

Ticket Sales for Kiwanis Kapers To Start Monday

Seats for three of the four nights of the annual Medford Kiwanis Kapers can be reserved at Barker's Men's store starting Monday morning, Feb. 18.

The Kapers, a gala production of songs, dances, skits and gags, will be presented Feb. 20, 21, 22 and 23 at the Medford High school auditorium.

Only general admission tickets are being sold for the Wednesday performance and that will be the only night that there will be a special price for students. Reserve seat tickets can be obtained for the Thursday, Friday and Saturday night shows. General admission ticket sales are already well under way. Persons who have such tickets can take them to Barker's and have seats reserved.

Kiwanian Dames will be at Barker's from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. daily through next week.

Professional Direction

The 1957 show again features all local talent with Kiwanians in most roles and has the professional direction of Randy LaFerr, Lassen Productions, Pasadena, Calif. A heavy rehearsal schedule has been followed this month. Second act of the show will be put together on Sunday and the first act on Monday. A dress rehearsal is planned Tuesday for the entire show.

Title of the production is "Guys 'N' Disguise." Six scenes of the first act trace the development of Kiwanians from infancy to success on the stage. The act has Olson and Johnson slapstick and tell "how a ham gets to be a ham." Second act has a minstrel show setting and is entitled "Gentlemen Be Seated."

John Pleisch is master of ceremonies for the first act and Paul Selby is interactor for the minstrel portion of the show. Ron Rice, Jack Walker, Ed Barnett and Frank Perl are veteran end men who perform in those capacities again.

Sea Work Stoppages Claimed Negligible

San Francisco — (U.P.) — The Pacific Maritime Association reports that work stoppages by West Coast seafaring unions dropped to an "immeasurable minimum" last year.

J. Paul St. Sure, who was re-elected president of the employer group Wednesday, said this good record was racked up by the members of six offshore unions.

They were the Sailors Union of the Pacific, the Marine Firemen, Marine Cooks and Stewards, Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, Masters, Mates and Pilots and American Radio Association.

"Onshore, except for the short-lived 'sympathetic' refusal by ILWU to work East Coast ships in November, only 16 work stoppages occurred," he said.

St. Sure urged improved productivity in cargo handling as a study of ways to overcome recurring gang strikes in some ports.

Olympia — (U.P.) — Appointment of Bobby J. Rhay, 36, as governor of the state penitentiary at Walla Walla has been announced.

The Volga is the longest river in Europe with a course of 2,400 miles.

Mayfield Argues for 'Key District' Plan Of School Support

Salem — (U.P.) — Oregon schoolmen fighting for more funds for their hard-pressed districts took their battle to the state Senate last night when they testified at a hearing on the controversial "key district" plan of school support.

An estimated 700 persons overflowed a Senate hearing room to hear superintendents defend the bill that would equalize school tax millages throughout the state but force large districts like Portland to foot the school bill for many smaller less solvent districts.

Portland, Klamath Falls and five or six other districts opposed the measure. Leaders of the proponents were Leonard Mayfield, superintendent of Medford schools. He said it would correct the inequities in the support fund distribution law that went into effect in 1947.

"We have a key district now, but it is the poor district, not the wealthy one," he said.

His view was supported by James King, Lebanon superintendent.

Portland was joined by A. L. Gralaap of Klamath Falls who said his district had found a good part of the solution to its financing problems through better organization. He suggested

that many other districts might do the same thing.

Lake County Joins Portland

Anne Sprague, Lake county school superintendent who also spoke for Harney county, said that under the bill seven rural school districts in eastern Oregon would "put into the pot 50 per cent and receive back 19 per cent" of school support money.

Herbert Schwab, chairman of the Portland school board, and Dr. Howard Cherry, Portland school director, made the same argument. They said the "key district" plan would force Portland taxpayers to pay the state \$18 million for school support while getting back only \$7 million for its own schools.

Would Cripple System

They challenged the principle of the plan and asserted that it would cripple the school system in which a large part of the state's children are being educated.

Supporters of the bill included Carl Gehlert of Coos Bay, Glen Smith of the Jackson county rural school board, Charles Schmidt of Salem schools, and Clarence Hyde, superintendent of Eugene schools. They contended that wealthier school districts should compensate poorer districts unable to reach proper school standards.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Mrs. Inez K.—My son only obeys my sister.

Mrs. Lois M.—I love him like my own child.

Mrs. Inez K.—I am the mother of a 4-year-old boy. My husband and I were divorced two years ago and I went to live with my sister and her husband. I have been going to work and my sister takes care of my son as well as her own little girl, who is a year older than my boy. There are certain things I tell my little boy he can do or not do, but my sister ignores my rules and has him do the exact opposite. As a result, my son doesn't pay any attention to me any more and he calls my sister "Mommy."

I want to put my boy in a nursery school, but my sister says he is not ready for one yet and she can take better care of him. I want to do the best thing for him, but I don't like this situation.

Mrs. Lois M.—I love my little nephew like my own child. In fact, my husband and I would like to adopt him. We have told Inez that she could then feel more free to do as she pleases and to make another marriage. It would be the best thing for her and the boy, but Inez won't even consider the idea.

In any case, as long as I have charge of the child, I must do what I see as best. If he doesn't want to do certain things, he always says his mother told him different. I tell him he must obey me.

I feel that Inez is making things very hard for the boy because of her jealousy of me. She constantly asks him if he loves her and whether he loves me better than her.

The Council: Inez has not put the problem to herself in strong language. Her real concern appears to be that her sister is trying to steal her child.

From Lois' account of the situation, it would appear that this is exactly what is happening. Lois wants to adopt the boy and has not accepted Inez' answer as final.

The boy is the innocent victim of the terrible struggle between these two sisters and he will surely suffer a great deal if Inez dies in hand.

Inez has flatly stated she won't consider her sister's adoption proposal. This proposal has, however, put so many fears in her mind that she cannot enjoy any peace while her son is under her sister's care.

She is wrong to expect the child to obey anyone but her sister when he is under this woman's care and she is wrong to seek reassurances from his love for her. This is purely selfish and will not solve the problem.

The present arrangement could only work out if Lois and her husband renounce for once and for all the idea of adopting the boy. They are wrong to assume this adoption would be the best thing for both the boy and his mother, and Inez should not feel guilty about her decision.

If she cannot have the confidence that her son is being merely supervised by her sister during the day, she should take him away from this home and make other arrangements. Jealous love from two mothers will not make this boy a happy, healthy child.

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Senior Class Play Starts at Medford High Last Night

Comedy, fantasy, philosophy and satire on the American way of life—all these Mary Chase combined in "Mrs. McThing." The 1957 senior class of Medford High school chose this delightful play as the annual production, and gave the opening performance last night in the school auditorium. It will be repeated tonight, with curtain time at 8:15 p. m.

"Mrs. McThing" is the story of a wealthy American mother who tries to build a wall, physical and mental—around her young son. She is prevented from ruining his life by Mrs. McThing, who lives "up there." In spots the play is sheer nonsense, in others it is plain good sense and the whole is welded together with sprightly comedy.

Those seated in the back of the auditorium missed much of the dialogue last night because of the lack of projection of the student actors and because of hallway and outdoor noises, but it doesn't matter. For this play, imagination is what counts.

Judy Edwardson plays Mrs. Larue, the typical well-meaning, domineering American mother. Ken Arnold portrays her son, Howay, who enjoys life in the slums once he has escaped from behind the wall, and who is reluctant to return.

The play has many good supporting roles. There is Ellsworth, the eccentric chef who spends most of his time playing an imaginary piano, who has to know the names of his prospective customers and who refuses to send out food for those whose names don't strike him just right. Dick Swinney is a natural in this role.

Adding spice to the plot are three pretend hoodlums, Dirty Joe, Stinker and Eddie, played by Jerry Close, John Payne and Greg Milnes.

For both comedy and to point up the satire are the three over-dressed and snobbish Lewis sisters, portrayed by Jacque Colton, Dee Cuthbertson and Barbara Cox.

Mimi McThing

Tiny Sue Gray makes an appealing Mimi McThing, daughter of the "woman up there."

The lengthy cast is completed by Charlotte Jensen, Bob Bright, Linda Robertson, David Colby, Sharon Graham, Earl Knight, Dan Rolland, Pat Rector and Millie Weaver.

The play is dedicated to Bob Stedman, popular high school drama coach who has been desperately ill. We think Coach Stedman would have enjoyed last night's production. He would see flaws and inadequacies which are always a part of student productions, but he would have appreciated the hard work, and fun, put into the play by the students and Mrs. Lenore Zappell, substitute drama teacher and coach. And he would know that while they may not be polished actors, nevertheless the students appreciated the spirit of Mary Chase's "Mrs. McThing," and that they succeed in communicating this spirit to their audience.

O. S.

Smith Resigns Publishing Post

New York — (U.P.) — Paul C. Smith was reported today to have resigned as president of the Crowell-Collier Publishing Co.

The former San Francisco newspaperman who rose to the top of the giant magazine and book publishing house in 1954 was said to have submitted his resignation to the Board of Directors this week.

Smith's administration of the company began with a drastic reorganization of its magazines. This was soon followed by taking the company out of the magazine business altogether.

The dynamic new president suspended publication of the American magazine in August, 1956. Later that year he announced that the company was also closing Colliers weekly and the Woman's Home Companion. Despite circulation running into the millions, Smith explained that the company was no longer able to finance its magazine losses because of rising costs and declining advertising revenue.

Smith came to New York in the spring of 1953 after resigning as general manager of the San Francisco Chronicle. Although he had had no previous magazine experience he began with Crowell-Collier in May that year as a vice president. On Jan. 1, 1954, he was elected president.

Since the suspension of the magazines the Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington has been investigating the company's financial practices.

New Indictments Against Langley

Portland — (U.P.) — The Multnomah county grand jury yesterday returned new indictments against District Attorney William Langley.

The indictments followed a new investigation after a previous gambling conspiracy indictment against the 41-year-old district attorney was thrown out as faulty.

Langley was indicted for malfeasance in office, for conspiring to hinder and obstruct public justice and business and for enacting as a public officer to enforce gambling laws.

Named with Langley on the conspiracy indictment were Joseph B. McLaughlin and Thomas E. Maloney of Seattle. They also had been named in last summer's indictment which was thrown out recently.

Langley was free on bond.

Government Poised to Crack Narcotics Ring

Washington — (U.P.) — Narcotics Commissioner Harry J. Anslinger has told Congress the government is poised to break "one of the largest" narcotics rings in the country.

Anslinger revealed the planned crackdown on the ring to a House Appropriations Subcommittee at a secret hearing. His testimony was made public today.

He gave no details of the ring's operation. He said the government would move in "soon."

Anslinger said the government planned to use a new legal

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Clinton Rocked By Explosion

Clinton, Tenn. — (U.P.) — An explosion rocked a Negro district of this racially troubled town Thursday night, injuring two persons and damaging 30 homes and a Negro restaurant.

Police said the blast, the eighth since Clinton's publicized school integration riots, apparently was from a dynamite-crammed suitcase left on a sidewalk.

Negro witnesses to the blast said one occupant of a crowded car placed the suitcase on a sidewalk near the home of Alfred Williams, a 21-year-old Negro student who recently was suspended from high school for striking a 15-year-old white boy.

The witnesses said they believed the man who got out of the car was white.

One Negro said he "smelled the fuse" burning in the suitcase and ran. Seconds later, the explosion occurred, bringing Negro families rushing from their homes. Injured were an 11-month-old girl and a 39-year-old woman. They were not hospitalized.

Several homes were badly damaged. Many had smashed porches, roofs and windows.

Reporter Jim Loggans of the Clinton Courier-News, said that when he returned to the area a short while after the explosion, "There was not a sound. Everyone was hid away in the houses, all locked, without any lights showing. But you could tell they were all awake."

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