

Our Theatre



Last Saturday's NBC radio show from Ashland's Elizabethan stage was considered a success by all who saw it.

With appropriate "mood" music, KMED announcer Bud Hensen opened the show and introduced station manager Jennings Pierce who interviewed Angus Bowmer, Barbara Huggins, Dr. Margery Bailey, John Brebner, and Richard Graham. Bill Oyster then introduced the first scene from "King Lear" and displayed a style appropriate to the occasion. He handled his script with the ease of an experienced announcer (which he is) and proved invaluable to the scene.

It was interesting to hear a playback of the actors' voices over a sound system. Outstanding were Brebner, Clara Daniels and Barbara Huggins. The latter's voice quality was almost too sharp for good sound reproduction but her diction made up for this natural fault. Both Miss Daniels and Brebner were excellent in smooth fully-pronounced syllabic diction.

It was interesting that Graham's full voice hardly altered over the radio in its quality and remained still best over the medium of Graham-to-audience without the help of sound devices, or the like.

The only really nervous person was Angus Bowmer whose knees and hands were noticeably trembling. And, they might well have the right to do so. For, it was through his efforts that this whole thing came about and as founder of the festival, and chief dreamer for its future, such an important item was bound to be more important to him.

The effect of such radio broadcasts is far reaching. Even the short 3-minute spot on CBS brought one party into the News Review office last Tuesday after seeing "Twelfth Night" on Monday, and they reported that they had buzzed up from Oakland, Cal., where they had heard of the festival via the radio.

Those of you that have been watching Thornton Shively's portrayal of Kent in "Lear" might like to read one of his mystery books, "The Monster of Lazy Hook," published by Duell, Sloan and Pearce of New York. Shively publishes under the nom de plume of Thorne Lee and does quite a good business at it.

YOUR COUNTY AGENT:

Comments on Pears, Peaches

BY C. B. CORDY
County Agent, Horticulturist

Pear picking is getting off to a rather slow start, but it will be picking up rather rapidly from now on.

There are a lot of Bartletts to be picked and unless we start running at capacity very soon, before we get them picked a lot of them will be over ripe. Of course, the main reason for delaying picking is to gain increased size.

We have about two weeks left in which to pick these Bartletts before they become over ripe, and if we are going to accomplish this we are going to have to get started at full speed.

Fruit Size Discussed
This might be a good time to worry a little about the size of the fruit and to discuss what measures could be taken in another year to improve the situation. This condition of poor size has been getting worse in the last five years for several reasons. The principal reason is that our trees are getting a lot larger than they were and are pretty well filled up with brush.

Fifteen years ago the growers pruned their trees rather heavily and blight was also a considerable factor, and in the removal of the blight a further pruning job was done. By reducing the severity of pruning we also reduced the severity of the blight attack, so that we really reduced the amount of brush removed at two different times.

Less Pruning Helps
Along with this decrease in pruning we found that the Bartlett crop materially increased. An average crop in those days was around 15 thousand tons, whereas this year we will produce 30 thousand tons or more on less acreage. We can not afford to prune our trees to the extent that we reduce the crop materially, but there are cases now where the trees have been allowed to become too thick, and the tree is unable to produce and size the amount of fruit that it carries.

In these cases some additional pruning should be done. Generally speaking these smaller fruits are produced inside and underneath the tree, so a thinning out of the wood in those areas would be most desirable. A little more pruning will not only reduce the amount of fruit that will set on a tree, but for some reason or other a pruned tree will produce larger fruit than an unpruned tree even though they both have the same number of fruits. We don't know just why this is, but we can take advantage of it and where size is small, increase our pruning somewhat.

Judicious Thinning
After we have taken care of the pruning, then if we still have too many fruits we should remedy it by judicious thinning. The thinning should be done as early in the season as possible and should be concentrated on the removal of culls and the small sized fruits.

Blossom thinning would be the ideal method, but as yet there is no material available which is practical for this. The later in the season the fruit is thinned the less benefit will be derived, and at the time most fruit is thinned we can figure that we will regain in increased size only about half of the tonnage that is removed.

At any rate, don't lose whatever you have got which is what these thousands of people are paying a buck-80 to see each night. Which is pure unaffected, "legitimate" acting—the only real test of anybody's ability in a class of its own high above any movie.

Thus spake a poor man's Gabran on talent scouts? Hearts were fluttering around the theatre last Monday as Gilbert Morris, talent scout for MGM studios in Hollywood, attended "Twelfth Night." And, they will keep fluttering for he will be back this week-end for another gander.

Everyone wants a big break. And, everyone will give everything he's got to get it—even, if it means upstaging to get recognition. This has long been a bad thing for amateur groups whose legs melt and minds soar when they hear that such a "star-finder" has slipped into the back of the theatre.

But, all we can offer is BEWARE. Although "Hope springs eternal from the human (actor's) breast," your chances of anything more than a heartbreak are one in a million.

We remember the fine performance of the 1939 troupe at the World's fair in San Francisco bay and the "tests" that Bob Stedman, Medford drama teacher, et al., got in Hollywood, and, also, the run-around, that Bob can describe so vividly with a cynical smile on his face.

The moral is, don't let your hopes run away with you, and don't upstage anybody to attract attention. If you've got it, everybody will know it. And, even if you've got it, you may lose it when the movie moguls transfer it to the screen.

At any rate, don't lose whatever you have got which is what these thousands of people are paying a buck-80 to see each night. Which is pure unaffected, "legitimate" acting—the only real test of anybody's ability in a class of its own high above any movie.

Thus spake a poor man's Gabran.

OLD TIMERS

Hazards of Narrow Siskiyou Trail

By R. M. DeMILLE

(Continued)

On the left side of the trail there was hardly room for a badger to hang on.

A nearly perpendicular drop of hundreds of feet to the bottom of a gorge brought "deep" thoughts from the travelers.

Anyway, Old Foghorn could hardly speak when he saw this grizzly, the size of a small elephant, coming down the trail. He tried to make the others understand, but his voice had just about left him speechless.

When he saw the bruin, enhanced by the corn juice he was carrying inside, he hardly knew whether he was seeing snakes, the devil or mountain bears. The bear must have been blind, or couldn't hear or couldn't smell any human scent.

Warns Others
Foghorn didn't know what to do with himself. He kinda' had an idea the bear would carry off all the lead that was in the party. But anyway, old John Huffer (Foghorn) was trying to tear out all the vocal cords he had to make his trail partners get out of the way. He waved his hands; he waved his hat; he threw rocks down the trail to warn them to climb the side of the mountain, and hang on to anything they could find, or else jump down off the trail which would, of course, mean suicide. But he didn't care which way as long as they got out of the way of that pack of dynamite.

Bear Indifferent
When bruin made his appearance, coming around the bend in the trail, Huffer and the rest scattered like bird shot. They all did everything but howl and climb a tree, which left the trail all clear for the bear. He never left the trail but kept going straight ahead down the path, paying no attention to the army of old muskets and miners hanging on the side of mother earth's mountain, as he lumbered on his way down the trail.

After the excitement was over, nearly everybody downed some more corn juice to bring back part of the circulation, which had left so quickly at the sign of the great hunk of bear grease padding down the trail, with a casually indifferent attitude.

I realize now that if all the bears had the humor and indifference that this one had, there would be more bears in the woods today than hunters. If this is a true case, as it was told to me, I believe a person in the woods without a gun would be much safer than he would be with one.

Many miles were trod over those crooked trails between Dunsuir, Redding, and Yreka, and from Yreka over the Siskiyou to Jacksonville, which was

about the end of the trail for pack animals.

Route Followed
Delta was about a mile and a half up the river from Dog Creek where it empties into the Sacramento river. The trail hugged the mountain side all the way from Delta to the head of the Sacramento river. From there, the trail declined down the mountain to Shasta river, and from there followed through open country, starting near Edgewood and continuing on the west side of the valley into Yreka.

Tom Southworth, Criss Arrow, Tom Middlemess, John Sackell, Bob Nelson, and Long Alex were the only names that could be gathered from the party. They all got work in the mines at Gottsville. After a period of time, some of the boys quit the mines and went independent, taking up claims of their own.

Typical Garb Given
Long Alex went on his own and staked some claims down on Hungry creek and Beaver creek. When Alex made his appearance on the Fourth of July at Gottsville, he dressed in typical character: black broadcloth coat (swallow tail), white vest, blue overalls, stovepipe hat wrapped in the emblem of the stars and stripes, and hip gum boots. With a little nip, now and then, he made the appearance of a real soursucker in the little town of Gottsville.

Siskiyou 'Goat' Trail
The old trail with the hairpin turns from Yreka to Jacksonville was somewhat of a goat trail in many places. After coming down the Shasta river and crossing the Klamath river, it then went up Ash creek across the divide, down Hungry creek to Beaver creek and Grouse creek, then up Sterling mountain to the Siskiyou summit to the west of Dutchman's peak and down Silver fork to Elliott creek. Then it crossed over a divide into the Rogue river valley, on Jackson creek, where Jacksonville is now located.

(To Be Continued)

Church Notices

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

N. Main at Laurel
Ross Knotts, minister.
Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.
Morning worship, 11 a.m. Anthem and solo. Junior church and nursery.
Youth Fellowship groups, 6:30 p.m.
Wesley Foundation, 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Iowa and Mountain avenue
Paul W. F. Harms, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45.
Adult Discussion Group 10:00.
Morning Worship Service 11.
Evening Service 7:30.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

130 N. Main (at Helman)
"A Friendly Church
for Thoughtful People"
Church School for all ages at 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship at 11 a.m. Anthem by the choir. Sermon by the pastor.
Session Meeting at 3 p.m.
Young People's Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

(Christian) Second and B streets
Earl F. Downing, Minister
Bible school, 9:45 a.m.
Morning Service, 11 a.m., Junior Church, 11 a.m., for the children.
Christian Endeavor, 7 p.m.
Evening service, 8 p.m.
Midweek Service, Wednesday, 8 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Sunday: 9:45 a.m. Sunday school, a class for every age. Morning worship, 11 a.m., special music, service broadcast over KWIN.

Youth fellowship services, 6:30 p.m., evening service, singing, testimonies and gospel message, 7:45 p.m.
Monday, prayer meeting at 8 p.m.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., mid-week service and Bible study; 8:30 p.m., choir rehearsal.
Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Sky Pilots in their club house on Walker avenue.

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Pacific Telephone



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- ENVELOPES
- POST CARDS
- GUMMED STICKERS
- PICTURES

STATIONERY — Monarch-size in white and green with Elizabethan stage or festival shield background in grey.

NOTE PAPER — Single fold 6x9½ notes featuring reproduction of stage. Envelopes to match.

ENVELOPES — No. 10 and 6¾ sizes.

POST CARDS — Plain white and penny post cards.

STICKERS — Stage or shield on white, green and orange stickers.

PICTURES — Suitable for framing. Line reproduction of Shakespearean theatre stage, 9x12. Protective Manila envelopes available for mailing or packing.

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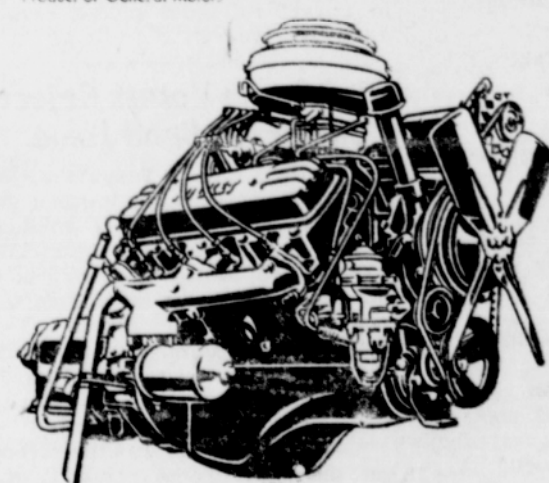
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