



WITH THE OPENING of any stage show, there are always problems, and Wednesday nights opening of "Flower Drum Song" had its share. Leading lady Barbara Martin, as Linda Low, developed a last-minute case of laryngitis. But as they say, the "show must go on," so Helen Dyhre, the choreographer, took over the part and carried it like a trooper. She is shown here in a scene singing "Grant Avenue." Miss Martin hopes to have her voice back in time for tonight's performance. (News-Review Photo)

Merely Players Score New Hit With Famed Broadway Musical

By MARION BYRON
News-Review Staff Writer

The sound of last-minute hammering back stage ended, and the curtain rolled back Wednesday night on the Merely Players opening night presentation of their most ambitious production to date, "Flower Drum Song."

Ambitious is the word as the staging of a full-scale version of the popular Broadway musical was a challenge for the talented and competent persons participating. The Merely Players were equal to it.

Telling the story of two scrambling love affairs and one unre-

quited love, laid against the background of a conflict between "old" and "new" Chinese traditions, involved, staggering amounts of scene changes which taxed to the full the facilities of the Umpqua West Theater. However, the one-time barn and former square dance club headquarters is now definitely "theater." The difficulties encountered were more than compensated for by the end results.

Presence Good

Throughout, the stage presence of all participating left little to be desired. Characterizations were equally good. Like a rock on which the rest of the portrayals were

Dorothy Larson Has Carved A Career In Glass Artistry

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

WASHINGTON, N. J. (UPI)—Dorothy A. Larson has carved her way to a rare career in glass artistry. She also concedes that she's carved up quite a bit of Larson fingers along the way.

Miss Larson, a former potter, now fuses cathedral glass—the stained glass of the type used in churches—and clear glass layer on layer with other materials to create decorative murals, room dividers, book ends, table tops, cigarette boxes, ash trays, wall plaques, and other items.

She designs right from the glass, without benefit of sketching in advance, and uses the conventional tools sold at hardware stores to do the cutting.

"I'm a walking aid for adhesive bandages," she said, in an interview, explaining that cutting had its hazards.

Fusing is done in four electrically heated kilns at temperatures well over 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit.

Some of Miss Larson's glass went into the lighting decor for the cafe of the Lincoln Center Philharmonic Hall, New York.

Other glass is in museums, or decorating offices, hotels, motels, restaurants, show rooms, and homes where the owners have discovered her work in retail shops or through decorators.

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Employment To Hit New All-Time Peak

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Labor Department was expected to report today that the number of jobs held by Americans stayed above 70 million in July and climbed to a new all-time peak.

A decline in unemployment—which stood just below 5 million in June—also is anticipated when the department issues its monthly job figures.

Employment usually rises in mid-summer when construction activities are providing work that is not available in colder months. And joblessness, swollen in June when high school and college students seek summer jobs, normally drops off in July when many youngsters stop looking for work and leave the labor force.

Despite the favorable development last month, government economists stressed that little dent has been made in long-term unemployment. A hard-core group—predominantly non-white and unskilled—has been unable to find jobs for months.

Unemployment has been above 5 per cent of the labor force for more than five years—ever since November, 1957. This means that during this period at least 5 out of every 100 persons actively seeking a job could not find one. The June rate was 5.7 per cent.

The Labor Department's figures are estimated from a sample of 35,750 households in all sections of the country.

In June the experts said employment passed the 70 million mark for the first time to reach 70,319,000. Unemployment was estimated at 4,846,000.

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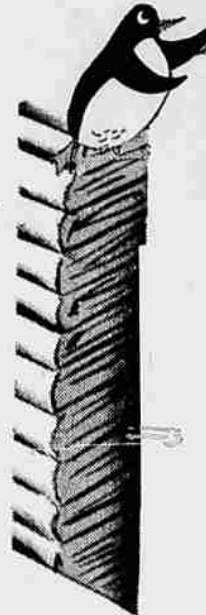
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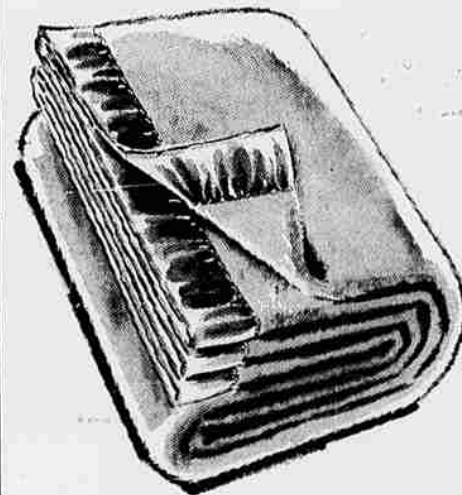
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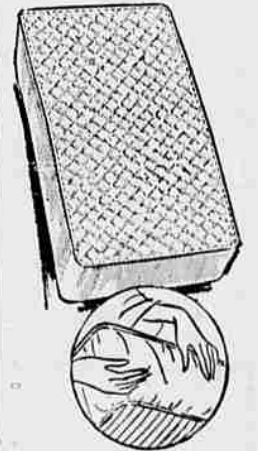
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PLANES FORCED DOWN

SCHWEINFURTH, Germany (UPI)—Six Czechoslovakian sports planes made storm-forced landings on a U.S. Army air field Wednesday. The pilots were allowed to fly out after questioning.