis?

Answers

- 1. The distinctive paper used in making United States currency costs the government 37 cents a pound. It is estimated 1,743,236 pounds will be used in 1937.
2. At bat, runs, hits, outs, strikes, errors and base on balls.
3. It is equivalent to 256 yards.
4. The flower is an emblem of purity in literature and painting.
5. No artificial means is necessary. Some undiscovered natural process keeps the air fresh and pure. The temperature remains about 56 degrees Fahrenheit at all times.
6. This is a reference to the great influence which Mme. de Maintenon had on Louis XIV and his advisers.
7. In 1936 California ranked first in sales tax collections, with a total of over \$70,000,000. Illinois was second with receipts of over \$61,000,000, and Michigan third with over \$45,000,000.
8. The domestic commerce division of the Department of Commerce says that 67.8 per cent of all retail sales are for cash on the counter or cash on delivery.

Electrocution Whales

The newest method of killing whales is with an electric harpoon. The current goes by wire to the head of the harpoon, spreads through the body of the animal and returns through the water to the negative pole on the side of the ship, thereby completing the circuit and causing instant electrocution.—Collier's Weekly.

YOU CAN THROW CARDS IN HIS FACE ONCE TOO OFTEN

WHEN you have those awful cramps when your nerves are all on edge—don't take it out on the man you love. Your husband can't possibly know how you feel for the simple reason that he is a man. A three-quarter wife may be no wife at all if she nags her husband seven days out of every month. For three generations one woman has told another how to go "smiling through" with Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It helps Nature tone up the system, lessening the discomforts from the functional disorders which women must endure in the three ordeals of life: 1. Turning from girlhood to womanhood. 2. Preparing for motherhood. 3. Approaching "middle age." Don't be a three-quarter wife, take LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND and Go "Smiling Through."

GET RID OF BIG UGLY PORES

PLENTY OF DATES NOW... DENTON'S FACIAL MAGNESIA MADE HER SKIN FRESH, YOUNG, BEAUTIFUL. Romance hasn't a chance when big ugly pores spoil skin-texture. Men love the soft smoothness of a fresh young complexion. Denton's Facial Magnesia does miracles for unsightly skin. Ugly pores disappear, skin becomes firm and smooth.

Watch your complexion take on new beauty. Even the first few treatments with Denton's Facial Magnesia make a remarkable difference. With the Denton Magic Mirror you can actually see the feature of your skin become smoother day by day. Impurities are washed clean. Wrinkles gradually disappear. Before you know it Denton's has brought you entirely new skin loveliness.

EXTRAORDINARY OFFER - Saves You Money. You can try Denton's Facial Magnesia on the most liberal offer we have ever made—good for a few weeks only. We will send you a full 12 oz. bottle (retail price \$1) plus a regular sized box of famous Milnesia Wafers (known throughout the country as the original's Milk of Magnesia tablets), plus the Denton Magic Mirror (shows you what your skin specialist sees), all for only \$1! Don't miss out on this remarkable offer. Write today.

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