

"Take It Or Leave It," Radio Show, Thursday, Friday and Saturday

LATE GEO. HUNT WAS PIONEER IN THEATRE HERE



George A. Hunt

Back in 1918, a slim young man by the name of George Arthur Hunt first became identified in the operation of a motion picture theatre in Medford when, together with R. J. Antle, he purchased the old Paige and Rialto theatres.

Those were the closing days of World War I and George Hunt was at Camp Lewis, Washington until shortly after the armistice was signed. He then became actively engaged in the operation of the theatres with Mr. Antle and the two men presented valley showgoers with not only the early "epics" of the screen but also brought to Medford many of the outstanding stars of the legitimate entertainment world. Among these, and always a favorite of Mr. Hunt, was May Robson, who appeared here several times in different productions. A few years ago, while on a trip to Southern California and the Hollywood studios, Mr. Hunt and Miss Robson enjoyed a reunion and compared notes of old times.

Paige Destroyed
At 6:00 A. M., December 30, 1923, disaster overtook the partners when the Paige theatre was destroyed by fire. One fireman, Amos Willis, was killed and Fire Chief Roy Elliott was badly injured, necessitating his hospitalization for almost three

months. In the spring of 1924, Porter J. Neff and J. H. Cooley organized the Medford Theatre Company and built the building which houses the Craterian theatre. The theatre was leased to the George Hunt Co., Mr. Antle's interest having been purchased by the late Julius Wolf.

Early in 1930, the George Hunt Co. was sold to Fox West Coast Theatres and the chain operated the Craterian and Rialto Theatres until May 1933, when Mr. Hunt returned to Medford and again assumed ownership under the name of Geo. A. Hunt Theatres, Inc.

Mr. Hunt's colorful career was brought to an abrupt close on August 31st of last year in an automobile accident and his death was a distinct shock to the community and to the motion picture industry.

BILL PROUTY ON CRATERIAN STAFF SINCE FIRST DAY



Bill Prouty

Of all the employees of the Craterian Theatre in 1924, when the theatre was first opened, the only one of the original staff still at the theatre is "Bill" Prouty, chief projectionist of the local theatres.

Bill's career in theatres goes back 33 years, to 1911 when as a youngster, he started working at the Woodlawn Theatre in Portland, using the old Edison hand operated machines. In 1914, Bill went to Klamath Falls to work for J. V. Huston at the Star and Temple theatres and, in 1919, for Harry Poole at the Liberty theatre.

It was in 1921 that Bill came to Medford, having been employed by George Hunt to work for him at the Paige theatre. It is doubtful if anyone knows the Craterian better than Bill Prouty—he watched its rise from the very beginning and the Craterian has always been watched over by Bill with jealous eyes.

Not only has he followed the transition of motion pictures from the crude, silent product in its early stages to the mod-

ern, stream-lined product of today but Bill has also keen remembrances of many "greats" of the legitimate stage who have appeared in Medford, at the Paige and at the Craterian. Among these are the famous musical shows—Schubert's 'Marcus', as well as Harry Lauder, Al Jolson, May Robson, Ethel Barrymore, Eddie Cantor, George Arliss and Kolb and Dill among others.

And, although Bill looks back on those early days and likes to reminisce about them, he is also looking forward with much expectancy to the developments that are sure to come soon after the war is over—television, 3rd Dimensional film, and their like

Service Station Gas Stamps Taken

Burglers broke into the General Mobilgas Service Station, 320 West Main Street, Friday night, and stole a box in which 1,500 to 2,000 gallons worth of gas stamps were kept. The station, operated by Richard Pruitt, was entered by breaking the window glass in the north side of the building.

Certificates of title and receipts and addresses of prospective car buyers were also taken. The cash register, which only contained small change, was not bothered.

COULD BE WORSE
Toledo, O. (U.P.)—Toledo thieves are accommodating, at least. After stealing a good tire from Nicholas Wisniewski's automobile, the thief replaced it with a badly worn one.

Congratulations

Yes, we are happy to join in warmest congratulations to the owners and staff of the Craterian Theatre upon this 20th Anniversary . . .

WESTERN OIL & BURNER CO.

FINE HEATING OILS

412 East Main St.

Phone 5266

BEST WISHES

To the management and the entire staff of Hunt's Craterian Theatre upon the completion of 20 successful years in this community. May success be yours in years ahead!

COMMERCIAL PRINTING CO.

30 North Grape

Phone 4545

Happy Birthday!

To our "neighbors", the management and personnel of the Craterian, we extend sincere congratulations and best wishes for another 20 years of service to this community!

Jaqueline Lenox

Ready-To-Wear And Millinery
17 South Central Avenue

The HOTEL HOLLAND

Extends Best Wishes To The Management And Personnel of The

CRATERIAN THEATRE

Upon The 20th Birthday of This Popular Medford Show House

CITY CLEANING & DYEING WORKS

324 West Sixth Street

Extends

CONGRATULATIONS

To the CRATERIAN

Medford is justly proud of this fine playhouse and recognizes the fine contributions that have been made by theatres here in the life of this community!



BEST WISHES

—for continued success and long years of public service — to the management and personnel of George A. Hunt Theatres' fine . . .

CRATERIAN THEATRE

Upon the

20th ANNIVERSARY OF THIS FINE SHOW HOUSE

MEDFORD ICE & STORAGE COMPANY

MEDFORD, OREGON



Upon The Occasion Of The

CRATERIAN'S 20th ANNIVERSARY

We Pay Tribute To

GEO. A. HUNT

Medford people will not soon forget the late founder of the George A. Hunt Theatres . . . this kindly, genial, public-spirited man who brought the finest of entertainment to this valley and helped in every worthy public movement. Yes, we pay tribute to George upon this occasion and wish those who carry on for him success and good luck!

BROWN'S

CAFE AND BILLIARDS

CONGRATULATIONS

GEORGE A. HUNT THEATRES

Upon The 20th.

Anniversary

OF THE CRATERIAN

All southern Oregon salutes the owners and operators of The Craterian upon this 20th Birthday. This theatre — one of Oregon's best — has offered the finest of entertainment for the people of this community through the years. This Agency is happy to extend to all who are associated with George A. Hunt Theatres and especially the Craterian sincere wishes for continued success!

HAROLD H. BROWN AGENCY

123 East Main

Phone 3446